



World Food Programme

SAVING LIVES  
CHANGING LIVES

# Quarterly Bulletin

## UN WFP India | July-Sept 2021

*This edition of WFP India's Quarterly Bulletin includes updates on recognition for women entrepreneurs fighting malnutrition in Uttar Pradesh; new partnership with ICRISAT to address malnutrition and support climate-resilient livelihoods; MoU with Government of Rajasthan; launch of the training app for school cooks in Odisha; Pilot of Annapurti - the automated grain dispensing machine; Media advocacy and outreach; and more...*

### **WOMEN ENTREPRENEURS FELICITATED BY UP CHIEF MINISTER**

Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath recently praised the women managing micro-enterprises that produce fortified Take-home Ration (THR). It was a moment of pride for the women members driving the three fortified THR production units in Fatehpur and Unnao districts, with support from the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in India. Handing over a cheque that covered the monthly expenses for distributing fortified THR to beneficiaries entitled under the Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) beneficiaries in the blocks served by the units, the chief minister applauded WFP's technical support towards this initiative. [View the post](#)

September 2021

## WFP, ODISHA GOVT LAUNCH TRAINING APP TO MAKE SCHOOL MEALS SAFE

Department of School and Mass Education in Odisha and WFP have launched a mobile training application for Cook-cum-Helpers who play a critical role in preparing and providing hot-cooked meals school children through Mid-day Meal scheme.

Around 158 schools will be receiving tablets with the application pre-loaded as part of the pilot in the Kamakhyanagar Block of Dhenkanal. The FoSafMDM application is available on the Google Play Store.

Launching the app, at a virtual event, Principal Secretary of School and Mass Education Department, Government of Odisha, Satyabrata Sahu said: "The app will empower Cook-cum-Helpers and contribute in providing better nutrition to our school children. This initiative will be scaled across the state where hot cooked meals are provided to about 43,70,000 school children through 114,225 Cook-cum-Helpers."

"It is commendable that India has one of the world's largest Mid-day Meal Scheme or School Feeding Programme that reaches over 100 million students. Nutritional improvement through the scheme is inextricably linked with food safety. Unsafe food served in the schools can create a vicious cycle of disease and malnutrition, impacting school children for life. Training of Cook-cum-Helpers is expected to address these challenges," said WFP India Representative and Country Director for India, Mr. Bishow Parajuli.

[Read more](#)



## ADVOCACY TO MARK NUTRITION MONTH

As part of the *Poshan Maah 2021* celebrations, WFP and government partners held a webinar on rice fortification to sensitize government staff and the general public on myths and misconceptions around its safety and impact. The live webinar was attended by 380 participants, while 6,000 people have seen its recording. Several activities were held by the nutrition team at national and state levels, along with media and social media outreach, to mark Nutrition Month.

**Our partners:** Associated Data Processing; Bank of America Charitable Foundation; Cargill, Inc.; Citrix Systems, Inc.; Ericsson India Global Services; General Mills Foundation; General Mills, Inc.; Individual donors to Share the Meal & WFP.org; Nutrition International; Sodexo Food Solutions, India Private Ltd.; Stop Hunger Foundation; WFP Trust for India; WFP Innovation Accelerator; WFP 2030 Fund; Global Development Group, NZ, Catalytic Impact Fund; UN AIDS; UN Adaptation Fund.

## COMPENDIUM ON FOOD SECURITY RESPONSE DURING COVID-19

The food security responses by India during the COVID-19 pandemic are now available as a compendium.

Produced by WFP and the Department of Food and Public Distribution, the publication has details and data around various measures introduced as the pandemic impacted millions, including migrant workers, while sharing public distribution system best practices in selected States and Union Territories.

The publication was unveiled as part of the official commemoration of the 75 years of India's Independence, the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.



[Read the publication](#)

## TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION

Several initiatives with the central and state governments are helping improve access to food and nutrition. These include:

- WFP has developed a Management Information System (MIS) to analyse and visualise data from 150 centres across the country by the Price Monitoring Division of the Department of Consumer Affairs. The MIS allows users to monitor changes in commodity prices by type of food and geographic location. The [dashboard](#) has been handed to the Department.
- To monitor the movement of food grains from warehouses to Fair Price Shops, WFP has developed a GPS-enabled tracking system that works on mobile devices. Created in partnership with the Rajasthan Government it was piloted in the Alwar District.
- WFP installed the second Mobile Storage Unit (MSU) at Bargarh in Odisha. WFP is also partnering with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi to convert the MSUs into smart warehouses using sensors for temperature, humidity, rodents control, and infrared cameras for quality control.



## ANNAPURTI - AUTOMATIC GRAIN DISPENSING MACHINE PILOTED

The Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Government of Haryana launched the prototype of *Annapurti*, WFP's automated multi-grain dispensing machine, at a Fair Price Shop in Haryana. *Annapurti* was developed by WFP using their extensive experience in working with the Government's Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) operations and applying engineering and innovation to reduce leakages and wastage and to enhance accuracy. With this pilot, WFP aims to understand the acceptance and scope of further enhancement of the machine which will support its advocacy for a nationwide scale-up, with a focus on use by migrant populations.

[Read more](#)

## WFP, ICRISAT TO PARTNER ON FOOD SECURITY AND CLIMATE CHANGE

Focusing on climate change impact through innovative programmes and research to improve food and nutrition security and promote resilient rural livelihoods, the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the International Crops Research Institute for the Semi-Arid Tropics (ICRISAT) recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in New Delhi.

The partnership was inked by Mr. Bishow Parajuli, WFP India Representative and Country Director, and Dr. Jacqueline Hughes, Director General, ICRISAT, on 23<sup>rd</sup> September 2021. [Read more](#)

## LAUNCH OF MEGP INITIATIVE WITH NIDM

In collaboration with the National Institute of Disaster Management (NIDM), WFP launched the Map and Exchange Good Practices (MEGP) initiative which plans to provide a co-learning and networking platform for humanitarian practitioners and innovators working on food and nutrition security and to provide feedback and motivation for replication and scale-up.

The initiative received an overwhelming response with a total of 55 applications out of which 31 entries were shortlisted as the most inspiring solutions. These solutions will be included in the Good practices' publication on Food and Nutrition Security by NIDM-WFP. The jury panel further reviewed and evaluated these applications to select finalists, who would get opportunities to present their solution in a regional workshop planned in November 2021.

## LEARNING FROM ODISHA MILLETS MISSION

To leverage the journey of Odisha Millets Mission for regional and global sharing, the Department of Agriculture and Farmer's Empowerment, Odisha co-hosted a workshop with WFP and IPE Global on 27 August, 2021. As part of mainstreaming millets as a climate-resilient nutritious crop, WFP and the Odisha Millet Mission are working to jointly undertake an Assessment and Documentation of Good Practices and Lessons Learned.



Data collection and interactions with several ministries and institutions are completed to gain insight on the specifics of millets policies and key initiatives undertaken. The top-line findings are available and will be presented to stakeholders soon. These interactions shall inform the development of policy briefs and a replicable operational model that has the potential to scale up in India and other countries.

## NITI AND WFP HOLD WORKSHOP FOR RAJASTHAN GOV ON M&E

The Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office of NITI Aayog, Government of India and WFP conducted a day-long workshop to strengthen the Monitoring and Evaluation Capacity for officials at the Directorate of Evaluation Organization, Planning Department, and Government of Rajasthan on 28th September 2021.

WFP is working with Planning Department to support the state government's efforts to achieve targets under the Sustainable Development Goal-2 by providing technical assistance.

# Outreach

THE HINDU



In this incisive Opinion Piece, @BishowParajuli @UNWFP\_India highlights the centrality of food-based safety nets, #India's response to #COVID19, #inclusion and significance of #resilient #sustainable #FoodSystems.... and more  
[epaper.thehindu.com/Home/ShareArti...](http://epaper.thehindu.com/Home/ShareArti...)

## Lessons from India's food security response

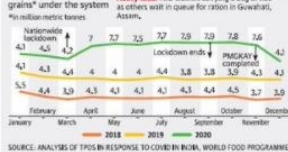
Government measures to tackle the food crisis during the COVID-19 pandemic were effective



BISHOW PARAJULI

With a reduction in COVID-19 infections as the second wave weakens in India, it is important to focus on the pandemic's disruptive impact on the food security and livelihoods of the poor and marginalised. The deadly virus has been around for two years and it is not clear as to how and when it will end. However, we do have enough in terms of a hand-picked analysis of policies and interventions that promise food and livelihood security, along with the strengthening of health support, for millions facing the wrath of the pandemic.

**Food for all**  
 In light of the impact of COVID-19, vulnerable families in India continued to be buffered against the food crisis by its robust Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS). The graphic shows the monthly distribution of grains under the system



has gone through constant navigation and improvement, which is commendable. But more needs to still be done to improve access and inclusion among the missing vulnerable population. **Way ahead**  
 First, the introduction of the One Nation One Ration Card (ONORC) scheme is an innovation that can be a game changer, allowing beneficiaries to access their food entitlements from anywhere in the country. This is especially important for a country like India with a massive mobile population and migration between States. The scheme takes the massive digitisation of the supply chain, distribution and access to the next step, ensuring anyone benefits from anywhere in India. **Second**, climate change will continue to affect agriculture and food security, and the impact on the poor and vulnerable will be significant.

8:41 AM · Jul 26, 2021 · Twitter Web App



Important coverage by #Doordarshan on #COVID19 impact & #India's response through food safety net #TPDS & its global lessons with #hunger escalating across the world. @PMOIndia @fooddeptgoi @WFPChief @Bishow @UNWFP\_India @Secretary\_DFPD Full video: [bit.ly/3xfIGul](http://bit.ly/3xfIGul)



1:59 PM · Jul 28, 2021 · Twitter Web App

# Business Standard

## WFP partners with Rajasthan to improve Targeted Public Distribution System

The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in India and the Rajasthan government have joined hands to improve the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS) in the state.

**Topics**  
 food security | Food production | United Nations

Press Trust of India | New Delhi  
 Last Updated at July 13, 2021 18:05 IST

# THE TIMES OF INDIA

## Rajasthan to work with World Food Program to make NFSA more effective

JAIPUR: In collaboration with World Food Program, the state's food department will work on installing GPS to monitor the transportation of foodgrains from FCI (food corporation of India) godowns to fair price shops in Alwar district.

Food secretary Naveen Jain said the work of converting ration cards into Jan Aadhaar cards has already begun in the state. In the first phase, on a pilot project basis, the work of mapping ration card databases of NFSA members in the remaining 95 areas with Jan Aadhaar database has already started from July 1. "The work related to the national food security scheme in the state will be made more effective in collaboration with the World Food Program," he said.



Sunday, Nov 07, 2021 | New Delhi 28°C

Home / Ht Insight / Gender Equality / Why do women eat last? Understanding gender bias in India

### GENDER EQUALITY

## Why do women eat last? Understanding gender bias in India

This piece has been authored by Parvinder Singh, Head- Communications for World Food Programme India



Representational image from the film Great Indian Kitchen.

Published on Sep 02, 2021 07:23 PM IST

By Hindustan Times

As the world continues to struggle with the negative impacts of the Covid-19 pandemic, there is an urgent need to find ways to improve and realign programmes focused on addressing the huge nutritional disadvantages that girls and women face, especially among the poor and marginalised social groups.

# Outreach

**World Food Programme India** @UNWFP\_India

Millet is emerging as a strong option as a source of nutrition. Join @UNWFP\_India on @ASSOCHAM4India Virtual Session on Millets 2021 on the Acceptability and Adaptability of Millets for achieving nutritional security in India.

09-07-2021 | [bit.ly/3hFXeOD](https://bit.ly/3hFXeOD)  
#SDG2

11:20 AM · Jul 7, 2021 · Twitter Web App

**World Food Programme India** @UNWFP\_India

Breastfeeding is a shared responsibility & contributes to the survival, health & wellbeing of all.

Post questions and join @banegaswasthind & @ShariquaY @UNWFP\_India ahead of #WorldBreastfeedingWeek.

30 July | [bit.ly/3y4FTWh](https://bit.ly/3y4FTWh)

@MinistryWCD @MoHFW\_INDIA

**#WORLD BREASTFEEDING WEEK**  
August 1 to 7  
#SwasthyaMantra

**LIVE**

POST YOUR QUESTIONS FOR  
**DR SHARIQUA YUNUS**  
HEAD, NUTRITION & SCHOOL FEEDING UNIT, WOR

July 30, 4.30 | [facebook.com/banegaswasthindia](https://facebook.com/banegaswasthindia)

11:23 AM · Jul 28, 2021 · Twitter Web App

**BLOGS**

## Opinion: Young People Must Play A Role In Healing The Planet And Food Systems

International Youth Day this year pins our collective hope on the innovation and engagement of young people in healing the health of the planet by engaging them in how we grow, eat and manage food

Written By: Dr Aradhana Srivastav | August 12, 2021



**HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE 12-HOUR TELETHON**

Oct 03, 2021 23:03:38 (IST)

That's a wrap on the Swasth Bharat, Sampann Bharat Telethon. We will be back next year. We leave you with this rocking performance of Rapper, composer and TV personality Raftaar

Oct 03, 2021 22:49 (IST)

Dettol curriculum is in 75% of all primary schools in India: Laxman Narasimhan.

**LEAVING NO ONE BEHIND**

**New Delhi:** The International Youth Day 2021 (IYD2021) comes at a critical moment. The latest IPCC report has declared a red alert on climate change, the burden of which will be inherited by youth. The equivalent of 255 million full-time jobs was lost around the world due to the pandemic, according to data from the International Labour Organization. Several reports suggest worrying levels of mental health issues among young people. International Youth Day this year pins our collective hope on the innovation and engagement of young people in healing the health of the planet by engaging them in how we grow, eat and manage food.

**Also Read:** [COVID-19 Has Caused One Of The Biggest Increases In World Hunger, Malnutrition In Decades: United Nations](#)

The Gender and Inclusion office of WFP India published an opinion piece, entitled International Youth Day 2021: Young People Must Play A Role In Healing The Planet And Food Systems, on the occasion of International Youth Day 2021.

## United Nations World Food Programme

India Country Office  
2 Poorvi Marg, New Delhi 110057, India  
Phone: +91 11 4655 4000 | E-mail: [WFP.NewDelhi@wfp.org](mailto:WFP.NewDelhi@wfp.org)  
Twitter- @UNWFP\_India | [www.wfp.org/countries/india](http://www.wfp.org/countries/india)

September 2021 | UN WFP India Quarterly Bulletin

**FACE** Confederation of Indian Industry

**Pre-event in support of the UN Food Systems Summit 2021**  
**National Dialogue on Agri & Food Actions towards strengthening Food Systems in India**

**13th & 14th September 2021: Virtual Platform**  
**Register today at <https://bit.ly/380uWx5>**

Address by Bishow Parajuli | Representative and Country Director, WFP in India

**Advancing equitable livelihoods**  
Day 1 - 1730 - 1900 IST

**Photos**  
page 1: One of the Take Home Ration production units in Uttar Pradesh's Fatehpur with members of the Women Self Help Group in action. [WFP/Parvinder Singh](#)  
page 2: Principal Secretary SME Dept., Govt. of Odisha, Satyabrata Sahu handing out tablets for Cook-cum-Helpers in presence of WFP India DCD, Eric Kenefick. [WFP/Himanshu](#)  
page 3: Compendium by WFP India and Dept. of Food and Public Distribution, Gol being unveiled in presence of Bishow Parajuli, CD, WFP, India, Ramesh Kumar, US(PD-I & III) Jyotsna Gupta, Dy. Secretary (Comp) S. Jagannathan, Joint Secretary, (BP & PD). [Gol](#)  
page 4: MoU signing between Bishow Parajuli, CD-WFP India and Jacqueline Hughes - Director General - ICRISAT. [WFP/Parvinder Singh](#)