

⇒ For wheat, a holistic approach with a long-term perspective is the need of the hour without which the country risk becoming an importer over time. Explain

⇒ India is the world's 2nd largest producer of wheat. Wheat prices have doubled in the international market with the outbreak of hostilities between Russia & Ukraine.

Export of Indian wheat in 2021-22 touched a record of 7 million tonnes valued at about \$20 billion more than 3 times the quantity exported in the previous year [2.15 mt]

But this year because of climate change many challenges confront Indian wheat export.

Higher Day Temperature in March caused by heat wave hurt yields & resulted in lower wheat production than originally estimated by government.

- Reason
- So Global warming is a real threat to Indian wheat.
- At about 33 million hectares, area under wheat cultivation is reaching saturation point.

Solutions

- Research & Development efforts need to be double up.
- We need to invest lot more in order to produce heat-tolerant, drought-resistant varieties of wheat in the years to come.

Conclusion

We need to focus on ensuring a sustained growth in wheat production in order to meet the growing needs of the population.