

Rural Outreach Programme through Amrit Interns in Saharanpur, Uttar Pradesh

Implementing Agency: Ramrati Education Complex

Supplementary Reading Material for the "Preventive Health Care" - a section of the farmer survey form

IPL Centre of Rural Outreach - A CSR initiative of Indian Potash Limited











The survey by ICRO Amrit Interns, amongst other, is to identify of about awareness farmers preventive health care facilities available, Government Schemes, immunization against disease, maintaining a healthy diet and exercise regimen etc. It includes methods to detect and address an existing disease prior to the appearance of symptoms.

Foreword

Indian Potash Limited (IPL), under the Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers was incorporated under Indian Companies Act with the objective of import-handling, promotion and marketing of Potash in the entire county. IPL is a major player in multiple value chains and inputs, is steadfastly contributing and marching towards agrarian growth and farmers' prosperity in India. The dedicated field work of IPL has led to acceptance of potash across the country which was until then unknown to Indian farmers. IPL has successfully established a vast network, and its services are coordinated by 15 Regional offices in various State capitals. It enables IPL to take any agricultural input or service to farmers' doorstep in about six lakh villages across the country.

National Productivity Council (NPC), established in 1958, is an apex organization under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India. NPC is responsible for generating productivity awareness and consciousness across the country by providing solutions for improving productivity and competitiveness through different services, namely consultancy, training, action research, evaluation studies.

IPL as part of its Corporate Social Responsibility together with National Productivity Council (NPC) established the **IPL Centre for Rural Outreach (ICRO)**, in order to undertake long-term social programmes such as rural outreach, healthcare, literacy boost, sustainability, productivity and climate change etc.

Amrit Internship programme, one of the first activities taken up by ICRO aims to extend its rural outreach and capacity strengthening activities for farmers and youth simultaneously. This internship program is designed to introduce and provide youth of the country hands-on experience of the challenges in the various facets of agriculture and rural development. During the internship, the interns are encouraged to put to use their academic learning for real-life contexts, acquire new skills and draw lessons which will be helpful in their career ahead. To bring in rigour to the exercise the interns are required to complete reading an E-module Course shared with them and also appear for a test at the completion of the internship. Furthermore, to encourage them for their participation, dedication and meet their expenses, the interns are supported with Rs. 6,000/- per month as stipend during the period of internship, i.e. three months.

In the 3rd Phase of the Rural Outreach Programme through Amrit Interns that commenced from August 2023, one of the districts selected was Saharanpur in Uttar Pradesh. The programme is being implement by Ramrati Education Complex through its Hillary Clinton Nursing School. In this programme, besides touching on knowledge gaps/issues of farmers relating to agriculture, the interns will address their awareness of preventive health measures. The questionnaire for collecting farmer responses was accordingly expanded to include a section on preventive health care.

ICRO has developed an e-learning module on agriculture practices for the benefit of the interns. This Supplementary Reading Material for the "Preventive Health Care" section of the farmer survey form has been put together with information available in the public domain. It gives a brief on the needs of farmers for a holistic living, health requirement in the villages, the main illness in the area, Schemes of Central and State Government and the need to maintain a balanced diet.

I thank Indian Potash Limited and National Productivity Council for their active support for making the programme meet its objectives. I would also like to thank the ICRO Team for coming out with this brief but informative brochure for the benefit of Amrit Interns.

Dr. Rajeev Ranjan Director, ICRO

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Kisan Diwas is celebrated every year on 23 December



A. Needs of farmers for a holistic living

- 1. **Access to Quality Seeds:** Farmers require access to high-quality and locally adapted seeds to ensure good crop yields and resilience to local environmental conditions.
- 2. **Irrigation and Water Management:** Dependable access to water for irrigation is crucial for farming. Farmers need proper irrigation facilities, such as wells, canals, and water conservation techniques.
- 3. Fertilizers and Soil Health Management: Access to fertilizers and knowledge about soil health management practices like composting and crop rotation are important for maintaining soil fertility and productivity.



4. **Modern Farming Techniques:** Farmers need training and exposure to modern and sustainable farming techniques, including precision farming, organic farming, and integrated pest management.



5. Access to Credit: Credit facilities are essential for purchasing seeds, fertilizers, and equipment. Microfinance and other credit options can help farmers manage their expenses effectively.

6. **Crop Insurance:** Crop insurance provides financial security to farmers in case of crop failures due to natural calamities, pests, or diseases.

- 7. **Weather Information:** Accurate weather forecasts help farmers plan their activities, especially planting and harvesting, which are highly dependent on weather conditions.
- 8. **Storage and Post-Harvest Facilities:** Farmers need proper storage facilities to prevent spoilage and wastage of harvested crops. Cold storage and other post-harvest infrastructure are crucial.
- 9. Market Access: Access to markets for selling their produce at fair prices is important. Farmers need information about market trends and opportunities for value addition.
- 10. Livestock Management: Many farmers in villages also engage in livestock rearing. Proper veterinary care, fodder, and knowledge about improved breeding practices are essential for livestock management.
- 11. **Mechanization and Farm Equipment:** Availability of modern farm equipment and machinery can significantly increase productivity and reduce the physical burden on farmers.
- 12. Access to Extension Services: Regular interaction with agricultural extension officers and experts can help farmers stay updated on the latest farming techniques and technologies.



13. **Education and Training:** Training in financial literacy, sustainable farming practices, and market linkages can empower farmers to make informed decisions.



- 14. **Healthcare Facilities:** Good health is essential for farmers to carry out their work effectively. Access to healthcare services, especially in remote rural areas, is crucial.
- 15. **Government Schemes and Support:** Farmers need awareness about government schemes and subsidies related to agriculture, as these can provide financial support and incentives.
- 16. **Community Development:** Infrastructure development in rural areas, such as roads, electricity, and schools, contributes to the overall well-being of farmers and their families.
- 17. **Disaster Preparedness:** Farmers need resources and knowledge to mitigate the impact of natural disasters like floods, droughts, and cyclones.

B. Health requirement in the villages

Health requirements in villages are critical for the well-being of rural populations. Access to proper healthcare services and facilities is essential to ensure the health and productivity of villagers. Here are some key health requirements in villages:

- 1. **Primary Healthcare Centers (PHCs):** Well-equipped and staffed PHCs are fundamental for providing basic healthcare services such as vaccinations, maternal and child healthcare, minor treatments, and health education.
- 2. Access to Doctors and Nurses: Villages need a consistent presence of doctors, nurses, and healthcare workers who can address common health issues, provide medical advice, and conduct regular health check-ups.
- 3. **Medicines and Essential Supplies:** Availability of essential medicines, vaccines, and medical supplies in local health centers is crucial for immediate treatment and preventive care.
- 4. **Maternal and Child Healthcare:** Antenatal care, postnatal care, safe delivery services, and immunization for children are critical to reduce maternal and child mortality rates.
- 5. **Emergency Medical Services:** Villages need access to emergency medical services, including ambulance services, to transport patients to hospitals quickly in case of accidents or emergencies.
- 6. **Health Education:** Awareness programs on hygiene, nutrition, family planning, and disease prevention are important to educate villagers about healthy living practices.
- 7. **Disease Prevention and Control:** Initiatives for preventing and controlling diseases such as malaria, dengue, tuberculosis, and HIV/AIDS are essential to improve the overall health of villagers.
- 8. **Safe Drinking Water and Sanitation:** Access to clean and safe drinking water, along with proper sanitation facilities, is crucial to prevent waterborne diseases.
- 9. Mental Health Support: Mental health services and awareness campaigns can help address stress, anxiety, and other mental health concerns prevalent in rural areas.
- 10. **Elderly Care:** Villages need facilities and programs to support the healthcare needs of the elderly population, including regular check-ups and access to geriatric care.
- 11. **Specialized Care:** Referral services to higher-level healthcare facilities for specialized treatments and surgeries are important for handling complex medical cases.
- 12. Nutrition and Food Security: Promoting proper nutrition, especially for women and children, is vital for reducing malnutrition and related health issues.
- 13. **Health Camps:** Periodic health camps can provide a range of medical services, including check-ups, screenings, and distribution of medicines, to reach a larger population.

14. **Health Insurance and Financial Support:** Providing health insurance options and financial support for medical expenses can relieve the burden on villagers during health emergencies.



15. **Awareness About Government Health Schemes:** Informing villagers about government health schemes and how to access them can help them avail of benefits and financial assistance.

16. **Community Health Workers:** Trained community health workers can play a significant role in delivering basic healthcare services, conducting health education sessions, and facilitating referrals.

- 17. **Preventive Measures During Outbreaks:** During disease outbreaks, villages need access to information about preventive measures and the availability of vaccines or treatments.
- 18. **Public Toilets and Waste Management:** Proper sanitation facilities and waste management systems contribute to overall health and hygiene in villages.
- 19. **Regular Health Camps and Check-ups:** Conducting regular health camps and check-ups can help identify health issues early and provide necessary treatments.
- 20. **Health Infrastructure Development:** Improving the overall health infrastructure, including the construction and maintenance of health centers, is essential for sustained healthcare delivery.



A Primary Health Care Center in Saharanpur District

C.What are the main illnesses in your area?

Common illnesses in villages can vary based on factors like location, climate, sanitation, and access to healthcare. Here are some of the common illnesses often observed in rural areas:

Symptoms of Pneumonia

1. **Respiratory Infections:** Due to exposure to smoke from traditional cooking methods and poor ventilation, respiratory infections like pneumonia and bronchitis are prevalent. Bronchitis is inflammation of the mucous membranes that line the bronchi, the airways that carry air to and from the lungs.



Pneumonia is inflammation of lung tissue caused by a bacterial, viral, or fungal infection in one or both lungs accompanied by infiltration and inflammation of the alveoli.

The flu (influenza virus) and the common cold (rhinovirus) are the most common causes of viral pneumonia in adults. Respiratory syncytial virus (RSV) is the most common cause of viral pneumonia in young children. Many other viruses can cause pneumonia, including SARS-CoV-2, the virus that causes COVID-19.

2. Covid-19: Corona virus belongs to such a family of viruses whose infection can cause problems ranging from a cold to shortness of breath. This virus has never been seen before. Its symptoms are similar to the flu. As a result of infection, problems like fever, cold, shortness of breath, running nose and sore throat arise. This virus spreads from person to person. In some cases, the corona virus can also be fatal. Especially older people and who already have asthma, diabetes and heart disease. Always follow the Government Guidelines.

COVID-19 Disease caused by the SARS-CoV-2 virus	COCC COCC COCC COCC	Covid-19 vs. Cold vs. Flu Symptoms				
Novel coronavirus	Prevention	SY	YMPTOMS	COVID-19 [†]	COLD	FLU
Coronaviruses are viruses that circulate among animals but some of them are also known to affect humans.	n visiting affected areas	So So	ore throat	Sometimes	Common	Common
The 2019 novel coronavirus was identified in China at	Avoid contact with sick people	Co	ough	Common	Common	Common
the end of 2019 and is a new strain that has not	Wash your hands with soap and water	Sr	neezing	-	Common	Sometimes
previously been seen in humans.	If you develop cough,	Fe	ever	Common	-	Common
	use a medical face mask	Bo	ody aches	Sometimes	Sometimes (mild)	Common
	Wherever you travel apply general hygiene rules	🕌 ті	iredness	Sometimes	Sometimes (mild)	Common
Symptoms	5	A He	eadache	Sometimes	-	Common
AC COUGH	· ·	Ru	unny/stuffy nose	Sometimes	Common	Sometimes
O DIFFICILITY BREATHING	Transmission	Sh	hortness of breath	Sometimes	-	Sometimes
🌾 MUSCLE PAIN	2-14 days		oss of taste nd/or smell	Sometimes	-	-
堂 TIREDNESS	estimated incubation period		s: Centers for Disease Control nformation on COVID-19, inclu			zation





3.**Tuberculosis:** Tuberculosis (TB) is a contagious bacterial infection that usually affects the lungs. It can also spread to other parts of the body, such as the brain, spine, and kidneys.



Symptoms of active TB include:

- A bad cough that lasts longer than two weeks
- Pain in the chest
- Coughing up blood or sputum
- Fatigue or weakness
- Loss of appetite
- Weight loss
- Chills
- Fever

TB is caused by a bacterium called Mycobacterium tuberculosis. People with active TB in their lungs or voice box can spread the disease by releasing tiny

droplets that carry the bacteria through the air. This can happen when they're speaking, singing, laughing, coughing, or sneezing.

The BCG is the only licensed vaccine against TB. It has been in use since 1921 and is 80% effective in preventing TB for 15 years. However, there are still around 9 million new cases of TB annually.

Complications of TB

If not treated, TB may result in life-threatening complications. The disease may damage the lungs and may spread to various other organs. Some of the difficulties of TB are:

- Damage to joints
- Heart diseases
- Kidney problems
- Liver problems
- Meningitis (Inflammation in the membrane of the brain)
- Spinal problems

TB is a contagious disease with effective treatment. Various lifestyle changes such as a healthy diet, avoiding smoking and drinking alcohol, and taking medications on time help manage TB.





4. **Diarrheal Diseases:** Contaminated water sources, lack of proper sanitation, and poor hygiene practices contribute to diarrheal diseases, including cholera and gastroenteritis.



Cholera is a bacterial disease usually spread through contaminated water. Cholera causes severe diarrhea and dehydration. Left untreated, cholera can be fatal within hours, even in previously healthy people.

Gastroenteritis is a short-term illness triggered by the infection and inflammation of the digestive system. Symptoms can include abdominal cramps, diarrhea and vomiting. Some of the causes of gastroenteritis include viruses, bacteria, bacterial toxins, parasites, particular chemicals and some drugs.







5. **Malaria:** Rural areas with stagnant water sources can become breeding grounds for mosquitoes, leading to the spread of malaria. Malaria is a serious and sometimes fatal disease caused by a parasite that commonly infects a certain type of mosquito which feeds on humans.



6. **Goiter:** Caused to Iodine deficiency. The body needs iodine to produce the thyroid hormone.





- If you have hyperthyroidism (an overactive thyroid gland), you may also experience weight loss despite an increased appetite, an increased heart rate, elevated blood pressure, nervousness, diarrhea, muscle weakness, and hand tremors.
- If you have hypothyroidism (an underactive thyroid gland), you may also experience lethargy, slowed physical and mental functions, depression, a lower heart rate, an intolerance to cold, constipation, easy weight gain, and tingling or numbness in your hands.

Medical Observer | Source: WebMD

7. **Waterborne Diseases:** Apart from diarrheal diseases, other waterborne illnesses like typhoid, hepatitis A, and dysentery can also occur due to poor water quality.







8. **Vector-Borne Diseases:** In addition to malaria, diseases like dengue, chikungunya, and Zika virus can spread through mosquito bites in rural areas.



Clean surrounding is essential to prevent vector borne diseases



🔍 TROPICAL VIRUSES 💯			
	ZIKA	DENGUE	CHIKUNGUNYA
Vector	Aedes Aegipty	Aedes Aegipty	Aedes Aegipty
Epidemiology	Africa, Southeast Asia, the Pacific Islands, the Americas, and the Caribbean	Asia and South America	Africa, Asia, Europe, the Pacific Islands, and the Caribbean
Incubation	3 to 12 days	3 to 14 days	2 to 12 days
Presentation	Absent or low-grade fever, conjunctivitis, joint pain, myalgias, headache , itching, rash, no bleeding.	High fever, eye pain, severe headache anorexia, nausea, vomiting, bleeding disorders	Abrupt onset fever, arthralgia, joint swelling, macular rash, headache, myalgia, red eyes
Laboratory	Thrombocytopenia (rRT-PCR) for Zika virus RNA	Severe thrombocytopenia, elevated LFTS, Lymphopenia Dengue IgM or ELISA	lymphopenia and thrombocytopen (rRT-PCR) for Chikungunya virus
Treatment	Rest and symptomatic treatment, fluids, acetaminophen	Supportive, fluids, acetaminophen, treatment depends on severity (blood product transfusion)	Supportive treatment, fluids, acetaminophen+NSAIDs
Pregnancy	Transplacental transmission, CNS malformations, miscarriage	Transplacental transmission, premature labor, no birth defects or abnormalities	Transplacental transmission, no fet malformations, miscarriage

9. Skin Infections: Lack of proper hygiene and sanitation can lead to skin infections, fungal infections, and scabies.







10. **Anemia:** Insufficient intake of iron-rich foods and poor nutrition can result in anemia, particularly among women and children.







11. Vaccine-Preventable Diseases:

Inadequate access to healthcare and vaccination programs can make villagers more susceptible to diseases like measles, rubella, and tetanus. Total of 12 vaccinepreventable diseases are:

- 1. Diphtheria
- 2. Pertussis
- 3. Tetanus
- 4. Polio
- 5. Measles
- 6. Hepatitis B
- 7. Meningitis
- 8. Pneumonia caused by Hemophilus Influenza type B
- 9. Rotavirus diarrhea
- 10. Pneumococcal Pneumonia and
- 11. Japanese Encephalitis
- 12. Rubella, severe form of Childhood Tuberculosis



Inauguration of the Pulse Polio Programme in UP by the hon'ble Chief Minister



Laudable & prompt response of Government of Uttar Pradesh to Covid-19



12. Eye Infections: Eye infections due to unclean water, lack of eye care facilities, and prolonged exposure to dust and smoke are common.





13. Worm Infestations: Poor sanitation and hygiene can lead to worm infestations, causing various health issues, especially in children.





14. Dental Issues: Limited access to 9 Most Common Dental Problems dental care facilities and poor oral hygiene practices can result in dental cavities and gum diseases. Tooth decay Gum disease **Bad breath** BETTER Mouth sores Tooth erosion Teeth Accilthe Oral cancer **Cosmetic needs Toothaches and** Tooth sensitivity dental emergencies verywell



15. **Non-Communicable Diseases:** The prevalence of non-communicable diseases like hypertension, diabetes, and obesity is rising in rural areas due to changing lifestyles.



D.Schemes of Central / State Government

"Health is the greatest wealth"



Farmers are the backbone of the economy

Schemes of Government of India

The Government of India has launched several health-related schemes to provide better healthcare services and ensure the well-being of its citizens.

Here are some prominent government health schemes in India These are just a few of the

- 1. Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (PM-JAY): Also known as the National Health Protection Scheme, PM-JAY aims to provide health coverage to over 10 crore vulnerable families (approximately 50 crore individuals) across India. It offers cashless hospitalization of up to ₹5 lakhs per family per year for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization. https://nha.gov.in/PM-JAY
- 2. **Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA):** This scheme provides pregnant women with free antenatal care, including diagnostic services and medical check-ups, on the 9th of every month at government health centers. https://pmsma.mohfw.gov.in/
- 3. Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY): JSY aims to reduce maternal and infant mortality by promoting institutional deliveries among pregnant women, especially those from low-income families. Financial assistance is provided to pregnant women to encourage them to deliver in healthcare institutions. https://nhm.gov.in/

many government health schemes in India. Each scheme has its own objectives and target population, contributing to the overall improvement of the healthcare system in the country.

- 4. **Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojana (RSBY):** Although now subsumed under PM-JAY, RSBY provided health insurance coverage to below-poverty-line families. It offered cashless health insurance coverage for hospitalization expenses up to ₹30,000 per family per year. https://www.india.gov.in/spotlight/rashtriya-swasthya-bima-yojana
- 5. National Nutrition Mission (Poshan Abhiyaan): This initiative aims to address malnutrition among women and children by providing them with nutrition education, healthy diets, and access to healthcare services.

https://wcdhry.gov.in/schemes-for-children/poshan-abhiyan/

- 6. Swachh Bharat Abhiyan: While not solely a health scheme, the Clean India Mission focuses on sanitation and hygiene, which play a significant role in preventing various diseases. <u>https://swachhbharatmission.gov.in/sbmcms/index.htm</u>
- 7. **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana:** This scheme aims to make quality generic medicines affordable to all, especially the poor and marginalized, by opening Jan Aushadhi stores. http://janaushadhi.gov.in/pmjy.aspx
- Pradhan Mantri Swasthya Suraksha Yojana (PMSSY): PMSSY focuses on strengthening healthcare infrastructure by setting up new AIIMS institutions and upgrading existing medical colleges across the country. https://pmssy-mohfw.nic.in/index1
- 9. **Mission Indradhanush:** This immunization program aims to ensure that all children under the age of two years and pregnant women are fully immunized against vaccine-preventable diseases. <u>https://main.mohfw.gov.in/sites/default/files/21684629120148966518</u> 2.pdf
- 10. **Jal Jeevan Mission:** Jal Jeevan Mission, is envisioned to provide safe and adequate drinking water through individual household tap connections by 2024 to all households in rural India. The programme will also implement source sustainability measures as mandatory elements, such as recharge and reuse through grey water management, water conservation, rain water harvesting. https://jaljeevanmission.gov.in/

Schemes of Government of Uttar Pradesh

The Government of Uttar Pradesh has implemented various health schemes to improve healthcare services and ensure the well-being of its citizens. Here are some prominent health-related schemes in Uttar Pradesh.

These are some of the key healthrelated schemes implemented by the Government of Uttar Pradesh. These schemes are designed to provide better access to healthcare services and improve the overall health and well-being of the people in the state.

- 1. Mukhyamantri Jan Arogya Yojana (MJAY): This scheme provides health coverage to the citizens of Uttar Pradesh. Under this scheme, families are eligible for cashless treatment of up to ₹5 lakhs for secondary and tertiary care in empanelled hospitals.
- 2. Mukhyamantri Kisan and Sarvahit Bima Yojana: This scheme aims to provide financial assistance to farmers and their families in case of medical emergencies or hospitalization. It covers a wide range of medical treatments and procedures.
- 3. **Mukhyamantri Free Diagnostic Scheme:** Under this scheme, free diagnostic services are provided to patients in state government hospitals and health centers. This includes free medical tests and diagnostic procedures.
- 4. **Mukhyamantri Samarthya Yojana:** This scheme focuses on providing medical treatment, rehabilitation, and financial support to persons with disabilities. It aims to enhance their quality of life and ensure their inclusion in society.
- 5. **Mukhyamantri Arogya Aastha Pariyojana:** This scheme aims to provide free and quality medical care to economically weaker sections of the society. It covers medical and surgical procedures in empanelled hospitals.
- 6. **Mukhyamantri Vaahan Mitra Scheme:** This scheme provides financial assistance for transportation costs to patients who need to travel to other districts for medical treatment. It aims to ensure that lack of transportation doesn't hinder access to healthcare.
- 7. **Samajwadi Arogya Bima Yojana:** This scheme was launched earlier to provide health insurance coverage to families in the state. While it has been subsumed under the central government's Ayushman Bharat scheme, it aimed to provide health coverage for hospitalization expenses.
- 8. Free Ambulance Service: The state government provides free ambulance services to transport patients, especially those in rural areas, to healthcare facilities for timely medical treatment.
- 9. **Matra Vandana Yojana:** This scheme provides financial assistance to pregnant and lactating mothers to support their nutritional needs during pregnancy and post-delivery.
- 10. Janani Suraksha Yojana (JSY): This scheme, also implemented at the national level, aims to promote institutional deliveries among pregnant women by providing financial assistance to cover childbirthrelated expenses

BALANCED/

HEALTHY DIET

A balanced and nutritious diet is crucial for the health and wellbeing of farmers who engage in physically demanding agricultural activities.

A general outline of a healthy diet that can benefit farmers

- 1. **Complex Carbohydrates:** Carbohydrates are a primary source of energy. Opt for complex carbohydrates like whole grains (brown rice, whole wheat bread), millets, and oats. These provide sustained energy release and keep you feeling full.
- 2. **Protein-Rich Foods:** Protein is essential for muscle repair and growth. Include lean protein sources like poultry, fish, eggs, dairy products, legumes (beans, lentils), and nuts.
- 3. **Fruits and Vegetables:** These are rich in vitamins, minerals, and antioxidants that support overall health and immunity. Consume a variety of colorful fruits and vegetables daily.
- 4. **Healthy Fats:** Good fats are essential for heart health and energy. Include sources like nuts, seeds, etc..
- 5. **Hydration:** Drink plenty of water throughout the day, especially when working in the sun. Dehydration can lead to fatigue and decreased productivity.
- 6. **Dairy Products:** Dairy provides calcium for strong bones. Choose low-fat options like yogurt and skim milk.
- 7. **Iron-Rich Foods:** Iron is important for preventing anemia, which can lead to fatigue. Include iron-rich foods like lean red meat, poultry, fish, fortified cereals, and leafy greens.
- 8. Vitamin C Sources: Vitamin C enhances the absorption of iron from plant-based foods. Citrus fruits, bell peppers, strawberries, and broccoli are good sources.
- 9. **Snack Smartly:** Opt for healthy snacks like fruits, nuts, yogurt, and whole-grain crackers. Avoid sugary and processed snacks.
- 10. **Moderation:** Balance is key. Avoid excessive consumption of sugary, fried, and processed foods.
- 11. Local and Seasonal Foods: Fresh, local, and seasonal foods are often more nutritious and cost-effective.
- 12. **Pre-Workout Fuel:** Have a balanced meal or snack before starting work. This can include a combination of carbs and protein.

- 13. **Post-Workout Recovery:** After working, consume a meal or snack that includes protein for muscle recovery and carbohydrates to replenish energy stores.
- 14. Adequate Calories: Farming is physically demanding, so make sure you're consuming enough calories to meet your energy needs.
- 15. **Reduce Salt and Sugar Intake:** Excess salt can contribute to high blood pressure, while excessive sugar can lead to weight gain and other health issues.
- 16. Limit Alcohol and Caffeine: Consume alcohol and caffeinated beverages in moderation, as excessive intake can have negative effects on health.
- 17. **Regular Meals:** Don't skip meals. Aim for regular meals and healthy snacks throughout the day to maintain energy levels.
- 18. **Consult a Professional:** If you have specific dietary needs or health concerns, it's advisable to consult a registered dietitian or nutritionist for personalized guidance.

Remember that individual nutritional needs can vary based on factors like age, gender, activity level, and health status. It's important to listen to your body and make dietary choices that support your overall health and energy levels.



Balanced diet for a farmer in Uttar Pradesh

(suggestive)



A balanced diet for farmers in Uttar Pradesh should take into consideration the regional preferences, agricultural activities, and nutritional needs of the local population. Here's a sample balanced diet that aligns with the food choices commonly available in Uttar Pradesh:

Breakfast:

Poha: Flattened rice cooked with vegetables, peanuts, and spices. **Paratha:** Whole wheat flatbread stuffed with vegetables or served with yogurt and pickles. **Milk:** With a handful of nuts like almonds or walnuts.

Mid-Morning Snack:

Seasonal Fruits: Such as bananas, guavas, or oranges.

Lunch:

Dal: A protein-rich lentil preparation.Sabzi: Made from locally available vegetables.Chapati: Whole wheat flatbread.Rice: Preferably brown rice.Raita: Yogurt with grated cucumber, mint, and spices.

Afternoon Snack:

Chana Chaat: Chickpeas mixed with onions, tomatoes, spices, and a squeeze of lemon.

Dinner:

Roti: Whole wheat flatbread. Seasonal Vegetable Curry: Made with a mix of vegetables. Paneer Curry: Cottage cheese cooked in a tomato-based gravy. Salad: Cucumber, tomatoes, and onions.

Before Bed:

Milk: With a pinch of turmeric or a teaspoon of honey.

Additional Tips:

Include Local Grains: like bajra, jowar, and ragi in your diet. **Leafy Greens:** include greens like spinach, fenugreek leaves, and mustard greens.

Dairy Products: Include yogurt and buttermilk.

Use Spices: like cumin, coriander, turmeric, and fenugreek.

Stay Hydrated: drink sufficient water, especially during hot weather and while engaging in physical labor.

Moderation: enjoy local snacks and sweets but in moderation.

Protein Sources: Include lentils, legumes, and locally sourced poultry or fish.

Limit Sugary Drinks: Avoid excessive consumption of sugary beverages and opt for healthier options like lemon water or coconut water.

Remember, a balanced diet is about variety and moderation. It's important to include foods from all food groups to ensure that your body gets the necessary nutrients to stay healthy and energized, especially given the physically demanding nature of farming.

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Remember:

"Prevention is better than cure"

"Half the costs of illness are wasted on conditions that could be prevented."

"Regular physical activity reduces the risk of chronic conditions like type 2 diabetes, obesity, heart diseases, depression, anxiety and dementia"

"Preventive healthcare measure, such as routine checkups, vaccinations, and screeing are critical for early detection & prevention of illnesses.

