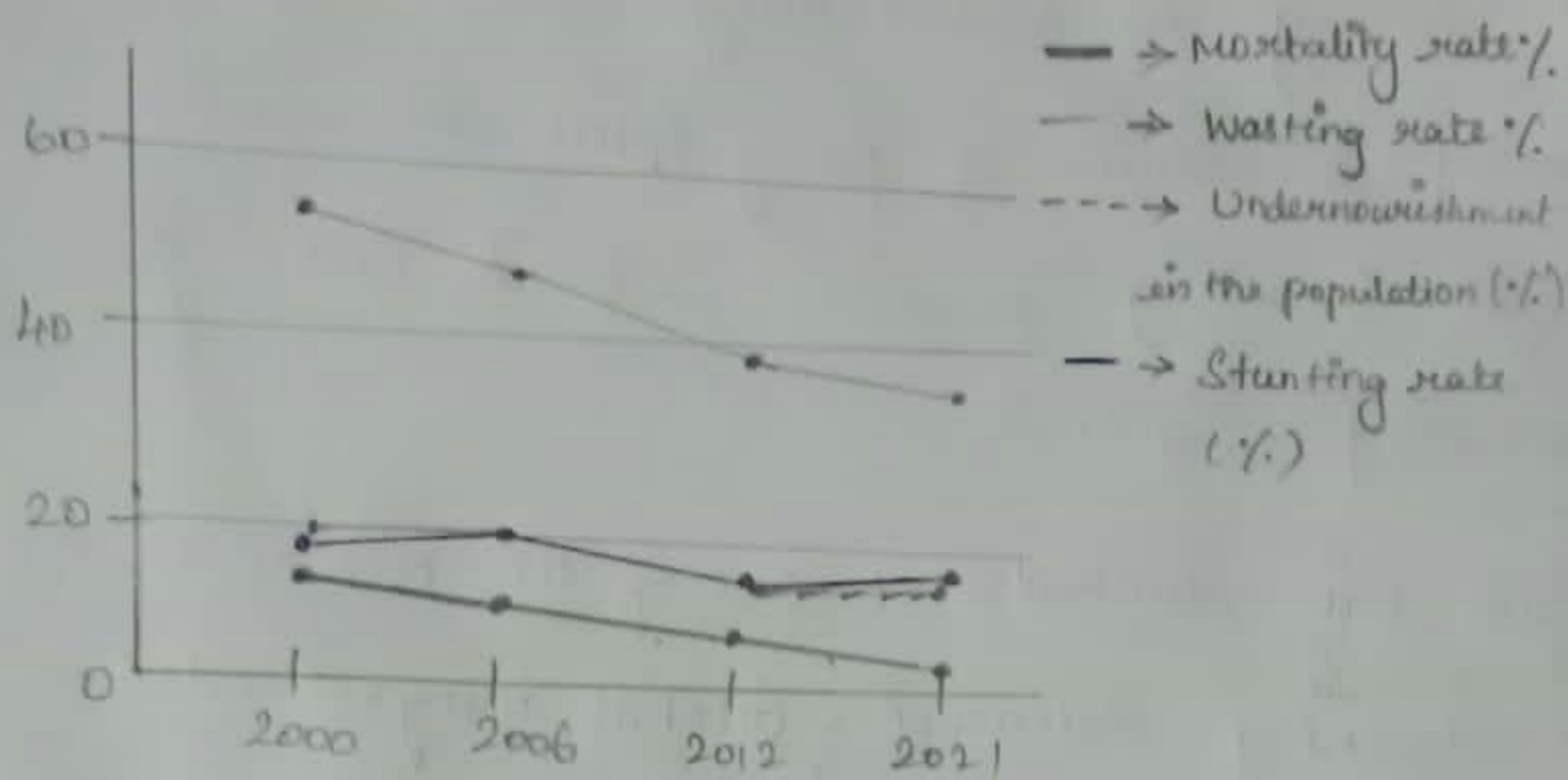


The ranking in Global Hunger Index requires the Country to rethink of policy interventions against hunger including pandemic-induced nutrition insecurity. Elaborate.

India was ranked 101 out of 116 countries in the recently released Global Hunger Index. It was one among the 31 nations where hunger has been classified as "serious". The country's rank has been on the downward trend since 2016.

Current Scenario:-

1. According to GHI, the prevalence of wasting in children under five in India increased in 2021.
2. The prevalence of Stunting (low height for age) in children under five and under-five mortality rate have consistently declined since 2000.



3. Moreover, India's child mortality rate has been lower compared to Sub-Saharan countries, despite having higher levels of Stunting.

Time to rethink policy interventions against Hunger :-

* Integrated Child Development Schemes :-

It is severely disrupted partly because the staffs and services were utilised to attend to Covid-19 emergency. So, there is need to increase the number of staffs and services.

* Covid-19 is likely to exacerbate child undernutrition in general and child wasting in particular

↳ Re-activate and scale up services for the early detection and treatment of child wasting.

↳ Maintain the provisions of nutritious and safe school meals for vulnerable children.

↳ Invest in improving maternal and child nutrition

* Schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Garib Kalyan Anna Yojana, Atma Nibhar Bharat Schemes, Mid-day meal Schemes, Annapurna Schemes should be strengthened and make sure that it would enable the people's access for food at affordable prices.

Conclusion :-

The real picture of what the second wave of the pandemic and whether these interventions helped improve nutrition status will emerge only later. The data will help governments devise ~~star~~ strategies to improve nutrition status in the future.