

Class IX

Social Science & Science

The Story of Village Palampur & Improvement in Food Resources



**TAGORE INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL
NEW DELHI**

(Affiliated to C.B.S.E)

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

This novel is an outcome of the sustained efforts of the entire team. We extend our special gratitude to the Principal, Ms. Shefalee Gupta who provided us help and guidance in completing the Graphic Novel. We are highly grateful to Mr. Sandeep Sethi (Director Education, M.S.M.S.II, Museum Trust) who sparked this idea.

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PREFACE

Connecting classroom learning to the students' environment is not only essential but the most effective way to make it everlasting. It generates the learners' interest in subjects they learn and makes them seem more relevant and practical. Our novel is an earnest attempt in this direction. Based on the idea of using experiential learning as a constructive pedagogy we have endeavoured to underline the fact that lucidity of explanation truly empowers learners.

This novel uniquely collaborates the topics: The Story of Village Palampur and Improvement of Food Resources learned by the students of class IX in Social Science (Economics) and Science (Biology) respectively. Through a creative story woven around a young student's summer trip experience, the interdisciplinary character of the curriculum has been interestingly and meaningfully accentuated.

Through this piece of work, readers who want to comprehend the chief learning outcomes of the two topics will be able to do so in an ingenious and engaging way as they travel with the protagonist in her native village. Concurrently, the students who have already grasped the concepts will find an opportunity to explore the possibilities of applying the knowledge gained by them. The novel however should not be taken as a substitute for the NCERT text book.

The novel inspires the students to traverse the rural life of a village in Haryana and recognise the importance of diverse agricultural practices that influence the socio-economic status of the people. It also sheds light on the various scientific developments that have made our country self-sufficient in food production.

At its climactic point, learners would be left equipped to assess the importance of the various factors of production of goods and services and the outcomes of the methods adopted so far. They would also be empowered to come up with plausible solutions to the problems that are associated with the prevalent agricultural practices in our country.

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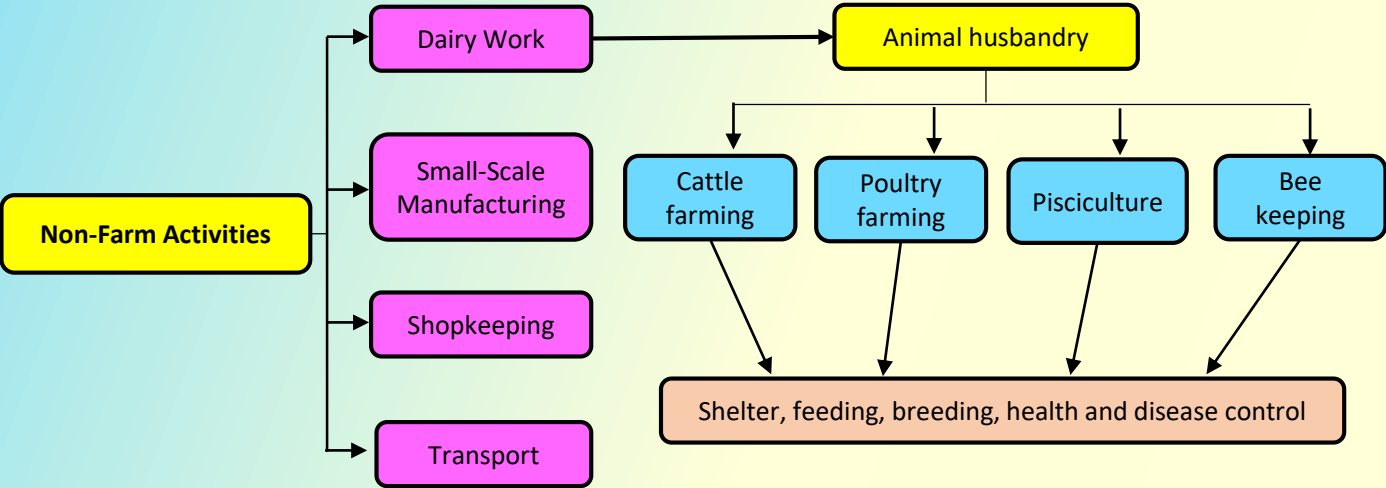
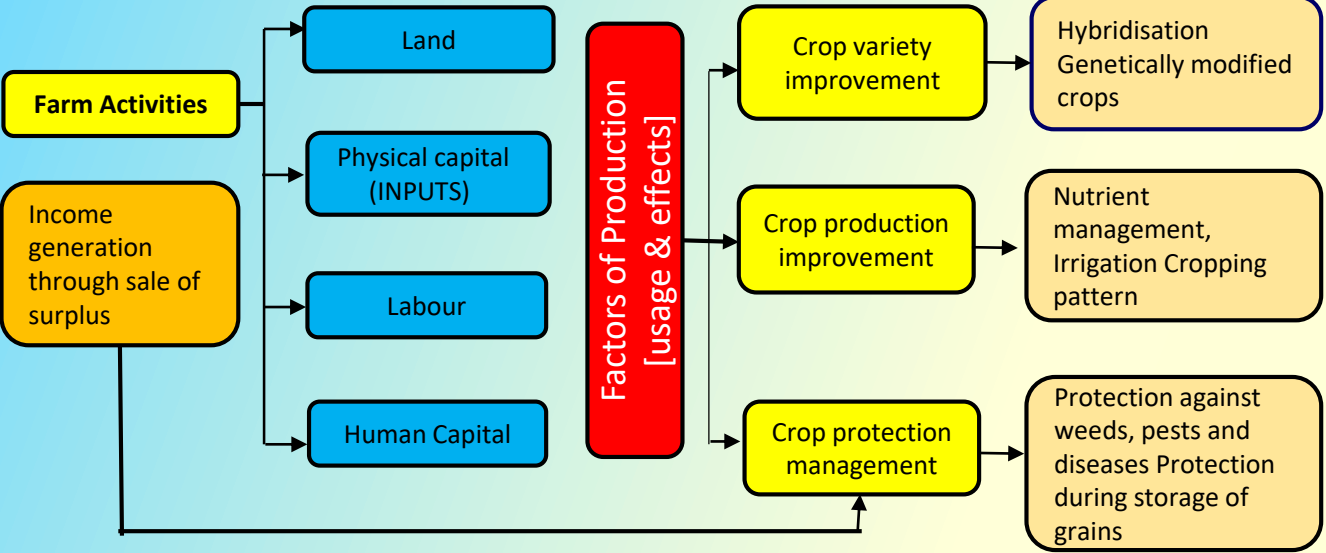


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STORY BOARD

Social Science

Science



CHARACTERS

Srishti Mehta: A young class 9 student of a school in a city. She has never been to her father's village until now. The trip gives her an opportunity to experience something new which she intends to share with her friends once her summer vacation ends.



Mr. & Mrs. Mehta: Srishti's parents. They are leading a busy life in a city and are both working.

Dadaji: Mr. Mehta's father, who is the Sarpanch of his village (somewhere in Haryana). He acts as a guide to Srishti while giving her a tour of the village.



Dadiji: Mr. Mehta's mother who lives in the village with her husband and dearly loves her granddaughter, Srishti.

Ramu: A small land owning farmer. He works on dadaji's farmland to earn more income.



Mr. Krishnan: Senior agricultural officer in Krishi Bhavan. He guides Ramu in understanding the various management practices involved in animal husbandry.

LEARNING OUTCOMES

Subject: Social Science (Economics)

Topic: The Story of Village Palampur

The readers will be able to:

- get familiarised with/understand the life of people in villages.
- classify the chief factors of production of goods and services.
- identify the factors of production used in agricultural processes (the most common economic activity in India).
- analyse the common ways in which different factors of production are used by Indian farmers and their consequences.
- assess the reason(s) behind varying incomes of farmers.
- demonstrate inquisitiveness about the impact of the Green Revolution in India.
- evaluate the benefits of non-farm production activities to villagers.

Subject: Science (Biology)

Topic: Improvement in Food Resources

The readers will be able to:

- identify the factors for which crop variety improvement is done.
- differentiate between manure and fertilizer.
- apply the interdependency and interrelationship in the biotic and abiotic factors of environment to promote conservation of environment, such as, organic farming.
- relate the importance of irrigation system with crop production.
- analyse the different ways of growing crops to get the maximum benefit.
- describe the crop protection management practices.
- apply the scientific principles in animal husbandry practices.

Srishti is in her room. The end of her annual summer break is approaching. She is speaking with a friend on the phone.

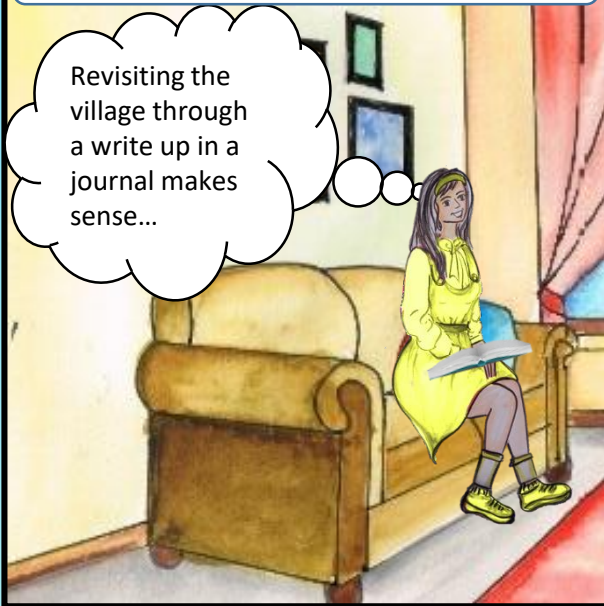


Really? you went to *Darjeeling* in your summer holidays! That sounds great!

..I too visited my grandparents in our village. Will share my experience with every one when the school reopens.



Srishti thinking to herself while writing her Journal.



Revisiting the village through a write up in a journal makes sense...

Story moves in flashback...Srishti and her parents are on their way to the village.

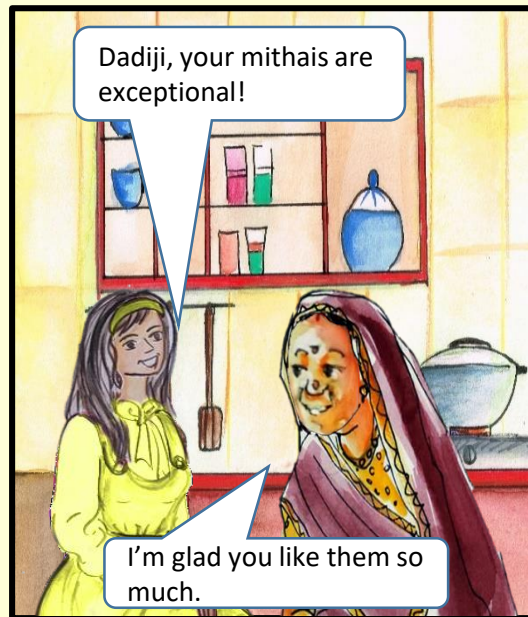
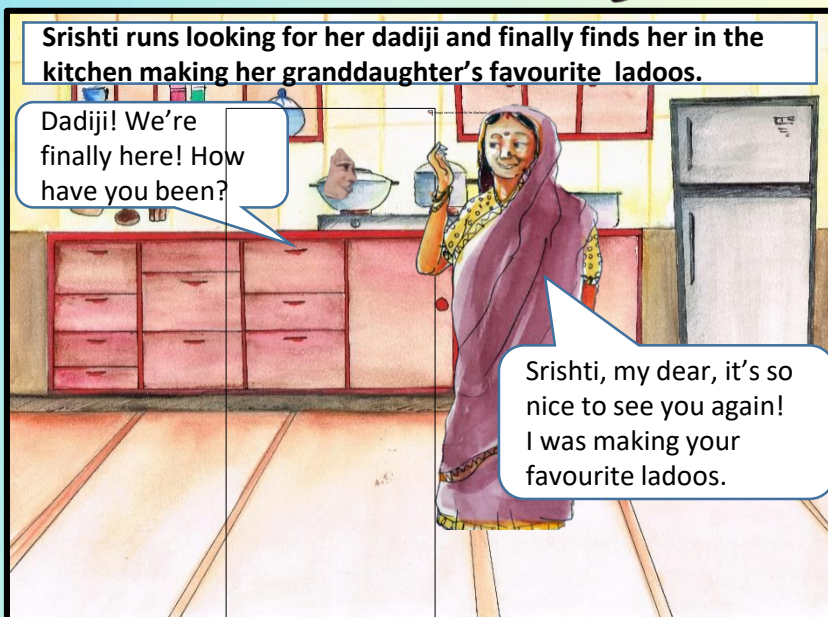
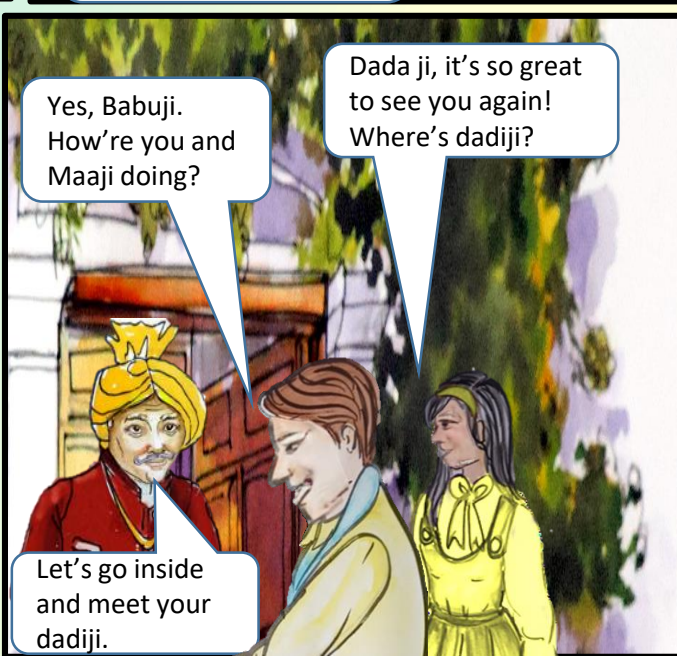
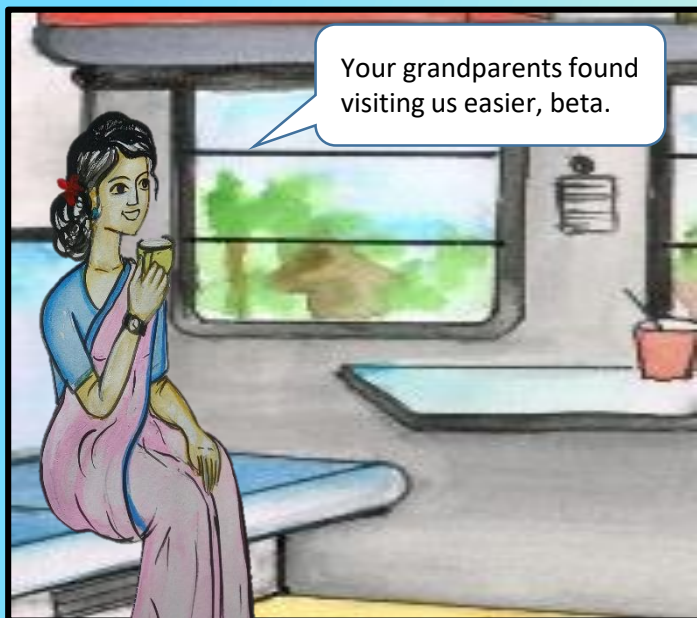


This is my first trip to our village. Why've we never been there before, Papa?

Both of us were always busy with work.



By God's grace, your mother and I managed to get leave for the next fortnight.



After dinner, everyone has gathered in the living room and are having a merry time.

That was such a scrumptious dinner! You have to give me the recipe for that sabji later, Maa ji!

Of course, of course, dear. Srishti beta, how did you like the food?

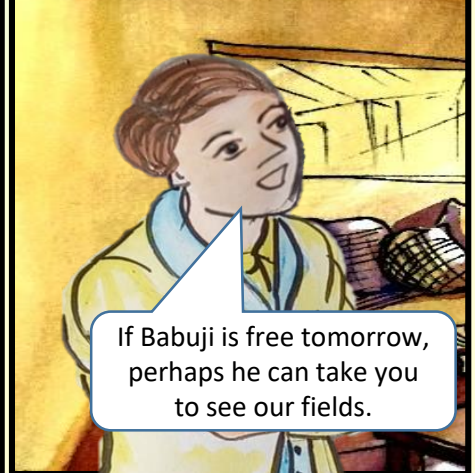
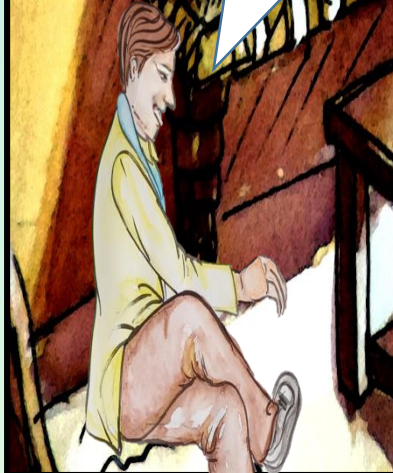
It was delicious, Dadi ji! I didn't like it, I loved it!



Papa, didn't you say that these rotis have been made with wheat from our fields?

Oh yes, I mentioned that, didn't I?

Mr. Mehta recalls how Srishti is always talking about whatever she has learnt about villages at school.



If Babuji is free tomorrow, perhaps he can take you to see our fields.

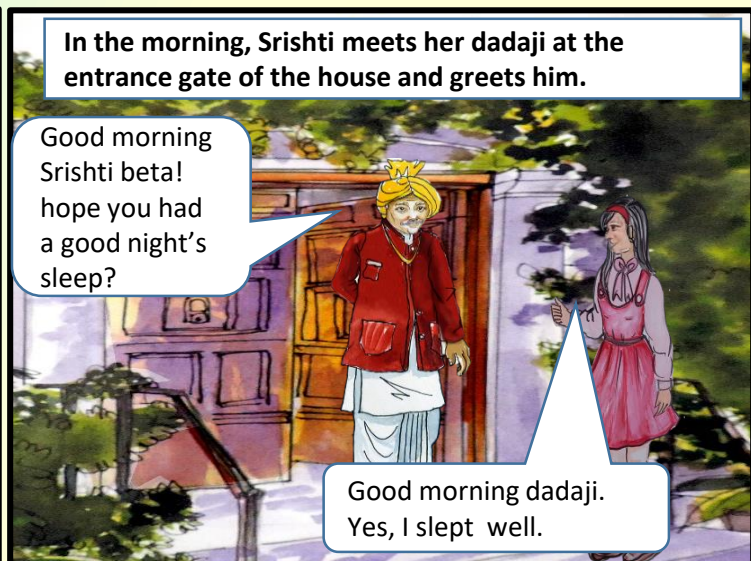
Really? Dada ji, that would be so wonderful!

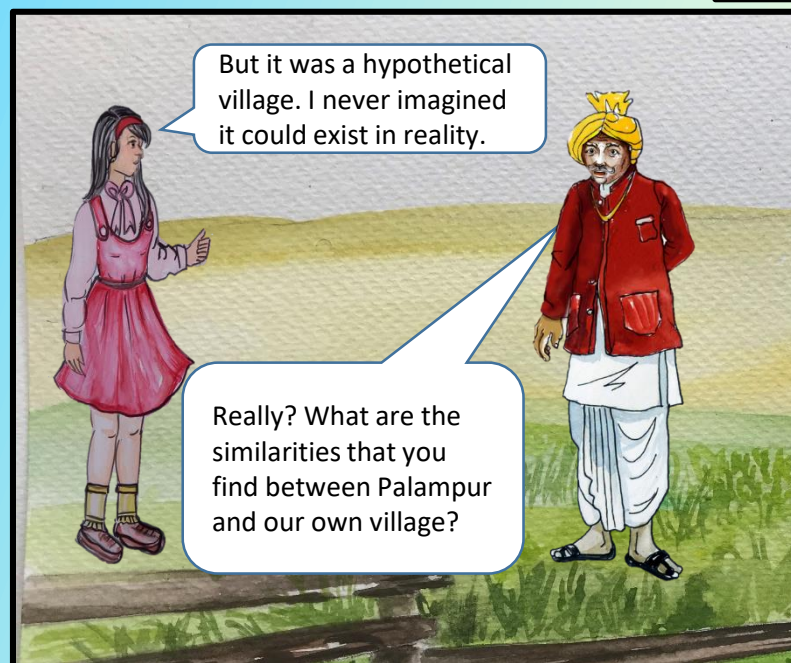
In the morning, Srishti meets her dadaji at the entrance gate of the house and greets him.

Good morning Srishti beta! hope you had a good night's sleep?

I'll definitely take you to see our fields in the morning.

Good morning dadaji. Yes, I slept well.





Srishti looks around with great enthusiasm.

Look at the size of our farmland, dadaji! How big is it exactly?

It is almost 10 hectares, child. Do you know what is a hectare?

Of course dadaji! I have learned that hectare is the standard unit for measuring land.

1 hectare equals the area of a square with one side measuring 100 meters.

Very well! You sure are a smart girl.

Why is our field empty, dadaji?

We have just harvested the wheat crop beta, and soon will be sowing kharif crops like jowar and bajra.

Yes, and then cultivate potato between October and December. Am I right?

How do you know?

Dadaji....remember the story of Palampur? It too followed the same pattern.

Growing more than one crop on a piece of land annually is called **multiple cropping**.

Is that so? It is a common way of increasing production on any farm land as it's a limited resource.

Dadaji points at the tube well pump set on his field

With good electricity supply, running tube well pump sets is possible. So, we have a good system of irrigation.

Yes, “land” (and natural resources like water) is an essential factor of production in farming and other economic activities too.



We are lucky dadaji. I've learned that of the total covered area in India, only a little less than 40% is irrigated even today.

That's quite right. Most farmers are still dependent on rainfall.



So we own a really large farmland. That makes you a large farmer with several modern machines like tractors and threshers.

I have bought these over the years, beta. We also use expensive HYV seeds, fertilizers and pesticides to get a good yield.



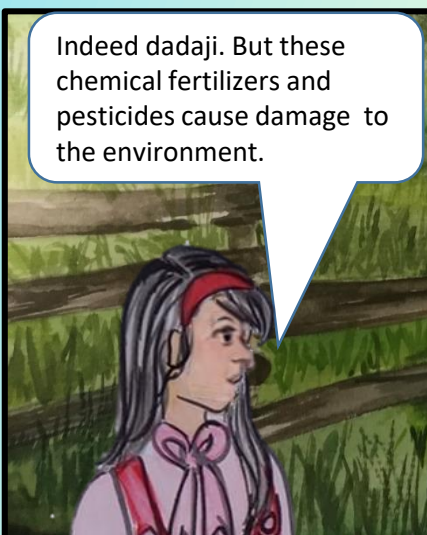
These methods have increased the crop production and the surplus to be sold, for us. You must have heard about the “Green Revolution” that occurred in the 1960s, I am sure!



Indeed dadaji. But these chemical fertilizers and pesticides cause damage to the environment.

Their overuse has caused the loss of soil fertility and even polluted the groundwater..

This certainly has been a concern for us also, Srishti. We fear our lands won't sustain.





The machines, tools, pumpsets, generators, seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc. cost a lot.



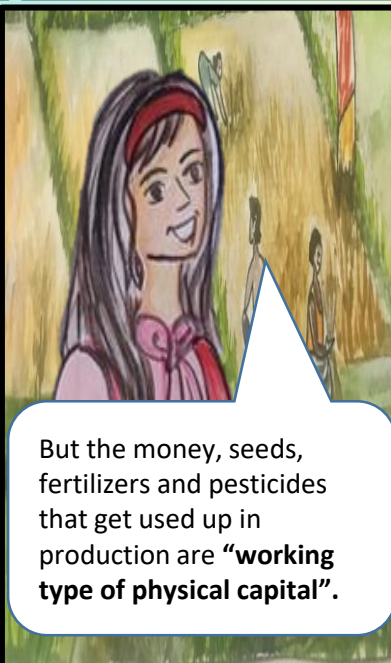
But nothing will be of any use if the degradation of soil health is not prevented.



You are absolutely right, dadaji. All the inputs you named are also factors of production just like **"land"**. Together these are called **"physical capital"**.



Machines, tools, water pumps and generators, etc. can be repeatedly used over years and are **"fixed physical capital"**.

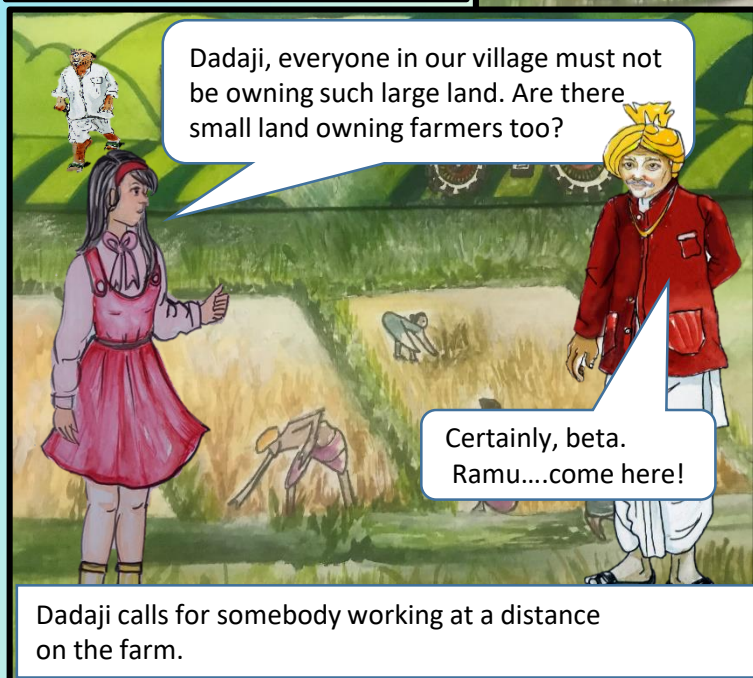


But the money, seeds, fertilizers and pesticides that get used up in production are **"working type of physical capital"**.



Hmm....I am learning some new terms from you today, young girl!

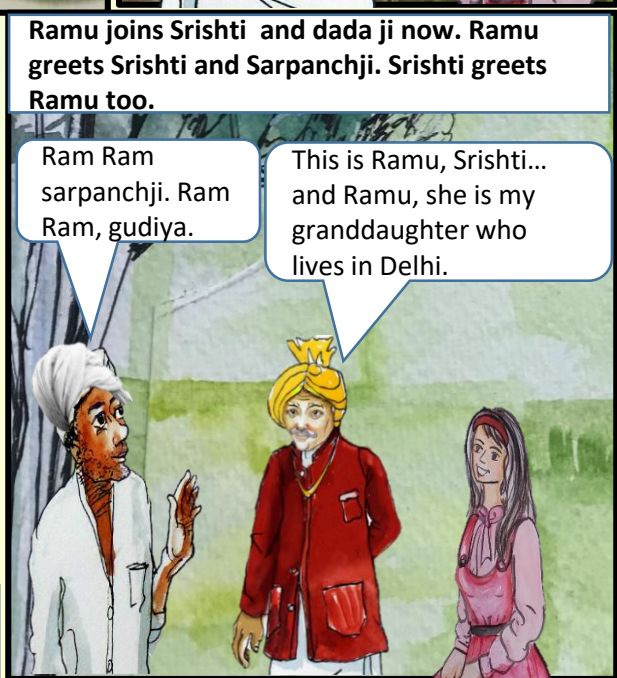
Thanks to you, I am getting to experience what I have learnt in my classroom. It's only a fair deal.



Dadaji, everyone in our village must not be owning such large land. Are there small land owning farmers too?

Certainly, beta. Ramu....come here!

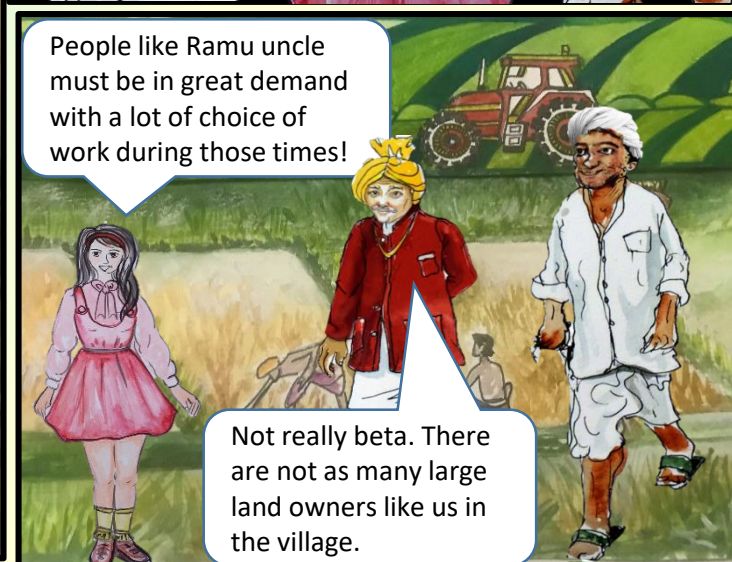
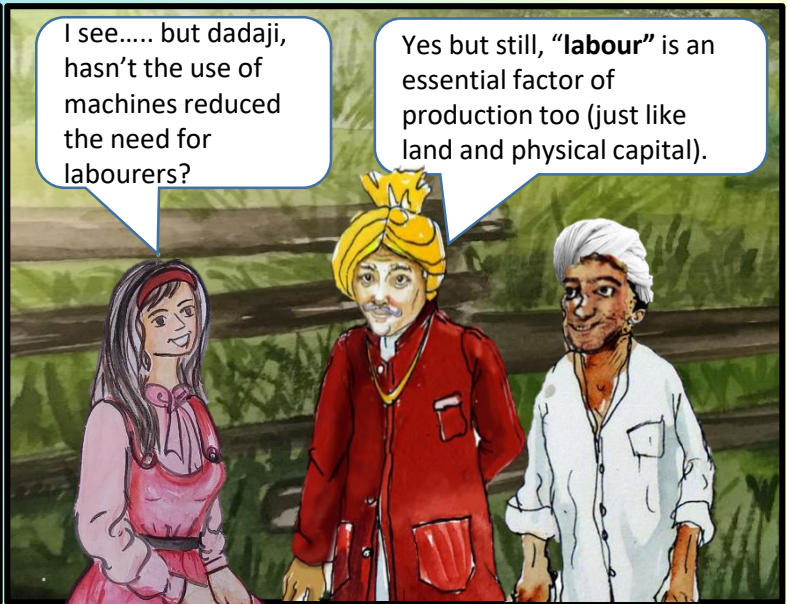
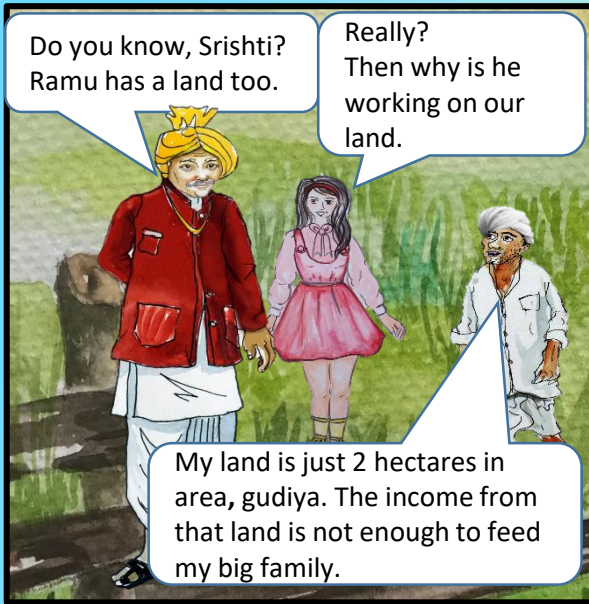
Dadaji calls for somebody working at a distance on the farm.



Ramu joins Srishti and dada ji now. Ramu greets Srishti and Sarpanchji. Srishti greets Ramu too.

Ram Ram sarpanchji. Ram Ram, gudiya.

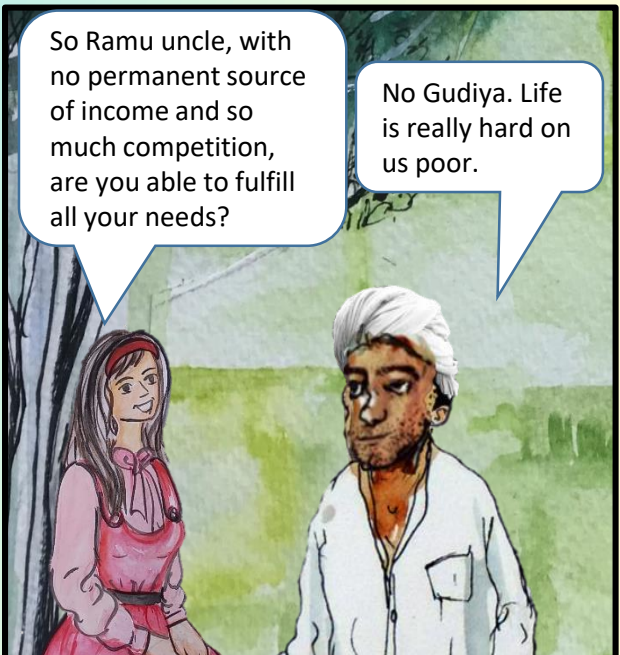
This is Ramu, Srishti... and Ramu, she is my granddaughter who lives in Delhi.





This must be resulting in competition among them, then?

Of course. We thus get the work done from those who agree to work for less.

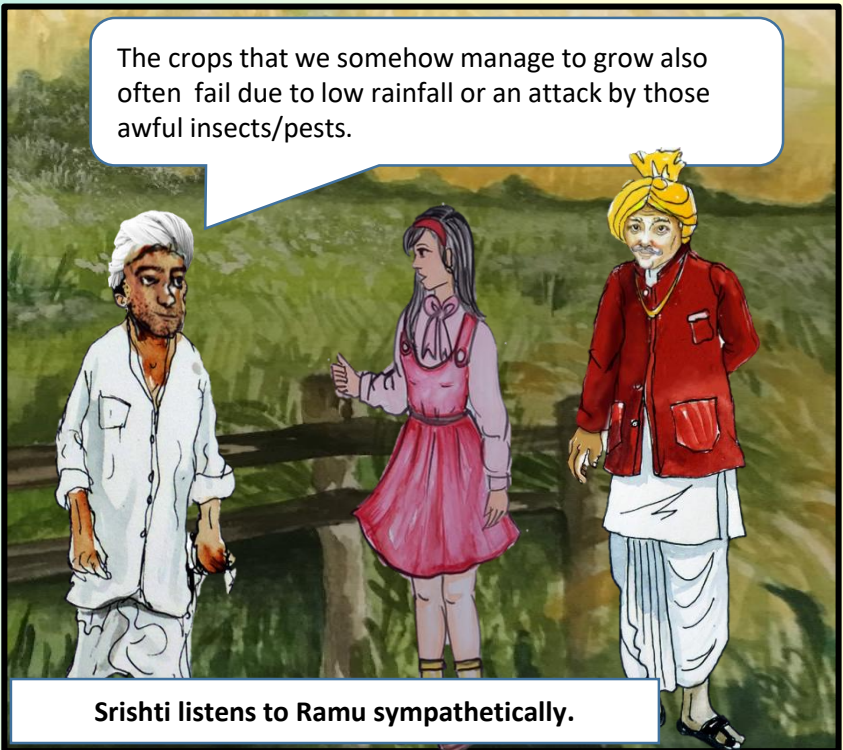


So Ramu uncle, with no permanent source of income and so much competition, are you able to fulfill all your needs?

No Gudiya. Life is really hard on us poor.

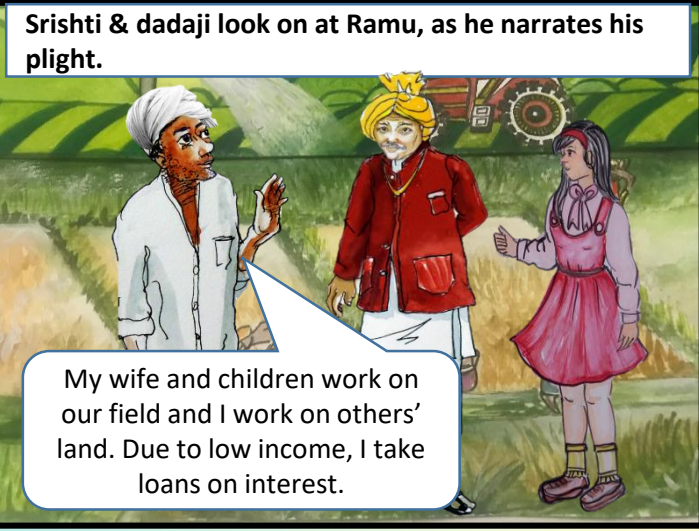


Our limited income make it impossible for us to afford high yielding seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, etc.



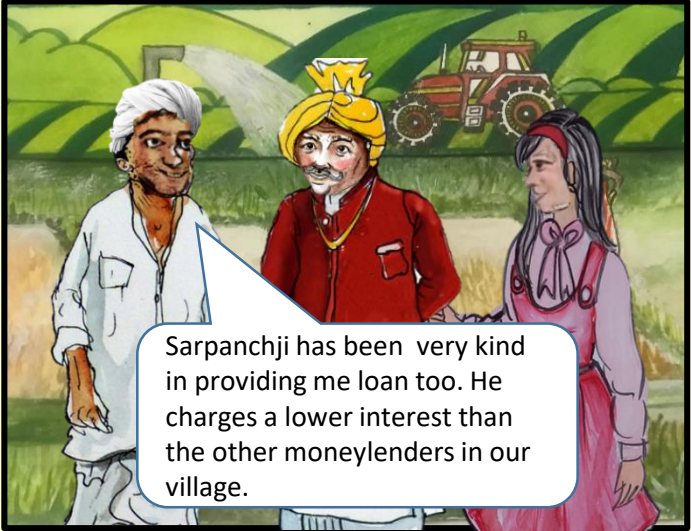
The crops that we somehow manage to grow also often fail due to low rainfall or an attack by those awful insects/pests.

Srishti listens to Ramu sympathetically.



Srishti & dadaji look on at Ramu, as he narrates his plight.

My wife and children work on our field and I work on others' land. Due to low income, I take loans on interest.



Sarpanchji has been very kind in providing me loan too. He charges a lower interest than the other moneylenders in our village.

Recap Fun



I. Fill in the Blanks:

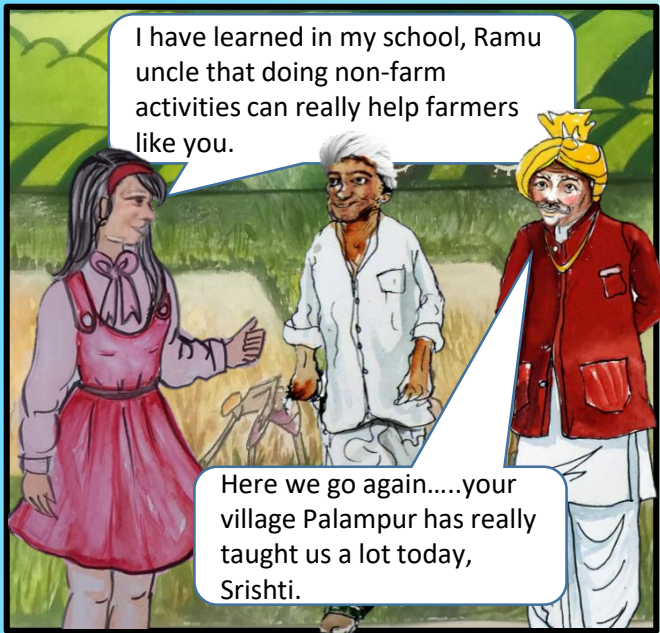
1. Most farmers in India do _____ to enhance their annual income and meet the ever increasing food requirement in the country.
2. Arrangements for alternative sources of irrigation must be made in our country because the dependency on _____ is still high.
3. _____ is a limited but an essential factor of production and so is overused.
4. Without _____ the other factors of production become ineffective in the production of goods and services.
5. The _____ are a source of labour for small land owning farmers while _____ provide labour to the large land owning farmers.



II. Can you tell why?

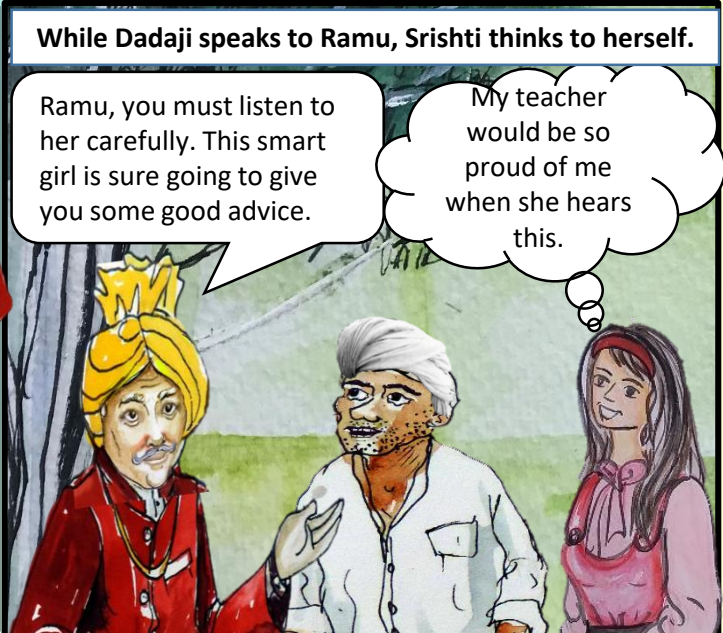
1. Most farmers are not able to earn enough from their own farm lands.
2. Farm labourers have to work at lower wages.
3. The Green Revolution has proven to be a boon and a cause of problems in the farming sector.
4. Small land owning farmers have to take loans.
5. The modern farming methods have mostly been adopted by large land owning farmers in India.





I have learned in my school, Ramu uncle that doing non-farm activities can really help farmers like you.

Here we go again.....your village Palampur has really taught us a lot today, Srishti.



While Dadaji speaks to Ramu, Srishti thinks to herself.

Ramu, you must listen to her carefully. This smart girl is sure going to give you some good advice.

My teacher would be so proud of me when she hears this.



Uncle, have you ever thought about doing dairy work, small - scale manufacturing, shop keeping or transport work alongside the farm work you do?

What do you say? I am busy doing work for others, when would I do something else?



If not you alone then your family could do such work with you, uncle.

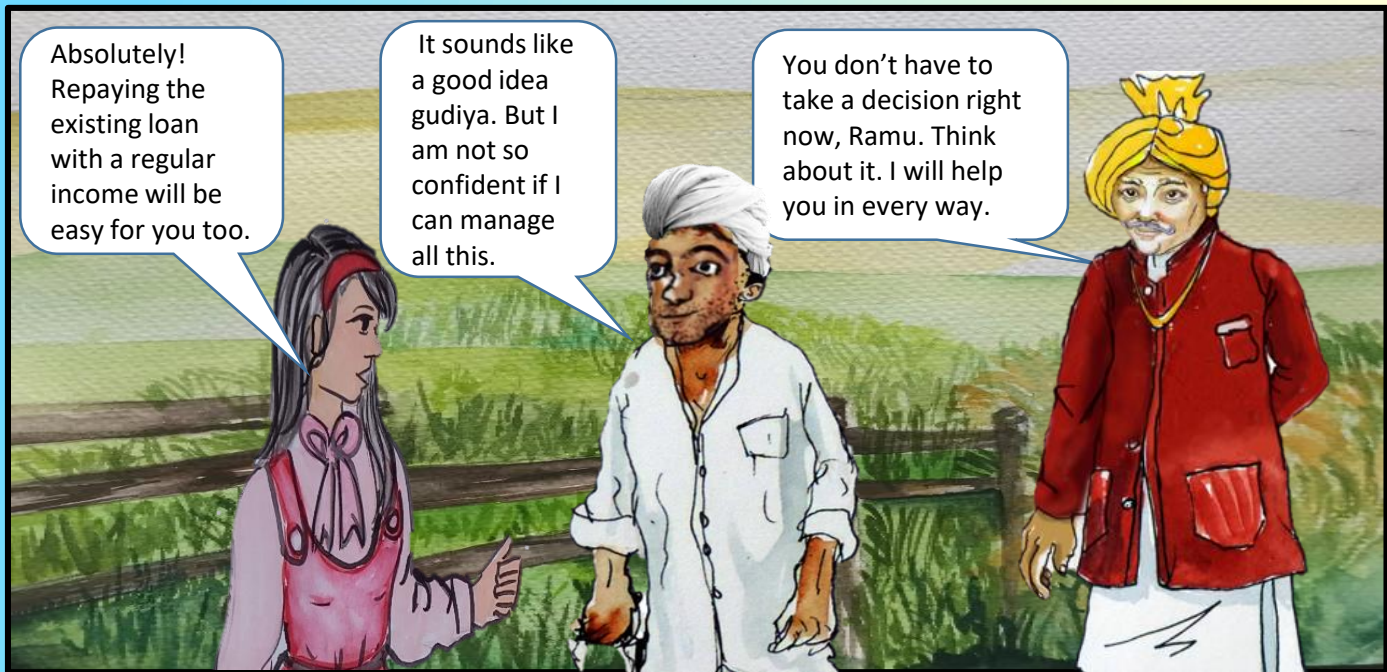


If you have a cow or a buffalo, selling its milk to a cooperative or some milk products made at home at a small scale can be a good start.



Or you could take a small loan to buy a tonga or rickshaw to transport goods and people from here to other nearby villages.

That's a good idea! These activities can help you earn money even in the lean seasons and supplement your family income otherwise too.



Absolutely! Repaying the existing loan with a regular income will be easy for you too.

It sounds like a good idea gudiya. But I am not so confident if I can manage all this.

You don't have to take a decision right now, Ramu. Think about it. I will help you in every way.

Srishti is on her way back home with her dadaji. Having spent a lot of time interacting, both are thinking about something when Srishti breaks the silence between them.

Dadaji, don't you have a bank in this village?

Well hello, young girl! What do you think? Within months of my being elected as the Sarpanch, a government bank opened its branch here.

I also keep my savings from the sale of my surplus left after buying the necessary...what was it, **"physical capital"**?...for the next season, in the bank.

Even the interest received from those who take loans from me goes there.

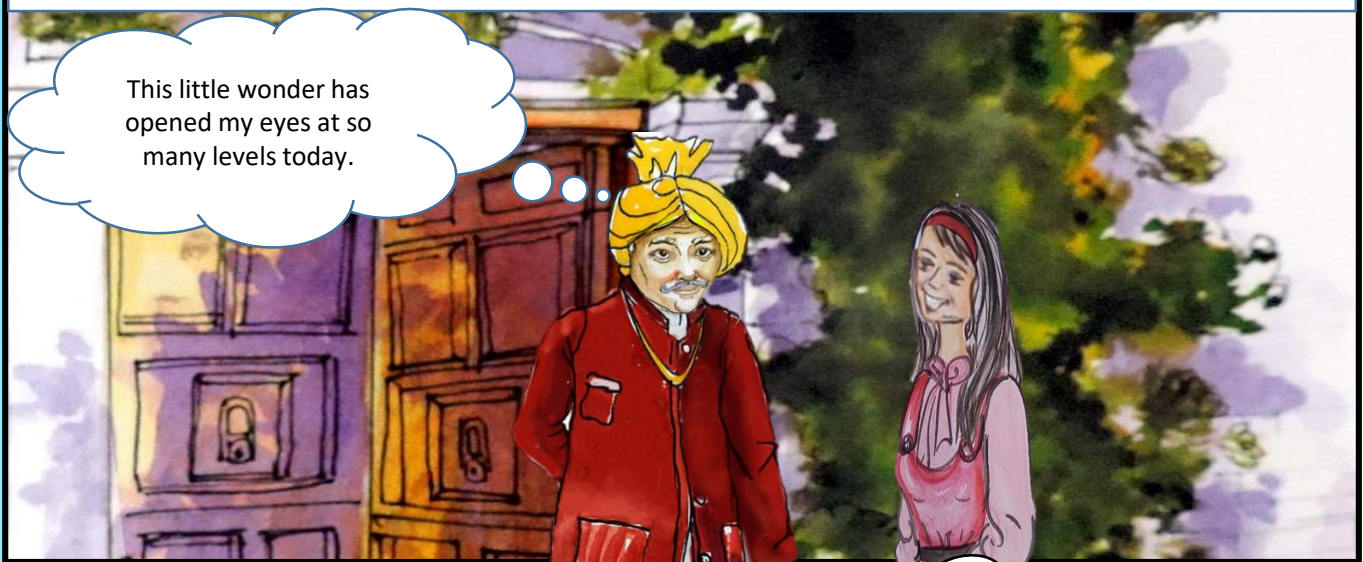
But the banks also provide loans and that too at reasonable and low interest rates.

Of course I know that, my dear child.

Then why do poor farmers like Ramu uncle take loans from you and other moneylenders who can exploit them?



Dadaji and Srishti have reached the front of their house now. Dadaji thinking to himself.



Later at night, Srishti on her bed thinks to herself.



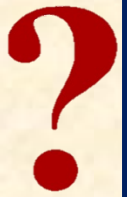


Recap Fun

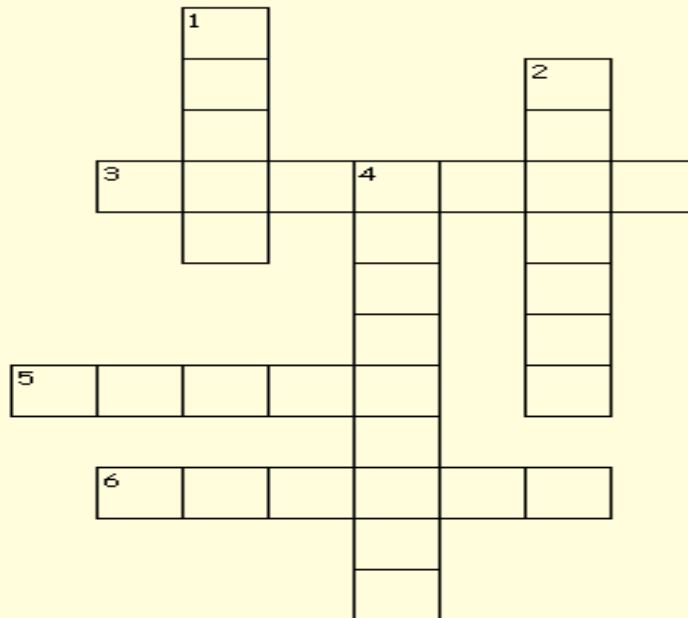


I. State True Or False:

1. Low incomes in farm activities push most farmers into a debt trap.
2. Non- farm activities would create a shortage of manual labour in the farm sector.
3. The use of fertilizers and pesticides must be increased to ensure food sufficiency in India.
4. Fixed capital and physical capital are the two types of working capital.
5. The use of modern farming methods has uniformly benefitted all farmers in India.



II. Solve the crossword puzzle using the clues given below:



DOWN

1. Most essential working capital .
2. A potential source of income for farmers.
4. A non - farm activity.

ACROSS

3. A unit to measure land.
5. They help in arranging physical capital.
6. They use their human capital for production.

Next morning, Dadaji is sitting in the living room. Srishti enters.

Good morning Dadaji.

Good morning dear. Did you sleep well after a long tiring day?

Yes Dadaji. I slept very well. I even dreamt of our beautiful village!

Oh is that so? Me too!

So Srishti, I heard you had a great time with Dadaji... Hope you are not bothering him too much.

Yes I am. But he is patiently bearing with me.

Babuji, are you expecting someone?

Yes. Actually, I am waiting for Mr. Krishnan. He's a senior agricultural officer in Krishi Bhavan.

That's great news! Can I also ask a few questions?

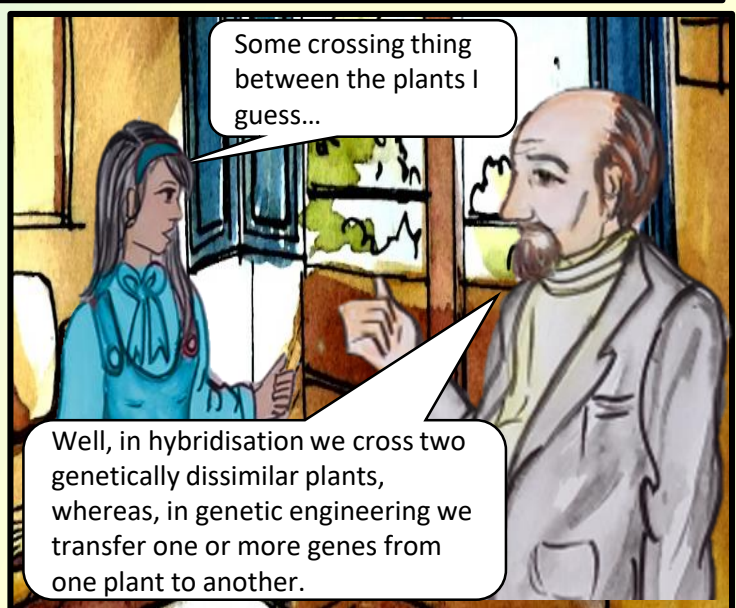
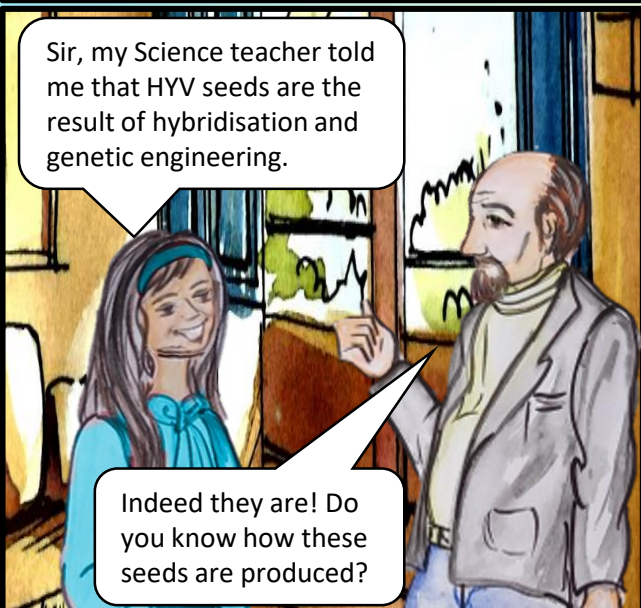
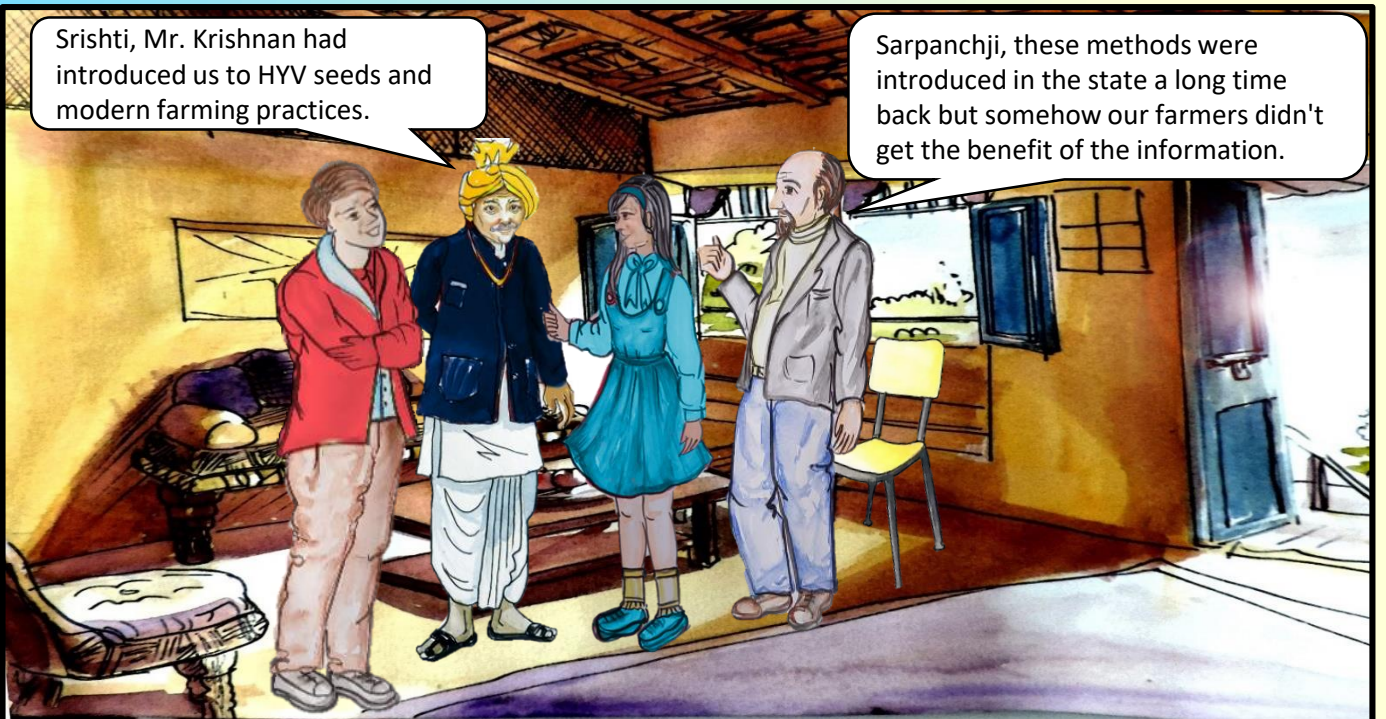
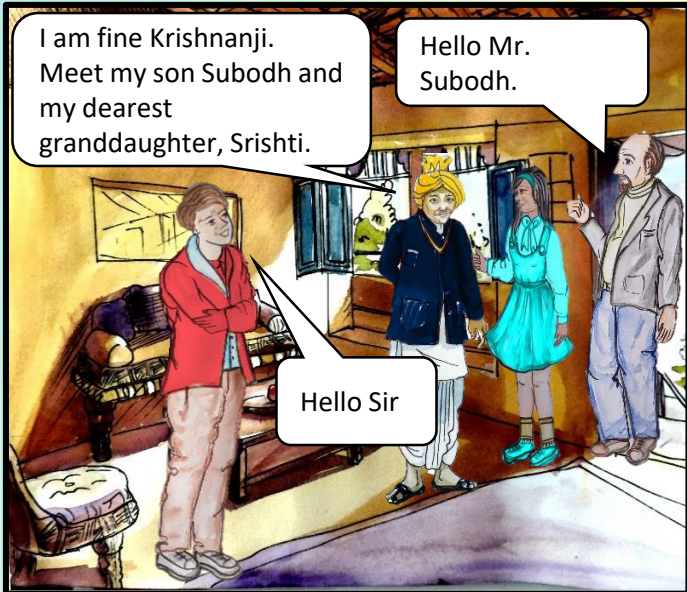
Oh sure. He is a very knowledgeable person. He will surely answer your queries. He should be here anytime now.

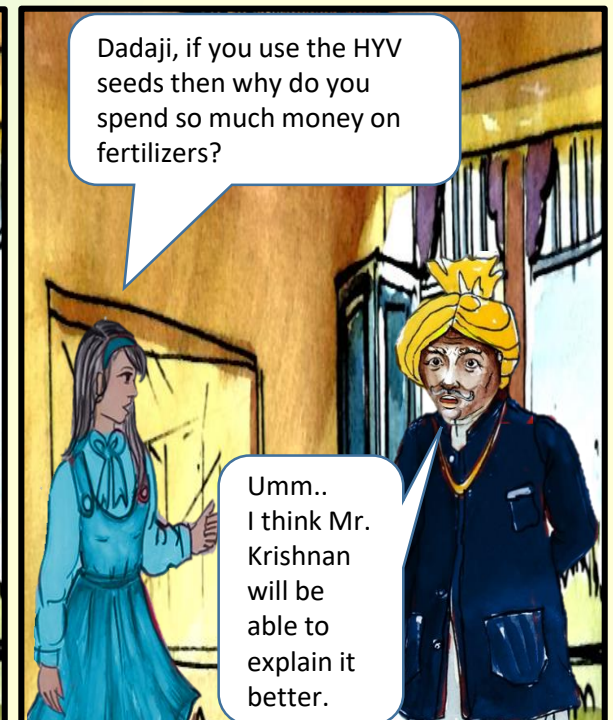
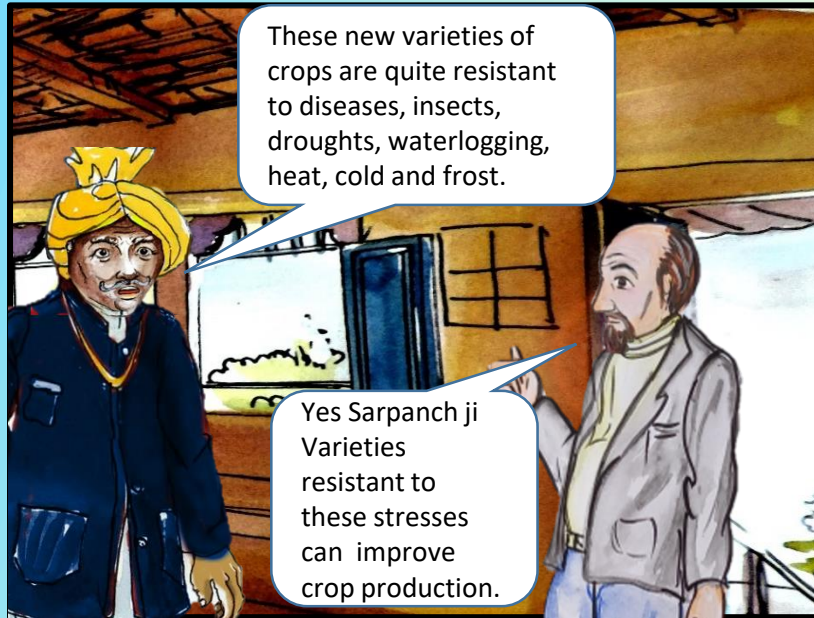
Doorbell rings. Srishti leaves the living room and opens the door.

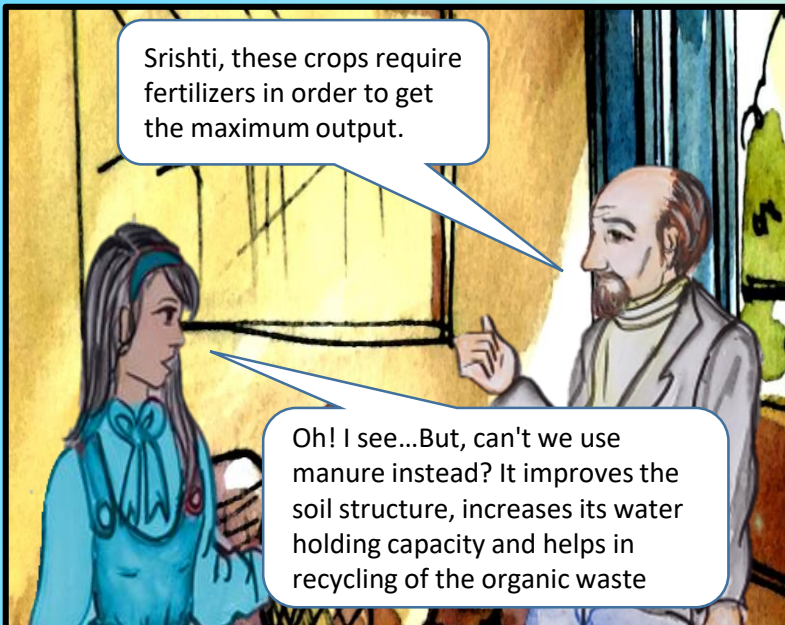
Hello Sir.

Hello beta. I am Krishnan. Can I meet Sarpanchji?

Oh sure! He is waiting for you in the living room.

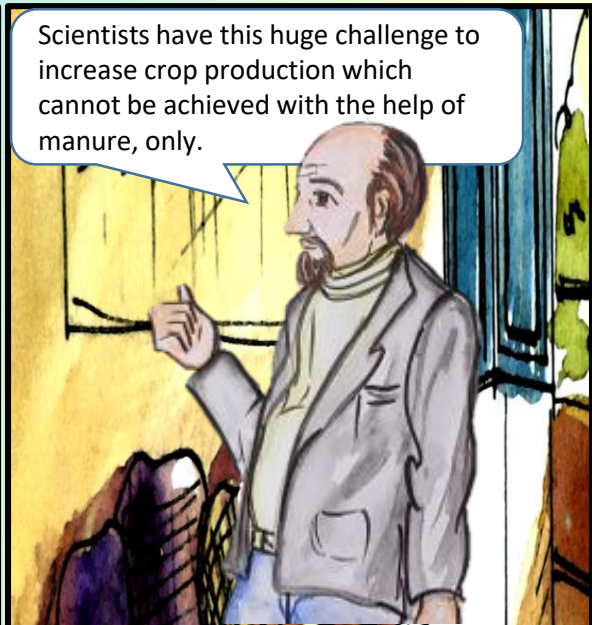




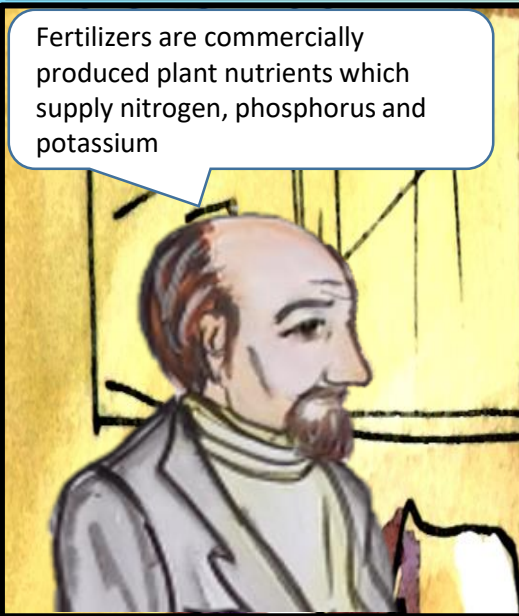


Srishti, these crops require fertilizers in order to get the maximum output.

Oh! I see...But, can't we use manure instead? It improves the soil structure, increases its water holding capacity and helps in recycling of the organic waste



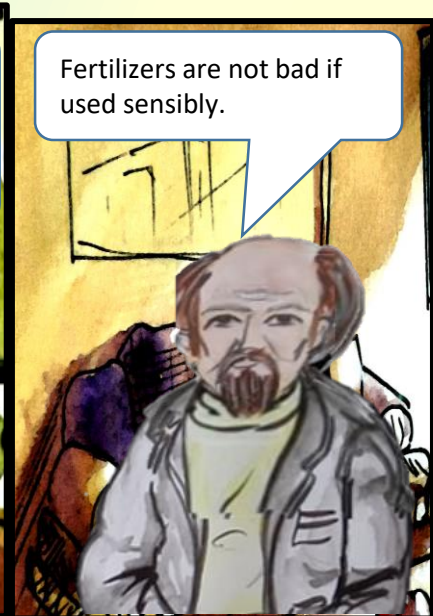
Scientists have this huge challenge to increase crop production which cannot be achieved with the help of manure, only.



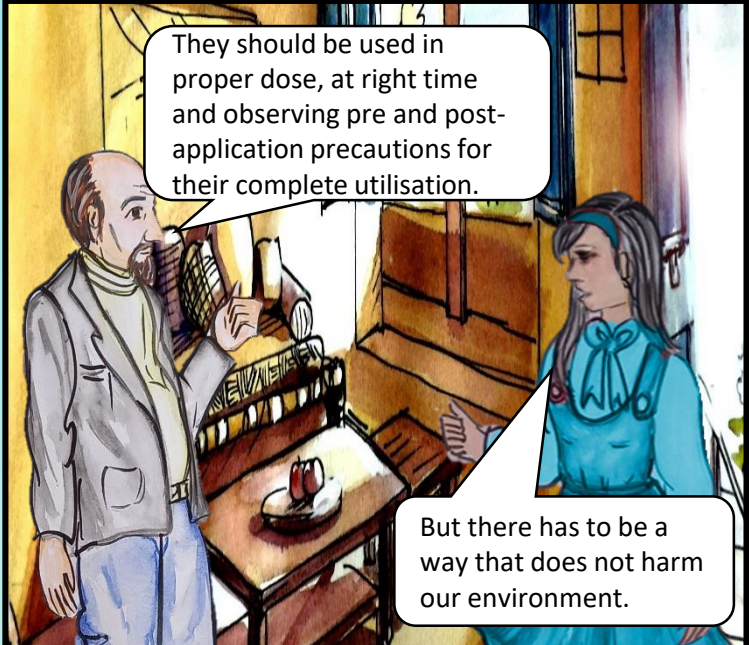
Fertilizers are commercially produced plant nutrients which supply nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium



But continuous use of fertilizers in the field can destroy soil fertility and harm the micro-organisms in the soil, causing pollution at the same time.



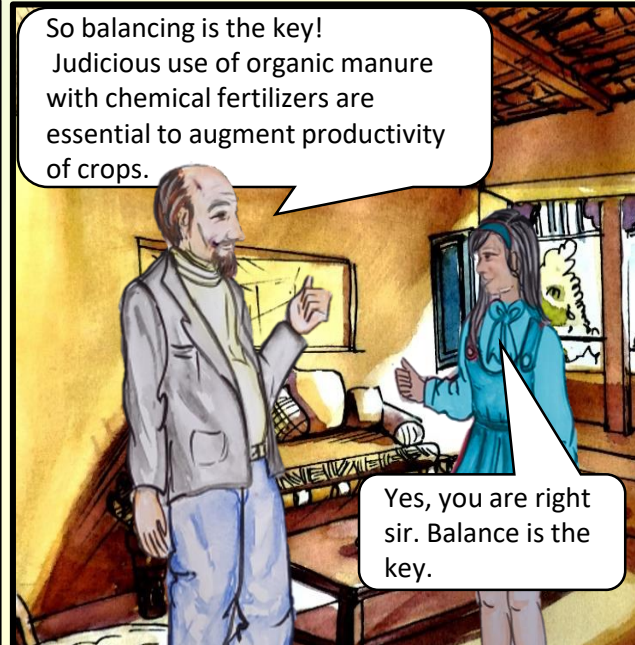
Fertilizers are not bad if used sensibly.



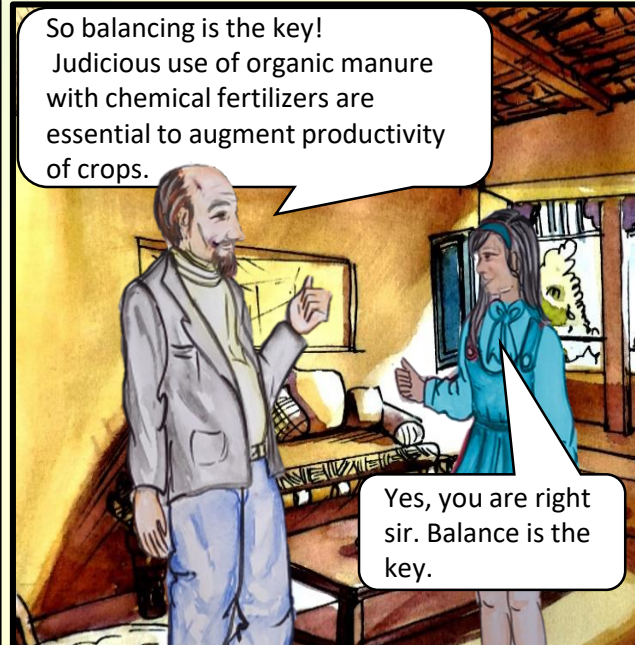
They should be used in proper dose, at right time and observing pre and post-application precautions for their complete utilisation.



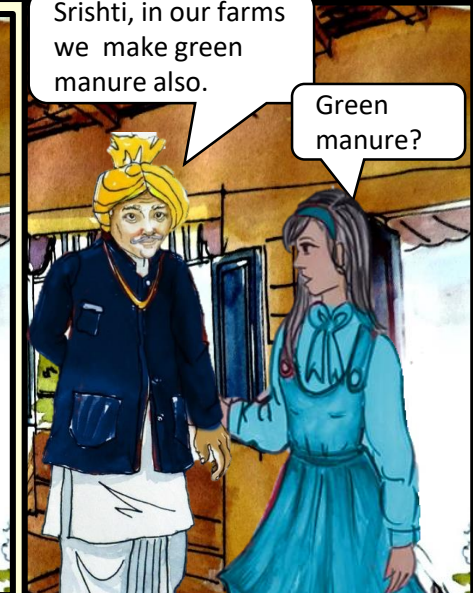
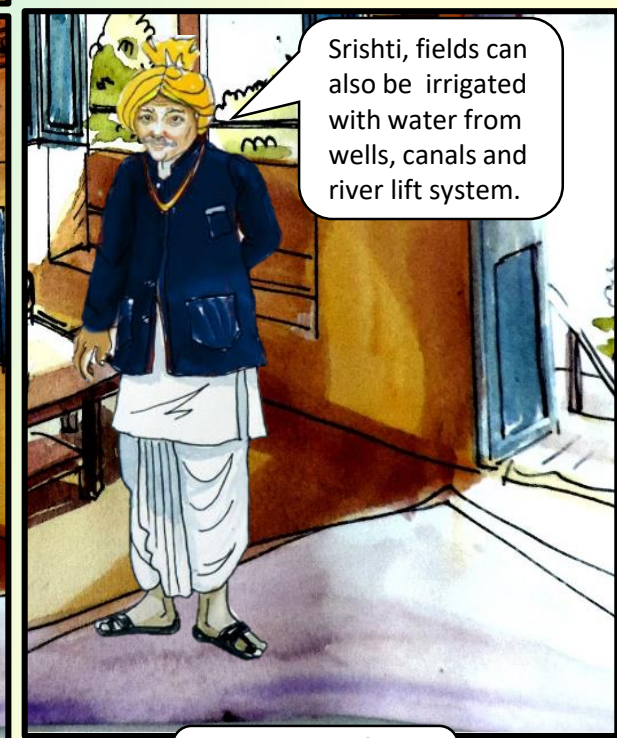
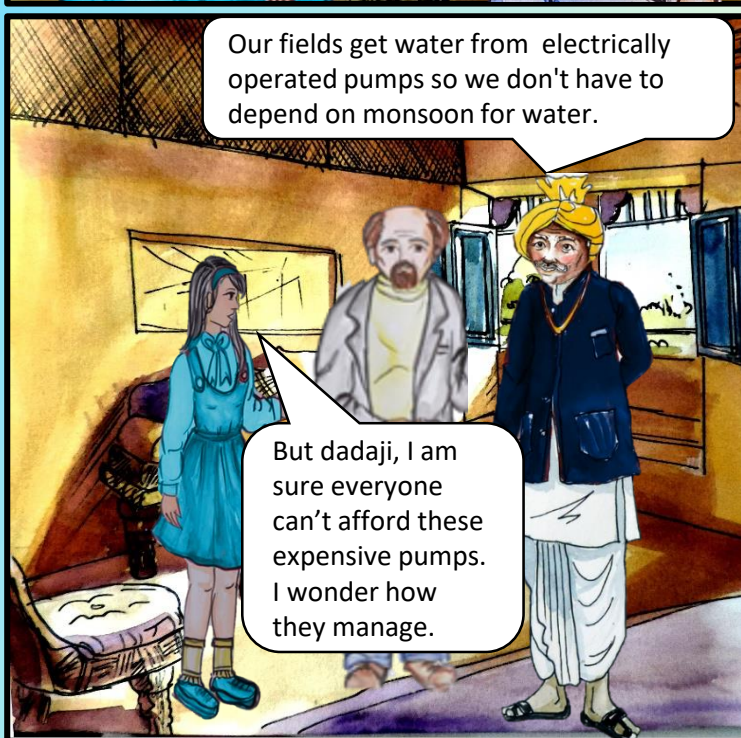
But there has to be a way that does not harm our environment.



So balancing is the key!
Judicious use of organic manure with chemical fertilizers are essential to augment productivity of crops.



Yes, you are right sir. Balance is the key.



Yes! We mulch the green plants like sun hemp, cow pea or sweet potato by ploughing and then leave them in the field to decompose by the activity of natural decomposers.

It's amazing to know how nature recycles itself!

Anyway, Dadaji, you know what? You have to give me a piece of land in the future for my farm. I will grow crops with manure and recycled farm-wastes.

No use of fertilizers and pesticides and I will sell them in the market under the brand name - **'SRISHTI ORGANIC FOODS'**.

How will you grow surplus without fertilizers?

surplus without fertilizers?

Don't worry Srishti. You can use bio fertilizers and bio pesticides.

Wow! Nature has a solution for every problem.

And I hope we will get some discounts on your organic products.

Of course, of course! Why not!

Doorbell rings...

Oh, who could that be?

Srishti opens door.

Namaste Gudiya, I've come here to meet Sarpanch ji.

Namaste uncle. Please come.



Recap Fun

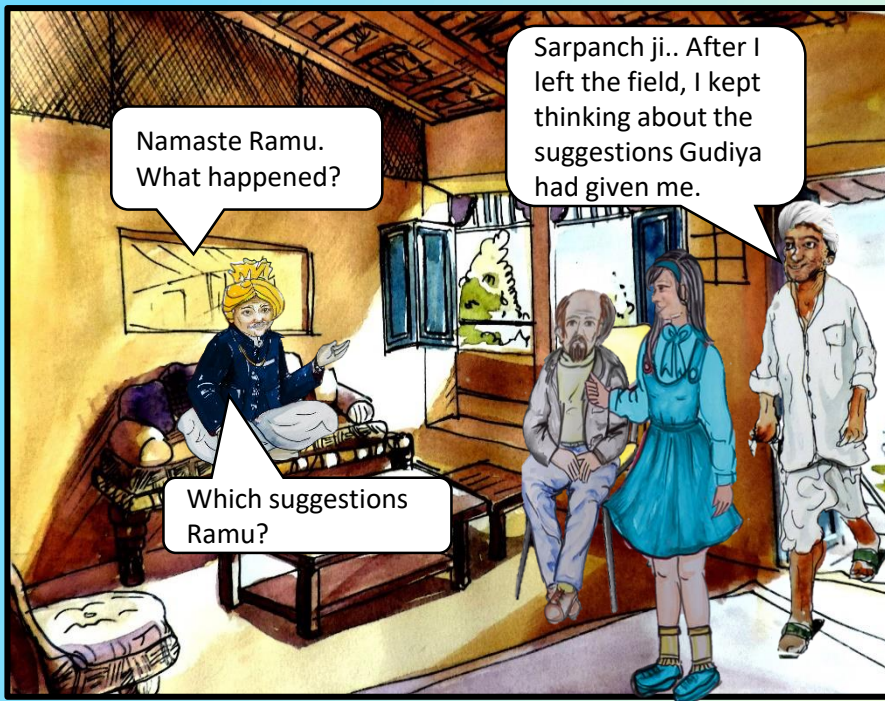


I. Fill in the blanks:

1. The process of crossing genetically dissimilar plants is called _____.
2. Genetically modified crops are produced by introducing a _____ for desired characters in plants.
3. Composting done by using the earthworms is called _____.
4. _____ is a farming system with minimal or no use of chemicals as fertilizers.
5. The continuous use of fertilizers in an area can destroy _____.

II. Arrange these statements in correct sequence of preparation of green manure.

1. Green plants are decomposed in soil.
2. Green plants are cultivated for preparing manure or crop plant parts are used.
3. Plants are ploughed and mixed into the soil.
4. After decomposition it becomes green manure.



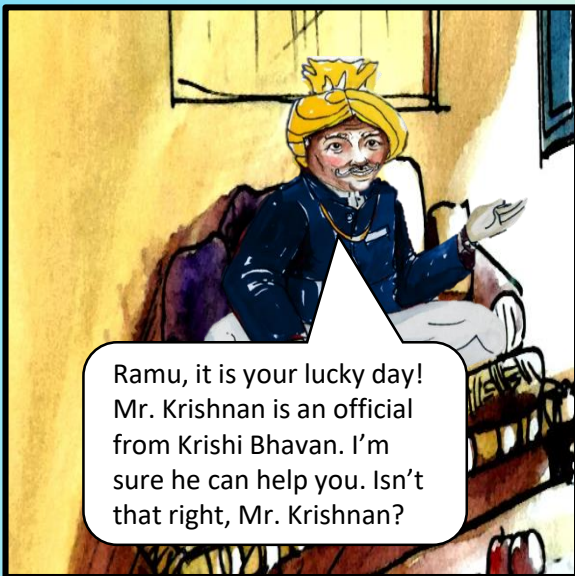
Namaste Ramu.
What happened?

Sarpanch ji.. After I
left the field, I kept
thinking about the
suggestions Gudiya
had given me.

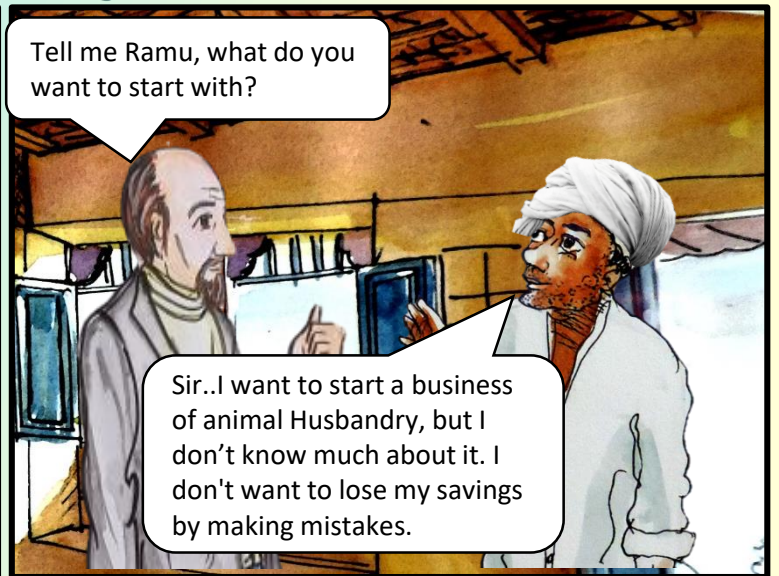
Which suggestions
Ramu?



About dairy farming. But...
I have no clue about this.
Can you help me?

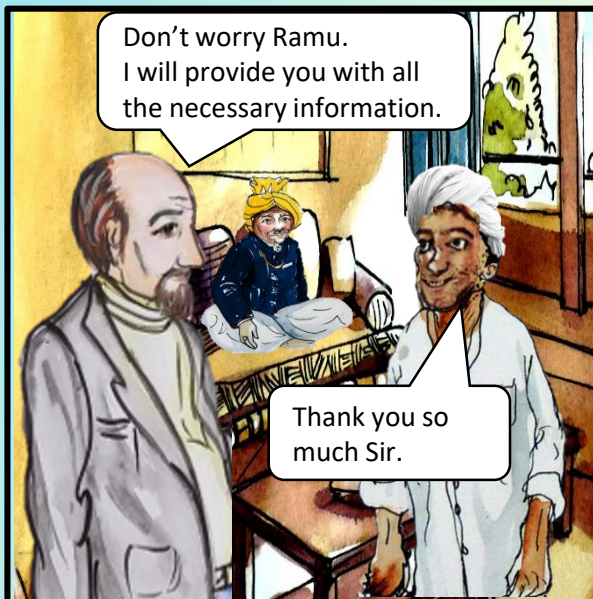


Ramu, it is your lucky day!
Mr. Krishnan is an official
from Krishi Bhavan. I'm
sure he can help you. Isn't
that right, Mr. Krishnan?



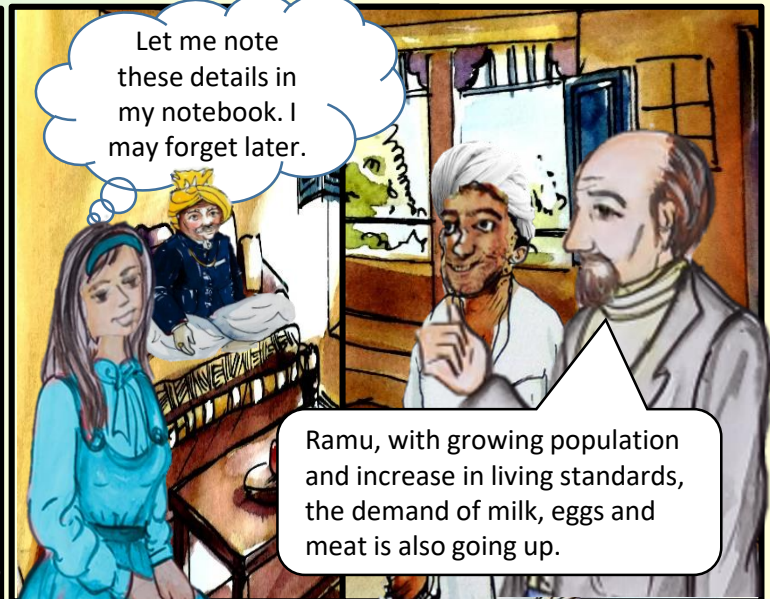
Tell me Ramu, what do you
want to start with?

Sir..I want to start a business
of animal Husbandry, but I
don't know much about it. I
don't want to lose my savings
by making mistakes.



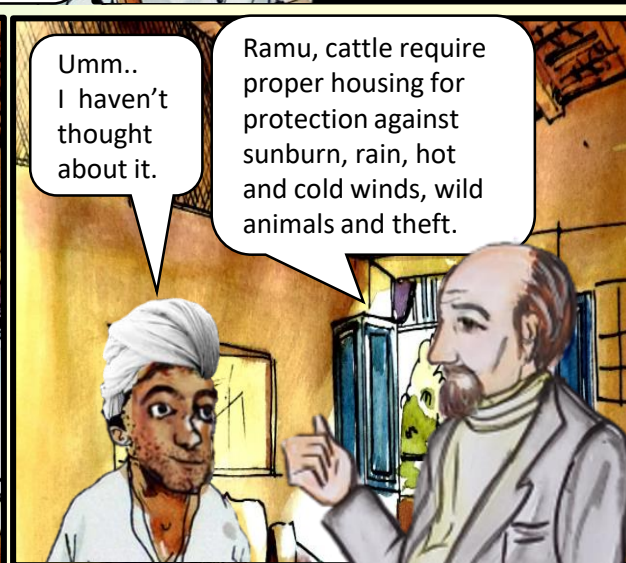
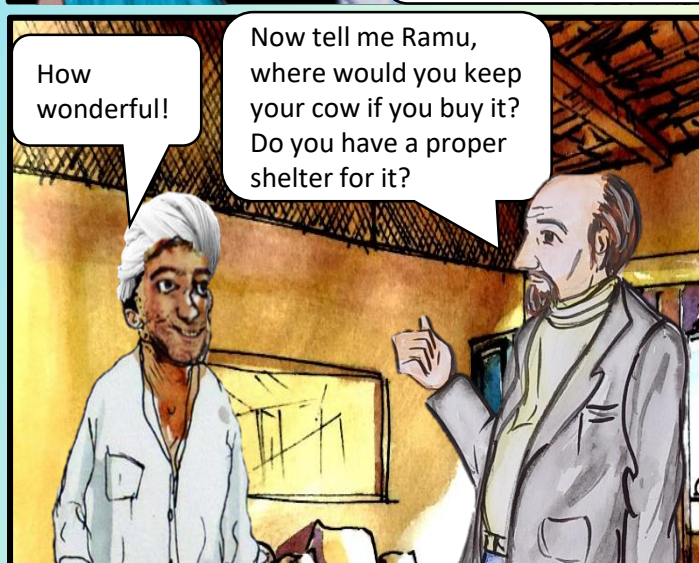
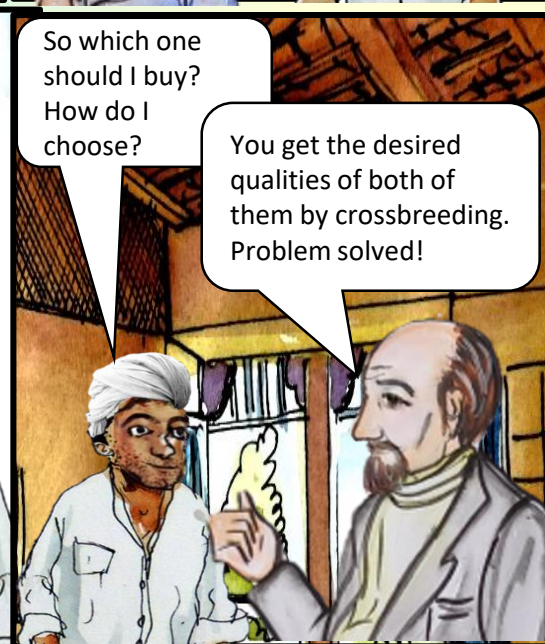
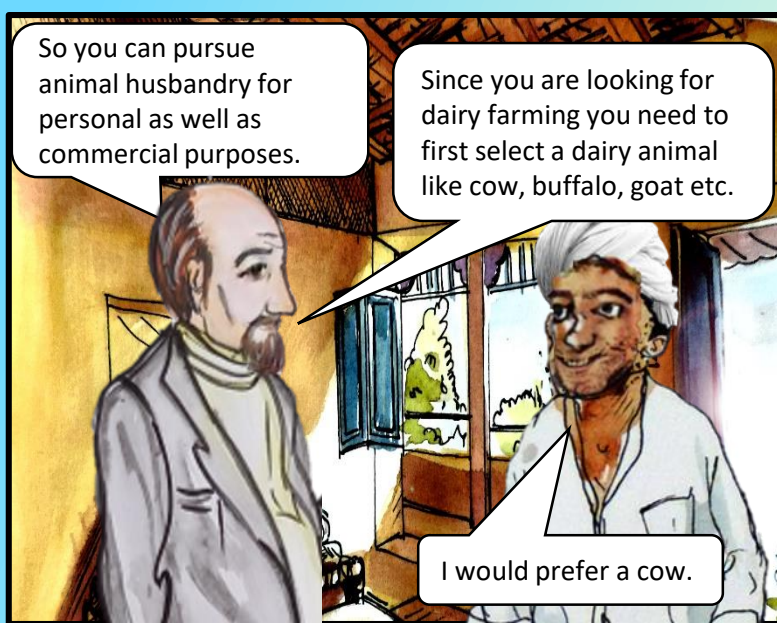
Don't worry Ramu.
I will provide you with all
the necessary information.

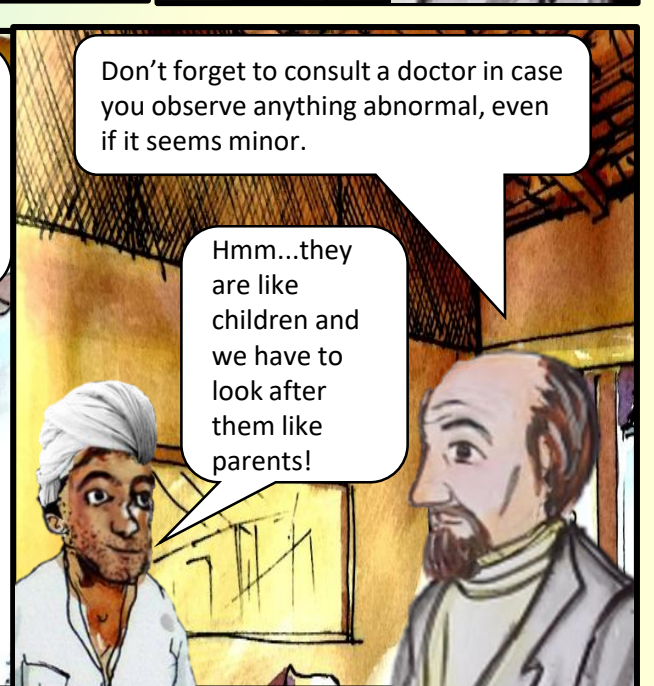
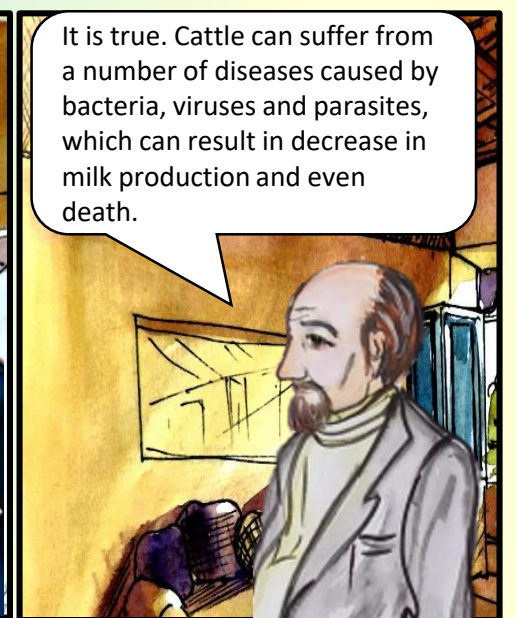
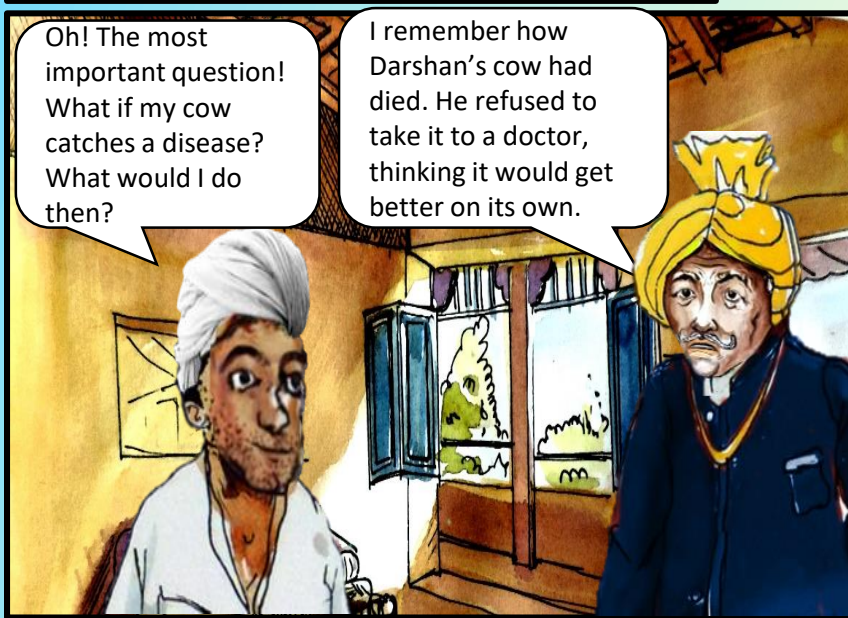
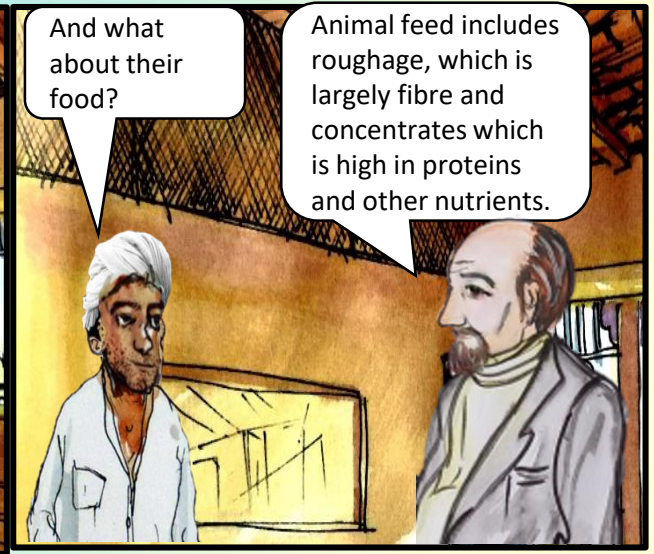
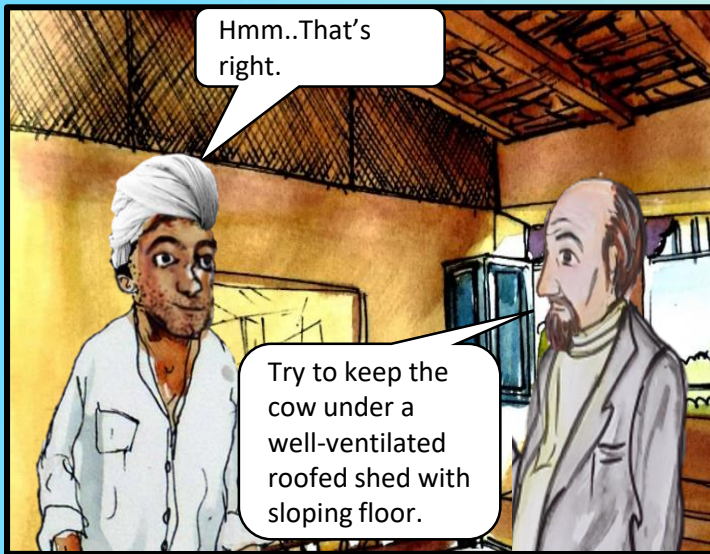
Thank you so
much Sir.

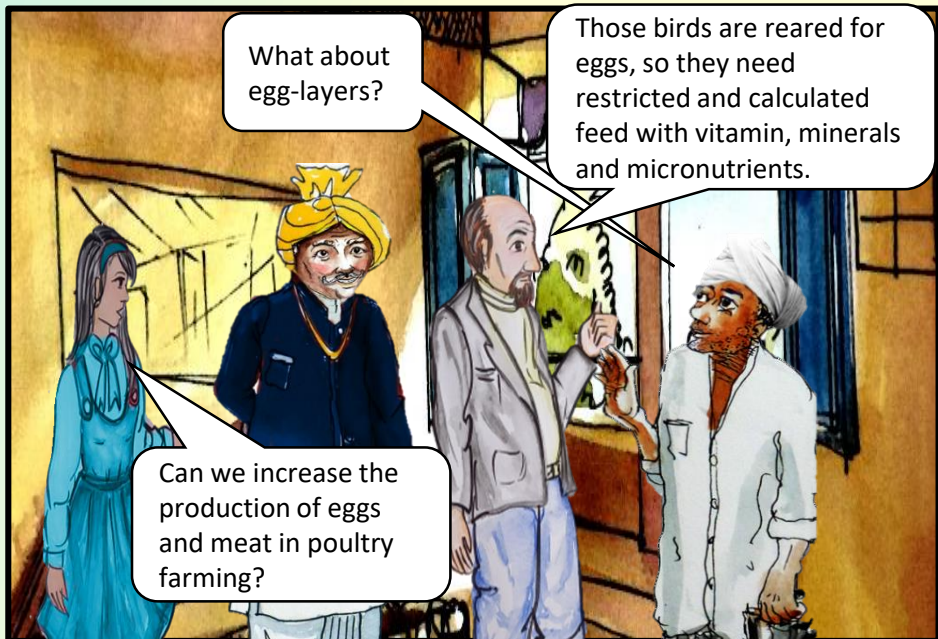
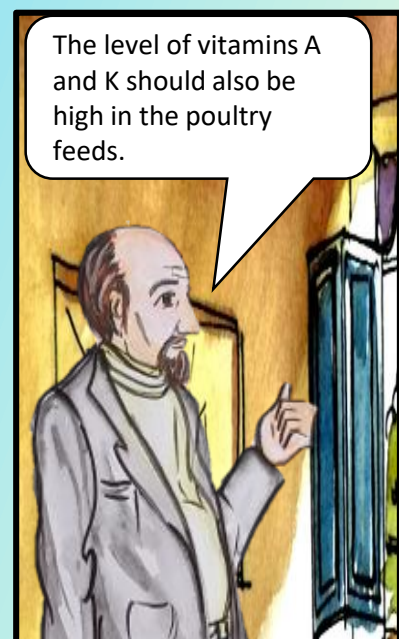
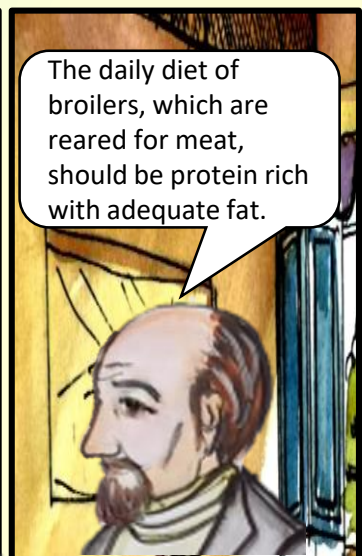
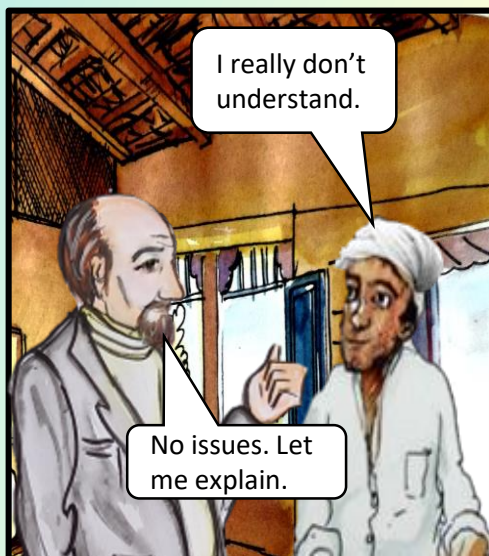
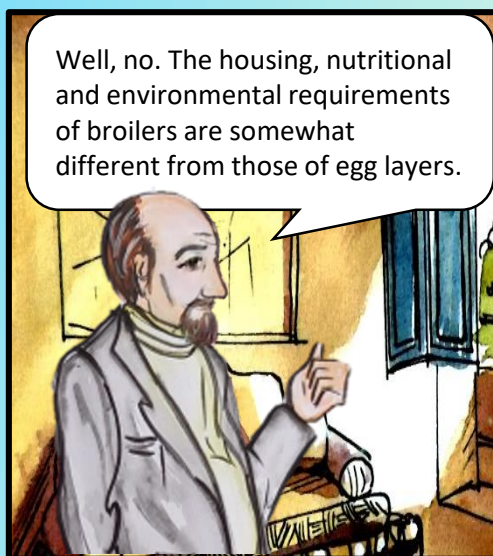
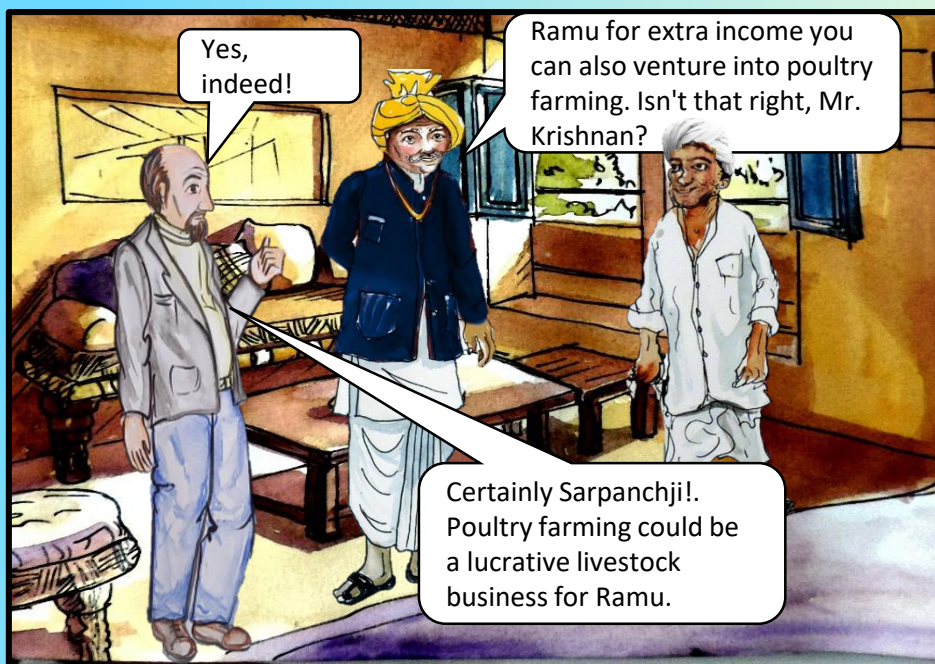


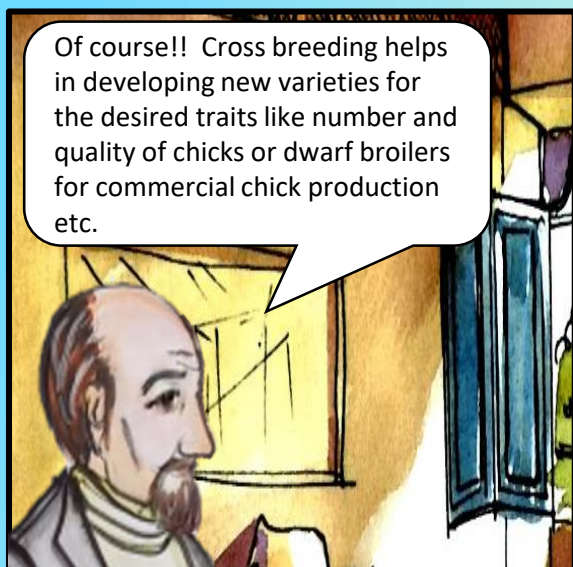
Let me note
these details in
my notebook. I
may forget later.

Ramu, with growing population
and increase in living standards,
the demand of milk, eggs and
meat is also going up.







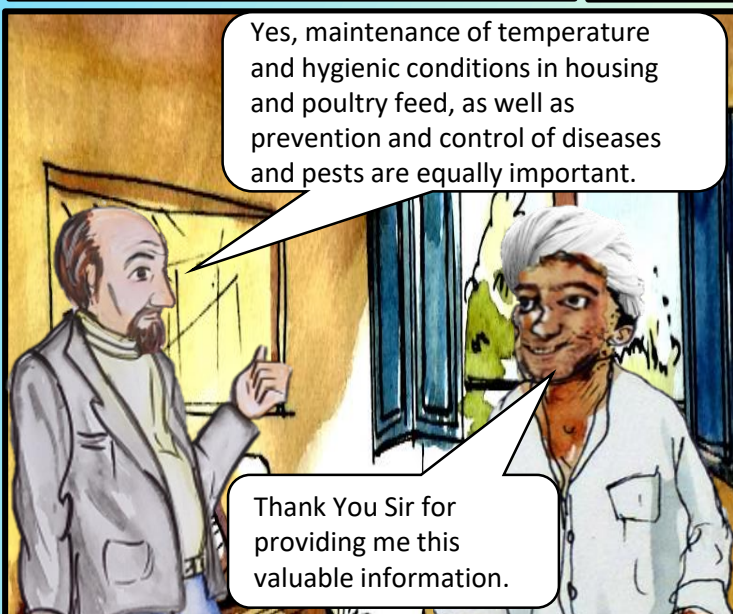


Of course!! Cross breeding helps in developing new varieties for the desired traits like number and quality of chicks or dwarf broilers for commercial chick production etc.



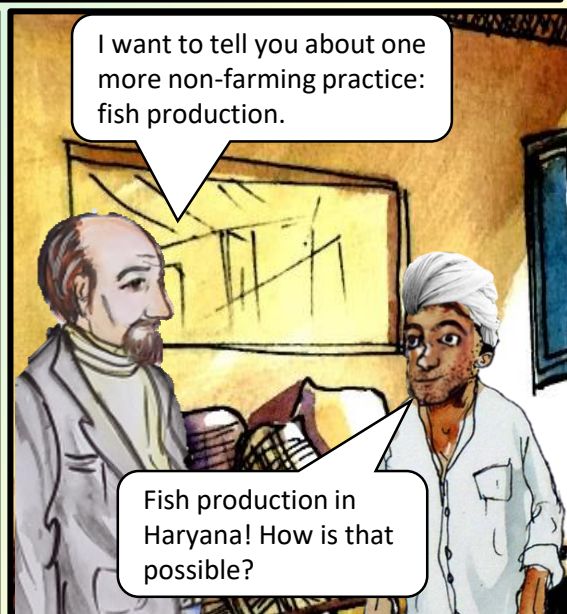
I'm in awe of how scientists are coming up with effective solutions for everything!

Anything else I should know?



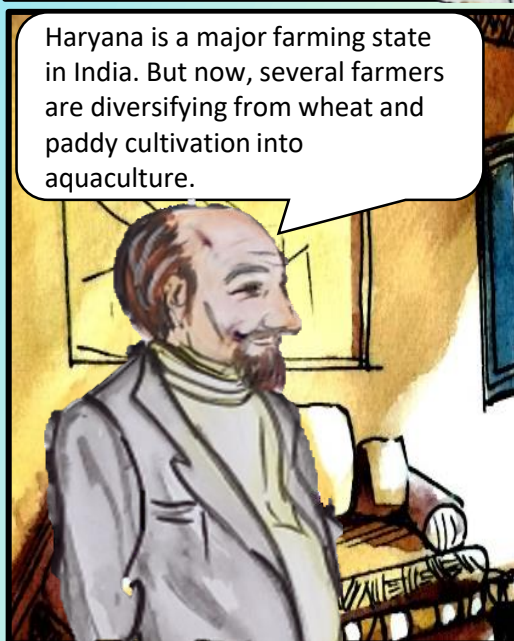
Yes, maintenance of temperature and hygienic conditions in housing and poultry feed, as well as prevention and control of diseases and pests are equally important.

Thank You Sir for providing me this valuable information.

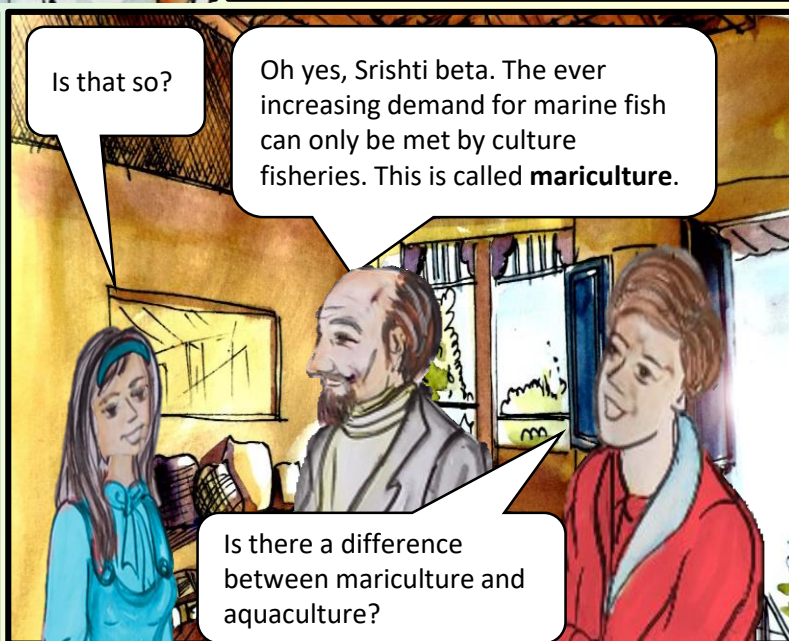


I want to tell you about one more non-farming practice: fish production.

Fish production in Haryana! How is that possible?



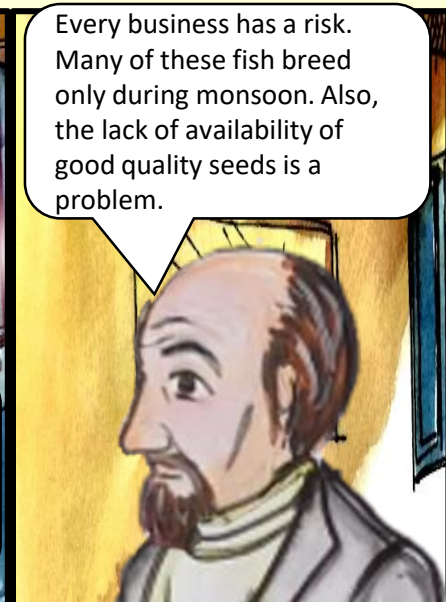
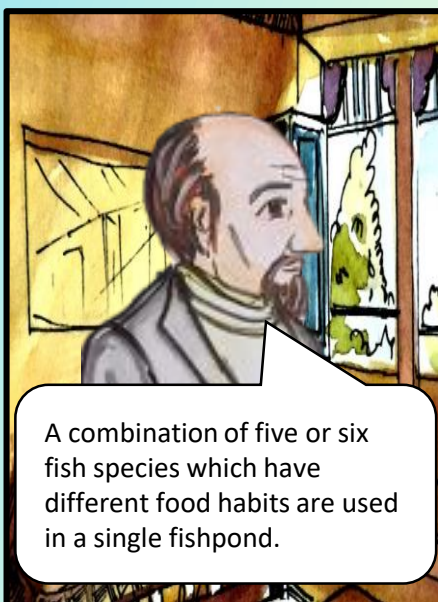
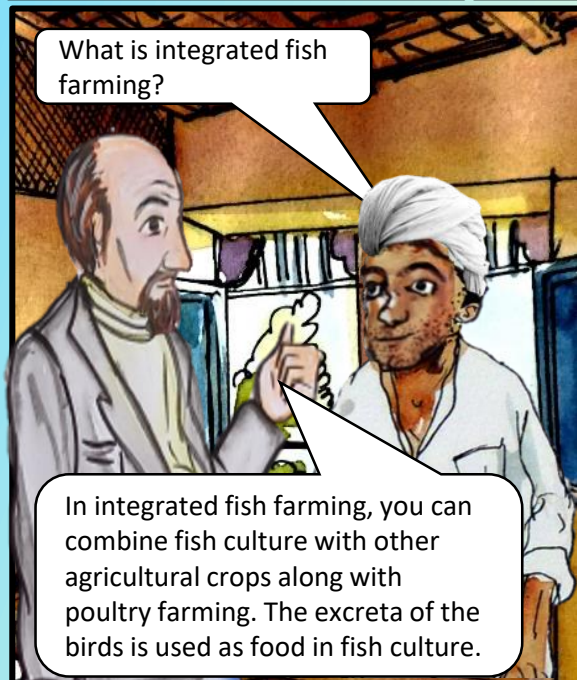
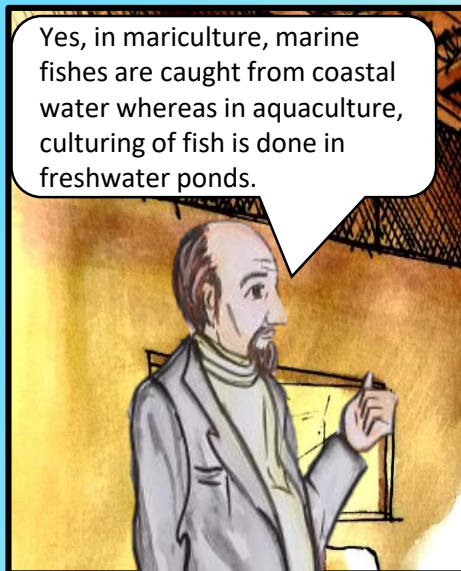
Haryana is a major farming state in India. But now, several farmers are diversifying from wheat and paddy cultivation into aquaculture.

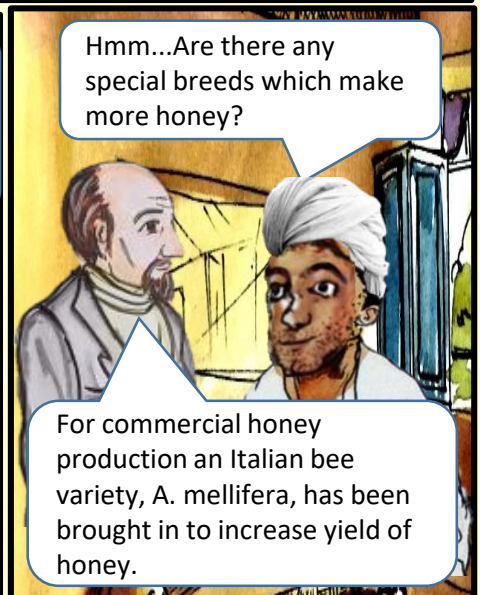
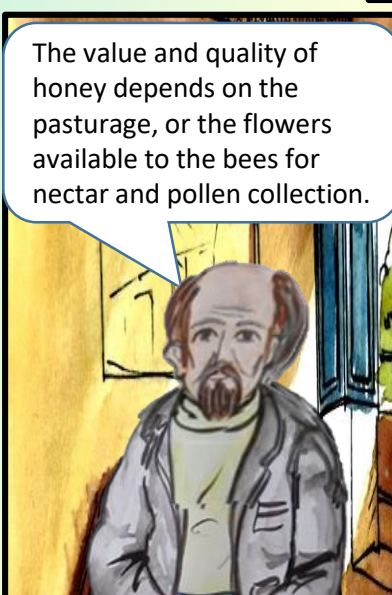
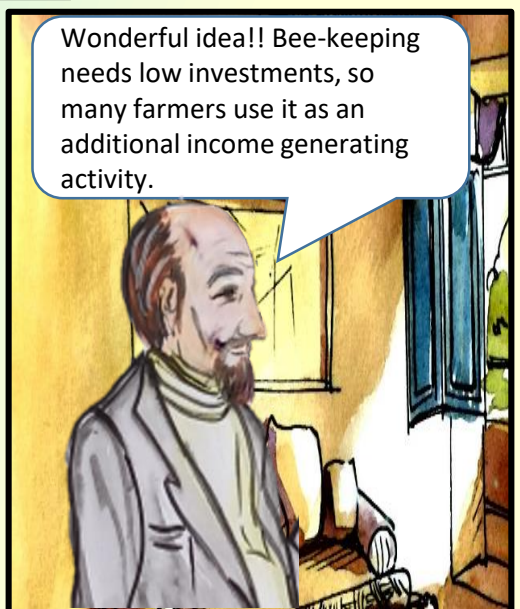
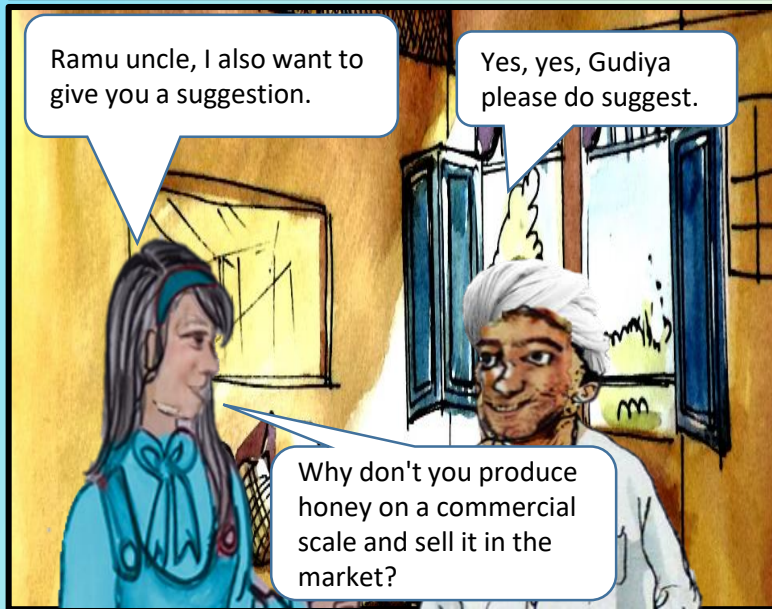
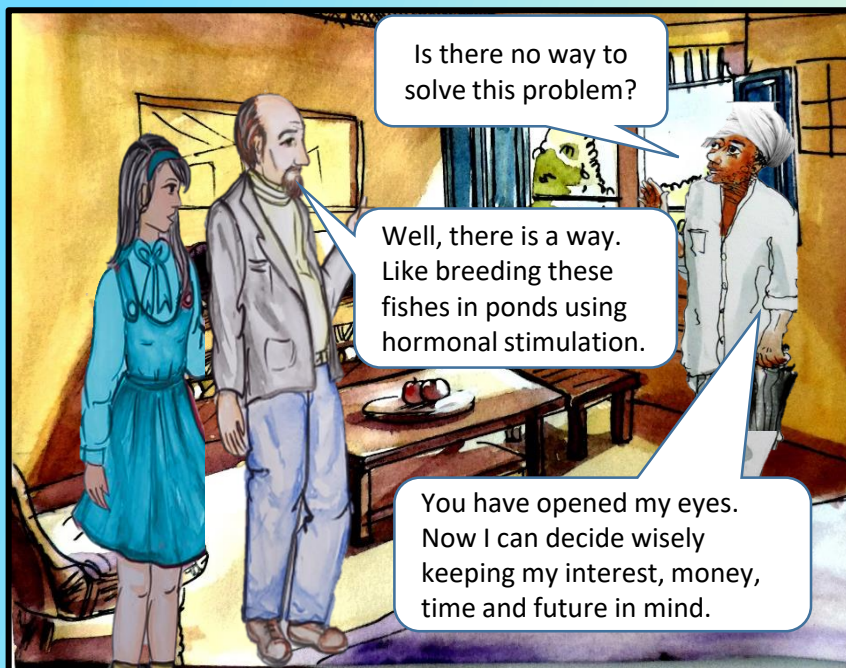


Is that so?

Oh yes, Srishti beta. The ever increasing demand for marine fish can only be met by culture fisheries. This is called **mariculture**.

Is there a difference between mariculture and aquaculture?





Once again thank you so much all of you, sir, sarpanch ji, and even you little gudiya.

Thanks to Mr. Krishnan. It is due to scientists like him that we farmers are making so much progress.

I was just doing my duty towards my country and its citizens.

Forgive me, I've got to go, I have some work pending

Oh yes! Even I forgot about the time. I guess I should take my leave now too.

Mr. Krishnan has left. Srishti is standing at the door with Ramu uncle.

After this long conversation with Mr. Krishnan, I don't think I remember all the details...

Don't worry Ramu uncle! I made detailed notes on what Mr. Krishnan was saying.

That would be a great help. I cannot thank you enough. For this and for giving those suggestions earlier.

You don't need to thank me Ramu uncle. It was my pleasure... I learnt a lot too.

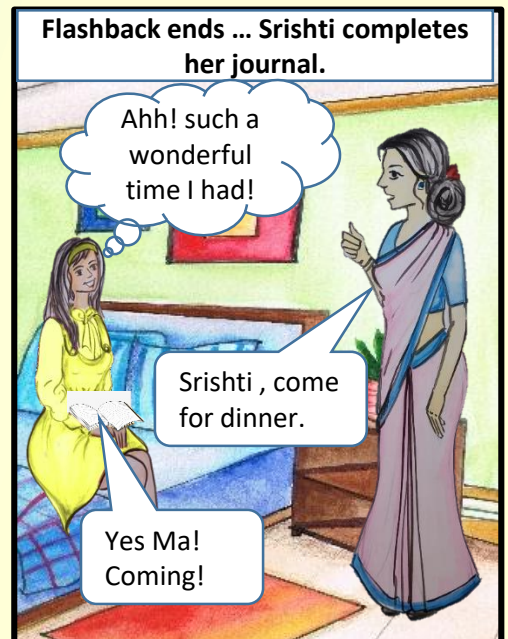
Namaste Gudiya.

Namaste uncle.

A few days later...

Dadaji, it's just unfair, I can't leave tomorrow itself, we just came a few days ago.

Beta, you have to go, your schools are reopening.



Recap Fun



A- Give answer in one word or two words

1. The method commonly used for improving the cattle breeds.
2. The two main components of dairy animals feed.
3. Broilers are reared for this purpose.
4. Combination of fish culture with agricultural crops along with poultry farming.
5. An Italian bee variety introduced to increase the yield of honey.

B- Match the column:

Column I	Column II
Marine fish	Combination of different species of fish
Fresh water fish	Pasturage
Bee keeping	Mariculture
Composite fish	Aquaculture

GLOSSARY

The Story of Village Palampur

Hypothetical - imaginary, not factual

HYV seeds - High Yielding Variety seeds - can produce up to ten times more crops than regular **seeds** on the same area of land.

Green Revolution- refers to a period (1960s) in India when agricultural production increased greatly due to the adoption of modern methods and technology, such as the use of high yielding variety seeds, tractors, irrigation facilities, pesticides, and fertilizers.

Surplus - a quantity or amount which is greater than needed.

Exploit - to use something or to treat somebody unfairly for your own advantage.

Improvement in food resources

Hybridisation - crossing between genetically dissimilar plants.

Vermi-compost- Compost prepared by using earthworms to hasten the process of decomposition of plant and animal refuse.

Green manure: Prior to the sowing of the crop seeds, some plants like sun hemp or guar are grown and then mulched by ploughing them into the soil.

Fertilizers-Fertilizers are commercially produced plant nutrients

Organic farming-A farming system with minimal or no use of chemicals as fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides etc. and with a maximum input of organic manures, recycled farm-wastes.

Exotic breeds- foreign breeds.

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- 1. Economics Textbook for Class IX [NCERT]**
- 2. Science Textbook for Class IX [NCERT]**

DISCLAIMER

This novel is published as a supportive reading material to enable the students to have a better understanding of the topic. The characters used in this graphic novel are fictional and resemblance of any character or incident is merely a coincidence. Art work is done by students and teachers.

FROM THE PRINCIPAL'S DESK

Dear readers,

'Change is the only constant', so said a wise man from the past. And so true indeed!

With the coming of the National Education Policy 2020, the focus of education is shifting to more student centric education, and thus the need to produce the content in a way which can be easily understood by the students.

The Central Board of Secondary Education has also brought in alterations in the way education was being imparted in the classrooms of the nation. Art Integration with the curriculum, competency based education, stress on Physical Fitness are all endeavours to prepare the students for the necessities of the future. One such endeavour is also changing the curriculum to graphic novels.

Conceived and directed by Mr. Sandeep Sethi, his passion rubbed on to the teachers as well. He lent support through constant guidance.

I am also grateful to Ms. Anita Karwal, Secretary, Department of School Education, Ministry of Human Resource and Development, whose valuable inputs and constant motivation has encouraged teachers to curate the concepts in the form of interesting graphics. I am very sure that this will change the way topics are taught in the classrooms. Using comic strip as a tool, concepts will be explained in a simple way, more relatable to the students.

Our sincere thanks to the worthy team of Ms. Anita Karwal, Secretary, Department of School Education, Ministry of Human Resource and Development, Mr. Manoj Ahuja, Chairman, Central Board of Secondary Education and Mr. Sandeep Sethi, the pilot of the project.

My sincere thanks are also due to the team of gifted teachers and students who in a time-bound frame produced creatively endowed content which will be a visual extravaganza for the students.

Enjoy reading!

Shefalee Gupta

Principal

SUMMARY

An inquisitive young girl, Srishti visits her grandparents in a small village of Haryana during summer vacation. To her surprise, she discovers that the village was the replica of the hypothetical village ‘Palampur’ mentioned in her social science book. This visit opens her horizon of connecting the real life with the content of the book. Her grandfather, who is the sarpanch of the village takes her through the mesmerizing journey where farm and non-farm activities are contributing seamlessly towards the development of the village. Mr. Krishnan from Krishi Bhavan further helps her in getting the in-depth knowledge about the methods of improving crop yield.

However, the picture of a perfect village gets curtailed after meeting Ramu, a poor farmer who works on her grandfather’s farm land. With limited resources, Ramu struggles to meet his ends and needs help in finding an alternative and enhanced source of income. Through engaging discussions Srishti, her grandfather and Mr. Krishnan offer various options available to him.

Srishti was so pleased with the outcome that she decides to pen down her experience in the journal.

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