

State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World(SOFI) Report, 2022

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In news—The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) has released State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World(SOFI) Report, 2022 recently.

SOFI Report and Key findings-

- It is an annual flagship report jointly prepared by FAO, the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD), the UNICEF, the World Food Programme (WFP) and the WHO.
- It **seeks to inform on progress towards ending hunger, achieving food security** and improving nutrition and to provide in depth analysis on key challenges for achieving this goal in the context of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- **The 2022 edition of the SOFI report presents updates on the food security and nutrition situation around the world**, including the latest estimates of the cost and affordability of a healthy diet.
- **As per the 2022 report, world is moving further away from its goal of ending hunger, food insecurity** and malnutrition in all its forms by 2030.
- The **number of people globally affected by hunger went up to 828 million in 2021**, an increase of about 46 million since 2020.
- **World hunger levels have gone up by 150 million since the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic.**
- Projections that nearly **670 million people, or 8 per cent of the world population, will still be facing hunger** in **2030**, even if a global economic recovery is

considered – are adding to the worrying situation.

- Around **2.3 billion people worldwide (29.3 per cent) were moderately or severely food insecure** in 2021 – 350 million more compared to before the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Nearly 924 million people (**11.7 per cent of the global population) faced food insecurity at severe levels**, an increase of 207 million in two years.
- **The gender gap in food insecurity continued to rise in 2021**, 31.9 per cent of women in the world were moderately or severely food insecure, compared with 27.6 per cent of men.
- **The report also talks of food inflation**, which has been on an unprecedented rise worldwide, triggered by two years of the **COVID-19 pandemic-induced disruption and now the Russia-Ukraine war**.
- According to the new report estimates, **almost 3.1 billion people could not afford a healthy diet in 2020**, up from 112 million in 2019, showing the effects of inflation on consumer food prices.
- **It is pushing up the prices of grain, fertiliser, energy**, and ready-to-use therapeutic food for children with severe malnutrition.
- **The report suggested repurposing food and agricultural support to target nutritious foods** where per capita consumption does not yet match the recommended levels for healthy diets as one of the ways to support economic recovery.
- **It also pointed out that governments could do more to reduce trade barriers** for nutritious foods, such as fruits, vegetables and pulses.