India is the top ranker in the production of pulses, pulsed & jute, second in rice, wheat, groundnut, sugarcane, cotton, fruits & vegetables production, third in tea and tobacco and seventh in coffee production, but poverty and hunger still persists inspite of all these achievements. India’s food grain production which was 82 million tonnes in 1960-61 reached to about 281 million tonnes in 2018-19.

The study is based on the data collected from the last four NSF rounds. The food grains production has increased at the rate of 1.66 percent per annum during 2010-11 to 2018-19 which is mainly because of productivity growth (1.54%). The net availability of foodgrains increased at an annual growth rate of 2.73 percent and per capita net availability of food grains increased at an annual growth rate of 1.53 percent during 2011-18.

**METHODODOLOGY**

The data on area, production, productivity, availability of food grains and other related variables of important food grains were collected from different published sources such as; economic survey of India; agricultural statistics at a glance, etc. For the period 1980-81 to 2018-19. The data on consumption expenditure and nutrient intake for both rural and urban consumers were compiled from various rounds of national sample survey (NSS) organization. For the present study, the required data were collected for the last four NSF rounds viz, 5th (1993-94), 55th (1999-2000), 61st (2004-05) and 68th (2011-12).

**RESULTS & DISCUSSION**

**Growth in food grains production:** The all India compound growth rates in area, production and yield of food grains crops during 1980-81 to 1998-99, 1990-91 to 1999-2000 and 2001-00 to 2010-10 and 2011 to 2018-19 are presented in table 1.During 1980s, area growth declined for most of the crops. Production growth was mainly due to yield growth. Despite a small negative growth in area under foodgrains, production recorded growth of 2.73 percent which is mainly due to yield growth (2.97%). Availability improved and extent of negative growth in per capita net availability decreased which may be due falling population growth rate. During the year 2011-18, growth in net availability in foodgrainsfurther improved to 2.73 percent. The growth in per capita net availability not only because of growth in food production per annum during this period, but also due to per capita net availability has improved over the years. However, there have been variations in net availability of foodgrains.

**Changes in nutrients intake:** The per consumer unit daily nutrient intake over the years has been shown in figure 1. In rural areas, per consumer unit daily cereal intake continuously declined from 2153 in 1993-94 to 2047 during 2004-05 but increased to 2233 during 2011-12. In urban areas, it increased to 2206 in 2012 from 2011-93 admit fluctuations. It clearly indicates that the nutritional status of the rural and urban population has increased.

**Patterns of monthly consumption expenditure:** The monthly per capita consumption expenditure was only rs. 281 in 1993-94 which increased to rs. 1430 in 2011-12 in rural India indicating an annual increase by about 24 per cent (table 4). In urban areas, it has increased from rs. 455 to rs. 2630 during the same period exhibiting an annual increase by about 27 per cent. Thus, it is discernible fact that although the share of foodgrains (cereals+ pulses) in total consumption expenditure has declined, the share of high value items has increased. This fact perhaps may be a fusion of poor availability of fruit, dairy products are also important along with foodgrains for accessing food security.

**Shift in Cereals and pulses Consumption:** The per capita cereal consumption showed a declining trend over different NSF Rounds in both the rural and urban areas (Table 5). The decline in cereals consumption may be largely because of urbanization among other reasons like for the better food items like fruits, milk, meat, etc. Further, the consumption of pulses has slightly increased in both the areas.

**Percentage of different food items in cereal intake over the years:** The percentage break-up of cereal intake from different food items is presented in Table 6. The contribution of veg & fruits and sugar & honey in urban India and that of veg & fruits in rural India has shown slight decline over the years.

**Poverty:** Table 7 shows that over the years, the incidence of poverty has declined both in rural and urban areas. Area-wise incidence of poverty indicates that obviously percentage of poor people is more in rural areas compared to urban areas. Poverty leads to food insecurity therefore, and sustainable progress in poverty eradication is critical to improve access to food.

**CONCLUSION**

The food basket was found to be diversified both in rural and urban areas with higher levels of per capita consumption expenditure on milk and milk products, fruits and vegetables, meat, etc. The per capita calorie intake increased from about 3712 per cent in rural areas whereas in urban areas, it increased by 6.52 percent during 1993-2012. Similar to calorie intake, protein and fat intake has also shown increasing trend in both the areas. The share of cereals in total calorie and protein intake from different food items has declined.