

Food Crisis and India's Response



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Is there a REAL Food Shortage ?



- Farmers across the world produced 2.3 bn tons of grain in 2007, up 4 % from the previous year.
- Since 1961 cereal production has tripled but population has doubled
- In 2007, rice consumption was below production

Is there a REAL Food Shortage ?



- consumption of meat and oilseeds remained below production,
- consumption of dairy remained stable against increasing production.
- In wheat, corn and coarse grains consumption outpaced production, but enough food is produced in the world to feed the population

World Food Crisis



- Wheat price increased by 130% over the last year
- The price of Rice has doubled in the last few months of 2008
- Cost of all other food items including meat, vegetables, fruits, dairy, cooking oil have increased tremendously

Who Has Profited?



Company	Profits 2007 (US\$ million)	Increase from 2006 (%)
Cargill (US)	2,340	36%
ADM (US)	2,200	67%
ConAgra (US)	764	30%
Bunge (US)	738	49%
Noble Group (Hong Kong)	258	92%
Marubeni (Japan)	90	43%

Who Has Profited



Every corporation in the global food chain is making a killing

- On 14 April 2008, Cargill announced that its profits from commodity trading for the first quarter of 2008 were 86% higher than the same period in 2007

Who Has Profited...

- Thailand's Charoen Pokphand Foods is forecasting revenue growth of 237% this year.
- UK supermarket Tesco reports profits up 12.3% from last year.
- Syngenta saw profits rise 28% in the first quarter of 2008.

Answer to Food Crisis

- Agrobiodiversity conservation
- Setting up village level Gene-Seed Banks
- Natural resource management & assured access to farm men & women
- Conservation & management of rainwater & ground water
- Field level water harvesting

Seed Bank



Seed Banks



Answer to Food Crisis

- Trash the Biofuels program
- Ban SEZs on fertile, cultivable land
- Overhaul the agriculture research and implementation system
- Give primacy to agriculture development in policy