

HumanProgress



Before the agronomist Norman Borlaug showed up in the 1960s, India only produced 10 million tons of wheat per year.

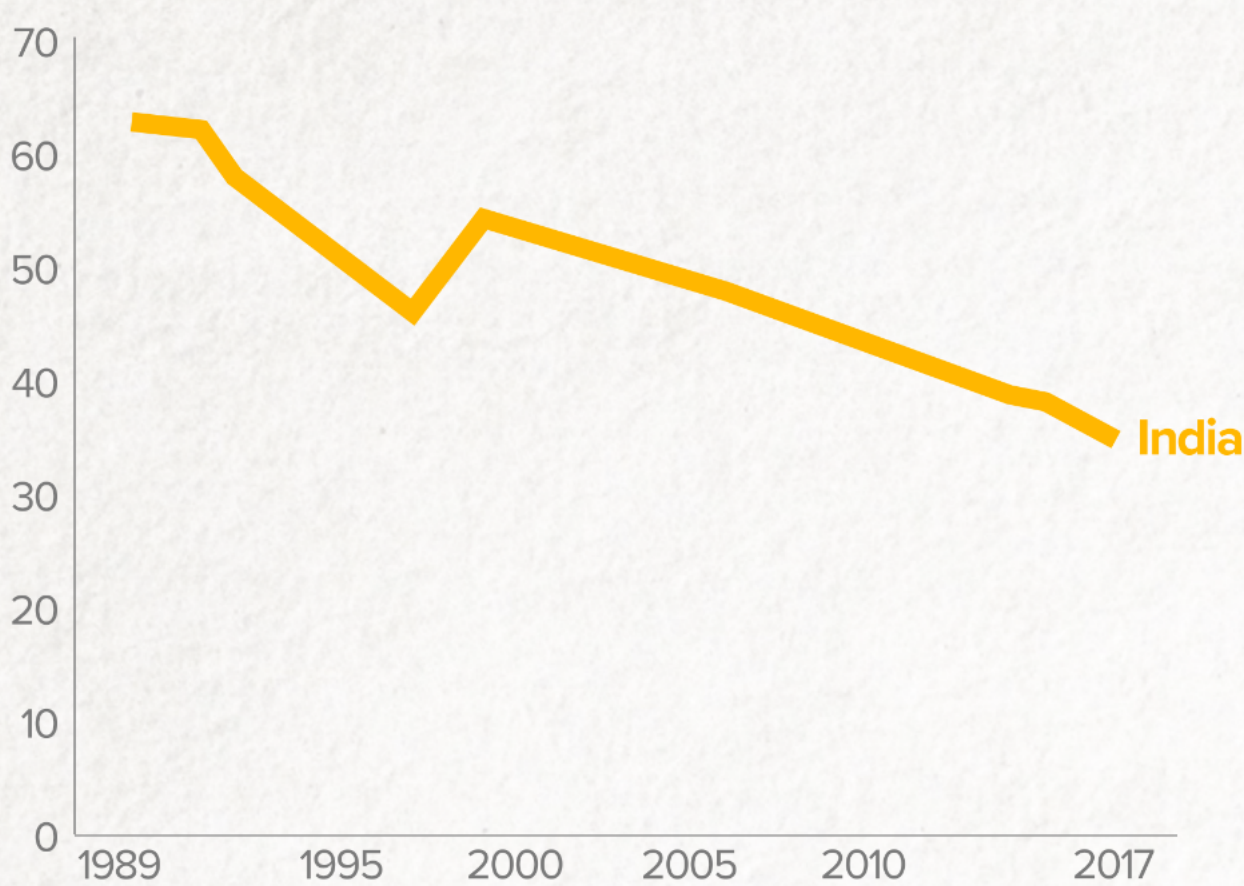
In 2023, it expects to produce 112 million tons, a 1,020 percent increase.

Over that same period, India’s population increased by 180 percent, from 500 million to 1.45 billion. Every 1 percent increase in population corresponded to a 5.66 percent increase in wheat production.

[Read more.](#)

Stunting Prevalence in India

Percent of children under five, 1989 – 2017



Source: World Bank

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This bountiful harvest is going to good use.

Between 1989 and 2017, the prevalence of childhood stunting, a key indicator of malnutrition, nearly halved in India.

[Explore the data.](#)

Progress does not mean that we'll ever reach a paradisiacal end state where everything will be optimal for everyone everywhere.

New problems will arise, and they will have to be solved, however imperfectly, by future generations. As such, the world will never be a perfect place.

As the German philosopher and advocate of gradual human progress Immanuel Kant observed in 1784, "From such crooked timber as humankind is made of, nothing entirely straight can be made"

The best we can hope for is to make tomorrow's world better than it is today.



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