

Q. The economic return for investing in child nutrition always remain high and contributes to the countries holistic development explain?

Ans. 'A healthy nation is a wealthy nation' and foundation of this healthy nation is laid during childhood.

India is passing through a crucial stage of demographic dividend for a period of 20 years and government has numerous targets such as

① Achieving trillion us \$ economy by 2025.

② Anaemia mukt Bharat

③ Reducing stunting & wasting upto 30% and 40% by 2025.

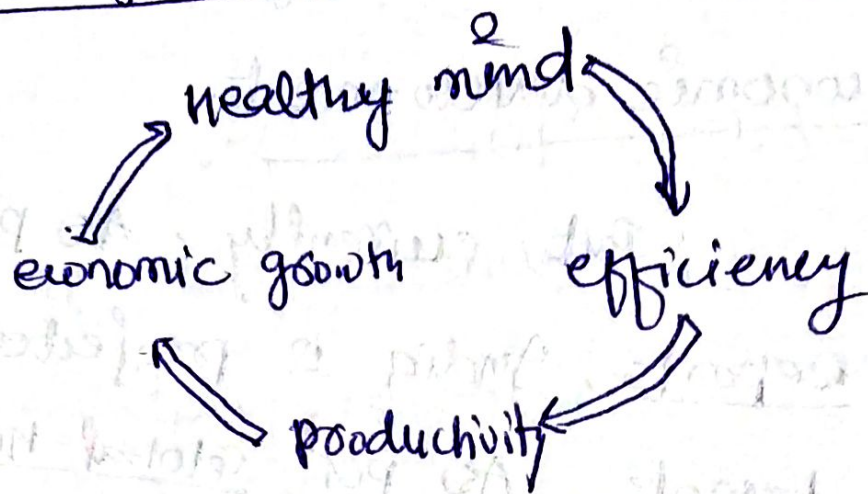
④ SDG

And the story of countries like - USA, Switzerland, Norway, Germany etc shows a relation between high health investment & economic development.

But, currently, As per Global Nutrition Report, India is projected to miss these targets. As per Global Hunger Index, India ranked 94/107 with 17% wasting, 35% stunting, 135 mMR per million births high child mortality of 34 etc.

This is in contrast with countries reforms under EDS ranking, innovation ranking etc. without attracting investment and high GDP growth and the pandemic has revealed the reality that. 1.6% of GDP is not sufficient.

Healthy body is a virtuous cycle  
for economic growth



It reduces out of pocket expenditure  
promote savings, investment and generate  
demand

### Government initiatives

- ① Integrated child development scheme with  
mid day meal, Anganbadi, matra randang  
going to provide financial support  
as well as nutrition of folic acid,  
iron and other minerals.

As nobel laureate kalash satyarthi  
state "childhood lost is generational lost"

India needs to promote

- (i) Breast feeding for continue 6 months  
& innovative care like 'kangaroo mother's
- (ii) Investing specially in 'Janna - Bachha'  
care in multisectorial way → Health, Food  
& Education ministry.
- (iii) civil society engagement like - children  
Foundation - Give India to educate mothers  
criticise loop holes & support policies.
- (iv) Creche schemes making public places  
mother sensitive like building breast  
feeding rooms in Airports etc.