



Report

IDA (WZ) organized a National Seminar on Dairy Development in Goa

Indian Dairy Association (West Zone) in association with Government of Goa, Goa Dairy and Sumul Dairy organized a National Seminar on 'Dairy Development in Goa - Opportunities and Challenges' at NIO Auditorium, Dauna Paula, Goa during 7-8 November, 2025. The event was attended by over 525 participants, including farmers, professionals, academicians and government officials.



Inaugural Session

The inaugural session was graced by Mr. Nilkanth R. Halarnkar, Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry, Government of Goa, along with Shri Yatindra Maralkar, the Secretary (Cooperation) and Shri Ashutosh Apte, the Registrar of Cooperative Societies, Government of Goa. The inauguration of the seminar was done by lighting of the lamp by the dignitaries on the dais. On behalf of Govt of Goa, Shri Yatindra Maralkar delivered welcome address and praised Ida for organizing such a seminar in Goa. The chairman of IDA (WZ), Dr. JB Prajapati welcomed all delegates on behalf of IDA and expressed gratefulness on the support of Goa Government for this seminar. He explained the objective of Indian Dairy Association, its activities and members and emphasized the importance of focussing on the dairy development in Goa by the progressive farmers of Goa and utilizing the training opportunities presented by IDA WZ. Goa also should utilize the opportunity of its tourist inflow and increase milk production so that goa can become independent in milk and dairy products production. He also shared the tips on improving productivity and reducing methane emission and utilizing the products obtained from cattle for sustainability.



Dr RS Sodhi, President of IDA, congratulated the organizers for organizing the seminar in Goa. His address focussed on the farmers of Goa, how to bring smiles on the face of our cattle rearer. He shared his views on how to bring the next generation in the cattle farming business. The growth of milk industry depends on one hand on the farmers, on the other hand on the consumers along with the policy makers. We should aspire that the dairy industry becomes so attractive that the industrialists should look at investing in the business and so do the professionals look at improving overall well-being of the industry. To continue the attractiveness of the dairy industry, we need to ensure good prices for dairy n dairy products and we sell what is being produced and the costs and expenses be reduced. Focus to be brought on improving the breed of the cattle and reduce the NECO (never ever conceived once) to be the biggest task. Also to focus on improving cattle feed conversion efficiency. He advised that when milk prices increase, they should not be termed as inflation but should be looked at as increase in farmers income. Even though dairy is 30% of agriculture income, it is still not attaining the due focus on the budget allocation. Investments should be encouraged in dairy processing segment so that farmers can produce higher quantities without having the fear of what to do with the extra milk produced. The future of Dairy industry is golden and we look forward to a growth-oriented dairy industry.

Then Shri Arun Purohit, MD, Sumul, shared his thoughts on how to include the farmers of Goa in the new initiatives of the government and provide benefit to the entire farmer fraternity. The Hon'ble Minister Mr. Nilanth R. Halarnkar for Animal Husbandry, Government of Goa highlighted the importance of strengthening Goa's dairy sector through technology, training, and cooperative efforts. Shri Parag Nagarcenkar, Chairman, Goa Dairy and Shri Rama Parab, Goa Dairy and Shri Navid Mushrif, Chairman, Gokul Dairy also graced the occasion.

IDA (WZ) Felicitated Women Farmer awardees & runners up from 4 states including Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat & Madhya Pradesh regarding exceptional dedication and contribution by pouring maximum milk to the dairies in the year 2025 with modern farm & feeding practices.

Award is to honour and recognize their outstanding achievements. The Award consists of a Citation, Shawl, Memento and Cash Prize of Rs. 20,000/- for Winner & Rs.10,000/- For Runner up. Awards were presented by hands of Hon'ble Minister Mr. Nilkanth R. Halarnkar. A special award of Rs 25,000, Shawl & Memento was given by Goa Dairy to Mr. Kushali Savant a farmer aged 103 for his dedication to dairy farming.

The session concluded by vote of thanks by the Secretary of IDA WZ, Shri Madhav Patgaonkar.

Technical Session I Farmer's focus: AH and milk productivity, Govt. Policies

The technical session was chaired by Shri Madhav Sahakari Ex-Chairman, Goa Dairy & Ex Vice Chairman IDA (WZ) IDA. Dr JV Parekh, Vice Chairman, IDA (WZ) served as the co-chair of the session. The Speakers discussed various strategies to enhance milk productivity, animal health management, and supportive government policies for dairy farmers. Emphasis was laid on scientific breeding practices, quality feed, and cooperative strength.

Dr. Jadhav discussed the need for dairy development in Goa, and parallel focus on animal health care with support from Govt of Goa. He also shared the importance of balanced feeding and the need and mechanics to focus on feed and fodder management. He also shared about the pregnancy feed and various other benefits of balanced feeding. Dr Nilesh Nayee from NDDDB shared various technologies which are available to improve cattle milk production and accelerated breed improvement along with fertility improvement. He also emphasized the methods of improving milk production in cattle through recording of annual production, cattle coming in heat and its monitoring and selection of bull for semen including new technologies like genomic selection and IVF.



Ms. Sinjini Guha from NDDDB shared about the circular economy of dairy farming and the benefits to farmers. The net zero aspirations in the circular economy, carbon credit mechanism and utilization of waste as a valuable resource to make bio gas as fuel and bio slurry as fertilizer. She shared various examples of how NDDDB has put up plants to utilize waste and benefit farmers from the organic matter usage. Mr. Abhishek then shared the plans for the DIC to be

held in New Delhi in February 26 and how it will benefit all the stakeholders of the dairy industry.

Technical Session II: Farmer's Focus: Smart dairy farming, feed & fodder, circular economy

This session Chaired by Shri Parag Nagarsenkar, Chairman, Goa Dairy. The session featured six expert speakers from academic and professional institutions who presented on enhancing profitability, efficient feed and fodder management, circular economy principles, carbon footprint reduction, manure management, animal selection for improved productivity, and sustainable dairy practices suited to Goa's tropical climate.

Dr. Sant, a renowned dairy consultant discussed the need and mechanics of improving the profitability of the dairy farm by optimizing the productivity by enhancing milk production and improving reproduction mechanics. The solution lies in balanced feeding and its ideal constituents. Mr. Ghosh from NDDDB spoke about major challenges in feed and fodder management in India – shortages of dry and green fodder, wastage and non-availability of organized channel for the fodder. He emphasized that nutrition is the key to improve productivity and fertility. Importance of feeding cattle with green fodder regularly and especially during heat stress.

Dr. Juneja from BAIF spoke about the selection of animals for better productivity, how to optimize between indigenous and cross breed and the government initiatives driving changes. So it will be important to note that selection improves productivity, profitability and sustainability. Dr. Parag Ghogale, consultant from Goa discussed why it is important to be aware of the environmental stress the cattle undergoes and the nutritional strategy to encounter this stress to sustain production in hot climate of goa. The signs of climate stress and its impact on the animal along with water management and feed additives and schedule management to counter this stress. Dr. Dayavardhan from Sumul discussed the ethno-veterinary practices and



one health for cattle – which can be obtained by utilizing the results obtained by treating the animals by herbal remedies obtained by conventional wisdom. The result is the avoidance of the anti microbial resistance developed in cattle and its transferring to milk thus impacting human health.

Technical Session III: Processing, Marketing, Innovations

Day Two commenced with this session chaired by Dr. Jayant Khadse, Vice President BAIF Pune. Four speakers discussed advancements in milk processing and value addition, marketing

strategies for cooperatives and private dairies, procurement models, and consumer trends. Discussions emphasized innovation, quality assurance, and branding for Goa's dairy products.

Mr. Hiral Shah focussed on the dairy industry's changing needs from quantity to quality and taste. Hence milk processing and product should be uniform as per the standard guidelines to ensure standardization of the product. Ms. Richie shared that considering demand, local market has tremendous scope for growth hence local brand building is very pertinent which will be pride of goa dairy industry. She shared examples of a cooperative which in spite of being a small local player, could fight competition and maintain its market leader status.

Shri Anil Hatekar discussed the dairy model from the future perspective and how procurement to delivery, traceability is very important for assurance of the product, hence local milk value chain to be developed considering traceability at every point. Ms. Swaroopa Naik spoke about the need for Mastitis control and how minimum use of appropriate antibiotics can be achieved through subclinical mastitis tests and antibiotic sensitivity by latest Biotechnology based tests.

Shri Santosh Upadhyay from Biovet discussed how homologous lumpy vaccine can play major role in disease prevention in country.

All discussed how extension efforts are very important to make farmer aware about clean milk, use of innovative technology, Convergence with Govt schemes, Goa dairy and support from NGOs. This will be useful to farmer get more benefits and attracting farmers towards dairy farming.

Technical Session IV: Role of dairy in Nutrition, Health and Livelihood, training needs

This session was chaired by Dr Praveen Kumar, Director, ICAR-CCARI, Goa and focused on the significance of dairy in human nutrition, public health, and livelihood improvement.

Dr. JB Prajapati enlightened the audience on the nutritional benefits of milk and why it is necessary to raise awareness about the goodness of milk and dairy products in the society. He shared scientific reports establishing the preventive role of milk in lifestyle diseases like diabetes, hypertension and obesity. He also presented data of a large scale study, where the role of milk in reducing the mortality was proved. Dr. Aparnathi shared details about the importance of milk in human nutrition and why it should not be ignored. He clearly explain the quality of milk fat and milk proteins and how they are much superior to any other source of protein from plant sources.

Dr. Jadhav From BAIF discussed about the training needs for farmers and managers, the need for Cadre of AI Technician Development for breeding work, Pashusakhi for extension work and input supply, innovative / progressive farmers exposure visits, Capacity building and awareness generation through training on management, Breeding, feeding and housing and disease management, Dairy interest farmers groups formation through Goa dairy, Special training on fodder Development for throughout year availability and Training on climate smart housing. Dr. RB Dhuri, discussed the importance of green and sustainable dairy production in Goa. Shri Vishal Kuyate, DeLaval India, spoke about Future - Smart & Digital Farming, that Cow Centric Design & Planning is very important for cow friendly & smooth operations, Use of Big Data & Automation at dairy farm would be the basic necessity for future growth.



Valedictory Session

The seminar concluded with a valedictory session summarizing by Madhav Patgaonkar secretary IDA (WZ). The participants emphasized the need to strengthen farmer-oriented training programs, promote sustainable dairy farming systems, and enhance collaboration among cooperatives, government agencies, and private enterprises. The event received excellent feedback and was recognized as a successful platform for sharing knowledge and strategies for the growth of Goa's dairy sector. All the sponsors and supporters were felicitated.

Dr. JB Prajapati, Chairman IDA (WZ) thanked Hon'ble CM Dr. Promod Sawant, Honourable ministers and secretaries of the Department of AH & VS as well as Cooperation, Govt of Goa. He also thanked Chairman, MD and entire team of Goa Dairy as well as Sumul Dairy for being the co-organiser of this very successful event. He also thanked the farmers, sponsors, delegates, speakers, on behalf of IDA (WZ) and brought the seminar to a close.

Recommendation To the Goa Govt & outcome of the Seminar

Based on the deliberations during the two-day National Seminar, the following key recommendations emerged:

1. There is a need to strengthen farmers training on modern animal husbandry practices including breed improvement, veterinary care, feed and fodder. Field demonstrations and model demonstration farms are required to be established at strategic locations.
2. Promote Fodder Development by encouraging cultivation of high-yielding green fodder crops and community silage projects. Use of forest land, shadow areas of coconut and areca palm gardens should be used for green fodder farming. Technology for growing fodder in vertical farms can also be adopted to meet the requirement of fodder in the state.
3. Support/subsidize manure management, waste-to-energy initiatives, and carbon footprint reduction under the circular economy framework. This will give supplementary income to farmers and make the business sustainable.
4. 4.Encourage Milk Processing and Value Addition, strengthen local processing infrastructure and promote new dairy enterprises for value-added products such as curd, paneer, ghee, and flavoured milk.
5. Introduce startup schemes for young entrepreneurs in the dairy value chain.
6. Policy and Institutional Support, simplify access to government schemes and credit facilities for small and medium dairy farmers.
7. Nutrition and Public Health Promotion, Promote awareness on the nutritional importance of milk and dairy products in public health and school nutrition programs. Encourage consumption of locally produced milk and dairy products to support farmers and improve community health.
8. Promote brand of local Goan dairy products. The tourism economy of Goa will complement the local production and will make Goa and its milk producers independent, sustainable and free from outside competition.

(J.B. Prajapati)

Chairman, IDA (WZ)