



Mr. David Beasley, Executive Director United Nations World Food Programme, meeting H.E. Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha, India. Left to right: Mr. Manoj Juneja, AED; H.E. Naveen Patnaik, Chief Minister of Odisha; Mr. David Beasley, Executive Director; Mr. Bishow Parajuli, WFP Country Director, India. Photo: WFP/Rein Skullerud

Quarterly Bulletin

UN WFP India | April-June 2022

This edition of the Quarterly Bulletin by the United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) in India has updates on Odisha Chief Minister's visit to WFP headquarters at Rome; award for Grain ATM-Annapurti at the WFP Innovation Award 2022; India visit by a high-level Nepalese delegation; awareness campaigns on fortified rice in Uttar Pradesh; capacity building for strengthening nutritional outcomes in Rajasthan; launch of smart warehouse in collaboration with Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Food Corporation of India; Opinion Pieces and advocacy events.

CM PATNAIK SHARES ODISHA'S ACHIEVEMENTS ON FOOD SECURITY AT WFP HQ

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik was in Rome in late June and visited WFP headquarters for interactions with WFP Executive Director David Beasley and the leadership team.

Reiterating the strong partnership that WFP in India and the Government of Odisha have had over the decades, he shared the 'transformational progress' the state has made on strengthening food security.

"By attaining food sufficiency, initiating large-scale development programs designed around creating climate-resilient livelihoods and nutrition, and focussing on partnerships, the state is moving consistently towards Sustainable Development Goals and inclusive development," he said.

"It is a pleasure to welcome the Chief Minister of Odisha and share our impressions on the innovative work the

State is doing in partnership with WFP in India. Our joint goal of strengthening livelihoods and food security across Odisha is being translated into action with a series of ambitious projects to support inclusive development and new economic opportunities, especially for women. It's exciting to see how our collaboration is helping to drive Odisha's progress towards achieving Zero Hunger and the other UN Sustainable Development Goals," the Executive Director said in a statement.



[Read more](#)

Quality Nutrition for All

WFP LAUNCHES MOBILE LEARNING APP TO MAKE SCHOOL MEALS SAFE IN RAJASTHAN

WFP and the Government of Rajasthan handed over Tablet devices to women school Cook-Cum-Helpers (CCHs), to launch a mobile learning application to improve the functioning of the PM-POSHAN Scheme also known as the Mid-Day Meal scheme.



The application, Food Safety for Mid-day Meals (FoSafMDM), developed by WFP, was unveiled in the state capital Jaipur by Dr. Bulaki Das Kalla, Minister of Education, Government of Rajasthan. The event marked the commencement of the programme in 186 schools in the Viratnagar block.

“Training CCHs, who play a critical role in preparing and providing hot-cooked meals to school children, is an important aspect of the scheme. Safe and hygienic meals contribute to better and safe nutrition for our

Dr. Bulaki Das Kalla, Minister of Education, Government of Rajasthan (L) handing over tablets to women Cook-Cum-Helper in the presence of WFP India Deputy Country Director Eric Kenefick (C), Photo: WFP/Shyamalima Kalita

children. The Tablets and the training on how to use this application will deliver insights for scaling this initiative,” said Dr. Kalla, speaking at the press conference.

“The use of technology and the application that offers flexibility and cost-effective way of regular training can be a game-changing idea that will benefit millions of school children in the state,” the minister added.

“Nutritional improvement is inextricably linked with food safety. Unsafe food served in the schools can create a vicious cycle of disease and malnutrition, impacting school children partaking in these day meals,” said Mr. Eric Kenefick, Deputy Country Director for WFP in India.

WFP LAUNCHES CAMPAIGN ON RICE FORTIFICATION AWARENESS IN UTTAR PRADESH

In Uttar Pradesh, WFP has launched a three-month campaign for creating awareness of fortified rice in targeted communities. As part of the campaign, innovative behaviour changes and communication activities such as cooking demonstrations, Information, Education, and Communication (IEC) vans, district-level workshops, and media sensitization will be conducted across parts of the state. With the campaign, WFP aims to address common myths and misconceptions around fortified rice and increase the utilisation and consumption of fortified rice in the state.



Launch of awareness campaign on Rice Fortification in Uttar Pradesh. Photo: WFP India

Improving Access to Food

ANNAPURTI BAGS GLOBAL INNOVATION AWARD FOR DISRUPTING HUNGER

An automated multi-commodity dispensing solution, Annapurti, developed by WFP India, in partnership with Department of Food and Public Distribution, has bagged the [Global Innovation Award](#) for 2022.

The solution provides fast, clean, and precise access to commodities (rice, wheat, grains) to beneficiaries through biometric authentication.

Annapurti, being tested at Fair Price Shops in Haryana, Uttarakhand and Odisha, ensures 24x7 access for people entitled to monthly subsidised grains through India's Public Distribution System – The world's largest food-based safety net covering over 800 million people.

The WFP Innovation Awards were instituted to celebrate and honor outstanding innovations from over 120 countries and territories in which WFP works. Annapurti is one of the five winners from 80 countries that applied



Mr. David Beasley, Executive Director, WFP, handing over the WFP Innovation Award for 2022 to Mr. Bishow Parajuli, CD, WFP in India. Photo: WFP/Rein Skullerud

SMART WAREHOUSE PILOT LAUNCHED IN DELHI

WFP in India has launched the pilot of a 'Smart Warehouse' in collaboration with the Department of Food and Public Distribution and the Food Corporation of India, aimed at modernizing the government grain warehouse system.

The warehouse is equipped with wireless sensors to monitor temperature, humidity, airflow, and rodents which can be tracked through a web-based application, allowing warehouse operators to improve the storage environment and reduce losses.



Smart warehouse pilot launch. (L-R) Ankit Sood, Head Supply Chain & PDS WFP India; WFP India DCD Eric Kenefick with Jt. Sec. (Storage) Nandita Gupta & Regional Manager FCI Shraddha Sharma. Photo: WFP/Shyamalima Kalita

Evidence and Impact

TRAINING ON EVALUATION FOR CM'S YOUNG PROFESSIONALS IN MADHYA PRADESH

WFP supported the Development Monitoring and Evaluation Office (DMEO) in undertaking a full-day training on Evaluation Fundamentals for 50 young professionals as part of the Chief Minister's Young Professionals Development Programme (CMYPDP), Government of Madhya Pradesh on 5th April.

Take Home Ration- Good Practices Compendium

WFP in collaboration with NITI Aayog has launched a compendium on Good Practices on Take Home Ration (THR) across all states / UTs in India. The document brings together good practices and innovations observed in procurement, product formulation, quality assurance, quality control, packaging and labeling, monitoring, supply chain management, and SBCC components of the Supplementary Nutrition Programme. It aims to help the States and UTs to learn and adopt innovations in the improvement of the THR value chain while increasing efficiency and ensuring THR delivery to the beneficiaries.



NITI Aayog VC, Suman K Bery; CEO Amitabh Kant with Indevar Pandey, Secretary MoWCD and WFP official Shariqua Yunus at the launch of Good Practices Compendium for THR. Photo: WFP/Shyamalima Kalita

Learning Management System: Digital Capacity Building

Department of Food & Public Distribution
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
Government of India

More than 3700 Registrations
Digital Learning Driving TPDS Reforms
Anytime, anywhere self-learning programme for food and civil supplies functionaries at State and District level

e-Learning platform launched in collaboration with UN World Food Programme

Around 3,700 Public Distribution System functionaries across India are registered on the 'Learning Management System' for digital capacity building of State and District level officials.

The platform, besides providing access to learning material, helps track progress by incorporating assessments and provides certification while enabling authorities to follow the journey of learners in real-time.

The platform includes gamification engine integration, is available in 10 vernacular Indian languages, with options for Social Network sharing, ability to publish videos, and YouTube links & more.

Publications

A FRAMEWORK FOR OPTIMIZING GOVERNMENT MONITORING AND EVALUATION SYSTEMS DURING CRISES

Authors:
Abhay Kumar, Vijay Avinandan

World Food Programme India
DMEQ, NITI Aayog

GENDER DYNAMICS OF INTRA-HOUSEHOLD FOOD ACCESS AND CONSUMPTION IN UTTAR PRADESH

BACKGROUND

Every day poor people in India must make difficult decisions on how to share their meagre food supplies among members of their households. Prevailing gender norms determine how food is allocated within households, often resulting in unequal food access and consumption. In India, it is almost universal that it's a woman's role to cook and serve food in the households, but that they often eat last and least, irrespective of age or state of health.

The UN World Food Programme (WFP) India supports the Government in strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of their national food safety nets, particularly the Targeted Public Distribution System (TPDS), the Mid-Day Meal (MDM) Programme in schools, and the Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) for young children, and program and faculty experts have conducted this research to understand how gender norms affected food distribution within households and what could be recommended to the Government to address this issue.

The effect of COVID-19 pandemic on access to food was also examined.

METHODS

In early 2021, a quantitative assessment was conducted covering 1,249 households in three districts of Uttar Pradesh: Lucknow, Kanpur, and Jaunpur. The survey explored community practices, knowledge, and perception around intra-household food distribution and consumption, the experience of food insecurity, and the impact of COVID-19 restrictions on food availability and accessibility. Quantitative data from a 2019 preliminary study along with additional discussions in 2021 in the same area, was also utilised in the analysis.

TAKE HOME RATION
GOOD PRACTICES-ACROSS THE STATES/UTS

Climate Change and Adaptation

DELEGATION FROM NEPAL VISITS INDIA FOR EXCHANGE ON FOOD SECURITY

A high-level delegation from Nepal was in India to study the National Food Security Act (NFSA) and its progress on agriculture production. The five-day mission was curated and hosted by WFP India, the Embassy of Nepal in India, and WFP Nepal in June.

The mission, led by the Minister of Agriculture and Livestock Development of the Government of Nepal, held interactions with senior functionaries of various ministries and departments and an exposure visit to Odisha. The mission culminated with a bilateral meeting of Agriculture Ministers of Nepal and India to take it forward under the ambit of India-Nepal agricultural cooperation.



Mr. Mahendra Rai Yadav, Honorable Minister, MoALD, Dr. Shankar Prasad Sharma Ambassador of Nepal to India, Ms Sabnam Shivakoti Aryal Joint Secretary, MoALD, Mr. Babu Ram Subedi Joint Secretary, Ministry of Finance, Ms Niru Dalhal Pandey Secretary, MoALD & Dr. Dil Bahadur Gurung Honourable Member, National Planning Commission, Nepal with Mr. Bishow Parajuli, WFP Country Director, India. Photo: WFP India

CLIMATE ADVISORIES FOR SMALLHOLDER FARMERS

In collaboration with Odisha Govt., WFP is implementing a pilot project in the Ganjam district to enhance climate resilience among smallholder farmers by developing tailored climate advisories using the Participatory Information on Climate Services for Agriculture tool. A scoping study on this is currently underway.

Gender and Inclusion

A study brief, and information notes, exploring the dynamics of access to food and consumption by women and men within households in selected districts of Uttar Pradesh was released.

Read the [brief](#)

Read the information [note one](#) and [two](#).

The Department for Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities, Government of India, and WFP will partner on situation assessment of persons with disabilities in India under the Disability and Inclusion pilot initiative through sharing of data and other resources.

Outreach
Media/Events/Engagements



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