

Food and Nutrition Security in India: A case Study

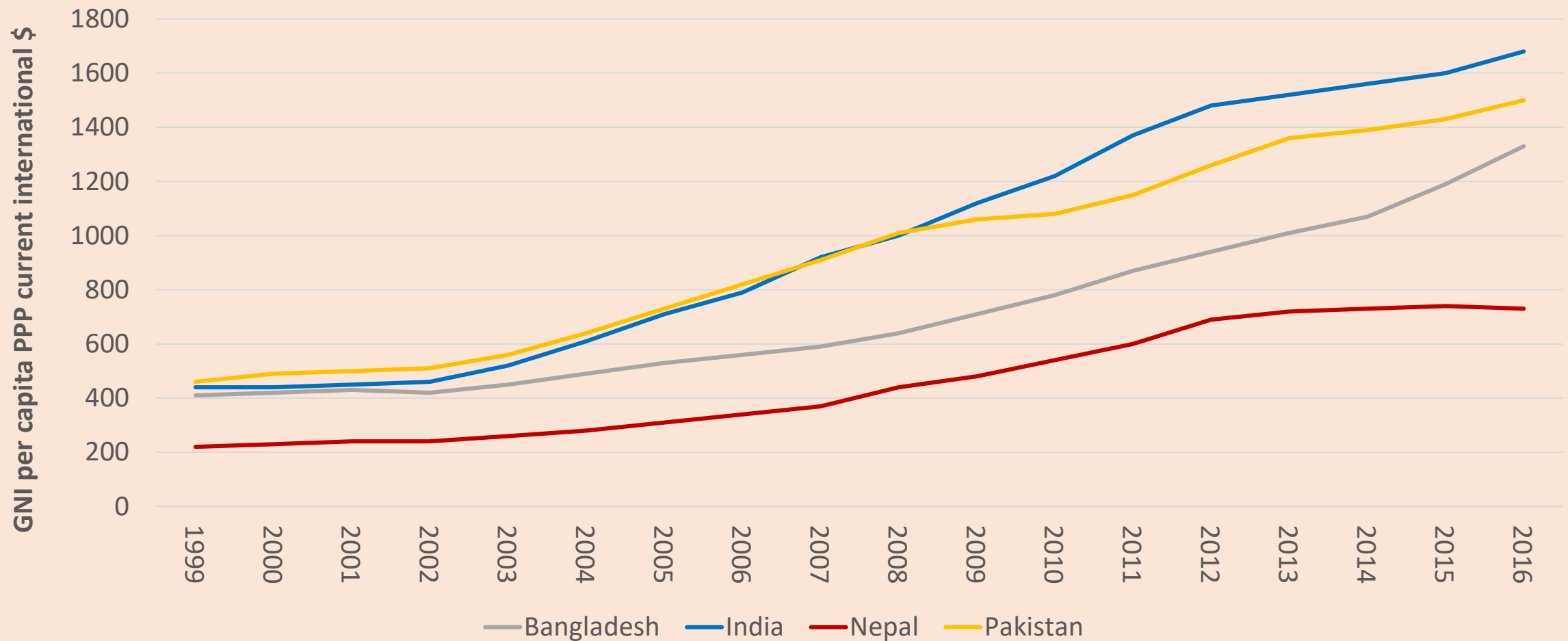
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Outline

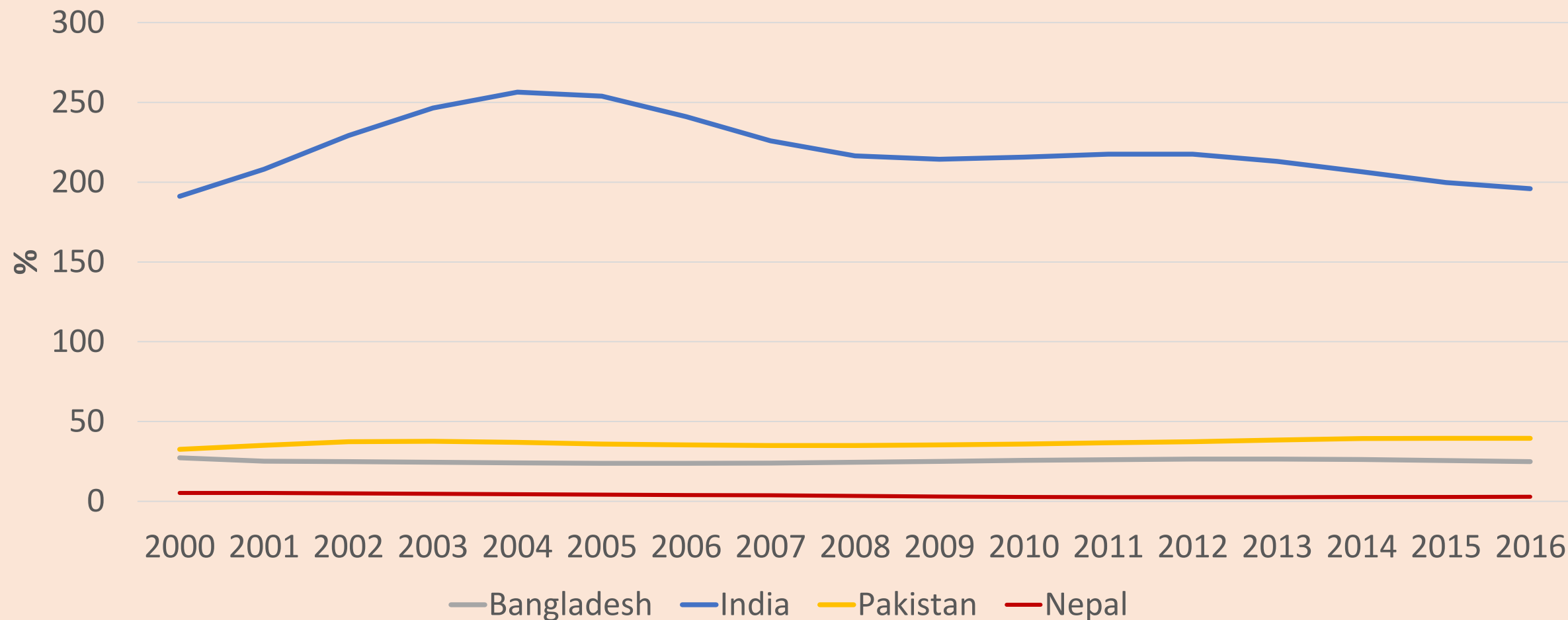
- What is the food and nutrition situation?
- Why is India not performing better?
- What can be done about it?
- What is holding back action?

What is the situation?

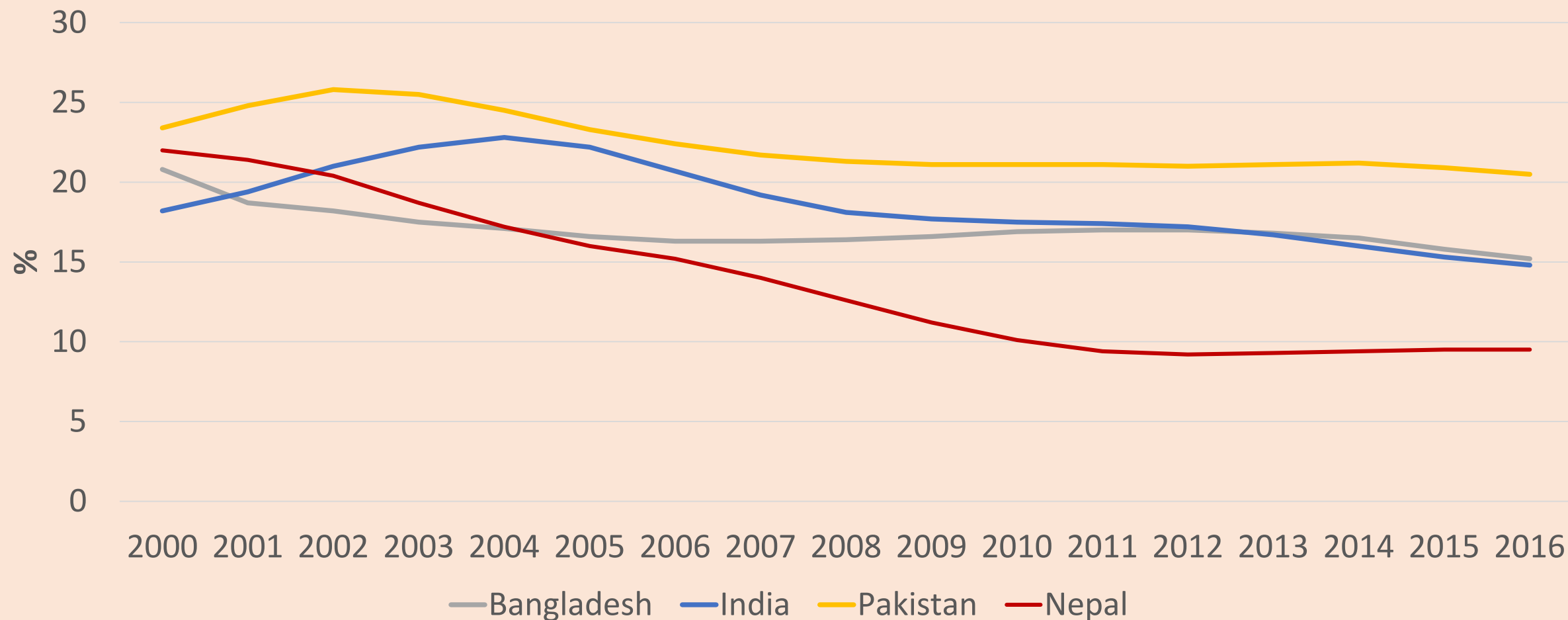
Growth in income per person, 1999-2017



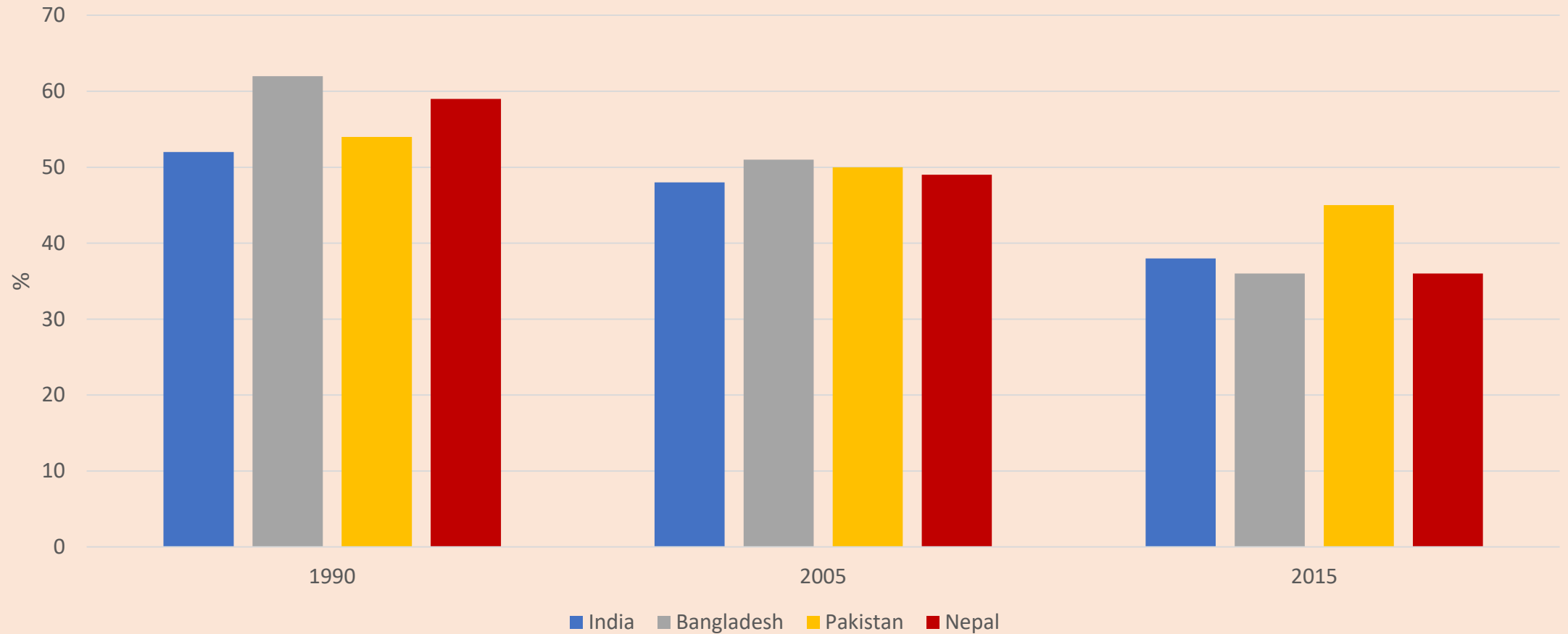
Number of undernourished people, 1990-2016



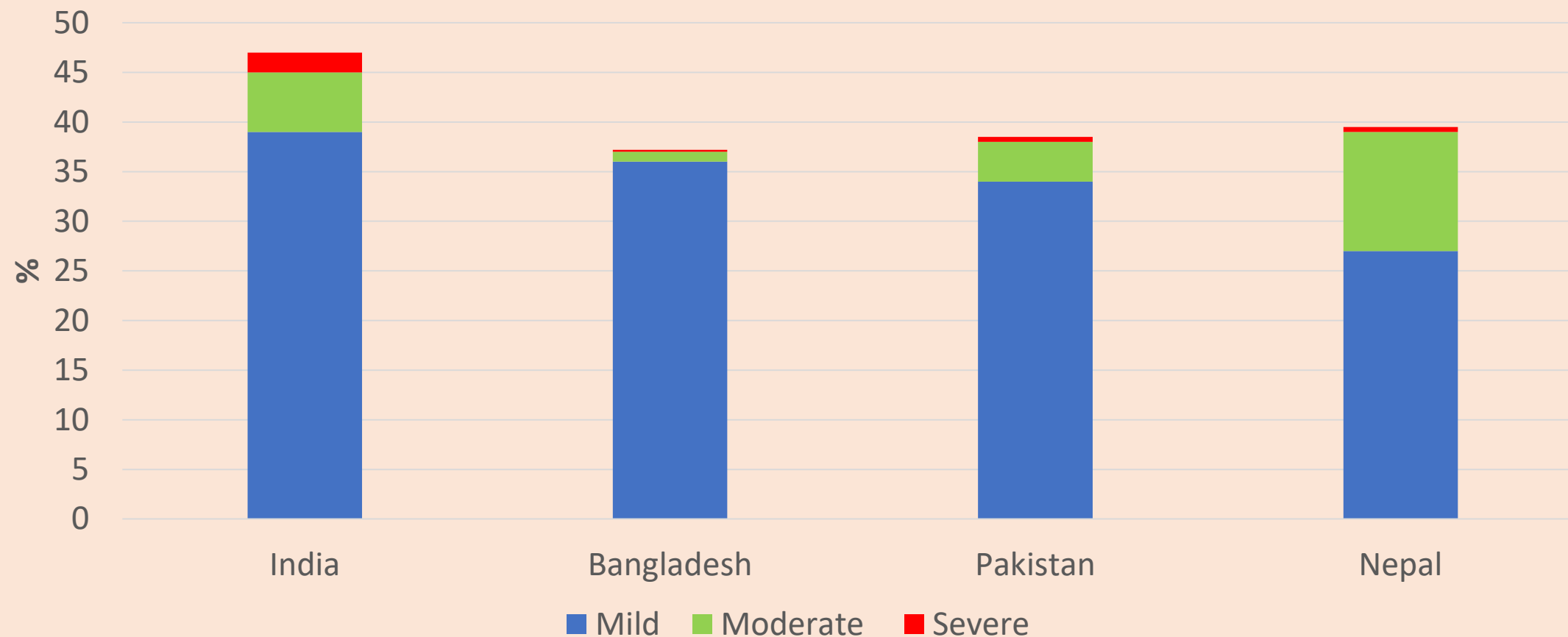
Prevalence of undernutrition, 1990-2016



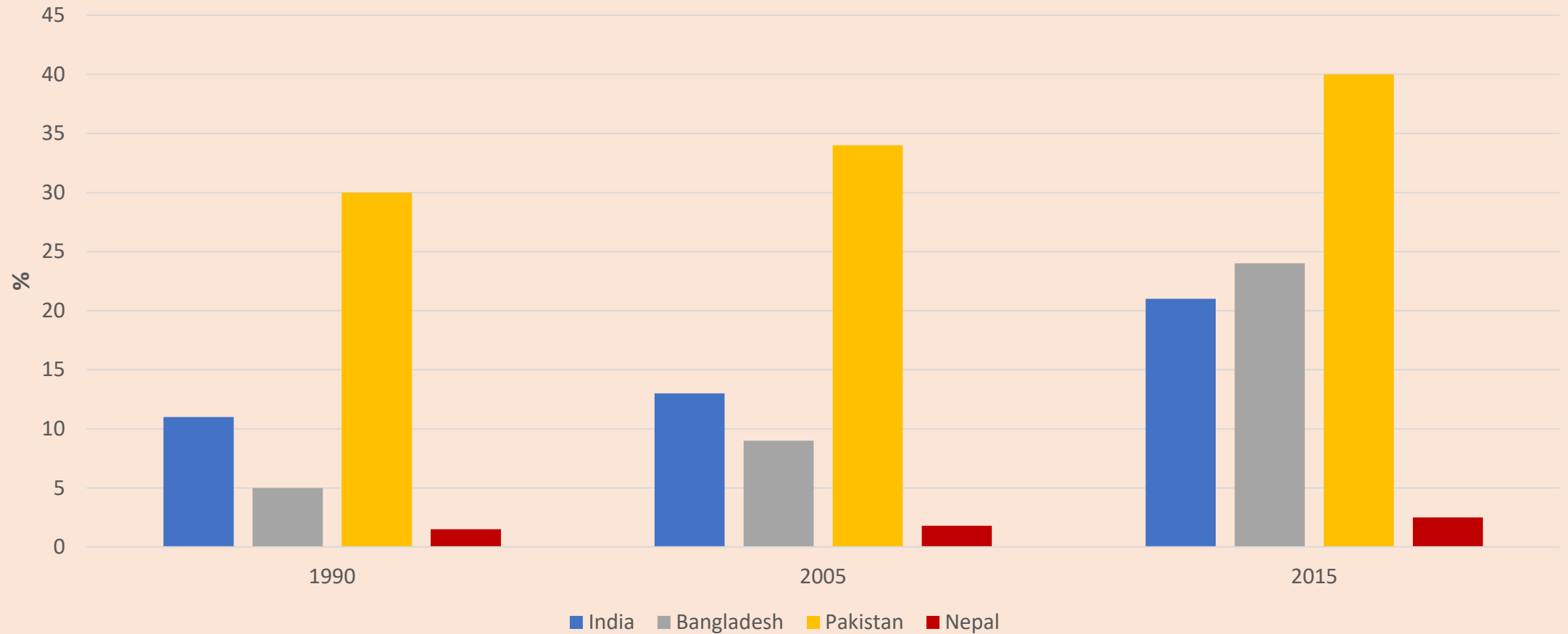
Prevalence of stunting of children under the age of five, 1990-2015



Prevalence of women with anemia, 2015



Proportion of women who are overweight or obese, 1990-2015



Why is India not performing better?

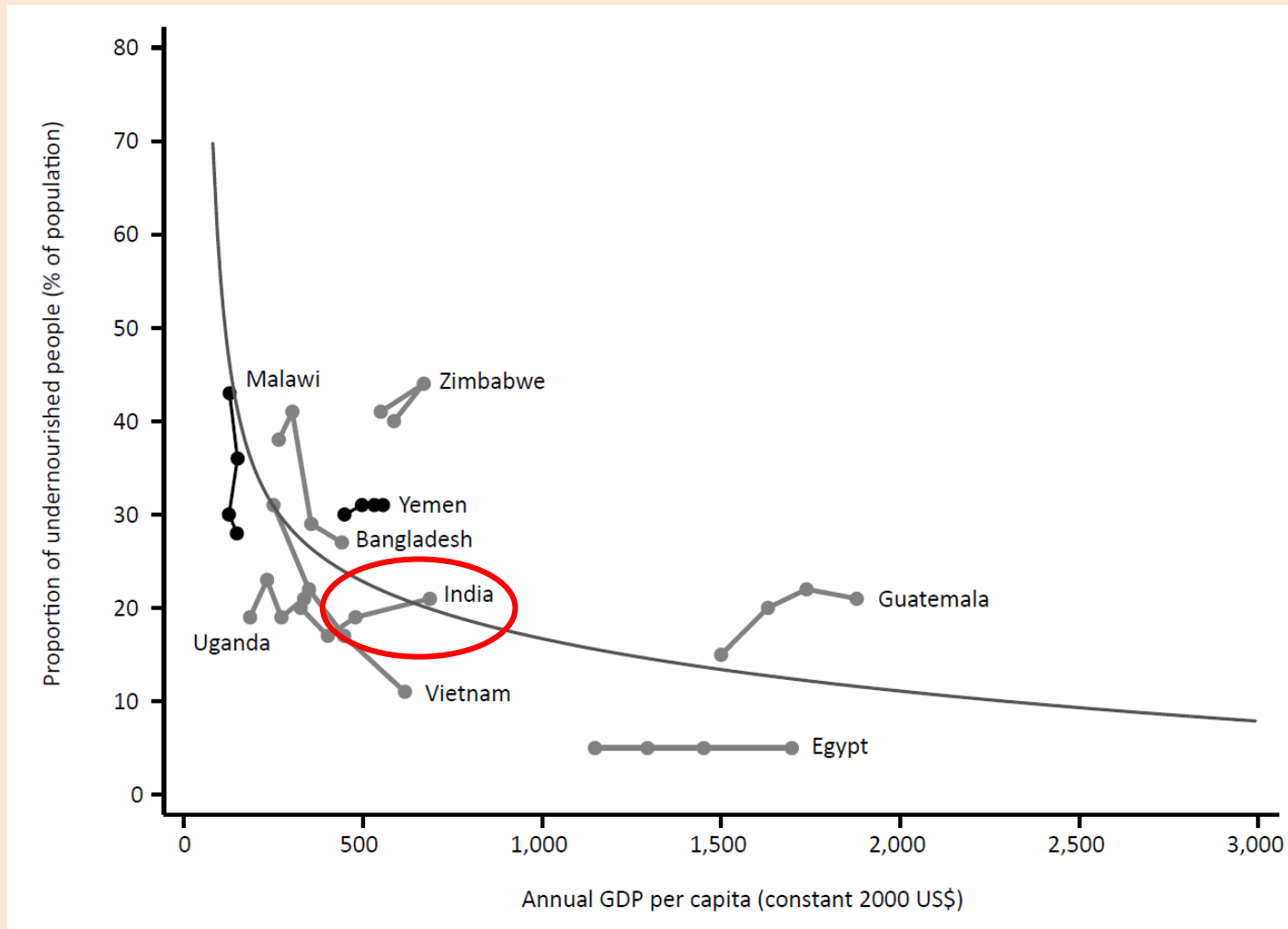
The first question for you.....

Why has India failed to achieve significant improvements in food and nutrition security?

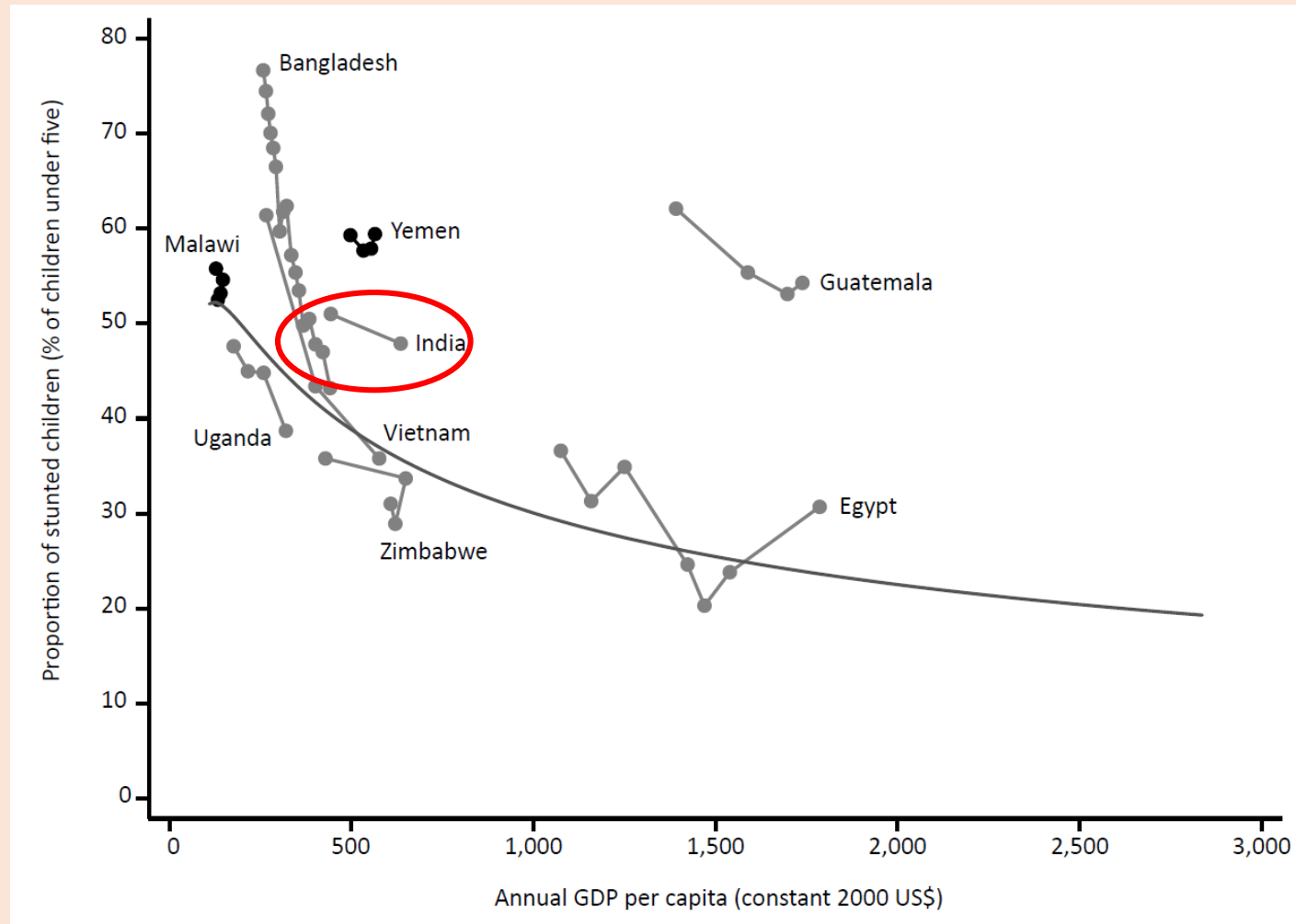
India's historic approach to reducing undernutrition

- Economic growth
- Food subsidies:
 - Food Distribution System
- Targeted interventions:
 - Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS)

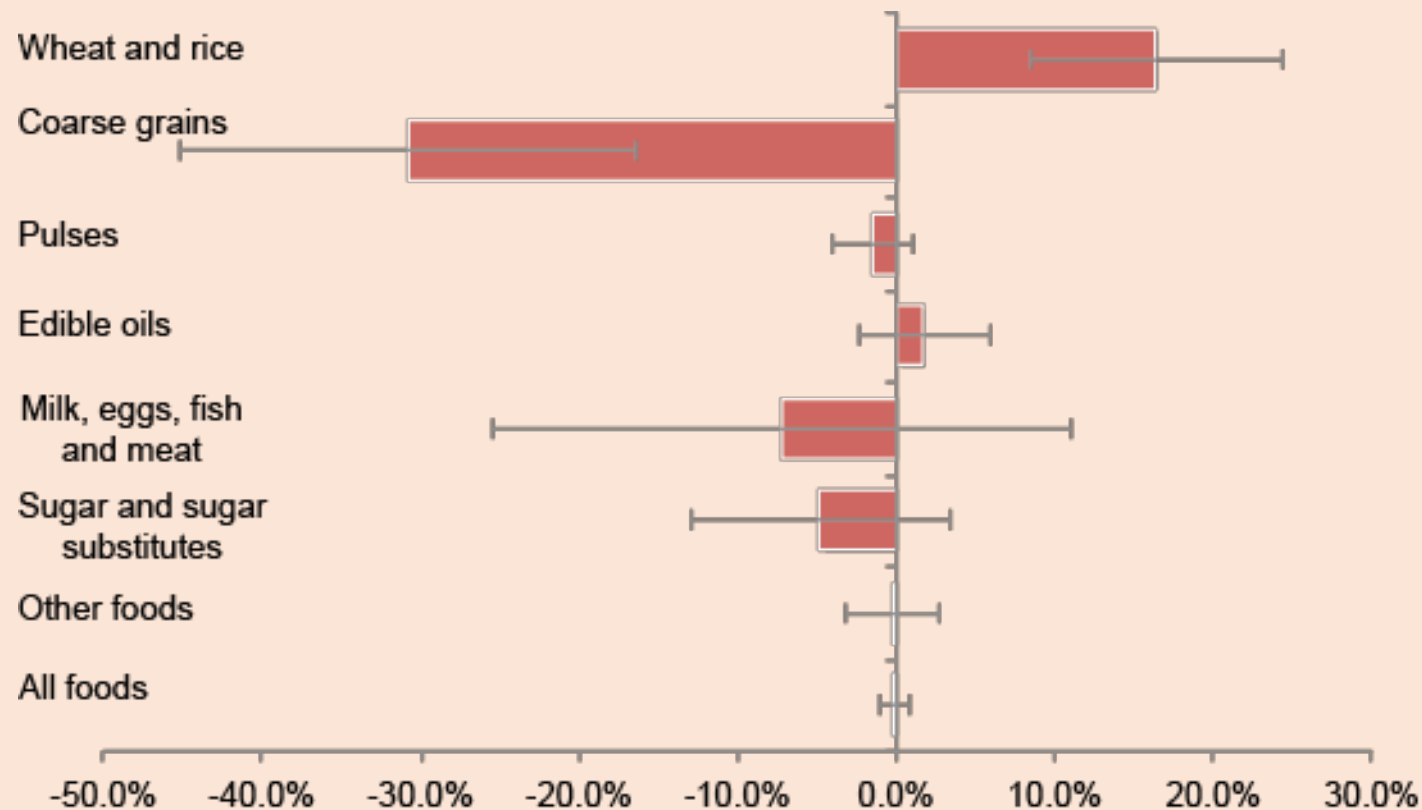
Income growth as a means to reduce undernutrition



Income growth as a means to reduce Stunting



Impact of 1% price subsidy on calorie intake from selected foods in moderate rice/wheat-consuming districts in India



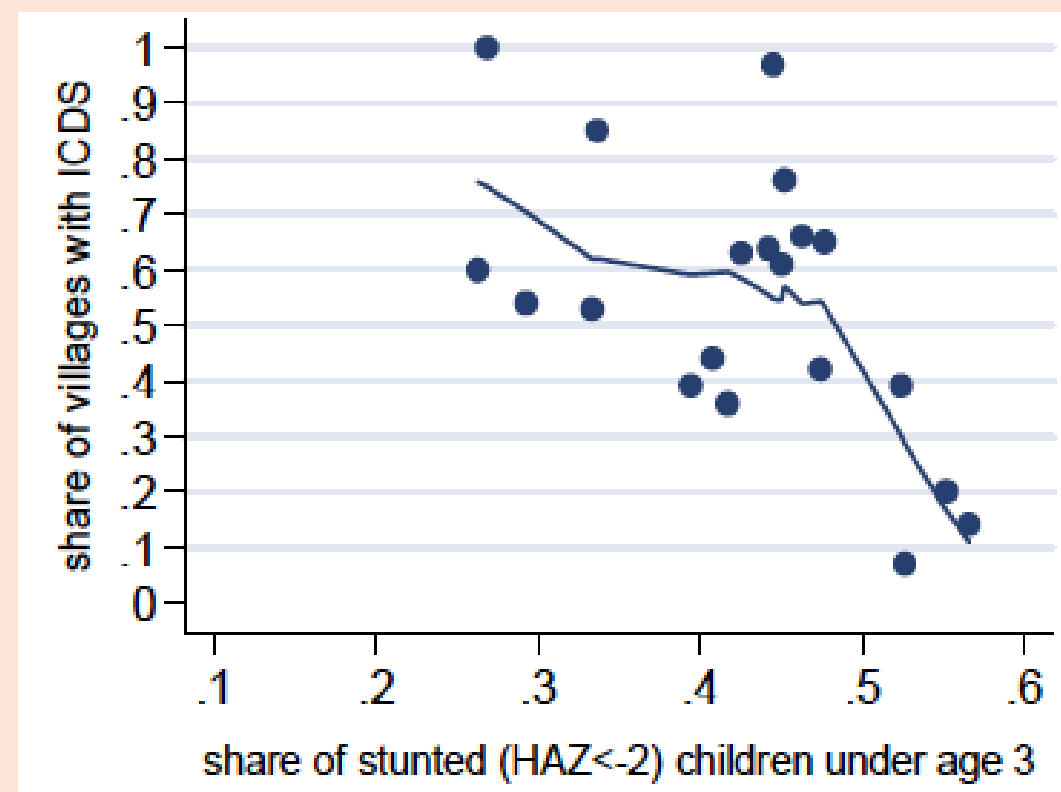
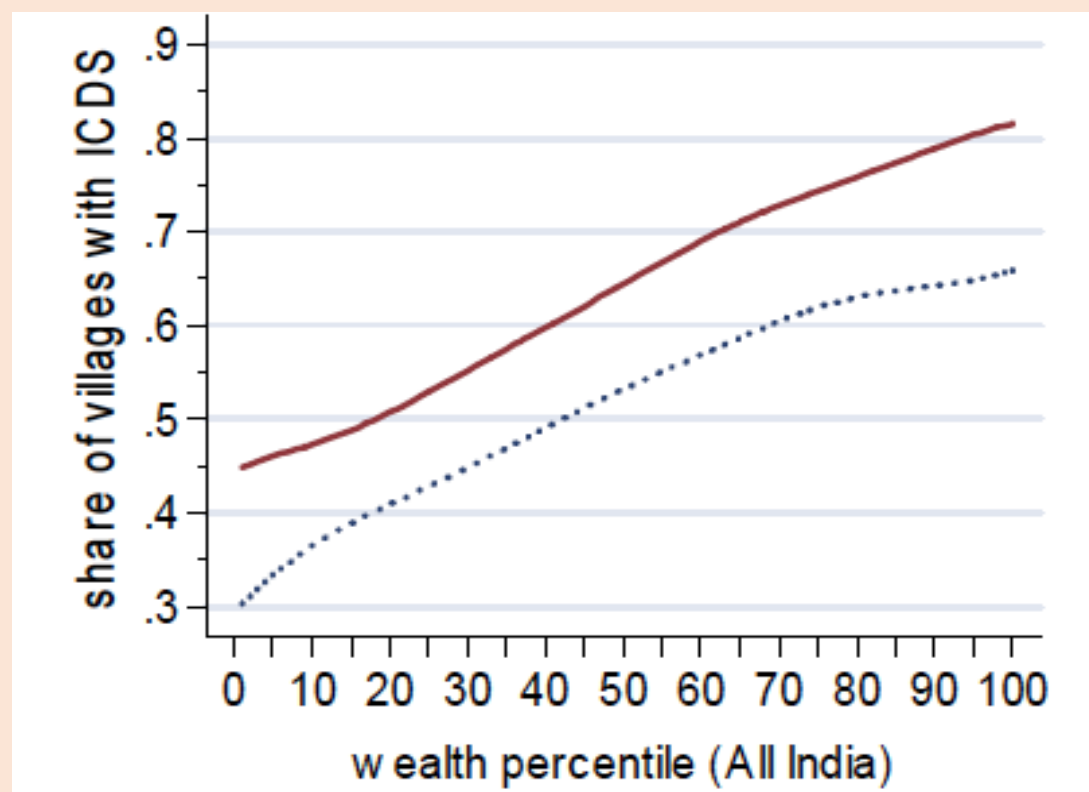
Source: Kaushal & Muchomba (2013)

Reduction in undernourishment due to PDS, 2004-05 and 2011-12

State	Rural		Urban	
	2004–2005	2011–2012	2004–2005	2011–2012
Functioning States				
Tamil Nadu	7.49	9.81	12.87	20.77
Himachal Pradesh	15.48	38.32	10.63	26.46
Karnataka	4.30	9.78	3.83	8.73
Andhra Pradesh	7.32	17.75	5.46	14.45
Reviving States				
Kerala	3.08	8.35	5.23	12.38
Chhattisgarh	2.90	11.54	4.70	14.00
Odisha	1.50	11.87	1.94	13.09
Bihar	0.29	6.46	0.51	7.36
Languishing States				
Rajasthan	2.36	6.04	1.07	4.85
Gujarat	2.16	2.16	0.83	1.68
Uttar Pradesh	0.97	4.91	0.72	2.92
Punjab	0.09	5.30	0.52	3.43

Source: Thampi (2017)

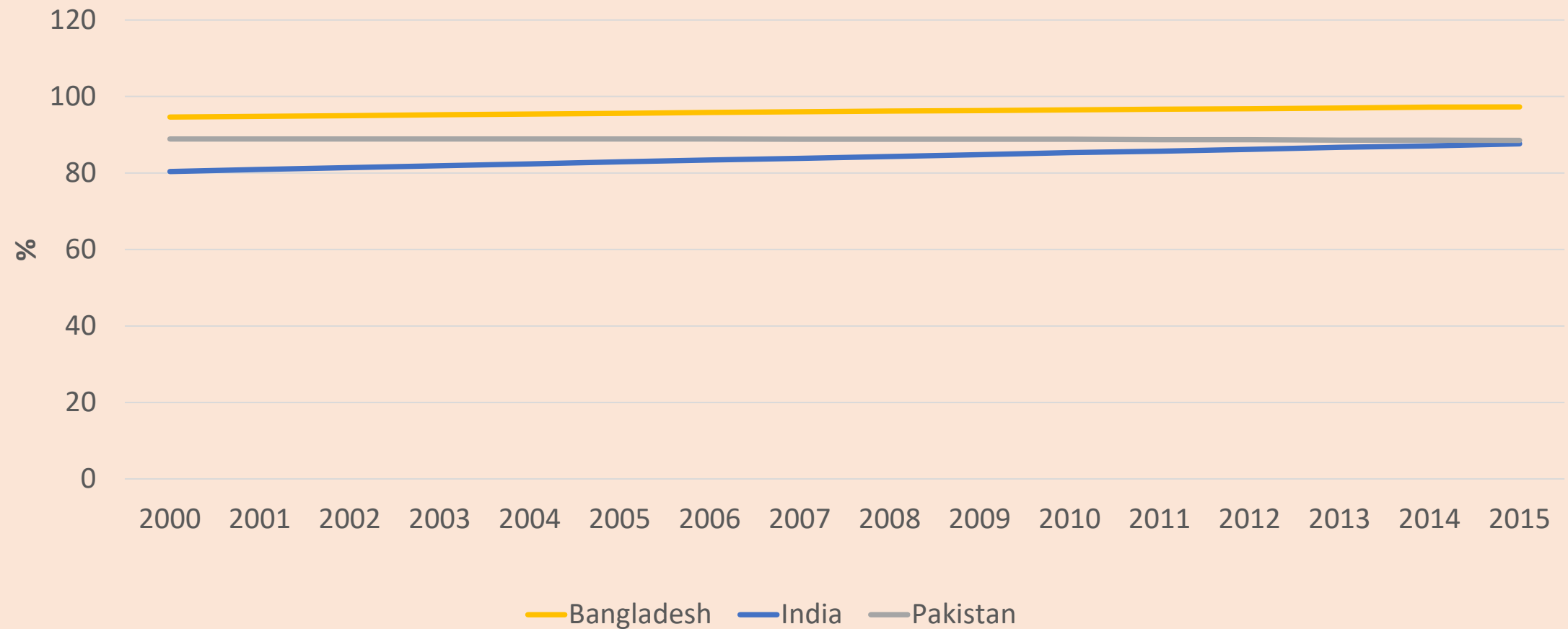
Reach of ICDS, 2012-13



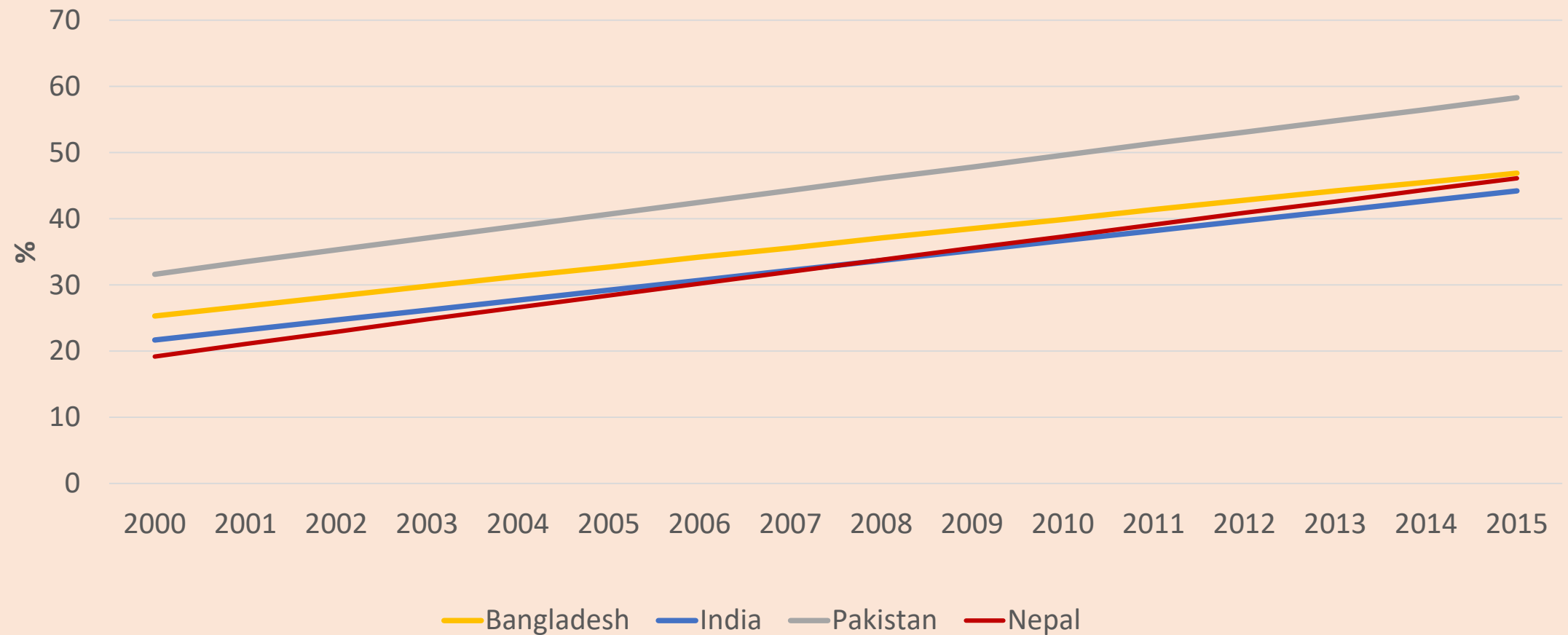
The complicating factors

- Lack of access to improved sanitation
- Declining food consumption
- “Westernization” of the Indian diet
- Low status of women
- Son preference
- Lack of access to complimentary foods for infants
- Underfunded health system

Proportion of population with access to basic drinking water facilities, 1990-2015



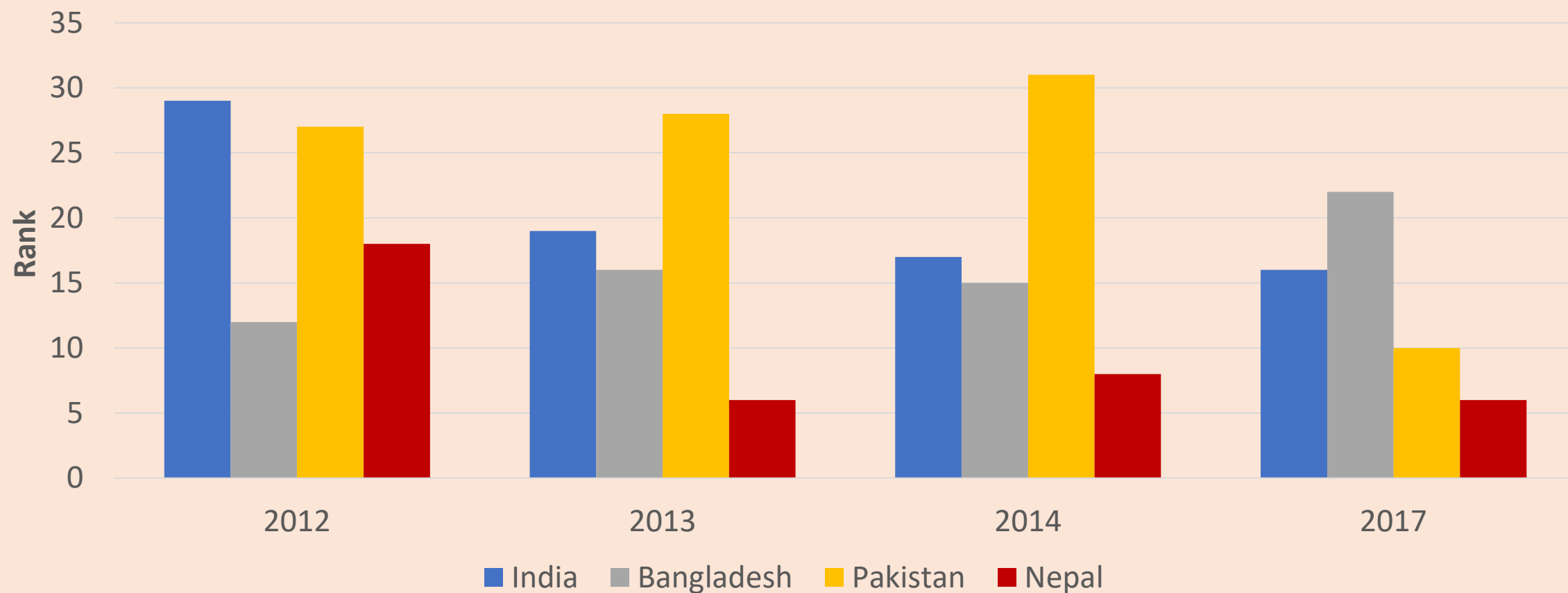
Proportion of population with access to basic sanitation facilities, 1990-2015



The next question for you.....

What can be done to improve the situation?

Rank in Hunger and Nutrition Commitment Index, 2012-17



Excerpt from Government of India submission to UPR

“India had taken various steps to eliminate all forms of malnutrition, including child malnutrition, notably through the adoption of the National Food Security Act, 2013, and the expansion of the coverage of the Integrated Child Development Scheme for better nutrition, health, and overall development of children that are less than 6 years old.”

National Food Security Act (2013)

"Food security means availability of sufficient food grains to meet the domestic demand as well as access, at the individual level, to adequate quantities of food at affordable prices."

"The proposed legislation marks a paradigm shift in addressing the problem of food security – from the current welfare approach to a rights-based approach."

National Food Security Act, 2013

“An Act to provide for food and nutritional security in human life cycle approach, by ensuring access to adequate quantity of quality food at affordable prices to people to live a life with dignity and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”

National Food Security Act, 2013

Every person belonging to priority households, identified under sub-section (1) of section 10, shall be entitled to receive five kilograms of foodgrains per person per month at subsidised prices specified in Schedule I from the State Government under the Targeted Public Distribution System.....

Subject to such schemes as may be framed by the Central Government, every pregnant woman and lactating mother shall be entitled to.....

Excerpt from Government of India submission to UPR

“Consistent with the SDGs on sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, India has pledged to achieve access to adequate and equitable sanitation and hygiene for all and to end open defecation, paying special attention to the needs of women and girls and those in vulnerable situations, by 2030.”

The final question for you.....

Will these initiatives work?
What about the global?