

There is a growing world rice crisis. What are we going...

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The [FT is reporting](#) that the world is facing a rice crisis.

As they note, the price of rice is rising very fast:



That is partly because India has put a ban on the export of some types of rice most commonly bought in developing countries, and placed minimum prices and export tariffs on other types of rice, like basmati, most commonly bought by countries like the UK.

As [the FT suggests](#):

Analysts warn that if India maintains its current restrictions, and other producers follow, the world is on track for a repeat of the 2008 rice crisis, when a contagion of protectionist policies contributed to rice prices tripling in six months, driving inflation across the globe and sparking civil unrest in north Africa, south Asia and the Caribbean.

This time the crisis could be worse, however, as soaring demand, driven by population growth, collides with the effects of ever more extreme climate change.

That is not an idle warning: there is a real risk of disruption in the market for one of the most basic food commodities on which many countries in the world rely even if they grow none of it.

This is what the reality of growing populations and the climate crisis will look like.

In the UK poverty results [in an increase in shoplifting](#). We can avoid that. We have the means to prevent poverty in this country.

In many countries, those means do not exist. There, poverty means moving. And no effort to prevent small boats from crossing the channel will ultimately stop the migration that planetary despoilation will eventually create.

The question is, what is going to be done about that? Or is it the plan to watch catastrophe unfold over the next decades with no intention of doing anything about it?

That is a question needing an answer, now.