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BULLETIN

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Practices for Energy Conservation and Sustainable Innovations at Vidya Dairy (Page 32)

From The President's Desk

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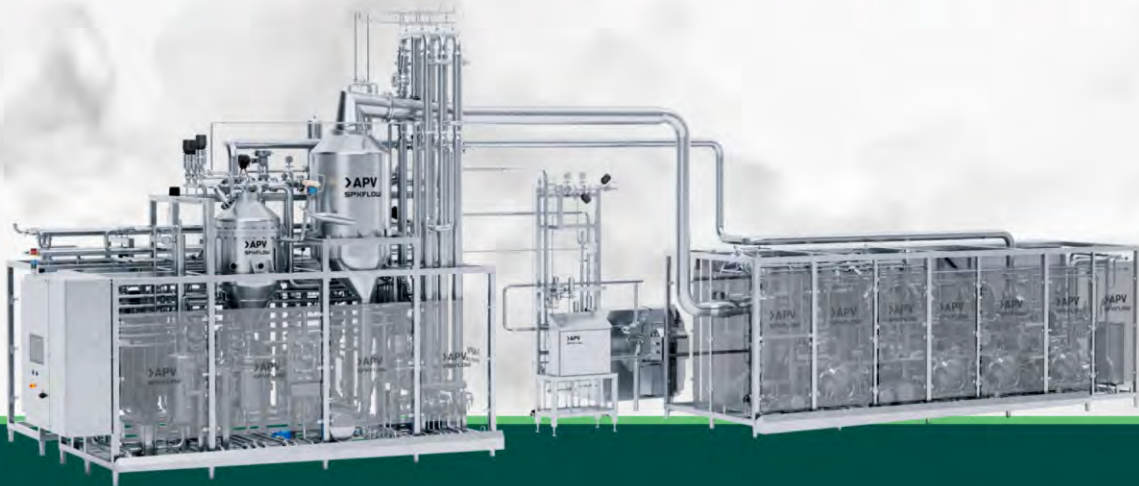
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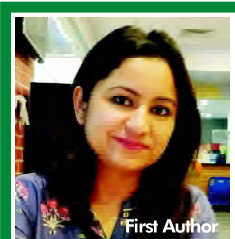
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First Author

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Looking Back with Pride, Forward with Confidence

As I write this column for the December 2025 Issue, it is with a deep sense of gratitude and fulfilment that I share that this will be my last President's Desk message as President of the Indian Dairy Association (IDA). The past three and a half years have been an enriching journey - a period of growth, resilience, and renewed purpose for our dairy fraternity. I take this opportunity to sincerely thank every member, zonal office bearer, and chapter representative for their wholehearted support and cooperation throughout my tenure.

Before I look back, let me first extend my warmest congratulations to Shri Sudhir Kumar Singh, the newly elected President of the Indian Dairy Association, and Central Executive Committee (CEC) members. Shri Singh is a capable and experienced leader who has served the Association with dedication. I am confident that under his leadership, IDA will continue to move forward with vigour, professionalism, and inclusiveness – further

strengthening its position as the apex body representing India's dairy sector.

The past month also marked an important milestone for the Western Region, with the successful inauguration of the two-day National Seminar on "**Dairy Development in Goa - Opportunities and Challenges**", organized by the Indian Dairy Association (West Zone) in collaboration with the Department of Animal Husbandry & Department of Cooperation, Government of Goa; Goa Dairy; and SUMUL Dairy.

The seminar underscored the strong spirit of collaboration between government, cooperatives, and industry leaders in identifying new pathways for strengthening Goa's dairy sector. A special highlight of the event was the presentation of the Best Women Farmer Awards 2025, honouring exceptional women dairy farmers from Goa, Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Madhya Pradesh – a true celebration of empowerment, excellence, and the rising role of women in shaping India's dairy future. Such initiatives exemplify IDA's ongoing commitment to promoting inclusivity and recognising the grassroots contributions that make Indian dairying a people's movement.

Reflecting on these past years, the Indian dairy sector has undergone profound transformation – both in its structure and outlook. From shifting consumer preferences and rising nutritional awareness to technological interventions and environmental concerns, the dairy landscape has evolved rapidly. Through this period of change, IDA has played a pivotal role as a bridge between farmers, industry, academia, and policymakers, ensuring that the interests of the sector remained protected and promoted at every level.

We worked closely with the Government of India and regulatory authorities to bring clarity and fairness to dairy policies. IDA's proactive stand prompted FSSAI action against misleading "plant-based dairy" terminology, ensuring that products derived from non-dairy sources cannot misuse traditional dairy names like "milk," "butter," or "ghee." We also played a key role in supporting FSSAI's directions on A1/A2 and Front-of-Pack Nutrition Labelling (FOPNL), ensuring that dairy products are evaluated on scientific and nutritional grounds, not on arbitrary global templates.

Over the past years, IDA has also taken a clear and consistent stand on matters related to international trade and Free Trade Agreements (FTAs). We have strongly advocated that India must exercise strategic caution while negotiating FTAs – especially with major dairy-exporting countries such as the USA, New Zealand, Australia, and the EU – where heavily subsidised dairy products could pose a serious threat to the livelihoods of

millions of our small and marginal dairy farmers. IDA's representations to the Ministry of Commerce, the Board of Trade, and various parliamentary committees have underscored the need to keep sensitive dairy tariff lines out of concessional market access and to safeguard India's unique, inclusive dairy model. Our stance has been firmly rooted in protecting farmer incomes, ensuring fair competition, and preserving India's self-reliant dairy ecosystem while encouraging export growth in high-value, niche categories where India holds natural strengths.

IDA's advocacy efforts were also instrumental in securing GST rationalisation and HSN classification clarity for milk cans and other dairy items, simplifying compliance and easing the cost burden for cooperatives and processors. These policy-level outcomes, achieved through sustained dialogue and credible representation, reaffirm IDA's position as a trusted and responsible voice of the industry.

Our engagement extended to the highest policy forums, with IDA earning representation on the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Food Processing, as well as on the Board of Trade under the Ministry of Commerce. This recognition reflects the government's faith in IDA's expertise and balanced approach in guiding national policies related to dairy trade, exports, and farmer welfare.

Parallel to these advocacy efforts, we focused on revitalising IDA's communication and outreach. The *Indian Dairyman* was given a completely new and modern look, while the *Indian Journal of Dairy Science* (IJDS) achieved a NAAS rating of 6.2, reinforcing its status as a respected scientific publication. Our zonal and chapter-level events saw record participation - with the 51st Dairy Industry Conference in Patna setting new benchmarks for scale and quality, attended by over 2,500 delegates and graced by senior Union Ministers and policymakers.

IDA's membership drive also received an overwhelming response, crossing 4,150 members, and our enhanced digital presence - including over 27,000 followers on LinkedIn - has helped build stronger connections with young professionals and students. Financially, IDA recorded consistent surpluses through transparent and efficient management, thereby ensuring long-term institutional stability.

As we look ahead, IDA stands at a critical juncture - facing both immense opportunities and pressing challenges.

On the opportunity side, India's dairy sector remains the largest in the world, with unparalleled potential for value addition, exports, and innovation. Rising global

demand for dairy fat and proteins, coupled with India's focus on *Viksit Bharat 2047*, presents an unprecedented chance to establish "**Brand India - A Dairy to the World.**" Expanding exports, building robust supply chains, and investing in quality certification and traceability will be key to realising this vision.

There are also opportunities to strengthen women's participation, promote climate-smart dairying, and harness digital and AI-based solutions for productivity, feed efficiency, and animal health. The cooperative model - a cornerstone of India's dairy success - must continue to evolve to empower producer organisations, ensure fair price discovery, and integrate smallholders into national and global value chains.

However, these opportunities come with real challenges. IDA must navigate the growing misinformation around dairy and nutrition, counter anti-dairy narratives with science-based communication, and maintain consumer trust in milk as a natural and wholesome food. The challenges of climate change, feed scarcity, and cost volatility also demand collective solutions - through innovation, sustainable practices, and supportive policies. Equally, IDA must ensure that it remains relevant to its diverse membership base by, fostering regional engagement, and ensuring that younger professionals and students see IDA as their platform for learning, networking, and contributing to the sector's growth.

Going forward, IDA must continue strengthening its collaboration with national institutions such as NDDB, NDRI, and ICAR, while also expanding its global footprint through partnerships with IDF and other international dairy bodies. By positioning itself as both a knowledge hub and advocacy platform, IDA can play a decisive role in shaping India's dairy roadmap for the next two decades.

As I conclude my final note as President, I feel immense pride in what we have achieved together. I express my heartfelt appreciation to all IDA members, zonal chairmen, the CEC, and the Secretariat team for their dedication, professionalism, and teamwork. It has been an honour to serve this great institution and to contribute, in some measure, to the collective progress of India's dairy fraternity.

I now pass the baton with full confidence that the new leadership under Shri Sudhir Kumar Singh will take IDA to even greater heights - guided by the same spirit of unity, service, and commitment that has always defined our Association.



(R.S. Sodhi)



52nd Dairy Industry Conference (February 12 to 14, 2026)



Invitation

Dear Fellow Dairymen,

Established in 1948, the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) has been functioning as a forum for professionals, planners, scientists, farmers and equipment manufacturers in the field of dairy and allied agro-food business to provide opportunities for the dissemination and exchange of knowledge and ideas gained from research and experience through meetings, conferences and seminars in planning, production, processing, marketing and so forth.

IDA (North Zone), in association with Western UP Local Chapter of IDA, is organizing the 52nd Dairy Industry Conference at Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, New Delhi, during February 12 to 14, 2026. The theme of the conference is **“Empowering Rural India through Dairy Entrepreneurship”**. The conference will provide an excellent platform for interaction and sharing of experiences with eminent professionals, experts, researchers, policy makers and milk producers from diverse corners of India and abroad on different ways to increase dairy farmers' income.

We take pleasure in cordially inviting you to participate in the conference and make it rewarding and meaningful.

To make this occasion memorable, an illustrative Souvenir will be published containing various technical and scientific papers to be presented at the Conference, along with advertisements from a range of manufacturers and entrepreneurs.

To commemorate the event, an Exhibition will be organised to showcase the advancements in dairy and allied industries. A Poster Session on the latest research findings will be organized as an added attraction of the conference. Advance intimation about your participation would enable us in making your stay comfortable and purposeful.

For Sponsorship & Conference, Contact: Shri Ashok Kumar Tripathi, Secretary General, 52nd DIC. Email: 52nddic@gmail.com Ph.: +91 9811620563 Web.: www.52dic.in

For Exhibition Secretariat, Contact India Expo Centre & Mart Email: sales.52dic@dairyindustryexhibition.com; info.52dic@dairyindustryexhibition.com Mob.: +91 7827770651 (Mr. Rakesh Jha); +91 9311098450 (Md. Wasin Fazal).

Sponsorship and Delegate registration forms have been published in this issue **on Page 111-112.**

All correspondence in this regard may please be addressed to the Secretary General, 52nd Dairy Industry Conference, Indian Dairy Association, IDA House, Sector-IV, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022. **Email: 52nddic@gmail.com.** We earnestly look forward for your all round and active involvement in the Conference.

With warm personal regards,

(Ashok Kumar Tripathi)
Chairman, Western UP Local Chapter of IDA
and Secretary General, 52nd DIC

(Rahul Saxena)
Chairman
IDA (North Zone)

(R.S. Sodhi)
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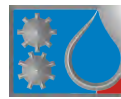


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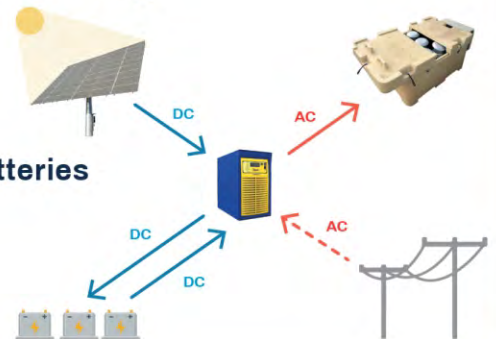
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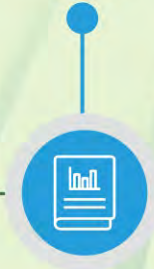
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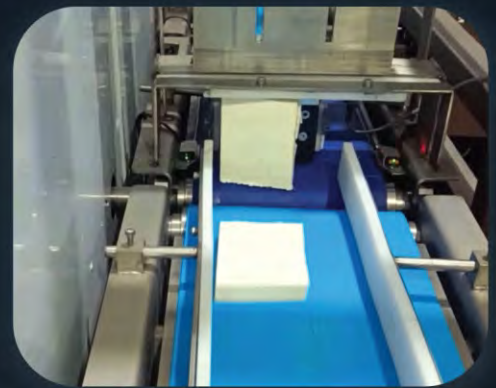
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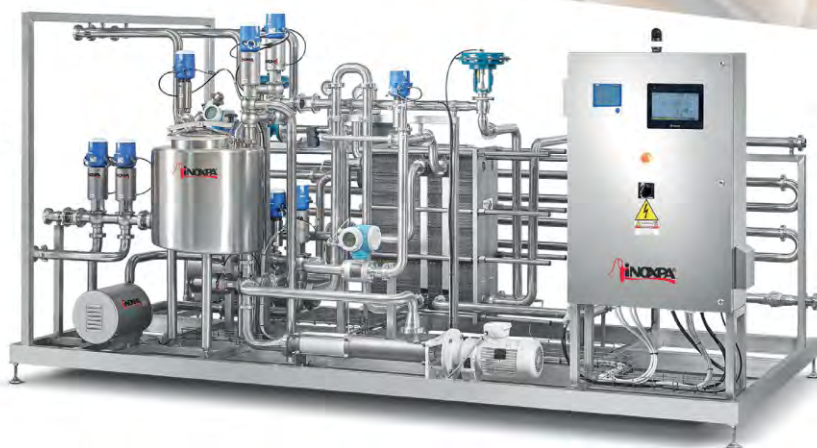
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Practices for Energy Conservation and Sustainable Innovations at Vidya Dairy

D.R. Shah, Akshay Patel, Raj Patel and Ajay Zala

“

The initiatives undertaken at Vidya Dairy show that sustainability does not always require large investments or complex technology. Many of the improvements we implemented were simple process optimizations, thoughtful heat recovery, and smarter resource reuse-yet their impact has been substantial.

”

In today's dynamic dairy industry era, where energy costs are rising and sustainability expectations are higher than ever, achieving operational efficiency is no longer a choice-it's a necessity. Dairy plants, by their very nature, are energy-intensive facilities, consuming large amounts of electricity, steam, hot water, and refrigeration energy across processes like pasteurization, homogenization, chilling, and packaging.

At Vidya Dairy, this challenge was not seen as a constraint, but as an opportunity for innovation. We believe sustainability must be practical, measurable and closely tied to operations. This new lens in our process design led to remarkable outcomes, we secured spectacular energy savings as our key objective, with significant financial savings as a valuable by-product. What truly stood out was how every small improvement added up - from smarter equipment use to optimized heat recovery - culminating in annual savings of over 11 lakh kWh of electricity, 12 lakh kilograms of steam and reduced carbon emissions. Together, these efforts translated into financial savings of more than Rs. 1.40 crore per year, but more importantly, they reflected a deeper transformation -where sustainability became a culture, not just a goal.

The following ten key interventions highlight the steps that led to our success in our sustainability journey.

(1) Partial Homogenization of Milk

Conventional approach: We used to homogenize the entire milk throughput (approx. 70,000 L/day comprising Amul T-Special and Amul Tazza) using a 132 kWh homogenizer running about 6 hours/day - roughly 792 kWh/day of energy used for that operation alone.

Intervention: We introduced partial homogenization wherein only high-fat milk (up to 9.5% fat) is homogenized while the skim milk fraction bypasses the homogenizer. Due to this, only approx. 32,000 L milk/day passes through the homogenizer.

Outcome: Homogenizer run time halved - from 6 hours to 3 hours/day -saving 396 kWh/day, while maintaining the Creaming Index (CI = 10) for product quality. Financial savings was reported at about Rs.13 lakh/ annum. This demonstrates that a simple principle: process segregation can preserve product attributes while reducing energy.

(2) Heat Regeneration in Cream Pasteurizer

Conventional approach: Earlier, a 4 KLPH Cream Plate Heat Exchanger (CPHE) was used, where cream entered the chilling section at an average temperature of 62°C and exited at 38°C. This caused a sudden rise in the return temperature of chilled water (up to 40°C), creating

the thermal imbalance in the refrigeration system. Additionally, the chilled water pump had to be operated for 14 hours daily to cool the cream to 10-12°C, consuming considerable energy and time.

Intervention: A pneumatic divert valve was installed and streams were re-routed to create a heat exchange between hot cream (at 62°C) and cold milk for cheese and ice-cream section at (4°C) within the same CPHE.

Outcome: Cream exit temperature before chilling dropped from 62°C to approx. 20°C, and incoming milk was preheated to approx. 12°C. Chilled-water pump runtime for the cream storage tank fell from 14 hours to 3 hours/day, substantially reducing refrigeration and electrical energy use. This unique heat regeneration arrangement by utilising existing thermal gradients in same CPHE, resulted in savings of Rs. 13.2 lakh/annum, along with considerable reductions in compressor operations and energy losses.

(3) Heat Recovery from Cheese Whey

Conventional approach: Cheese vats (3 × 6,500 L) required milk preheating (4°C – 30°C) using steam - about 300 kg steam was used per lot. Around, 98000L of whey was simultaneously cooled to 4°C (39°C – 4°C) using mechanical refrigeration, consuming about 237 kW per lot. This simultaneously stressed our boiler and refrigeration systems.

Intervention: An idle 20 KLPH plate heat exchanger was recommissioned and installed between the pasteurized milk silo and cheese vat so that outgoing whey (39°C) preheats the incoming cheese milk, with a whey storage buffer to synchronize flows. This facilitates efficient use of heat exchange at no additional cost.

Outcome: External steam for preheating milk (300 kg/lot) and mechanical chilling of whey (237 kW/ lot) dropped to almost nil. The measured saving per lot was Rs. 3,029.18 with 11 cheddar cheese lots/day i.e. a savings of Rs. 33,320/day. This resulted roughly Rs. 9.99 lakh/month, and a project payback of less than four days.

Such initiative not only resulted in significant energy and cost savings but also contributed to sustainability by reducing natural gas consumption, water usage, and the carbon footprint of operations (Zandona *et al*, 2021). Such innovations demonstrate the potential of low-cost, high-impact retrofits in the Indian dairy sector to enhance both economic and environmental performance (Asunis *et al*, 2020).

(4) Integration of De-superheater in Refrigeration Plant

Conventional approach: Refrigeration compressors discharge highly superheated refrigerant (120°C), dumping that thermal energy to the condenser and the

environment; on the other hand steam is required for jacket heating of cheese vats during cooking of cheese curd and certain other applications.

Intervention: We installed a de-superheater on the compressor discharge, transferring heat to RO water and raising its temperature from 35°C to 65°C. This hot water now serves for cheese vat jacket heating and the heating of cheese curd along with whey, tasks that otherwise used boiler steam. Resulting in dual advantage of energy conservation and improved efficiency.

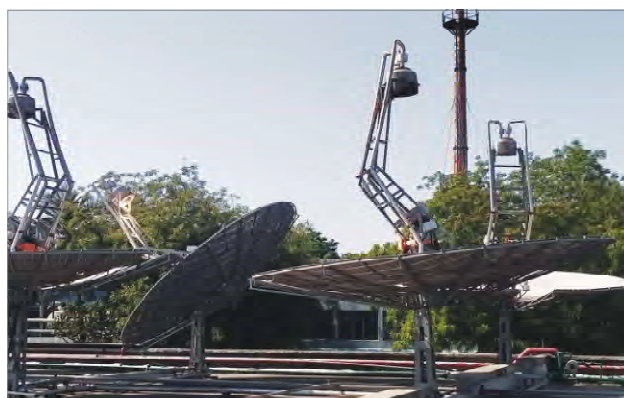
Outcome: Use of boiler steam for the final heating stage of 11 cheese lots/day was eliminated. Refrigeration condenser load fell (refrigerant cooled from 120°C – 90°C prior to condensation), improving the refrigeration COP. The financial saving from this retrofit was estimated at over Rs. 20 lakhs annually, in addition to lowering fuel use and carbon emissions.

Such initiative highlights the potential for simple yet impactful retrofits in dairy refrigeration systems that contribute to economic savings, environmental sustainability, and process reliability (Giordano *et al*, 2023).

(5) Installation of Solar Parabolic dish

Conventional approach: CIP of tanks, crate washers and cheese mould cleaning relied on in-direct steam injection into soft water which leads to heavy load on steam and boiler fuel.

Intervention: A parabolic dish concentrated solar thermal system was installed on experiment basis to heat water to 55-60°C, stored in a 10 kl insulated tank which was used for CIP, crate washing and as preheated boiler feed water.



Solar Parabolic dish

(6) Condensate Recovery and Reuse

In dairy processing plants, a substantial amount of condensate is generated during thermal operations such as heating and pasteurization through Plate Heat Exchangers (PHEs) and during Clean-in-Place (CIP) activities in Tubular Heat Exchangers (THEs) (Chaudhary *et al*, 2015).

SUCCESS STORY

Conventional approach: Hot & energy rich condensate from PHEs and THEs was only partially recovered; much of it was lost. This led to wastage of both water and heat energy.

Intervention: We built a 10 kL condensate storage tank and routed the condensate from PHEs and CIP THEs into it for reuse as makeup water for lye/acid preparation and for cleaning cheese hoops and moulds.

Outcome: This reduced fresh-water intake and boiler steam demand, minimized heat losses, and improved overall process efficiency. The condensate recovery is a low-tech, high-value step in closing resource loops on the shop floor.

(7) Optimization of CIP Timings for the Equipment

Conventional approach: The cream separator (30 hp) and homogenizer (176hp) were routinely operating for 9 and 6 hours/day respectively, leading to increased operational, CIP, and utility cost, and an estimated energy consumption of 923 kWh/day. This resulted in higher electricity and wear and tear cost, and suboptimal utilisation of resources.

Intervention: We undertook a focused study for cream separator and homogeniser utilization, CIP timings, synchronizing cycles, rationalizing CIP frequency without sacrificing hygiene and process integrity.

Outcome: Cream separator runtime fell by 3 hours/day and homogenizer runtime by 1.5-2 hours/day, saving 264 kWh/day, which is an annual saving of Rs.8.67 lakh. Ancillary benefits include reduced water and chemical use, lower wear and tear, and extended equipment life.

(8) Complete CIP Solutions (lye & acid) Recovery from Packaging Machines

Conventional approach: After each CIP cycle, the used lye and acid cleaning solutions were drained without recovery or reuse.



CIP Solution Recovery from Packing Machine

Intervention: We implemented a closed-loop CIP recovery system with return lines, return pumps and filtration unit to recover the used CIP solutions.

Outcome: Nearly 100% recovery and reuse of CIP solutions from packaging machines resulted in significant reduction in procurement of chemicals, lowered ETP loading and improved environmental performance i.e. reduced sodium concentration in discharge.

(9) Energy Optimization in Dahi Incubation Process

Conventional approach: Dahi incubation requires maintaining a temperature of about 40°C, traditionally achieved using electrical heaters. Meanwhile, the air-cooled condenser of the cold storage rejects large amounts of hot air to the atmosphere - a usable heat source that was previously wasted. With two incubation rooms running 12 hours/day, this led to an energy optimisation opportunity of 300 kWh/day.



Dahi Incubation Room Indoor & Outdoor Unit worked as Heat Pump

Intervention: A dual air-cooled condenser system was introduced to redirect hot air from the cold storage condenser to the dahi incubation rooms. Once cold storage cooling needs are met, the load automatically shifts to a secondary terrace-mounted condenser, ensuring stable conditions. The setup functions effectively as a heat pump, allowing simultaneous cooling and heating without additional energy input.

Outcome: The need for electrical heaters in incubation was eliminated, saving 300 kWh/day and reducing electricity costs and emissions. The system also improved temperature consistency in both cold storage and incubation areas. This initiative served as a classic example of enhanced efficiency and sustainability through low-cost integration.

(10) Utilization of Biogas from ETP

Biogas generated in the ETP was under-utilized. We redirected the biogas to canteen cooking and heating. The canteen now uses renewable biogas, substituting conventional fuel which resulted in a reduction in GHG emissions i.e. closing yet another loop in our resource economy.

Conclusion

The initiatives undertaken at Vidya Dairy show that sustainability does not always require large investments or complex technology. Many of the improvements we implemented were simple process optimizations, thoughtful heat recovery, and smarter resource reuse yet their impact has been substantial.

What makes this journey especially valuable is that every intervention is practical and replicable. Any dairy plant, regardless of scale, can adopt similar measures by re-evaluating existing systems, reducing waste, and capturing value from by-products and residual heat streams.

Vidya Dairy is proud to serve as a working model and learning ground showing future dairy professionals and the wider industry that improving efficiency and sustainability can go hand-in-hand with economic benefits. Our experience offers an achievable roadmap for peers seeking to become more energy-efficient, environmentally responsible, and financially resilient.

Therefore, a strategic approach to energy management is vital for enhancing the overall efficiency and competitiveness of the dairy industry (Ahmad, 1985).

References

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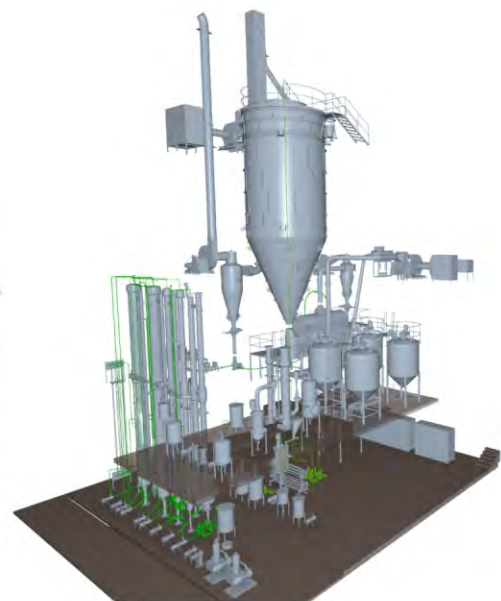
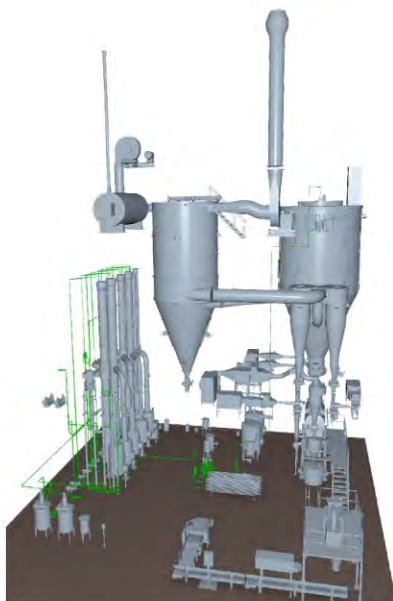
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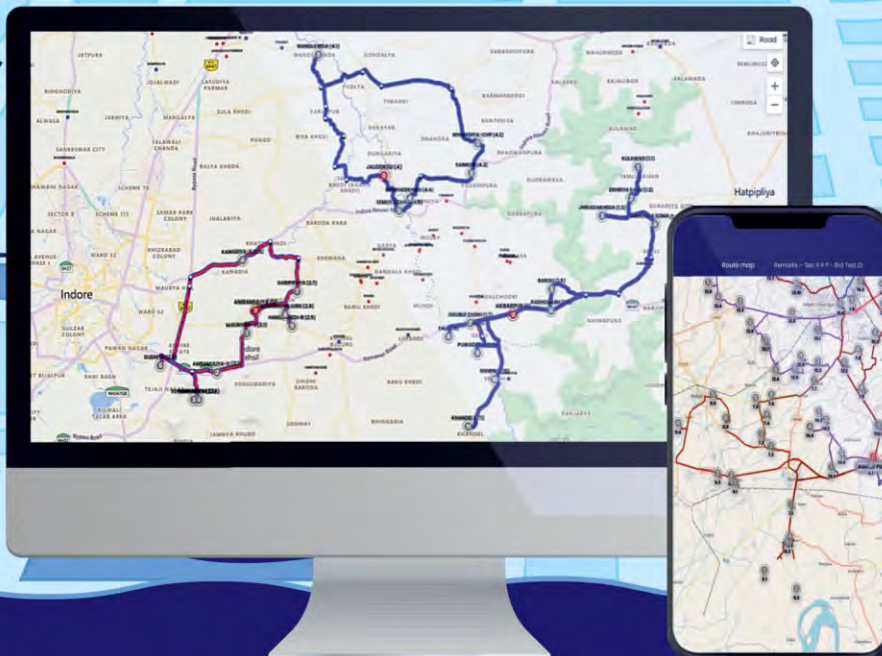
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Federation Ltd., Ranchi (Jharkhand)
Kanha Milk Testing Equipments Pvt. Ltd., (Delhi)
Karimnagar Milk Producer Company Limited,
(Karimnagar Dairy), (Telangana)
Karnataka Co-op. Milk Producers' Federation Ltd.,
Bangalore (Karnataka)
Kamaths Ourtimes Ice Creams Pvt. Ltd., (Maharashtra)
Kemin Industries South Asia Pvt. Ltd., Chennai (Tamil
Nadu)
Kerala Dairy Farmers Welfare Fund Board
Khambete Kothari Cans & Allied Products Pvt. Ltd.,
Jalgaon (Maharashtra)
Kolhapur Zilla Dudh Utpadak Sahakari Sangh Ltd.
(Maharashtra)
Koelnmesse Pvt. Limited (Maharashtra)
Kutch District Coop. Milk Producers' Union Ltd., Kutch
(Gujarat)
Kwality Ltd., Palwal (Haryana)
Lehui India Engineering and Equipment Pvt. Ltd.,
Vadodara (Gujarat)
M & B Engineering Limited (Gujarat)
Maahi Milk Producer Company Limited (Gujarat)
Malabar Regional Coop. Milk Producers' Union Ltd.,
Kozhikode (Kerala)
Mehsana Dist Co-op Milk Prod. Union Ltd. (Gujarat)
Messe Muenchen India Pvt. Ltd., Mumbai (Maharashtra)
Mithila Dugdh Utpadak Sahakari Sangh Ltd. (Bihar)
Modern Dairies Ltd., Karnal (Haryana)
Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetable Pvt. Ltd. (Delhi)
Muralya Dairy Products Pvt. Ltd. (Kerala)
National Dairy Development Board, Anand (Gujarat)
Nature Delight Dairy and Dairy Products Pvt. Ltd. (Mah.)
NDRI Graduates Association (Haryana)
National Institute of Food Technology Entrepreneurship
and Management, Thanjavur (NIFTEM-T), (Tamil Nadu)
National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Ltd.,
Anand (Gujarat)
Neologic Engineers Pvt. Ltd. (Maharashtra)
Neogen Food & Animal Security (India) Pvt. Ltd., Kochi
(Kerala)



INSTITUTIONAL MEMBERS

Olam Food Ingredients India Pvt. Ltd. (Haryana)
Parag Milk Foods Ltd., Pune, (Maharashtra)
Porbandar Zilla Sahakari Dudh Utpadak Sangh Ltd.,
Porbandar (Gujarat)
Prompt Equipments Pvt. Ltd. (Gujarat)
Raichur Bellary & Koppal Dist. Coop. Milk Union Ltd.,
Bellary (Karnataka)
Rajasthan Electronics & Instruments Ltd., Jaipur (Raj.)
Red Cow Dairy Pvt. Ltd., Hooghly (West Bengal)
Repute Engineers Pvt. Ltd., Pune (Maharashtra)
Rockwell Automation India Pvt. Ltd., Noida (UP)
R.P.M. Engineers (India) Ltd., Chennai (Tamil Nadu)
R.K. Ganapathi Chettiar, Tirupur (Tamil Nadu)
Sabarkantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union
Ltd., Himmatnagar (Gujarat)
Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Dairy Technology, Patna (Bihar)
Sakhi Mahila Milk Producer Company Ltd., Alwar
(Rajasthan)
Sarhak Engineering (Haryana)
Serap India Private Ltd., Vadodara (Gujarat)
Shree Radhe Dairy Farm & Foods Limited, Surat (Guj.)
Solapur Zilla Sah. Dudh Utpadak Va Prakriya Sangh
Maryadit (Maharashtra)
Scientific & Digital Systems (New Delhi)
Schreiber Dynamix Dairies Pvt. Ltd. (Maharashtra)
Shiv Traders Instruments Pvt. Ltd. (Maharashtra)
Shyam Enterprises (Unit: Shyam Dairy Products) (UP)
Shree Additives (Pharma and Foods) Pvt. Ltd.
Gandhinagar (Gujarat)
Singhania Milk Products Private Limited (UP)
Sri Mahalakshmi Dairy Pvt. Ltd (Tamil Nadu)
Sterling Agro Industries Ltd., (Delhi)
Surat-Tapi Distt. Co-op. Milk Producers' Union Ltd.(Guj.)
Sri Vijayavisakha Milk Producers Co. Ltd. (AP)
S.S. Equipments (Delhi)
Stellapps Technologies Pvt. Ltd., Bengaluru (Karnataka)
SSP Private Limited, Faridabad (Haryana)
Tetra Pak India Pvt. Ltd. (Maharashtra)
Thermo Fisher Scientific India Pvt. Ltd. (Maharashtra)
The Krishna Distt. Milk Prod. Mutually Aided Coop. Union
Ltd., Vijayawada (Andhra Pradesh)
The Panchmahal Dist. Coop. Milk Producers' Union Ltd.
(Gujarat)
The Coimbatore District Cooperative Milk Producers'
Union Ltd. (Tamil Nadu)
Udaipur Dugdh Utpadak Sahakari Sangh Ltd. (Raj.)
Vaishal Patliputra Dugdh Utpadak Sahkari Sangh Ltd.,
Patna (Bihar)
Valsad Dist. Coop. Milk Producers' Union Ltd., Navsari
(Gujarat)

Vidya Dairy, Anand (Gujarat)
Vijay Dairy Products, Surat (Gujarat)

SUSTAINING MEMBERS

Aarush Testing Consultancy Pvt. Ltd. (New Delhi)
ABT Industries, Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu)
Adeka Engineers Pvt. Ltd. (Maharashtra)
Amrit Corp. Ltd. (Unit: Amrit Food) (Uttar Pradesh)
Ankush Specialty Ingredients Private Limited
(Maharashtra)
Bharuch Distt.Co-op. Milk Producers Union Ltd. (Gujarat)
Bhopal Sahakari Dugdh Sangh Maryadit (MP)
Coronation Worth India Pvt. Ltd. (Delhi)
CHR Hansen India Pvt. Ltd. Mumbai (Maharashtra)
DSS Imagetech Pvt. Ltd. (New Delhi)
Emerson Specialties LLP (Maharashtra)
GormalOne LLP, (Maharashtra)
Indujaa Mahila Milk Producer Company Ltd.
(Maharashtra)
Janta Food and Dairy Products Pvt. Ltd. (MP)
Kishan Milk Processors (Gujarat)
Kaira District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.
(Gujarat)
Ladakh UT Dairy Co-op. Federation Ltd. Leh (Ladakh)
Lotus Dairy Products Private Limited (Rajasthan)
Maxmobility Pvt. Ltd. (West Bengal)
Maolkeki Foundation (Manipur)
Nano Instruments, (Karnataka)
Narmada Amrit Food Pvt. Ltd. (Madhya Pradesh)
Optics Technology (Delhi)
Oyster Exim Pvt. Ltd. (Madhya Pradesh)
Poornasree Equipments (Kerala)
Rajkot District Co-operative Milk Producer Union Ltd.
(Gujarat)
Revelations Biotech Pvt Ltd. (Telangana)
Russel Finex Sieves and Filters Pvt. Ltd. (Gujarat)
Shree Feedstuffs Pvt. Ltd. (Maharashtra)
SKM Animal Feeds and Foods India Pvt. Ltd.
(Tamil Nadu)
SMC Corporation (India) Pvt. Ltd. (UP)
Surendranagar District Co-operative Milk Union Ltd.
(Gujarat)
Swadesh Milk Products Pvt. Ltd. (UP)
Tavron Engineers (Tamil Nadu)
Testright Nano Systems Private Limited (Uttar Pradesh)
Toshbro Controls Private Limited (Madhya Pradesh)
VA Exhibitions Pvt Ltd. (Telangana)
Vasta Biotech Pvt. Ltd., Chennai (Tamil Nadu)
Vasista Enterprise Solutions Pvt. Ltd.(Telangana)
Zeuzer Engineers India Pvt Ltd. (Maharashtra)

MARKET WATCH

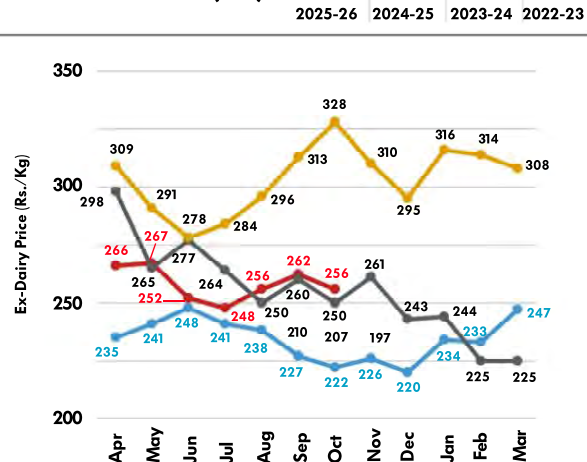
Fresh Pouch Milk MRP (500 ml Pack) as on November 15, 2025

Market	Brand	FAT %			
		3.0	3.5	4.5	6.0
Ahmedabad	Amul	28		31	34
	Maahi	28			34
Bengaluru	Nandini	24	26	27	30
Bhopal	Sanchi	28		31	34
Chandigarh	Verka			32	35
	Vita	27		30	33
Chennai	Aavin	20		22	30
Delhi	Amul	29			35
	DMS	28			34
	Mother Dairy	29		30 ^b	35
Gangtok	Sikkim Milk	31		33 ^b	
Guwahati	Purabi	32		35	38
Hyderabad	Vijaya	30	30	32	37
	Mother Dairy	26			33
Jaipur	Saras	26		29	33
	Amul	29		32	35
Srinagar	Snow Cap	27		32	
Kolkata	Banglar Dairy	27 ^a		30	
Leh	Ladakh Oma		35		
Lucknow	Parag	29		32	35
Mumbai	Amul		29		
	Gokul	29			37 ^c
	Mahanand		28		
	Mother Dairy		29	30 ^b	
	Vikas	27 ^d			
	Warana				36 ^c
Panaji	Goa Dairy	25 ^e	27	29	
Patna	Sudha		28	29	33
Raipur	Devbhog		29	32	
Ranchi	Medha			30	
	Sudha			30	
Shimla	HIM	31		33	37
Thiruvananthapuram	MILMA	26		29	
Vijayawada	Vijaya				38 ^c

a: 3.2%, b: 4.0%, c: 6.5%, d: 450ml, e: 475ml, f: 510ml

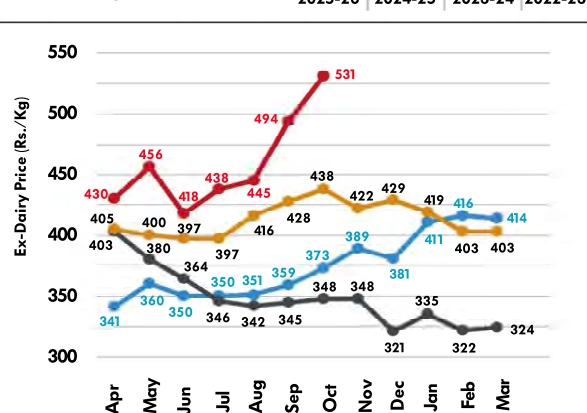
SMP (Weighted Avg.) Price (Rs./Kg)

Skimmed Milk Powder (SMP)



Butter (Weighted Avg.) Price (Rs./Kg)

BUTTER



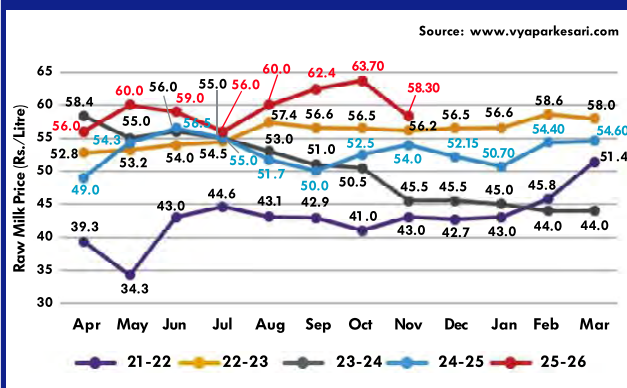
Source



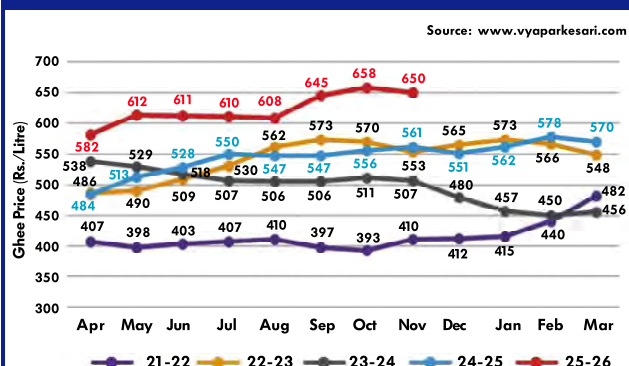
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WeMarket

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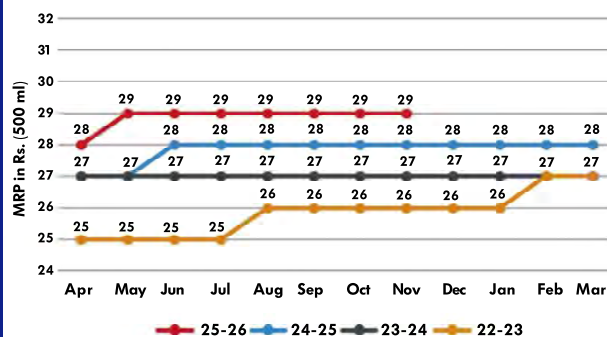
Raw Milk Price (Rs./Litre)



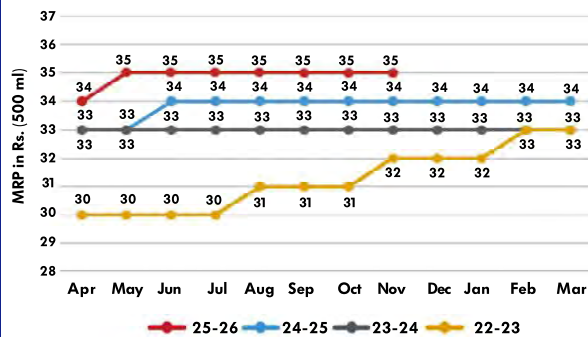
Ghee Wholesale Price (Rs./Kg)



Toned Milk (500 ml pack) MRP in Delhi (Fat 3.0%)

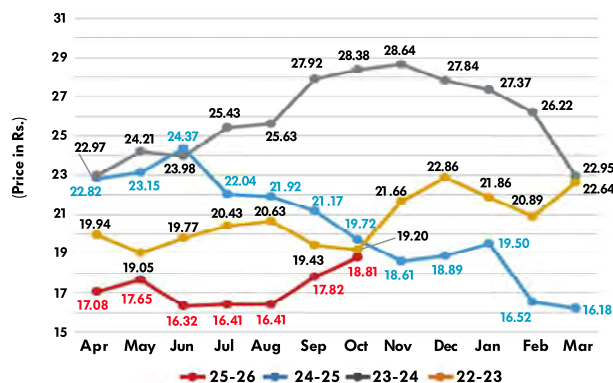


Full Cream Milk (500 ml pack) MRP in Delhi (Fat 6.0%)

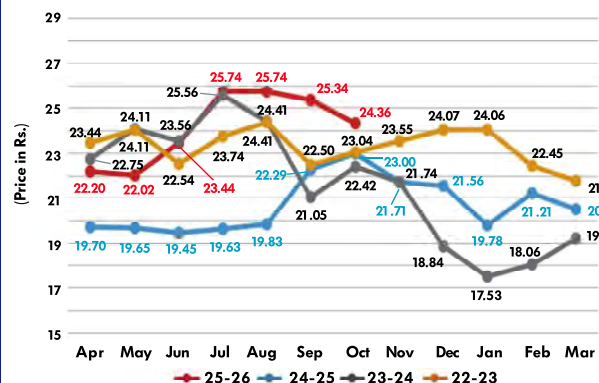


Weighted Average Prices of Cattle Feed Ingredients (FOR Prices in Madhya Pradesh)

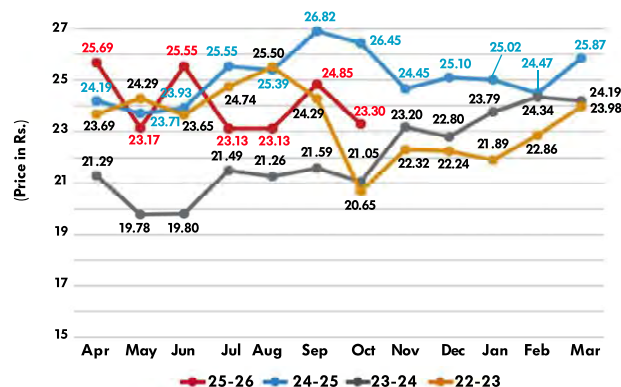
Rapeseed DOC (Rs/Kg)



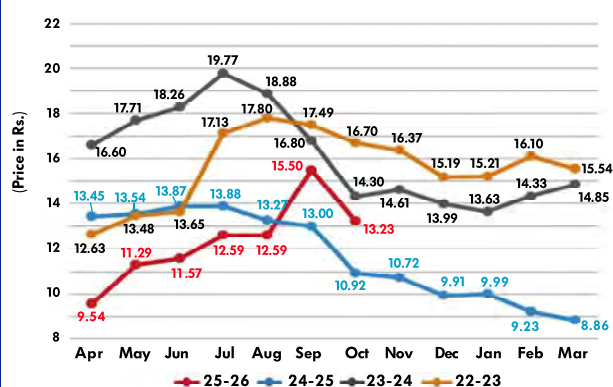
Rice Bran (Rs/Kg)



Maize (Rs/Kg)



De Oiled Rice Bran (Rs/Kg)



Source



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Source



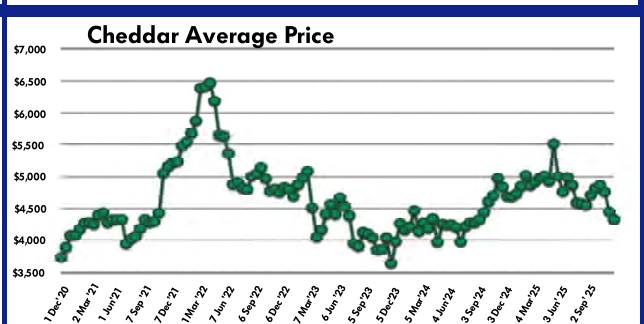
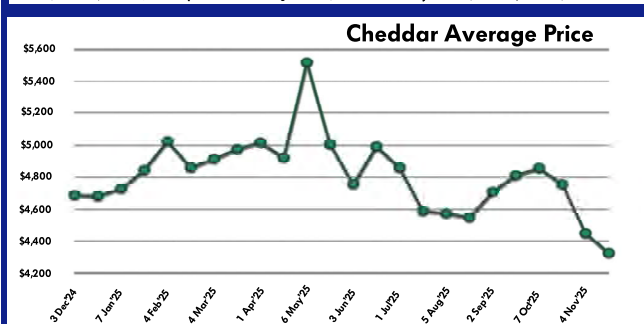
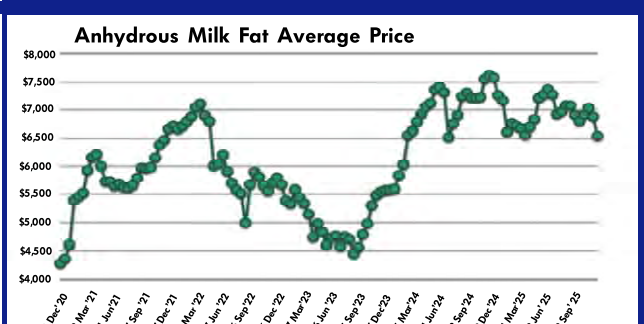
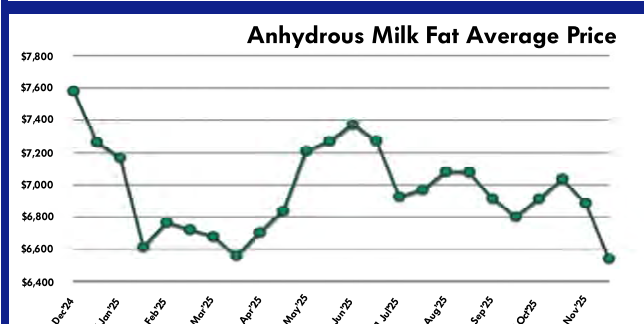
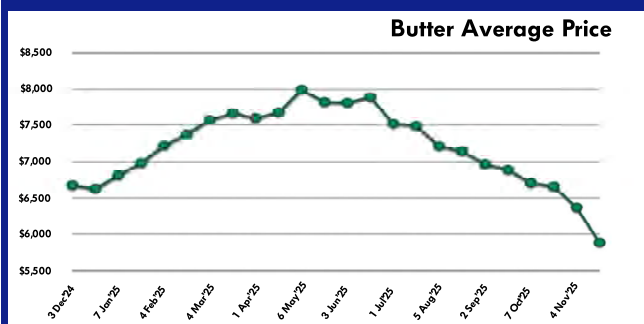
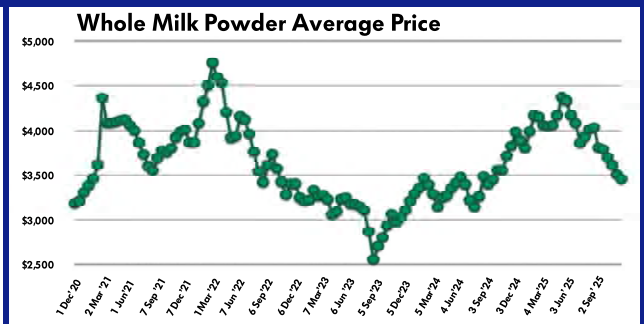
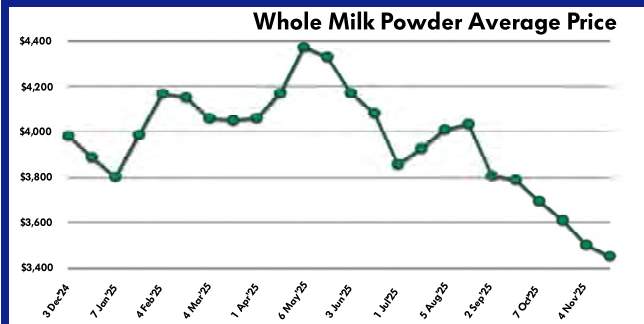
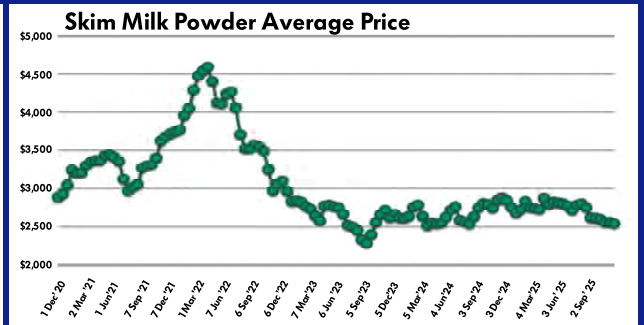
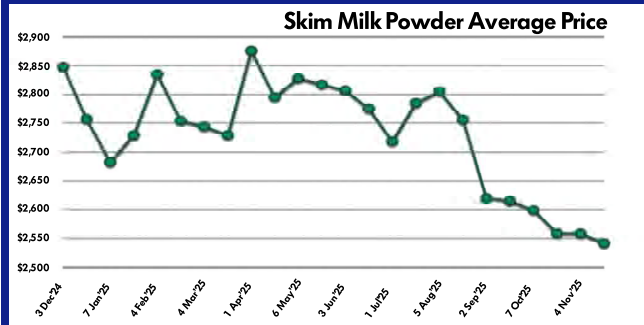
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Global Prices in US\$/MT

Last 12 Months

Last 5 Years



(Source: www.globaldairytrade.info)

WORLD CLASS DAIRY AUTOMATION RESTS ON THREE FOUNDATIONS

1 Uncompromising
Hygiene

2 Operational
Efficiency

3 24/7
Reliability



ISO Standard
Air Cylinder



Water-Jet-Proof
Electric Actuator



Hygienic Design
Actuators



Bacteria Removal
Filter

**Automated Stainless Steel solutions for
purity, reliability, and safety in Dairy Industry.**



Clean Design
Manifold Valve



Compact
Guide Cylinder



SS 316
Insert Fittings

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IDA News

IDA Elects its New Central Executive Committee

IDA Central Executive Committee (CEC) Election process started on October 17, 2025 under the nominated Returning Officer Shri Diya Sharma. The other election committee members were Dr. Deep Narayan Yadav and Shri Hariom Gulati. Election was held through on-line voting system. Election result was announced on November 18, 2025.

The newly elected members are:

President: Shri Sudhir Kumar Singh; **Vice Presidents:** Shri Sukhbir Singh Mann and Shri Arun Patil; **Member (General Category):** Shri C.P. Charles; M/s Food & Biotech Eng. India Pvt. Ltd.; Shri Rajesh Gajanan Lele; and Shri Satya Brata Bose; **Member (Research Workers and Educationists):** Dr. Bimlesh Mann and Dr. Suresh Kumar Kanawjia; **Member (Professional and Planner Category):** Shri Sanjeev Sinha and Shri B.V.K. Reddy; **Member (Milk Producers):** Shri Chetan Arun Narake and Mrs. Sunita Sharma; **Member (Dairy Industry):** Shri Amardeep Singh Chadha and Shri Ajitbhai Joitabhai Patel.

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

The National Seminar on "**Dairy Development in Goa - Opportunities and Challenges**", was held during November 7-8, 2025, at the NIO Auditorium, North Goa. Organized by the IDA (West Zone) in association with Goa Dairy; SUMUL Dairy; and the Department of Animal Husbandry, Government of Goa; the two-day seminar brought together more than 525 participants,



including farmers from Goa, SUMUL, Gokul, and Govind Dairies, officials from the Government of Goa, industry experts, and professionals from across the dairy sector.

The **Inaugural session** was presided over by Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry, Government of Goa, Shri Nilanth R. Halarnkar, along with senior officials including Shri Yatindra Maralkar, Secretary (Cooperation), and Shri Ashutosh Apte, Registrar of Cooperative Societies. In his welcome address, Dr. J.B. Prajapati, Chairman, IDA (WZ), expressed gratitude to the Government of Goa for its support and highlighted the need to strengthen dairy development in the state. He urged farmers to leverage IDA's training opportunities, tap into Goa's thriving tourism economy, and enhance milk production to achieve greater self-sufficiency in dairy products. He also emphasized sustainable practices, methane reduction, and productivity enhancement.

The President of IDA Dr. R.S. Sodhi, in his address, focused on bringing "smiles to the faces of cattle rearers" by making dairying more profitable for farmers and attractive to future generations. He stressed that growth in the dairy industry depends on farmers, consumers, and policymakers working together. He called for better breed improvement, reduced NECO cases, improved feed conversion efficiency, and greater investments in dairy processing to ensure farmers have stable markets for increased production.

A special message was delivered by Shri Arun Purohit, MD, SUMUL, who discussed integrating Goan farmers into new initiatives, while Minister Shri Halarnkar highlighted the need for technology adoption, enhanced training, and strengthening cooperatives for Goa's dairy growth.

The inaugural session also featured the **IDA (WZ) Women Farmer Awards**, recognizing exceptional women dairy farmers from Goa, Maharashtra, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh for their exemplary milk contributions and



modern farming practices. Awards were presented by the Hon'ble Minister, Shri Nilanth R. Halarikar. The award consists of a citation, shawl, memento, and a cash prize of Rs. 20,000/- for the winner and Rs. 10,000/- for the runner-up.

A **Special Award** of Rs. 25,000/-, along with a shawl and memento, was presented by Goa Dairy to Shri Kushali Savant, a 103-year-old farmer.

The seminar's technical sessions covered a range of topics relevant to farmers, cooperatives, and dairy professionals. The **First Session** was chaired by Shri Madhav Sahakari Ex-Chairman, Goa Dairy & Ex Vice Chairman IDA (WZ) IDA. The session focused on milk productivity, animal health, and supportive government policies. Experts including Dr. Jadhav and Dr. Nilesh Nayee emphasized scientific breeding, balanced feeding, heat detection, genomic selection, and IVF technologies. Ms. Sinjini Guha highlighted circular economy opportunities through biogas, bio-slurry, and waste-to-energy systems, while Shri Abhishek shared insights on the upcoming Dairy Industry Conference in New Delhi.

The **Second Session**, chaired by Shri Parag Nagarsenkar, Chairman, Goa Dairy, emphasized smart dairy farming, feed and fodder management, climate resilience, and sustainable practices suited to Goa's tropical environment. Speakers of the session – Dr. Sant, Shri Ghosh, Dr. Juneja, Dr. Parag Ghogale and Dr. Dayavardhan – addressed profitability enhancement, fodder shortages, balanced nutrition, animal selection for productivity, and ethno-veterinary approaches that reduce antimicrobial resistance.

Second day of the Seminar commenced with a **Third Session** on processing, marketing, and innovations. It was chaired by Dr. Jayant Khadse, Vice President BAIF Pune. Speakers – Shri Hiral Shah, Ms. Richie, Shri Anil Hatekar, Ms. Swaroopa Naik and Shri Santosh Upadhyay – explored value addition, traceability, quality assurance, local brand development, and disease

prevention. Experts stressed the need for strong local brands, clean milk production, and wider adoption of modern technologies to increase consumer trust and industry competitiveness.

The **Fourth Session** was chaired by Dr. Praveen Kumar, Director, ICAR-CCARI, Goa. This session highlighted dairy's contribution to nutrition, public health, and livelihood improvement. Dr. J.B. Prajapati underscored the nutritional importance of milk in preventing lifestyle diseases. Dr. Aparnathi shared details about the importance of milk in human nutrition and why it should not be ignored.

Dr. Jadhav 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. Dr. R.B. 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.

The **Valedictory Session** summarized the seminar's outcomes, emphasizing the need for improved farmer training, investment in dairy infrastructure, and stronger collaboration among cooperatives, government agencies, and private enterprises.

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

- 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.

- 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.
- 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.
- 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.
- Introduce startup schemes for young entrepreneurs in the dairy value chain.
- Policy and Institutional Support, simplify access to government schemes and credit facilities for small and medium dairy farmers.
- 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.
- 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.

Dr. J.B. Prajapati, Chairman IDA (WZ) concluded the event by thanking the Hon'ble CM Shri Promod Sawant; Department of A&H, Cooperation & Government of Goa; farmers; sponsors; speakers; and delegates for making the seminar a resounding success.

IDA Karnataka State Chapter Observes World Food Day at Kalaburagi

The IDA Karnataka State Chapter commemorated World Food Day on 29 October 2025 at Dairy Science College, Mahagaon Cross, Kalaburagi, bringing together academicians, industry experts, and students to deliberate on the growing significance of sustainable and nutritious food systems.

The programme was graced by the

Chief Guest Dr. M.M. Dhanoji, Retired Dean, College of Agriculture, UAS Raichur, who underscored the need for individuals to make informed and responsible food choices to ensure long-term health and well-being.

Dr. Panduranga Patil, Managing Director, Gulbarga-Bidar-Yadgir Milk Union, highlighted the vital role of milk and dairy products in strengthening the food chain and enhancing nutritional security. Dr. Rajappa, Joint Director, KMF Training Centre, Kalaburagi, also addressed the gathering, emphasizing current challenges and opportunities in the food sector.

Executive Committee Members of the IDA Karnataka State Chapter (KSC) - Shri N.B. Marate (Chairman), Shri S.S. Hiremath, Vice-Chairman, KSC and Shri Vijayendra Deshpande, Secretary, KSC - presented their views on various dimensions of food and nutrition, drawing attention to the need for collaborative efforts between academia and industry.

Dr. Manjunatha H, Dean, Dairy Science College, spoke about the importance of food security, safety, and quality as essential pillars for public health and sustainable nutrition.

As part of the observance, a quiz competition on food and nutrition was organized for students. Coordinated by faculty members and life members of IDA, including



Dr. Adarsh M. Kalla and Ms. Basavabharathi, the event saw enthusiastic participation. Winners were recognized with cash prizes.

The programme began with a welcome address by Shri Akshaykumar, and concluded with a vote of thanks delivered by Dr. Devaraju R., Treasurer, KSC, marking a meaningful and insightful celebration of World Food Day.

NATIONAL News

Prestigious National Gopal Ratna Awards 2025 Announced

The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying has announced the winners of the National Gopal Ratna Awards (NGRA) 2025. The NGRA is one of the highest national honours in the livestock and dairy sector.

These awards will be conferred by Union Minister, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (MoFAHD) and Ministry of Panchayati Raj Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh. Minister of State, MoFAHD Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel and Shri George Kurian will also grace the occasion.

These awards will be presented on 26th November 2025 as part of the National Milk Day celebrations. This year, a total of 2,081 applications were received out of which the awardees were selected. Details of Winners in each category are as under:

Best Dairy Farmer Rearing Indigenous Cattle/ Buffalo Breeds

Non-NER:

- 1st Shri Aravind Yashavant Patil, Kolhapur, Maharashtra.
- 2nd Dr. Kankanala Krishna Reddy, Hyderabad, Telangana.
- 3rd Shri Harshit Jhuria, Sikar, Rajasthan.
- 3rd Kumari Shraddha Satyawar Dhavan, Ahmednagar, Maharashtra.

NER/Himalayan:

Smt. Vijay Lata, Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh.
Shri Pradeep Pangariya, Champawat, Uttarakhand.

Best Dairy Cooperative Society/Milk Producer Company/ Dairy Farmer Producer Organization

Non-NER:

- 1st Meenan Gadi Ksheerolpadaka Sahakarana Sangham Ltd, Wayanad, Kerala.
- 2nd Kunnamkattupathy Ksheerolpadaka Sahakarana Samgham, Palakkad, Kerala.
- 2nd Ghinoi Dugdh Utpadak Sahkari Samiti, Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- 3rd TYSPL 37 Sendurai Milk Producers Cooperative Society Ltd, Ariyalur, Tamil Nadu.

NER/Himalayan:

Kulha Duud Udpadhak Sahkari Samiti, Udham Singh Nagar, Uttarakhand.

Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT)

Non-NER:

- 1st Shri Dillip Kumar Pradhan, Anugul, Odisha.
- 2nd Shri Vikas Kumar, Hanumangarh, Rajasthan.
- 3rd Mrs. Anuradha Chakali, Nandyal, Andhra Pradesh.

NER/ Himalayan:

Shri Deluwar Hasan, Barpeta, Assam.

NGRA 2025 will consist of a Certificate of merit, a memento and monetary prize in first two categories *i.e.* Best Dairy Farmer and Best DCS/FPO/MPCs as under:
Rs. 5,00,000/- (Rupee five lakh only) -1st rank
Rs. 3,00,000/- (Rupee three lakh only) -2nd rank
Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rupee two lakh only) -3rd rank
Rs. 2,00,000/- (Rupee two lakh only) - S p e c i a l Award for North Eastern Region (NER)/Himalayan States.

In case of Best Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT) category, National Gopal Ratna Award-2025 will consist of a Certificate of merit and a memento only. No cash prize will be provided in Artificial Insemination Technician (AIT) Category.

NGRA was launched in December 2014, the Rashtriya Gokul Mission (RGM) focuses on the scientific conservation and development of indigenous bovine breeds. Since 2021, the Department has been conferring the National Gopal Ratna Awards (NGRA) annually to encourage milk-producing farmers, dairy cooperative societies/MPCs/FPOs, and Artificial Insemination Technicians (AITs).



Website Launch and Second Announcement of Southern Dairy and Food Conclave, SDFC-2026, Kerala

The Indian Dairy Association-Kerala Chapter (Website: www.ida-sdfckerala.com) proudly announces the **Southern Dairy and Food Conclave 2026 (SDFC-2026)**, the second edition of the Southern Dairy Summit, to be held from January 8-10, 2026, at the Calicut Trade Centre, Kozhikode. Centered on the powerful theme **"Transforming Dairy and Food Systems for Global Health,"** SDFC-2026 brings together industry leaders, innovators, researchers, entrepreneurs, and farmers for three dynamic days featuring cutting-edge scientific and techno-commercial sessions, youth and startup showcases, research presentations, interactive farmer forums, and a vibrant exhibition of the latest in dairy and food products and technologies. The event will also host the inspiring **"Padma Talk"** to celebrate Dr. Verghese Kurien's legendary contributions. SDFC-2026 promises to be a landmark platform shaping the future of the

Contact Details - SDFC-2026

Organizing Secretary: Dr. S.N. Rajakumar
M.: 9495882953 Email: rajakumar@kvasu.ac.in

Convenor : Shri Anil Kumar I.S.
M.: 9400909222/9447204203
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Technical Committee Chairman: Dr. R. Rajendra Kumar
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Program Management and Publicity Committee Chairman:
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Publication Committee Chairman : Dr. P.I. Geevarghese
M.: 9447391283 Email: drgeevarghese@gmail.com

Registration Committee Chairman: Dr. C.T. Sathian
M.: 9495039707 Email: ctsathian@gmail.com

Registration Details

Categories	Early Bird registration November 30 (Rupees)	Late From December 1 (Rupees)	On spot Registration (Rupees)
IDA Non Member	4000	5000	8000
IDA Member	3000	4000	5000
Farmers/Students/ IDA Senior Citizens (>60 Years)	2000	3000	4000
One day Registration for UG and PG students only for pre-conference Day	1200		

Note:

- The fees are inclusive of GST @18%. GST No. 32AAAT0442A2ZL
- Fellows / Patrons / Dr. Kurien awardees are exempted from payment of registration fee. Early bird discount up to 30th November 2025. Those who intend to register are advised to complete the process at the earliest. Students will have to upload/produce a certificate from college/ID card, while Sr. Citizens may upload / produce an Aadhar card / Proof of Date of Birth.

Bank Details:

Name of Account. SOUTHERN DAIRY AND FOOD CONCLAVE 2026 (SDFC-2026)
Bank Name: State Bank of India Branch: Ollukkara
Account Type: Current Account No.: 4424070234-9 IFSC Code: SBIN0070210

Sponsorship Tariffs

Event	20.00 lakhs
Platinum	15.00 lakhs
Diamond	10.00 lakhs
Gold	7.50 lakhs
Silver	5.00 lakhs
Bronze	2.50 lakhs

The amount is exclusive of GST. All sponsors are eligible for freebies.

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Jersey 100%	6,745	9,698	8,221
HF CB	6,093	14,478	10,285
Gir	3,460	4,827	4,143
Sahiwal	4,073	3,335	3,704
HFxSahiwal	3,800	12,150	7,975
HFxGir	3,900	12,900	8,400

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India's Nitara Wins Global Recognition at IDF Dairy Innovation Awards 2025

India's dairy-tech startup Nitara has earned international acclaim by winning the prestigious International Dairy Federation (IDF) Dairy Innovation Award 2025 in the category of **"Innovation in Socio-Economic Sustainability in Farming."** The award was presented during the IDF World Dairy Summit held on October 21, 2025, in Santiago, Chile, where global leaders from the dairy sector gathered to celebrate pioneering contributions shaping the future of the industry.

The 2025 edition of the IDF Awards attracted more than 130 entries from across the world, underscoring the sector's strong commitment to innovation, environmental responsibility, and sustainable growth. Participants included major global organizations such as Nestlé, Friesland Campina, and Dairyboard Zimbabwe. For India, the event brought double pride as both Nitara and Bharat Sanjeevani emerged as winners, reaffirming the country's rising influence in global dairy innovation.

Nitara's recognition stems from its transformative approach to dairy advisory services through digital technology. The platform leverages AI-driven health assessments, digital record-keeping, and localized advisory tools tailored specifically for smallholder farmers. Its offline-first mobile application ensures seamless access in low-connectivity rural regions, with multilingual interfaces designed to enhance usability and inclusivity.

By integrating farmers, veterinarians, AI technicians, and dairy cooperatives into a unified digital ecosystem, Nitara addresses longstanding information gaps in animal health, nutrition, and breeding. The platform enables farmers to make informed, data-backed decisions related to feeding, disease prevention, and reproductive management - resulting in healthier cattle and improved economic stability. Currently, more than 20,000 farmers across multiple Indian states rely on Nitara for tracking



Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB & Board Member, IDF, along with Dr. C.P. Devanand, MD, NDDB Dairy Services accepted the award on behalf of Nitara

milk yields, receiving timely vaccination alerts, and accessing expert veterinary support.

The IDF honored Nitara for its substantial contribution to socio-economic sustainability - a critical domain for India, where millions of rural households depend on dairying for income. Nitara's digital tools democratize access to advanced dairy management practices, ensuring that even small and marginal farmers benefit from precision technologies traditionally limited to large-scale operations. This aligns closely with India's broader goals of digital empowerment, sustainable dairy development, and inclusive growth.

Nitara's achievement stands as a milestone not only for the company but for India's expanding agricultural technology landscape. It highlights the nation's ability to develop scalable, farmer-centric innovations that address pressing global challenges of sustainability, productivity, and livelihood enhancement. As the world's largest milk producer, India's success at the IDF Dairy Innovation Awards 2025 further reinforces its leadership and innovation potential in shaping the future of global dairying.



Amul Plans to Export Dairy Products to Israel Soon

Amul through GCMF is preparing to expand its exports to Israel significantly. Currently, it exports ghee, but Managing Director Shri Jayen Mehta confirmed that the cooperative plans to ship a broader dairy portfolio soon, targeting not just the



Indian diaspora but also the local Israeli market.

To make deeper inroads, Amul is seeking Kosher certification, a crucial step required to appeal to the mainstream Jewish market in Israel. Shri Mehta noted that meeting Kosher standards will help Amul address not only the Indian community in Israel but also local consumers.

Beyond exports, Amul sees strategic long-term gains in collaborating with Israeli firms. Shri Mehta, who was in Israel as part of a 60-member business delegation with India's Commerce Minister, said Amul is exploring technology partnerships with Israeli companies to boost cattle productivity. He highlighted Israel's proven expertise in animal feeding, nutrition, and management, which could help Amul improve productivity, especially in arid regions back in India.

Amul's export ambitions are not entirely new: according to its export portfolio, the cooperative already ships a wide variety of products - including UHT milk, butter, cheese, ghee, paneer, and milk powders - to multiple countries.

This push comes at a time when Amul is ramping up its global ambitions. In its recent AGM, GCMMF said its processing capacity has grown significantly in recent years, and it plans to further scale up as it expands both its domestic and international footprint.

according to Milma's veterinary team, help reduce the cost of treatment for farmers and lower the risk of antibiotic residues in milk, which is a key concern in dairy farming.

The medicines are manufactured in Kerala under a licence from the state's Drug Control Department, in partnership with a local Ayurveda firm. Milma says that this move is part of a larger strategy to promote animal healthcare through traditional, low-cost, and sustainable practices - while strengthening farmers' incomes and ensuring safer milk.

Dr. M.N. Balakrishnan Nair, a leading researcher in ethno-veterinary science, has long advocated for EVP (Ethno-Veterinary Practices) for managing mastitis. His training programs have covered over 30,000 farmers across India, including in Kerala.

Independent scientific studies also back the approach. For instance, a peer-reviewed article has shown that a polyherbal mixture (including Aloe vera and turmeric) used as an adjunct therapy can help treat mastitis and reduce antibiotic use.

This development could be a game changer for Kerala's dairy industry: by validating cost-effective and lower-risk treatments, it offers a sustainable alternative to traditional antibiotic-based therapies, and aligns with global efforts to combat antimicrobial resistance.

Kerala Validates Herbal Treatment for Mastitis in Cattle

Researchers in Kerala have gained scientific validation for ethno-veterinary medicines to treat mastitis in dairy cattle, according to reports. The effort was led by the Milma cooperative (Kerala Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation), which launched eight herbal formulations after five years of research.

Among those formulations is Masticure, specifically designed to target mastitis. These herbal medicines,

NDDB Dairy Services Begins Work on 250 MTPD Cattle Feed Plant in Nagpur; New MPO Office Inaugurated

The foundation stone for a 250 metric tonnes per day (MTPD) cattle feed plant of NDDB Dairy Services, a wholly owned subsidiary of the NDDB, was virtually laid by Shri Nitin Gadkari, Hon'ble Union Minister for Road Transport & Highways, and Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture &



Farmers' Welfare. The ceremony took place in the presence of Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDDB and NDDDB Dairy Services, during the Agrovision event in Nagpur.

Following the virtual ceremony, Dr. Meenesh Shah performed the *bhoomi poojan* at the plant site located in MIDC Butibori, Nagpur. He was joined by Dr C.P. Devanand, Managing Director, NDDDB Dairy Services, and Shri Raghu Mallegowda, Executive Director, NDDDB Dairy Services.



The upcoming plant, designed for future expansion to 500 MTPD, will include a 12 TPD mineral mixture unit and state-of-the-art automation. The facility aims to supply high-quality cattle feed to dairy farmers across Vidarbha, Marathwada and neighbouring regions, ensuring consistency, reducing reliance on private feed sources and boosting farm-level productivity.

The project is expected to benefit more than one lakh dairy farmers associated with the Marathvarhad Milk Producer Organisation (MPO) and Indujaa, strengthening access to quality feed ingredients and creating a robust, farmer-centric dairy ecosystem in Maharashtra. NDDDB considers the initiative a significant step in building cooperative-led infrastructure to support rural livelihoods.

In another major development, Dr. Meenesh Shah inaugurated the new office building of Marathvarhad MPO in Nagpur. The event was attended by Smt. Varsha Chauhan, Chairperson, Marathvarhad MPO; Dr. C.P. Devanand; Shri J.T. Chary, Deputy Managing Director, Mother Dairy; Dr. Shivkumar Patil, Chief Executive, Marathvarhad MPO; and senior representatives from NDDDB, Mother Dairy and NDDDB Dairy Services.

Dr. Shah interacted with the Board of Directors of the MPO and presented employee recognition awards. In his address, he lauded the region's producer organisations for their steady progress and emphasised Nagpur's strategic role for NDDDB, NDDDB Dairy Services and Mother Dairy. He also recalled NDDDB's long-

standing support to farmers in the Marathwada and Vidarbha regions, particularly during challenging periods, and reaffirmed the organisation's commitment to improving livelihoods and creating sustainable opportunities.

Highlighting the rise in milk procurement and the establishment of a women-led producer organisation, Dr. Shah shared NDDDB's forward-looking plans, including setting up a Mother Dairy unit and expanding cattle development initiatives.

"NDDDB will continue working for the welfare of farmers and society. Together, we will soon reach the 10 lakh litre mark," he said.

Heritage Foods Sets Benchmark in Governance and Accountability



Heritage Foods is emerging as a benchmark for ethical governance in India's rapidly growing food and dairy space, according to a recent

Economic Times report. As consumer scrutiny intensifies, the company's governance practices - centered on transparency, fairness, and farmer welfare - are increasingly seen as a model for responsible business in food.

At the core of Heritage's governance philosophy is a belief that accountability should be embedded across its entire value chain, not just in boardrooms. As Smt. Bhuvaneshwari Nara, Vice Chairperson & Managing Director, puts it: governance is "a foundational principle that shapes every decision, from boardroom strategy to village-level procurement."

Some of the key features of Heritage Foods' governance model are:

Fast and Transparent Payments: The company operates on a 10-day payment cycle for farmers, which is notably short in an industry where payment delays are common. Payments are made via direct bank transfer, reducing intermediaries and boosting trust.

Farmer Empowerment & Inclusion: Nearly 40% of Heritage's village-level procurement centers are women-led, a deliberate strategy to offer more meaningful economic opportunities in rural areas.

Digital & Real-Time Support: Heritage offers a digital platform for veterinary support, giving farmers access to timely animal health assistance.

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Credit for Farmers: The company provides about Rs.200 crore in easy-term credit every year to its farmer network.

Quality & Testing Infrastructure: Heritage maintains rigorous quality control - it has over 400 quality-assurance professionals who conduct 25+ daily tests across 9,000 procurement centres and 18 processing facilities.

Capacity for Scale: The company reports a handling capacity of 2.65 million litres per day, demonstrating its scale in procurement and processing.

Board & Governance Structure: Heritage's board structure is designed for independent oversight, with clarity around executive pay, committee structures, and internal controls that exceed statutory norms.

Sustainability & ESG Commitment: Its 2024-25 annual report highlights strong ESG practices - including renewable energy deployment (solar + wind), waste management, and social programs for farmer welfare.

Award-Winning Model: In 2025, Heritage Foods won the Golden Peacock Award for Excellence in Corporate Governance, a major industry recognition of its "governance-first" philosophy.

Heritage's model shows that in India's food and dairy sector, good governance is not just about compliance - it is a competitive advantage. With 300,000+ farmer-partners, the way Heritage manages its procurement underscores that business growth and social responsibility can go hand in hand.

FSSAI Bans Disposal of Expired Food Items in Water Bodies and Open Lands

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has issued a strict directive prohibiting the disposal of seized, rejected, or expired food items-along with their packaging-into rivers, lakes, natural water bodies, or open lands. The move follows recent reports of improper dumping of such materials.

In a new advisory on environmentally compliant disposal, FSSAI has instructed state authorities to use approved methods such as authorised incineration, designated sanitary landfills with leachate control, or certified biodegradable waste facilities. Composting and anaerobic digestion have been recommended for organic waste wherever feasible.

The advisory mandates that all

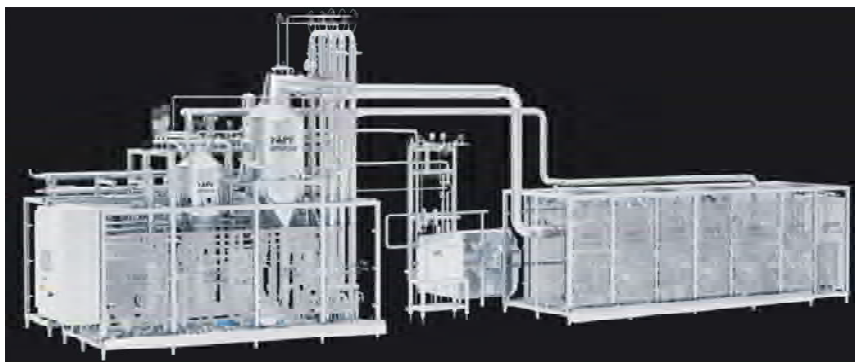
disposals must be supervised by an authorised Food Safety Officer, carried out in the presence of two independent witnesses, and documented through videography. A disposal certificate must be submitted to the Designated Officer, with copies shared with the State Commissioner of Food Safety and the concerned Food Business Operator.

Designated Officers have also been asked to identify suitable disposal facilities and share the list with state authorities. States must coordinate with Pollution Control Boards for high-volume waste handling and submit monthly compliance reports by the 5th of each month.

Infusion UHT with SteamRecycle™ Sets New Benchmark for Sustainable Thermal Processing

SPX FLOW's APV™ brand has unveiled its latest technological advancement, the Infusion UHT system equipped with SteamRecycle™, a breakthrough designed to significantly enhance sustainability and operational efficiency in dairy, nutritional beverage, and plant-based production. The new system recovers and reuses 100% of the vapour generated during the infusion UHT process, eliminating the need for fresh steam after start-up and marking a major step forward in energy-efficient processing.

The SteamRecycle™ feature substantially reduces environmental impact by capturing all process steam and reusing it through mechanical vapour compression. This innovation can lower carbon dioxide emissions by up to 1,000 tons per year and cut cooling water consumption by as much as 33 cubic meters per hour compared to conventional infusion UHT systems. With a coefficient of performance (COP) close to 4, the system demonstrates exceptional energy efficiency, helping producers reduce both their carbon footprint and operational costs while supporting long-term carbon neutrality goals.



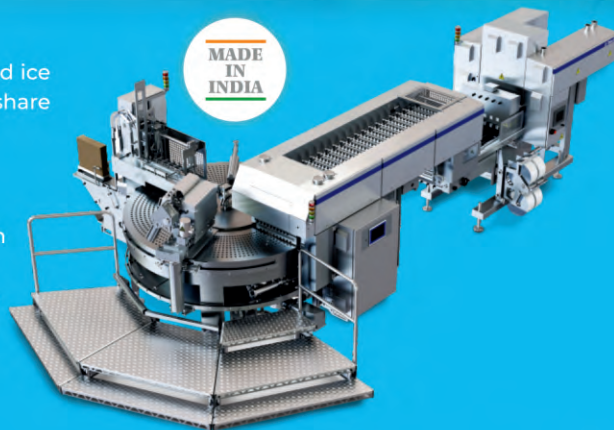
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Despite its strong sustainability focus, the new Infusion UHT system maintains the gentle heating profile and high product quality for which infusion UHT technology is known. Producers can therefore achieve environmental benefits without sacrificing processing performance or end-product excellence.

Designed for versatility, SteamRecycle™ integrates seamlessly with both existing and new APV™ Infusion UHT systems, delivering consistent high-pressure steam of up to five bars. This operational reliability, paired with notable energy savings, enables users to achieve a return on investment within four to five years, depending on local energy prices.

With the launch of the Infusion UHT system featuring SteamRecycle™, SPX FLOW reinforces its commitment to sustainable innovation, offering producers a powerful solution that aligns efficiency, environmental responsibility, and processing quality.

Enhancing Dairy Processing Efficiency with Advanced Solutions

As the dairy industry continues to demand higher hygiene standards and production efficiency, Russell Finex — a Sustaining member of IDA offers a comprehensive range of innovative processing solutions tailored for modern dairy operations.

From milk filtration to curds and whey separation and milk powder screening, their equipment ensures optimal product quality while minimizing waste and downtime.

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The Self-Cleaning Russell Eco Filter®

Meanwhile, the Russell Compact Sieve® delivers high-capacity, hygienic screening for milk and whey powders, meeting FDA and 3A standards to ensure consistent product quality.

With over 90 years of expertise, Russell Finex continues to support the dairy industry globally with advanced sieving, separation, and filtration technologies-helping processors enhance efficiency, reduce waste, and maintain the highest safety standards.

Mega Dairy, TGDDCF Achieves ISO 22000:2018 Certification for Food Safety Excellence



The Mega Dairy at Raviryala, operated by the Telangana Dairy Development Cooperative Federation Limited (TGDDCF), has been awarded the ISO 22000:2018 certification, an internationally recognized standard for Food Safety Management Systems (FSMS). This certification marks a significant achievement for the Federation, underscoring its commitment to ensuring the highest levels of hygiene, quality, and safety in milk processing and dairy product handling.

ISO 22000:2018 outlines the requirements necessary to guarantee food safety across the entire supply chain. By meeting these global benchmarks, the Mega Dairy has demonstrated its strong focus on delivering safe and high-quality dairy products to consumers. The certification also highlights the Federation's ongoing efforts to strengthen operational efficiency, enhance hygiene practices, and maintain regulatory compliance at every stage of milk procurement and processing.

The accomplishment reinforces the growing emphasis placed by Telangana Vijaya Dairy on quality assurance and safety within the dairy sector. It not only boosts consumer confidence in the brand but also supports the welfare of rural milk producers who form the backbone of the cooperative network.

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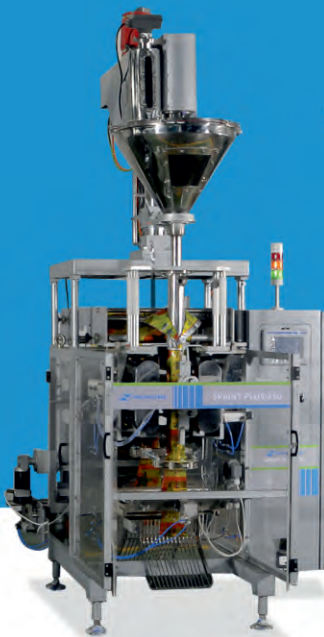
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The announcement was made in the presence of TGDDCF Chairman Sri Gutha Amith Reddy; Managing Director Sri K. Chandrashekhhar Reddy, IAS; Chief of Quality Control H. Kavitha; General Manager of Mega Dairy E. Mallaiah; GM (Production) V. Mallikarjun Rao; and GM (P&I) Madhusudhan Rao, who collectively acknowledged the dedicated efforts of the team in achieving this milestone.

With the ISO 22000:2018 certification, the Mega Dairy at Raviryala continues to position itself as a leader in safe, efficient, and consumer-focused dairy processing in Telangana.

INTERNATIONAL News

International Dairy Market: USDA

As per the USDA between November 10-21, 2025, international market overview are as follows:

EUROPEAN

Western European

European dairy groups continue to push for deeper structural reforms as producers say margins remain tight and operational costs are not easing. Contacts report more farms are leaving the sector, raising concerns about long-term production capacity. Sentiment suggests continued volatility and further consolidation across the market.

Bluetongue activity in Great Britain continues to climb, with roughly 200 confirmed cases so far this season—nearly all reported in England and a smaller cluster noted in Wales. No detections have been reported in Scotland. Recent confirmations include new BTV-3 cases in sheep and cattle across Devon, Cornwall, Herefordshire, Somerset, and the Isle of Wight, with several animals also testing positive for BTV-8 during routine surveillance. Most reports stem from clinical signs such as fever, drooling, crusting around the nose, and poor appetite. Authorities continue active monitoring as scattered detections persist across southern and western regions.

Eastern Europe

Ukrainian dairy groups warn that proposed deep cuts to raw milk prices would push many farms out of production at a time when the sector is already strained by weak demand, war disruptions, and limited export competitiveness. New EU trade rules are bringing in cheaper European butter and cheese, further pressuring local margins. Producer organizations are urging officials to take measures to stabilize the market.

OCEANIA DAIRY MARKET

New Zealand

Milk production data from New Zealand for October 2025 were recently released. These data show total October 2025 production was 3.13 million metric tons, up 1.7 percent compared to a year earlier. During October 2025, total milk solids production increased by 2.8 percent from the previous year to 268.7 million kilograms. On a milk solids basis, this was the third largest month on record for New Zealand milk collections. The continued growth in milk production is being attributed to feed inputs, especially palm kernel extract, imports of which grew substantially this year. Pasture conditions have also been favorable in the South Island, though the North Island is seeing poor pasture growth. From the start of the production season in June 2025 through October 2025, milk production on a tonnage basis is up by 2.3 percent compared to the same time period a year ago, while milk solids production is up 3.4 percent from last year. Additionally, the last full 12-month period established a new record for milk solids production at 1.96 billion kilograms.

Following Global Dairy Trade (GDT) event 392, a group in New Zealand that forecasts milk prices decreased their milk price forecast for the 2025/2026 season by 19 cents from \$9.68 per kilogram milk solids (kgMS) to \$9.49/kgMS. The spot value of milk decreased to \$9.41/kgMS from \$9.53/kgMS. Downward price pressure at GDT event 392 led to a slight decrease in the price forecast.

The Chinese government, in partnership with New Zealand officials, announced a formal definition for grass-fed dairy products at the Chinese International Import Expo. The new standard requires dairy products to be sourced from cows that graze pasture or forage crops at least 340 days a year for at least eight hours a day, and whose diet consists of at least 90 percent grass-fed feed types. New Zealand exports are expected to benefit from this standard, as a significant share of New Zealand milk is produced under conditions that meet the standard.

Australia

Dairy Australia recently released export data for Australia showing milk export volumes from July - September 2025 totaled 40,077 metric tons, an increase of 12.3 percent compared to export volume totals from July - September 2024.

Dairy Australia recently released data on packaged milk sales. In August 2025, milk sales totaled 201.8 million liters, down 2.4 million liters (down 1.2 percent)

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...continue from Page 64

year over year. August sales decreased year over year in New South Wales (down 2.6 percent), Victoria (down 0.5 percent), Queensland (down 1.2 percent), Western Australia (down 1.0 percent), and Tasmania (down 2.2 percent). The only Australian state with year-over-year growth in sales was South Australia (up 1.3 percent). Packaged milk sales year-to-date in Australia's 2025/2026 season total 406.3 million liters, down 4.6 million liters (down 1.1 percent) season over season. Compared to the 2024/2025 season, year-to-date sales in the 2025/2026 season increased in South Australia (up 1.3 percent) and Western Australia (up 0.5 percent) but decreased in New South Wales (down 2.0 percent), Victoria (down 1.2 percent), Queensland (down 1.6 percent), and Tasmania (down 2.0 percent).

The October 2025 Production Inputs Monitor Report was recently released by Dairy Australia. Rainfall totals in most of Victoria, Australia's largest milk-producing region, and parts of South Australia were in line with historical trends. However, drier conditions persisted in New South Wales and southern portions of Western Australia, with soil-moisture levels decreasing month over month. Water-storage levels at many sites were similar to year-ago levels but remain well below their five-year averages. Water prices increased in October in response to these lower levels. Fertilizer prices were mixed; both urea and diammonium phosphate prices fell in October, while potash prices increased due to demand from buyers in the northern hemisphere. October culling rates fell modestly from September, though average cull prices were relatively steady and remain significantly above year-ago levels.

SOUTH AMERICA DAIRY MARKET

Latin America's Southern Cone dairy sector (Argentina, Chile, Uruguay) is in a clear expansion phase, with milk deliveries running well ahead of last year's levels. Brazil is also seeing stronger collections, particularly in recent months, reinforcing the broader regional growth theme.

Trade flows tell a similar story. Argentina and Uruguay are exporting more milk powder overall. Brazil's role on the import side is evolving, with its dairy imports shifting in composition. Skim milk powder imports have increased year over year while whole milk powder and cheese imports have decreased.

Month-to-month figures, however, underscore the region's volatility. Production remains comfortably above year-earlier levels, but farm-gate milk prices are under pressure, with only small gains in some markets and outright declines in others. Powder exports swing sharply from month to month, and Brazil's import profile can pivot quickly between WMP, SMP, and cheese, even when the annual story looks steadier.

IFF Dairy Trends Report 2026 Highlights Consumer Shift to Considered Consumption

A new IFF report reveals key consumer dairy trends, showing rising demand for sustainable, nutrient-dense products as purchasing shifts toward purpose and wellbeing.

IFF has unveiled its 2026 Dairy Trends Report, highlighting a decisive market shift towards considered consumption and holistic health as consumers, particularly younger demographics, redefine what value means for dairy. The report shows that consumers are turning to dairy as a sustainable, nutrient-rich choice, even amid ongoing economic pressures.

"We're witnessing the end of the 'health versus happiness' trade-off in the dairy aisle. The consumer's desire for holistic well-being now extends beyond personal health to that of the planet."

The global ingredients leader says food professionals should prepare for a "health versus happiness" reset, as the boundaries between wellness, indulgence and environmental care blur.

"We're witnessing the end of the 'health versus happiness' trade-off in the dairy aisle. The consumer's desire for holistic well-being now extends beyond personal health to that of the planet," said Richard Neish, Director, CI Trend Intelligence at IFF Taste. "This shift toward ethical consumption means a product's purpose and its impact on surrounding ecosystems are just as crucial as its nutritional benefits. The brands that will lead the future are those that prove a product can be a treat for the soul, precisely because it's rooted in transparent, sustainable practices."

IFF identifies five trends set to shape the dairy market in 2026: Considered Consumption, Wholistic Health, Joyful Harmony, Regenerative Resilience and Human + AI collaboration. Together, they signal a shift from price-led decisions to more purpose-driven choices.

Five key trends

Considered Consumption is emerging as the dominant force. IFF reports rising demand for multifunctional dairy products that align with social and environmental values. With 56 percent of Chinese consumers viewing yoghurt as a gut-health aid and 32 percent of Brazilians using it to replace protein supplements, dairy's functional and versatile positioning continues to strengthen.

The report also highlights rising interest in Wholistic Health, a 360-degree approach to physical and emotional wellbeing. With protein fortification and probiotics now baseline expectations, IFF identifies the

rapid uptake of GLP-1 weight-loss drugs as a major disruptor. As users experience reduced appetites, demand is increasing for compact, nutrient-dense formats that support satiety and help maintain muscle mass. Yoghurts and cottage cheese are emerging as preferred options, with IFF noting that GLP-1 households consume yoghurt at nearly three times the average rate - underscoring dairy's strengthened role in meeting evolving nutritional needs.

In parallel, consumers are seeking Joyful Harmony through indulgence that does not compromise health. Cheese is singled out as a category with rising emotional appeal, with 45 percent of consumers in China reporting they eat cheese to improve their mood. This is opening opportunities for premium snacking formats, flavoured profiles and playful textures.

Sustainability expectations are also intensifying. Under

the banner of Regenerative Resilience, the report notes a shift from sustainability as damage limitation to regeneration as a proactive restoration strategy. In the United States, 30 percent of Gen Z cheese consumers already seek sustainably produced options, while in the United Kingdom, 37 percent of yoghurt consumers want greater visibility on ingredient origins.

The fifth trend, Human + AI, explores how the industry is negotiating the integration of artificial intelligence into product development. While businesses are accelerating AI-driven innovation, consumers want reassurance that craft, care and human expertise remain central. IFF argues that discreet, ethical AI use can strengthen trust rather than dilute it.

Together, the IFF Dairy Trends Report 2026 points to a dairy sector recalibrating around purpose, performance and transparency as it moves into the new year.

Global Dairy Price Dip Signals Fresh Pressure

The global dairy marketplace registered a noticeable softening in Event 392 of the GDT auction, held on 18 November 2025. According to secondary data sources, the overall GDT Price Index is estimated to have fallen 3.0% relative to previous event, with a weighted average price around US\$3,678/tonne for the full mix of traded products.

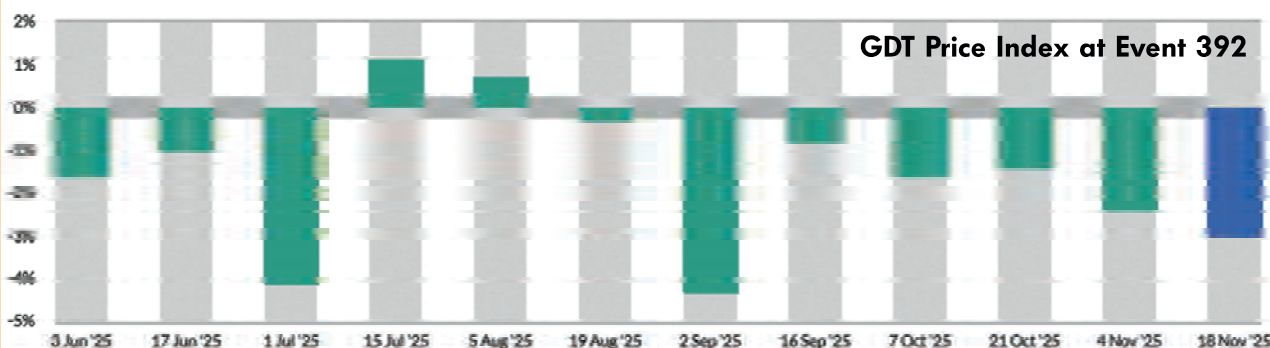
Key product-group declines included: Whole Milk Powder (WMP) down 1.9% to US\$3,452/tonne; Skim Milk Powder (SMP) marginally down 0.6% to US\$2,542/tonne; Butter fell 7.6% to US\$5,886/tonne; and Anhydrous Milk Fat (AMF) declined 5.0% to US\$6,543/tonne. The sold volume for the event reached around 38,612 tonnes, signalling that supply was substantial despite weaker price momentum.

The decline reflects the global oversupply environment, particularly in market-sensitive fat lines, and muted buyer demand amid macroeconomic headwinds. In this environment, butter and AMF show sharper sensitivity to cyclical demand weakness, while SMP remains relatively more supported albeit at a low base.

Event 392 signals rising pressure on India's dairy sector. Falling global prices for powders, butter and AMF could pull domestic commodity prices down, challenging exports and inventory management. India's feed-cost advantage may narrow as reduced global commodity prices limit export premiums, pushing processors to focus more on domestic value-addition. Lower international fat prices may also strain farm-gate rates during the flush season, requiring strong cooperative procurement to protect smallholders.

Export opportunities are set to tighten due to global surpluses and cheaper imports, making diversification into value-added, premium and traceable dairy products strategically important for Indian processors.

Given this environment, processors may focus on value-added products, branded dairy, and export-oriented specialty segments such as fortified powders, goat milk, and A2 milk. Policymakers may need to step in with targeted measures-including procurement support, feed subsidies, or export facilitation-to protect smallholder incomes.





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Global FAO Dairy Prices Fall on Weak Demand, Ample Supply

The FAO Dairy Price Index averaged 142.2 points in October 2025, down 5.0 points (3.4 percent) from September, marking the fourth consecutive monthly decline. Despite this decline, the index remained 2.7 percent above its level a year earlier. All sub-indices dropped - butter fell by 6.5 percent, whole milk powder by 6.0 percent, skim milk powder by 4.0 percent, and cheese by 1.5 percent. The continued decline in the butter price index largely reflected ample export availabilities from European Union and New Zealand, as moderate seasonal temperatures boosted milk production amid weaker import demand from Asia and the Middle East.

Milk powder quotations also fell due to limited demand and strong export competition. The cheese price index declined only slightly, as modest easing in the European Union-where milk supplies remain adequate and export demand subdued-was partly offset by firmer prices in Oceania, supported by solid Asian orders and tighter early-season supplies.

The FAO Dairy Price Index recorded a decline in October 2025, reflecting easing global dairy market conditions. The fall was primarily driven by ample export availability from major producing regions such as the European Union and New Zealand, which increased shipments of butter and whole milk powder into already well-supplied markets. This intensified competition among exporters and led to downward pressure on prices. At the same time, import demand from key buyers in Asia and the Middle East weakened as inventories remained comfortable and purchasing slowed ahead of the winter season. Milk Replacer Feed

Favourable seasonal conditions in major dairy belts further supported steady or higher milk production, adding to global supplies of skim and whole milk powders. According to FAO data, all major product sub-indices slipped during the month - butter by 6.5%, whole milk powder by 6%, skim milk powder by 4%, and cheese by around 1.5%. Together, these movements pulled the overall dairy price index lower for the second consecutive month.

For India, the decline indicates a softer international environment that could compress export margins on fat-based commodities but also relieve cost pressures on imported feed and ingredients. It underscores the need for Indian processors and cooperatives to focus more on value-added and branded dairy exports rather than competing purely on commodity prices in a volatile global market.

Lactalis Launches GLP-1-Friendly : Ratio Pro-Fiber Yogurt

Lactalis USA, through its Midwest Yogurt division, has unveiled:ratio Pro-Fiber, a first-of-its-kind functional dairy snack designed to support GLP-1 lifestyles. Formulated to deliver 20 g of protein, 10 g of fiber, and zero added sugar per 5.3-oz cup, it bridges a critical nutritional gap in high-protein diets.

Available in four indulgent flavors - Vanilla, Blueberry, Lemon Meringue, and Piña Colada - each cup offers as much fiber as 2.5 cups of cooked oatmeal and three times the protein of a single egg. The recipe uses ultrafiltered milk, whey protein concentrate, soluble corn fiber, and chicory root fiber, sweetened naturally with stevia and zero added sugar.

Event CALENDAR

52nd Dairy Industry Conference

Date: 12-13-14 February, 2026

Venue: Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, Sec-25, Dwarka, New Delhi

For early participation in Sponsorship, Contact:

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Southern Dairy and Food Conclave 2026

Date: 08-10 January, 2026

Venue: Kozhikode (Calicut), Kerala

The Indian Dairy Association - Kerala Chapter is pleased to announce the second edition of the Southern Dairy Summit, titled the Southern Dairy and Food Conclave 2026 (SDFC-2026), scheduled to be held from January 8 to 10, 2026, in the historic city of Kozhikode (Calicut), Kerala. The theme of the Conclave is "Transforming Dairy and Food Systems for Global Health".

For SDFC 2026 Souvenir Advertisement Tariff and Sponsorship Tariff, visit Latest Updates on www.indiandairyassociation.org

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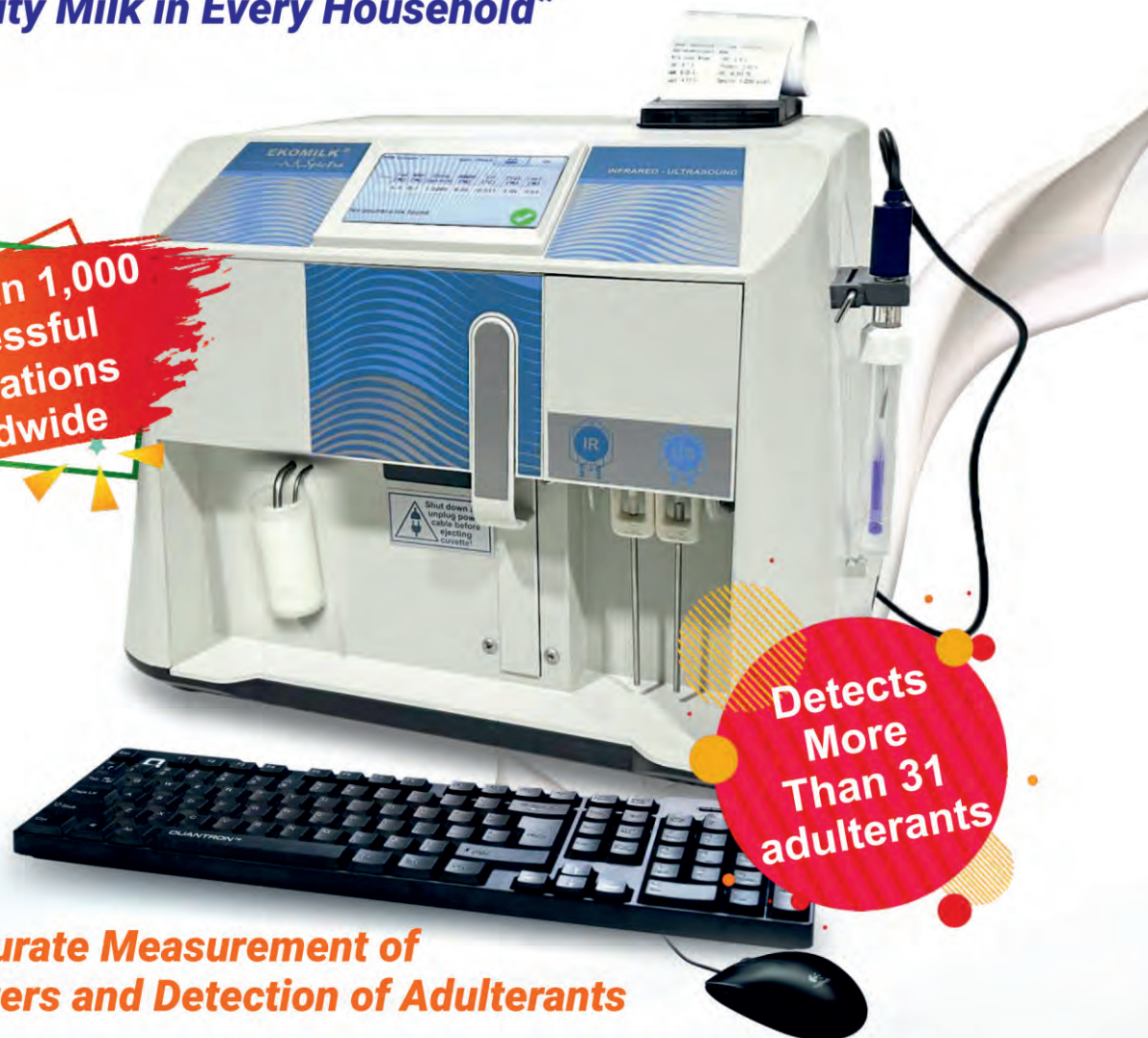
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Navigating Barriers: Tariff and Non-Tariff Challenges in Indian Dairy Exports

Gunjan Bhandari, Udit Chaudhary and Subhasis Mandal

India leads the world in milk production, but its presence in global dairy trade is still minimal. This article examines the paradox by analysing how tariffs, quality standards and other trade barriers shape India's access to international markets. Using data from UNCTAD-TRAINS and ITC, it highlights the dominance of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) measures, which together account for nearly three-fourths of all trade restrictions. The study identifies product- and market-specific hurdles, classifies destinations by accessibility and outlines strategies for enhancing export competitiveness through compliance, certification and policy realignment.

Introduction

Few success stories in Indian agriculture shine as brightly as that of the dairy sector. In the 1970s, India was a milk-deficit nation struggling to meet its own demand. Today, thanks to the visionary leadership of Dr. Verghese Kurien and the cooperative movement he pioneered, India has become the world's largest milk producer, contributing nearly one-fourth of global milk output. More than 80 million rural households depend on dairying for their livelihood, making it not just an economic activity but a social lifeline.

With an annual milk production of 239 million tonnes, India stands as the world's largest milk producer. Yet its share in international dairy trade remains below one per cent. This paradox between production strength and export performance is shaped by a complex interplay of domestic constraints and external market barriers. Rising domestic demand absorbs much of India's production surplus, while the international market presents its own hurdles in the form of high tariffs and stringent non-tariff measures (NTMs).

Globally, dairy trade is increasingly shaped by regulations concerning quality, hygiene, animal health, and food safety. While these measures are meant to protect consumers, they often act as hidden trade barriers that restrict market access for exporters from developing countries. Understanding the nature and intensity of these trade restrictions is crucial for framing effective policies to enhance India's export competitiveness.

This article explores the tariff and non-tariff barriers that restrict India's dairy exports, identifies products and markets most affected, and highlights regions offering relatively easier access.

Regulatory and Quality Barriers

A total of 3,090 non-tariff measures (NTMs) affect India's dairy exports (**Table 1**). Among these, Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) measures alone account for 50.4 per cent. This dominance reflects the sensitivity of dairy trade to food safety, animal health and consumer protection concerns. Importing countries impose strict limits on contaminants, antibiotic residues, microbial standards, and traceability requirements—all of which demand a high degree of compliance from exporters. Alongside this, Technical Barriers to Trade (TBT) constitute 23.6 per cent, largely encompassing labeling norms, certification demands, packaging requirements and conformity assessments. Together, SPS and TBT measures represent nearly three-fourths (74%) of the NTMs, highlighting that one of the primary challenge to dairy exports is compliance with stringent quality and regulatory standards. Interestingly, export-related measures (21.36%) also represent a substantial share,

CURRENT EXPORT SCENARIO

Table 1: Non-tariff Measures Affecting Indian Dairy Exports

NTM Type	Description	Number	% to Total NTM
A	Sanitary and Phytosanitary measures	1558	50.42
B	Technical Barriers to Trade	729	23.59
C	Pre-shipment Inspection and other formalities	32	1.04
E	Non-automatic import licensing, quotas, prohibitions, quantity-control measures and other restrictions other than SPS or TBT measures	47	1.52
F	Price control measures including additional taxes and charges	64	2.07
P	Export related measures	660	21.36
	Total	3090	100.00

Data Source: UNCTAD-TRAINS

Table 2: Core SPS Requirements by Destination Countries

Requirement	Key Markets Enforcing It
Facility Registration	EU (approved plants), USA (certain products), China
Product Registration	UAE, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, China, Russia
Health Certificate	All major markets
Halal Certification	UAE, Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Malaysia
Import License	Saudi Arabia, Indonesia, Bangladesh
Antibiotic Residue	USA (strict FDA limits), EU/UK (prohibited substances)
Bacterial Limits	EU, USA (coliform, Salmonella controls)
Hormone Use	EU, Saudi Arabia, Japan (banned), USA (condition-based)
Animal Health Free Status	All Gulf, EU, China

pointing towards India's own procedural complexities, including cumbersome documentation, certification delays, and restrictions imposed by domestic regulatory agencies. Pre-shipment inspections, import licensing, and price control measures contributed marginally to the total. The preponderance of SPS and TBT measures underscores the increasing role of quality, safety, and certification systems in determining export competitiveness. Countries that can meet these evolving standards are more likely to secure stable and premium markets.

The specific requirements faced by Indian exporters illustrate the complex and varied SPS regimes across major markets (**Table 2**). Most importing countries demand a mix of administrative approvals-such as facility registration, import licensing, and health certification-alongside substance-specific limits on antibiotic residues, hormones, and microbial contamination. For instance,

the United States requires registration of dairy plants and certain products, enforces strict FDA residue limits, bans certain antibiotics outright, and maintains strict microbiological standards for coliforms and *Salmonella*. The European Union allows imports only from approved origins, maintains a "positive list" of permitted substances, and restricts dairy from regions that do not meet required animal-disease-free status. China permits imports only from registered plants, applies zero-tolerance residue limits, and often requires batch-level testing. Australia fixes maximum residue limits (MRLs) on antibiotics and hormones and requires stringent biosecurity certification for FMD-free status. Middle Eastern importers (UAE, Saudi Arabia) require halal certification, disease-free attestations, and compliance with Codex-based MRLs. Thus, almost every major dairy-importing country overlays administrative requirements (registration, licensing, certification) with strict quality controls (residue and bacterial limits) and, where relevant, religious or animal-

health certification. Together, these form a formidable compliance barrier for Indian exporters seeking to enter or expand in global dairy markets.

How Stringent Are SPS Measures?

The complexity of international dairy trade becomes evident when examining the breadth of Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) controls across importing countries. The *prevalence score* — which reflects the average number of SPS measures applied by a country—shows striking differences across markets (Fig. 1). The UAE ranks highest, indicating one of the most stringent SPS regimes for dairy products, followed by the United States, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia, which together form the top tier of tightly regulated destinations. A second group—including China, Oman, Qatar, and South Korea—shows moderate SPS activity, while a broad set of markets such as Germany, Indonesia, South Africa, Japan, Mexico, and Malaysia record comparatively lower levels. Nepal, by contrast, exhibits minimal SPS prevalence. This uneven

pattern highlights that Indian dairy exporters face a highly varied regulatory landscape. While a few markets impose extensive SPS checks, many others are relatively accessible. In essence, India's export challenges are market-specific rather than universal—a handful of destinations create major compliance hurdles, while others offer smoother entry conditions.

At the product level, this variation is equally pronounced (Fig. 2). Cheese products attract the highest scrutiny, with processed (45.89) and other cheese (44.26) categories registering the greatest SPS prevalence. Milk powders also face heavy regulation, reflecting their large trade volumes and contamination risks.

Products like butter and dairy fats and oils show moderate SPS levels, while casein—used mainly as an industrial input—encounters fewer checks. This suggests that compliance costs differ not only by country but also by product type, depending on perishability, microbial risk and processing complexity.

Fig. 1: Prevalence Score of SPS Measures Across Key Dairy Importing Countries

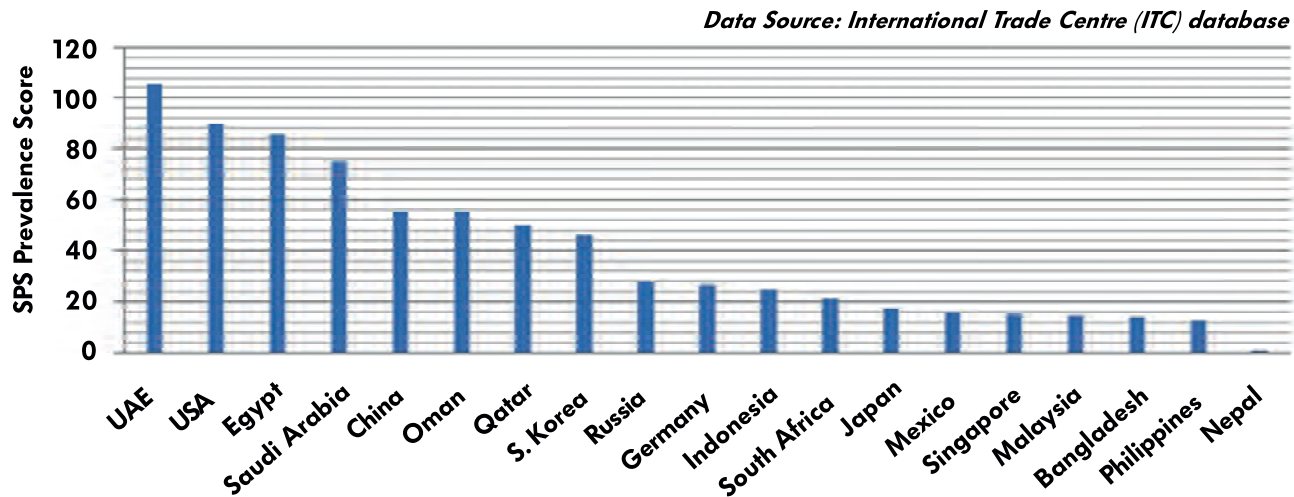
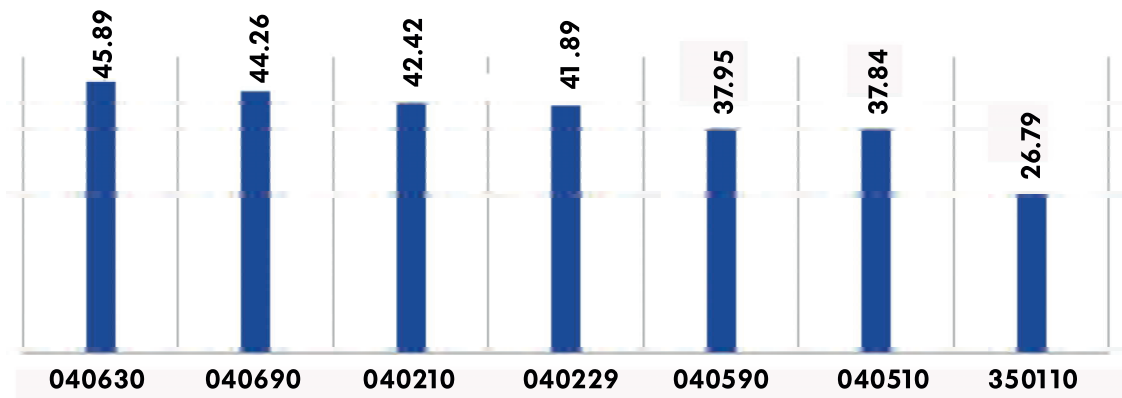


Fig. 2: Prevalence Score of SPS Measures Across Dairy Products



(Processed Cheese (040630), Other cheese (040690), Low fat milk powder (040210), Sweetened Milk powder (040229), Dairy fats & oils (040590), Butter (040510) and Casein (350110); Data Source: International Trade Centre (ITC) database)

CURRENT EXPORT SCENARIO

Table 3: Tariff Rates Imposed by Different Countries on Indian Dairy Exports

Countries	HS Codes of Dairy Products							Average
	040210	040590	350110	040510	040630	040229	040690	
S. Korea	176.00	89.00	8.00	89.00	36.00	176.00	36.00	87.14
Japan	127.00	47.41	0.00	125.36	40.00	142.10	29.80	73.10
Nepal	40.00	40.00	6.00	40.00	14.00	20.00	14.00	24.86
Germany	19.31	38.68	0.00	28.96	25.21	0.00	48.43	22.94
Mexico	45.00	0.00	0.00	20.00	45.00	20.58	20.00	21.51
Bangladesh	25.00	25.00	3.00	25.00	5.00	25.00	5.00	16.14
Russia	15.00	15.00	5.00	15.00	15.00	5.00	15.11	12.16
China	7.00	10.00	10.00	10.00	12.00	10.00	12.00	10.14
Saudi Arabia	10.00	10.00	5.00	6.00	6.00	15.00	6.00	8.29
USA	0.88	10.00	0.05	2.29	17.00	17.50	7.20	7.85
South Africa	8.23	4.46	0.00	6.38	5.93	7.60	5.14	5.39
Qatar	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
Oman	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00
UAE	5.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	4.29
Egypt	0.00	5.00	5.00	5.00	10.00	0.00	0.00	3.57
Philippines	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.00	5.00	1.00	7.00	2.86
Indonesia	5.00	0.00	0.00	5.00	0.00	5.00	5.00	2.86
Singapore	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Malaysia	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00

Data Source: International Trade Centre (ITC) database; Processed Cheese (040630), Other cheese (040690), Low fat milk powder (040210), Sweetened Milk powder (040229), Dairy fats & oils (040590), Butter (040510) and Casein (350110)

Tariff Barriers: The Price of Market Access

While SPS rules determine whether Indian products can enter a market, tariff barriers often decide whether they can compete profitably once inside. As shown in **Table 3**, tariff protection varies widely across countries and products.

South Korea and Japan are the most tariff-protective markets, with average duties exceeding 70 per cent, largely driven by very high tariffs on milk powders and processed cheese. Nepal and Germany impose moderate but still significant tariffs (about 20-25%), while Singapore, Malaysia, and the Gulf states maintain minimal or flat tariffs of around 5%, offering relatively open access. China and the United States occupy a middle ground—tariffs are moderate overall, but certain high-value dairy items such as cheese and milk powder still attract double-digit duties. Countries like Bangladesh, Mexico, and Russia apply uneven tariffs across products, reflecting a mix of protection and openness. From a product perspective, milk powders and cheese are the

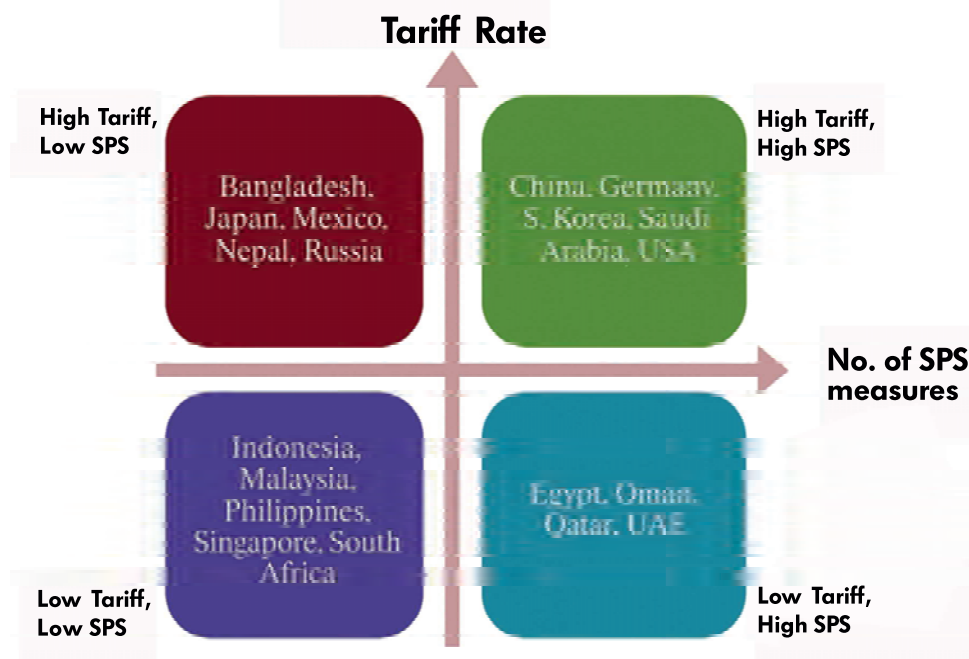
most tariff-burdened categories, especially in East Asian and developed markets. Industrial ingredients like casein, on the other hand, face very low or zero duties, suggesting that finished consumer products bear the brunt of protectionism, while intermediate goods trade more freely.

Mapping Market Accessibility

A combined view of tariffs and SPS barriers helps identify which markets are most accessible to Indian dairy exports (**Fig. 3**). Countries can be grouped into four categories:

- **Low Tariff - Low SPS:** The easiest markets to access.
- **Low Tariff - High SPS:** Low-cost entry but high compliance requirements.
- **High Tariff - Low SPS:** Economically restrictive but technically manageable.
- **High Tariff - High SPS:** The toughest markets, both costly and complex.

Southeast Asian and African economies—such as

Fig. 3: Market Segmentation based on SPS Measures and Tariff Imposed on Indian Dairy Exports

Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, Singapore, and South Africa—fall in the *Low Tariff-Low SPS* category. These developing and middle-income nations import heavily to meet local demand and represent natural growth markets for Indian dairy exports. The *Low Tariff-High SPS* group includes UAE, Oman, Qatar, and Egypt—markets with strong demand for Indian dairy products but strict requirements for food safety, halal certification, and residue compliance. These countries offer high potential with high responsibility, requiring exporters to upgrade quality systems and invest in certification. Countries like Bangladesh, Nepal, Japan, Mexico, and Russia belong to the *High Tariff-Low SPS* group. Here, India's challenge is largely economic—tariff reduction and trade negotiations could unlock these markets, as SPS conditions are relatively manageable. The most restrictive *High Tariff-High SPS* group comprises developed economies such as the USA, EU members (like Germany), South Korea, Saudi Arabia, and China. These combine steep tariffs with rigorous safety and traceability standards, effectively excluding Indian dairy from high-value markets under current conditions.

Product-Level Insights

A closer look at individual dairy products reveals how the interplay of tariff and SPS barriers shapes India's export opportunities (Fig. 4). No single product type enjoys uniform advantages across all markets. Milk powders face relatively low trade restrictions in Singapore and Malaysia, while Gulf, East Asian, and Western countries combine tariff and non-tariff hurdles. Sweetened milk powder encounters especially severe

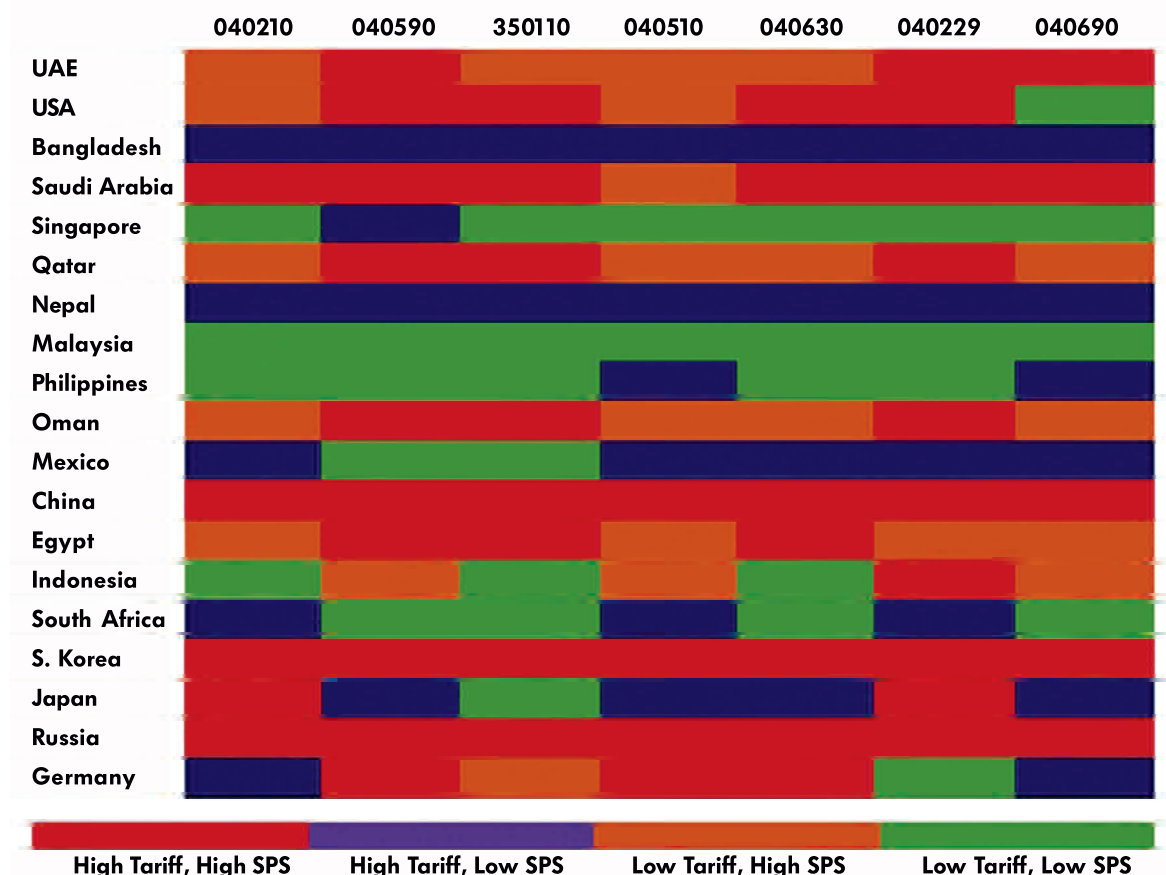
restrictions, with most importing nations enforcing both high tariffs and strict SPS measures, reflecting sensitivity to product composition. In the case of dairy fats, oils, and butter, trade is facilitated in Malaysia, the Philippines, and South Africa under low tariff-low SPS conditions but remains restricted in developed and Gulf markets where SPS controls and import duties are high. Products such as butter and dairy fats must comply with rigorous residue and cold-chain requirements, limiting India's penetration into premium destinations. For casein, a high-value industrial product, countries like Singapore and Malaysia provide favourable access, whereas the USA, China, and Russia combine high tariffs with exacting SPS standards. Similarly, for processed and other cheese, India enjoys relatively easy access in Southeast Asian and African markets such as Singapore, Malaysia, and South Africa, characterized by low tariffs and lenient SPS rules. In contrast, Gulf nations like the UAE, Qatar, and Oman, though maintaining low tariffs, impose strict SPS and halal standards that raise compliance costs. High tariff markets such as Bangladesh, Nepal, and Mexico reduce price competitiveness, while developed economies including the USA, Germany, and China remain the toughest to access due to both high tariffs and stringent SPS regimes.

Policy Takeaways

There is a need for a calibrated policy approach that strengthens India's compliance infrastructure while enhancing its trade negotiation capacity. With nearly three-fourths of all non-tariff measures being Sanitary and Phytosanitary (SPS) and Technical Barriers to Trade

CURRENT EXPORT SCENARIO

Fig. 4: Classification of Indian Dairy Exports based on SPS Measures and Tariff Imposed by Different Countries



(Processed Cheese (040630), Other cheese (040690), Low fat milk powder (040210), Sweetened Milk powder (040229), Dairy fats & oils (040590), Butter (040510) and Casein (350110))

(TBT), India must invest in internationally benchmarked quality assurance systems. Expanding NABL-accredited laboratories, aligning testing with Codex Alimentarius standards, and improving residue monitoring and traceability systems are essential to meeting global requirements. Export-oriented dairy plants equipped with modern testing and digital traceability can help Indian exporters comply with stringent microbial, residue, and animal health standards prevalent in developed and Gulf markets.

At the domestic level, the significant share of export-related measures among India's own NTMs underscores procedural bottlenecks that increase transaction costs. Simplifying certification, inspection, and documentation through digital integration, minimizing overlaps among regulatory agencies, and establishing a single-window clearance mechanism for dairy exports would enhance efficiency and reduce delays. On the external front, tariff barriers continue to constrain competitiveness in high-value markets. India's trade policy must therefore prioritize dairy within bilateral and regional trade

negotiations, particularly with East Asian and Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) countries. Securing preferential tariff treatment for value-added dairy products under Free Trade Agreements (FTAs) could open premium markets for Indian exporters.

The analysis of tariff-SPS combinations indicates that India should pursue a phased market diversification strategy. Short-term efforts should target low tariff-low SPS markets such as Southeast Asia and Africa, where entry barriers are minimal. Medium-term expansion can focus on low tariff-high SPS markets like the Gulf region through enhanced compliance and halal certification. In the long term, India can aim for selective entry into high tariff-high SPS developed markets by upgrading domestic standards and certification systems. Strengthening compliance capacity through public-private partnerships is equally vital. Collaborative initiatives among government agencies, cooperatives, and private exporters-such as export-oriented dairy clusters, model processing plants, and joint quality audits with importing nations-can build credibility and reduce

inspection redundancies. Finally, establishing a national dairy export intelligence and traceability system would enable real-time access to data on global SPS notifications, tariff changes, and certification requirements.

Conclusion

The global dairy trade presents India with a landscape of contrasts—offering opportunities across the Global South while posing challenges in the Global North. To thrive in this uneven environment, India must capture accessible markets in Asia, Africa, and the Middle East, while simultaneously developing the technical and institutional capacity to compete in the high-value markets of developed economies. The future of India's dairy exports depends on integrating trade intelligence with continuous quality improvement, leveraging free trade agreements, and branding Indian dairy products as safe, sustainable, and affordable.

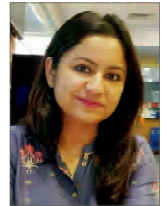
India's remarkable journey from milk scarcity to self-sufficiency stands as a testament to visionary policy, cooperative strength, and rural resilience. Yet global competitiveness remains the next frontier. The first White Revolution made India self-reliant; the next must make it globally relevant. Achieving this transformation will require harmonising domestic standards with international benchmarks, strengthening certification and traceability systems, investing in cold-chain and logistics infrastructure, and fostering stronger coordination among policymakers, industry, and institutions. With strategic focus, quality commitment, and policy coherence, India

can convert its vast production base into a sustainable global advantage. The world already recognises India as the land of milk—soon, it can be celebrated as the land of dairy excellence.

Authors

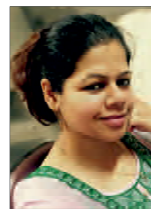
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NOMINATION FORMAT

Photo

1. Nominee's name, address, phone number, IDA Membership no.;
2. Biographical details of the nominee:
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Educational qualifications;
Positions held (Public, Cooperative and Private organisations);
3. Honours and Awards received.
4. A description of the contributions made for the growth, research and education of dairy industry in India (not more than 2000 words);
5. Date of nomination;

6. Name and address of three professional referees who are familiar with the nominee's work;
7. Relevant supporting documents including copies of publications, etc.
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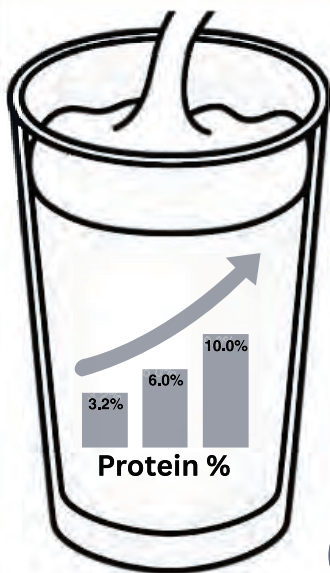
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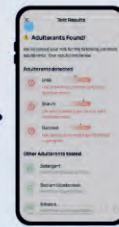
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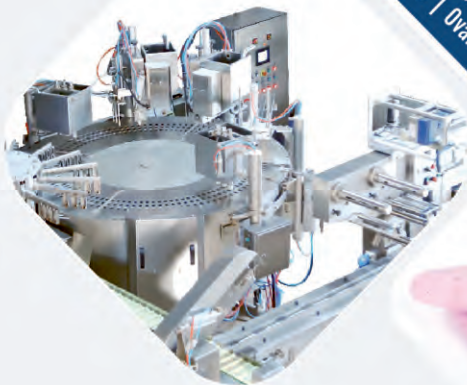
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Recent Initiatives of FSSAI for Enhancing the Food Safety

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Introduction

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has been established under Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 which consolidates various acts & orders that have hitherto handled food related issues in various Ministries and Departments. FSSAI has been created for laying down science-based standards for articles of food and to regulate their manufacture, storage, distribution, sale and import to ensure availability of safe and wholesome food for human consumption. FSSAI notifies individual regulations and amendments to regulations in the Gazette of India. Currently, the standards for various food products/food categories are prescribed under different regulations in Food Safety and Standards Regulations (FSSRs).

FSSAI offers several online portals to assist Food Business Operators (FBOs) in complying with food safety regulations. These includes the Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS) for licensing and registration, the Food Import Clearance System (FICS) for managing imported food clearances, the Indian Food Laboratories Network (INFoLNet) for Lab Management. These platforms streamline regulatory processes, enhance transparency, and ensure adherence to food safety standards.

FSSAI Initiatives

(1) Food Safety Compliance System (FoSCoS)

The FSSAI have launched the Food Safety and Compliance System (FoSCoS) to ensure ease of doing business for food companies. The FSSAI, vide its notification dated 28th May 2020, has also informed that FoSCoS will replace the existing 'Food Licensing and Registration System' (FLRS). The objectives of the FoSCoS are to create a district and state-wise food safety compliance matrix for the country and to create a food safety compliance verification platform.

This upgraded cloud-based online FoSCoS platform is conceptualized to provide multiservice for FBOs, such as Registration for petty FBOs, License for restaurants, License for food manufacturing, including renewal and modification, Endorsement of fortified food products on license/registration, Quarterly return for exporter, Transfer a license, License for proprietary food, Respond to a reverted application, Endorsement of organic food products, Surrender of license, License for Mid-Day Meal, E-Commerce, Airport & Seaport, Support for food product exporters and importers and Support for business head office.

FoSCoS to be a one-stop Food Safety Compliance Portal designed to support integration with other FSSAI Applications. Registration for *Anganwadi* (ICDS) Centres is the new feature incorporated in the FoSCoS

application. This feature has enabled *Anganwadi* Centres can get the Registration to make sure adherence to the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 and there by serving safe and nutritious food to the children.

(2) Food Import Clearance System (FICS) & Food Import Rejection Alert (FIRA)

FICS is an essential online portal for managing the clearance of imported food items. To expedite the clearance process of imports, Risk Management System (RMS) has been introduced under Single Window Interface for Facilitating Trade (SWIFT) for sampling and testing of food articles on the basis of risk profile and parameters as set by FSSAI. This portal allows importers to file applications, track the status and get updates throughout the process. FICS ensures a streamlined, transparent, and efficient process for the clearance of imported food products, helping to maintain high standards of food safety and compliance with the FSSAI Act, Rules, and Regulations.

FSSAI has recently launched FIRA (Food Import Rejection Alert) Portal which enables the authorities to rapid exchanges the information amongst authorities worldwide on food safety and health risks derived from rejected food, online interactive interface for rapid dissemination of information to ensure enhanced traceability & transparency and serves as a valuable database for tracking rejected food products and further strengthening of the Risk Management System (RMS).

(3) Food-O-Copoeia

Food-O-Copoeia is an initiative of FSSAI to bring all standards as per FSSRs for each food category at one place as a monograph. These monographs are individually prepared by the NetSCoFAN lead group of Institutions. Food-O-Copoeia is a collection of food category-wise monographs which is a single point reference for all applicable standards for a specific product category specifying quality & food safety standards, labelling and claim requirements, specific packaging requirements, test methods and any other regulatory provisions as per FSSRs that need to be adhered to.

Purpose and Features:

- *Centralized Information:* It consolidates all FSSR standards for each food category, making it a one-stop reference for FBOs and consumers.
- *Ease of Access:* Users can easily navigate through different food categories to find relevant standards and requirements.
- *Updated Regulations:* The platform ensures that the latest amendments, notifications, and advisories are available, promoting compliance and food safety.

(4) Eat Right India Program

To improve public health in India and combat negative nutritional trends to fight lifestyle diseases, FSSAI launched 'Eat Right India' Movement. The tagline 'Sahi Bhojan. Behtar Jeevan', thus, forms the foundation of this movement. Eat Right India adopts a judicious mix of regulatory, capacity building, collaborative and empowerment approaches to ensure that our food is good both for the people and the planet. Further, it builds on the collective action of all stakeholders - the government, food businesses, civil society organizations, experts and professionals, development agencies and citizens at large.



Eat Right India adopts an integrative or 'whole of the government' approach since the movement brings together food-related mandates of the agriculture, health, environment and other ministries. Furthermore, since foodborne illnesses and various diet-related diseases cut across all age groups and all sections of the society it also adopts a 'whole of society' approach, bringing all stakeholders together on a common platform. Eat Right India is aligned to the National Health Policy 2017 with its focus on preventive and promotive healthcare and flagship programmes like Ayushman Bharat, POSHAN Abhiyaan, Anemia Mukh Bharat and Swachh Bharat Mission.

(5) Clean Street Food Hub (CSFH)

Food streets refer to designated areas or streets where food vendors, stalls, or eateries offer a wide variety of nutritious, wholesome, and clean food options. These food streets focus on providing food items that are prepared and served in a manner that adheres to high standards of hygiene, ensuring the safety and well-being of the consumer.

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) in collaboration with the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, has requested States/Union Territories to develop 100 food streets across the country. This initiative is being taken up as a pilot project to create an example for other such food streets to come up across the country for ensuring hygienic and safe food practices. Safe food practices not only improve hygiene credibility of local food businesses, but also boost local employment, tourism and economy.

(6) Food Safety Connect

In order to secure National Food Safety and to bring each citizen onboard to share their concerns or grievances regarding food safety violations, this portal allows a consumer to share their concerns, know their rights, track FBOs License/Registration Certificate authenticity and view related articles/videos on food safety. As a consumer, one has certain rights with regards to the food and food products he/she purchases. He also has a redressal mechanism that helps him. The Food Safety Connect Portal is available at <https://foscoss.fssai.gov.in/consumergrievance>. Consumers can post their comments through this web-based application or through Mobile after downloading 'Food Safety Connect' Mobile APP from Google Play Store.

(7) Food Safety On Wheels (FSWs)

FSSAI is working towards having more food testing labs both in the public as well as private sector, it has also initiated a scheme to provide mobile units for food testing to reach out to consumers through as many touch points as possible. These mobile units are called "Food Safety on Wheels". FSWs would be utilized for executing the functions of

- Surveillance and creating awareness regarding the food safety in remote areas in the State, large public congregations, schools and consumer organizations.
- Transporting samples picked from remotes areas to

the nearest food testing laboratory; thus as a cold chain logistics for regulatory/ surveillance sample.

- Education of the consumers in various aspects of food safety laws and common hygiene practices.
- As a handy tool for training street food vendors and providing information and support for licensing and registration.

Currently, there are total 305 vehicles with highest numbers of vehicle (36) available in Uttar Pradesh and it is hoped that with passage of time, services provided through these mobile units, 'FSWs' would become popular amongst all stakeholders, namely, the citizens, the consumers, the food businesses and the field functionaries of the Food Safety Departments in the States.

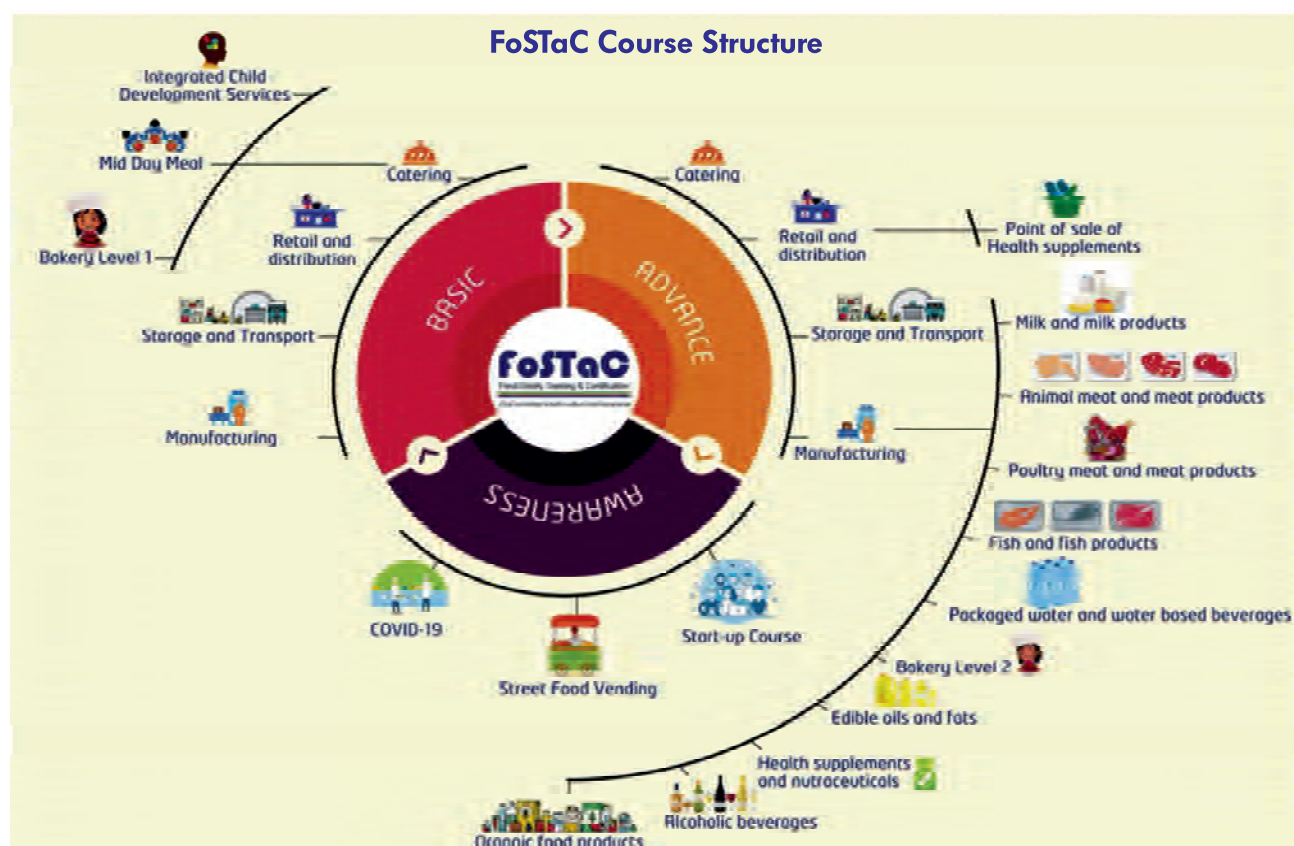


Chart 1: Steps Undertaken by FSSAI



(8) FoSTaC (Food Safety Training & Certification)

FoSTaC is a large-scale training programme for the food business operators, initiated by FSSAI in July 2017. The FoSTaC programme is aimed at creating a pool of food safety supervisors (FSS), who are trained in good hygiene and manufacturing practices as per requirements in Schedule 4 of Food Safety and Standards (Licensing and Registration of Food Businesses) Regulations, 2011 with following objectives:

- To enhance the availability of skilled/ trained manpower in the food industry.
- Creating an improved environment of self-compliance to FSS Act, Rules and Regulations by the responsible Food Businesses.
- Bringing a behavioral change and inculcating a culture of Food safety in the country.

All food businesses having Central Licenses or State Licenses should have at least one trained and certified food safety supervisor for every 25 food-handlers or part thereof on all their premises.

In the view of addressing the training needs of all types of food businesses at various levels in the food system, a total of 25 courses (24+1 self-learning course) at three levels *i.e.*, Basic, Advance and Awareness have been developed. Also, it includes a provision to add more sector specific courses to the current course structure as per the demand. The courses are currently delivered through a wide network of training partners, trainers and assessors.

Training is conducted in a cascading mode. First, the empanelled National Resource Persons (NRPs) train the trainers and then the trained trainers train hundreds of food safety supervisors. These food safety supervisors in turn train food handlers in their food business premises. As of 31st August 2025, there are more than 2.6 million Food Safety Supervisors have been trained on Good

Hygienic and Manufacturing Practices across the country since 2017.

(9) RUCO (Repurpose used cooking oil)

FBOs often use same cooking oil for repeated frying. The consumption of used cooking oil (UCO) poses adverse health effects since polar compounds (PC) are formed during frying. These compounds are associated with several diseases such as hypertension, atherosclerosis, Alzheimer's disease and liver diseases amongst others. Therefore, it is essential to monitor the quality of vegetable oil during frying.

As part of its EEE (Education, Enforcement and Ecosystem) strategy to divert UCO from the food value chain and curb current illegal practices, the steps undertaken by FSSAI are mentioned in the **Chart 1**.

FSSAI constituted an Executive Committee to oversee the implementation of the RUCO ecosystem. Released guidelines for collection of UCO from FBOs by biodiesel processors on 6th June 2019. These include:

- Authorization mechanism of biodiesel processors
- Setting up of supply chain for collection of UCO
- Provisional certification for aggregators by biodiesel processor

RUCO will help bring health benefits by avoiding ill effects of UCO, cleaner environment with reduced carbon footprint, employment generation and economic growth, reduction of import dependency (palm stearin) and it also help promote a shift towards a circular economy model with health, environmental and economic benefits.

Conclusion

Rapid changes in food eco-system with many startups, quick-commerce, exporting foods, important to have Regulations in place. FSSAI is driving the changes and implementation of Regulations in faster phase. Food

FOOD SAFETY

safety is a shared responsibility between governments, industry, producers, academia, and consumers. It is everybody's responsibility in food chain to make the food safe.

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Ways to Make Draught Animals Useful under Farm Mechanization in India's Agriculture

Sohan Vir Singh, Gagan Chawla
and Dhiman Patgiri

Despite increasing mechanization, bullocks remain a vital component of Indian farming, particularly in small-scale and marginal farming systems. The persistent decline of India's bullock population threatens not only the livelihoods of small-scale farmers but also the preservation of traditional farming practices and the cultural heritage associated with bullock-based agriculture.

There is an urgent need to revitalize the role of draught animals in Indian agriculture under the changed scenario through innovative strategies to integrate these animals into modern farming practices. By prioritizing these considerations, the sustainable utilization of draught animals can be effectively promoted, thereby enhancing ecological and economic benefits while safeguarding animal welfare.

As India strives to achieve food security and sustainability, the nation's agricultural sector stands at a critical juncture. Traditional farming practices, including the use of bullocks, are being re-evaluated in the face of increasing mechanization (Kumar and Kutumbale, 2019). Despite this trend, bullocks remain a vital component of Indian farming, particularly in small-scale and marginal farming systems (Din *et al.*, 2024). However, the bullock population in India has been declining sharply — a staggering 43% drop (DAHD, 2020-21). This decline can be attributed to a combination of factors, including the increasing adoption of mechanized farming practices, rising labour costs and dwindling profitability of bullock-based farming (Gupta *et al.*, 2019). The bullock, once the mainstay of India's economy, has become "the unsuitable boy" of India's agricultural landscape — struggling to find its place in a rapidly changing mechanization. The persistent decline of India's bullock population threatens not only the livelihoods of small-scale farmers but also the preservation of traditional farming practices and the cultural heritage associated with bullock-based agriculture.

Dynamics of Draught Animals

It is evident from the literature that the population of cattle and buffaloes increased to 83.54 million up to 1977 (Srivastava, 1987), and thereafter, a decreasing trend started, reaching a level of 33.443 million in 2019 (20th Livestock Census, 2019).

Draught Animal Power (DAP) has many benefits *viz.*, DAP is a renewable energy source that is particularly suited to family-level farming and for local transport. DAP is generally affordable and accessible to small-scale farmers, rural communities and resource-poor households, providing a reliable and sustainable means of power generation.

Measures to Revitalize the Role of Draught Animals

To revitalize the role of draught animals in Indian agriculture, innovative strategies are needed to integrate these animals into modern farming practices. Following measures can help in this regards to utilize the draught animals under the changed scenario of mechanization.

- Implementing sustainable bullock-based farming systems.
- Developing mechanization technologies that complement bullock-based farming.
- Promoting policy initiatives that support bullock-based agriculture.
- Encouraging community-led conservation efforts for indigenous cattle breed.

- Encouraging agro-tourism to utilise bullocks which will reinforce the rural economy.

By implementing these strategies, India can ensure the long-term sustainability and viability of its agricultural sector, while preserving the cultural heritage and traditional practices that have defined Indian farming for centuries.

There are a few success stories and innovations which shows that come back of draught animals to the Indian farm operations for draught purposes is not impossible and we can achieve this if we gain knowledge from the success stories incorporated in this article. By incorporating some of them in our farming systems then that day are not far when we will again see a lot of draught animals in the Indian farms for agricultural operations and farmers will again celebrate the birth of male calf opposite to the current scenario where the birth of a male calf is seen as a burden by the Indian farmers. The article published in a magazine 'Down to Earth' on 4 March 2022, where it was discussed how people are again feeling the need to move towards the traditional farming system using bullocks in post mechanization era. This article suggest that people of India have realized the significance of bullocks for farm operations and how it can be made profitable in changing Indian farming conditions/mechanizations.

Case Studies Showing Significance of Draught Animals:

- (1) **Mr. Simhachalam**, a farmer from Andhra Pradesh's Sangra village travels with his pair of bullocks to work on other people's farms in nearby villages for a fee. He is known as "bullock entrepreneur". Similar to most other parts of the country, bullocks in these tribal villages are traditionally used only for ploughing and transportation. But Mr. Simhachalam uses his bullocks for weeding and sowing.



Fig. 1: University of Agricultural Sciences, Raichur, Karnataka, has developed a bullock cart-mounted device that generates electricity from the movement of the cart (Photographs courtesy: All India Coordinated Research Project on Increased Utilization of Animal Energy) (Source: <https://www.downtoearth.org.in/agriculture/bullock-turn-the-return-of-the-bullock-to-india-s-farms-81805>).

- (2) **In Raichur district of Karnataka, the University for Agricultural Sciences**, one of the nine centres of AICRP, has designed several implements for efficient use of draught animals (**Fig. 1,2,3**). They are trying to popularise spraying of pesticides with bullocks. The sprayer costs Rs. 90,000 and a 50 per cent subsidy is available from the state government. In Raichur, now bullocks are used in 30 per cent of the net sown area, reported by KV Prakash, Assistant Agriculture Engineer and In-charge of the AICRP centre in Raichur.

The bullock-drawn pesticide sprayer has also gained popularity among farmers of Beed and Jalgaon districts in Maharashtra.



Fig. 2: Spraying of pesticides with modified bullock cart (Source: AICRP, University for Agricultural Sciences, Karnataka).



Fig. 3: Spraying of pesticides with bullocks using energy generated by solar panels mounted on bullock cart (Source: AICRP, University for Agricultural Sciences, Karnataka).

- (3) **The bullock drawn tractor** is a device which will replace mechanical tractor. This tractor will use the draught power of animals (**Fig. 4**). By enhancing their use in the agriculture lot of money can be saved. Besides that, productive use of draught animals will reduce the increasing dependence on petroleum products and thermal power by increasing the share. Source of non-commercial primary energy sources in the total energy use in the country, in agricultural operations and in rural transportation. A Technology

DRAUGHT ANIMALS

Identification Workshop was organised by Rural Technology Action Group (RuTAG) in May 2009 at IIT Delhi. Bharatiya Cattle Resource Development Foundation, New Delhi had presented details about the Kamdhenu Bullock Driven Tractor (KBDT) and various accessories and tools that could be used with it.



Fig. 4: Kamdhenu Bullock Drawn Tractor (Source: Rural Technology Action Group (RuTAG) in May 2009 at IIT Delhi. (<https://rutag.iitd.ac.in/Rutag/?q=projects/bullock-driven-tractors>)

(4) Tilting Bullock Cart - Aaruni

In the year 1996 Amrutbhai Agrawat finally arrived at a satisfactory solution using eight gears (**Fig. 5**). He named the new cart "Aaruni", after the son of an Indian sage. Aaruni is well known in folk-lore for his example in checking the erosion of soil. Parallely, the new product would prove useful in checking the "erosion of the bullock's strength".



Fig. 5: Amrutbhai Agrawat, Gujarat farmer, with his tilting bullock cart (Source: <http://www.nif.org.in/public/upload/innovation/6th/490-multiple-agricultural-machineries.pdf>)

(5) Agro Tourism

Bullocks can play a unique and fascinating role in agro-tourism, offering visitors an immersive experience into traditional Indian farming practices. Farmers can set up an agro-tourism farm, where visitors can enjoy peaceful bullock cart rides, reliving the rustic charm of rural transport (**Fig. 8, 9**). The farm may also include a live demonstration of bullocks powering traditional oil extraction processes,

utilizing a mechanical apparatus in which the animals rotate a large wooden pestle to break seeds, so illustrating an ancient, environmentally sustainable technology (**Fig. 7**). Additionally, the farmer can introduce tourists to the "Rahat" system - an ingenious, animal-driven water-lifting method used in the past for irrigation (**Fig. 6**). Watching bullocks turn a wooden wheel to draw water from a well provides a fascinating glimpse into sustainable farming practices of the past. This blend of education, nostalgia, and hands-on experience can attract urban tourists and school groups, offering a refreshing escape from modern life while promoting the cultural heritage of Indian agriculture.



Fig. 6: The use of Rahat system of irrigation along with Agro-Tourism



Fig. 7: Traditional method of extracting oil using the mechanical power of bullocks



Fig. 8: Use of fancy bullock cart rides to attract tourists. (Source: <https://scienceindiamag.in/reviving-indigenous-farming-techniques-for-sustainable-living/>)



Fig. 9: Use of fancy bullock cart rides to attract tourists (Source- <https://mahuliagrotourism.in/>)

(6) Bullocks in Traditional Sports: Reviving Rural Pride and Boosting Their Population

Bullocks have long been an integral part of traditional rural sports, with bullock cart races being a prominent example, especially in regions like Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu (**Fig. 10**). Villagers often invest huge amount in these races, driven not by monetary rewards but by a deep sense of pride and prestige associated with owning a champion bullock. Events like Jallikattu- a famous bull-taming sport, reflect the cultural significance of such practices. Despite facing legal hurdles, the Supreme Court of India eventually allowed Jallikattu under regulated conditions, recognizing it as an intrinsic part of Tamil heritage and rural livelihood (**Fig. 11**). Similarly, bullock cart races, if organized ethically and responsibly, can be leveraged to promote indigenous bull breeds, encouraging farmers to rear and maintain healthy bullocks. By framing these events as heritage sports and agro-tourism attractions, local authorities and farmer cooperatives can create opportunities to boost bullock populations while ensuring animal welfare standards are met, turning pride into a means of conservation and rural economic growth.



Fig. 10: Karnataka man buys bullock pair worth 36 lakh to win bullock cart race (Source- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/bengaluru/for-bullock-cart-race-karnataka-farmer-buys-pair-of-oxen-for-rs-36-lakh/articleshow/113723097>)



Fig. 11: Supreme Court allows traditional bullock cart race (Source: <https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/supreme-court-allows-maharashtra-to-resume-traditional-bullock-cart-race-101639650381207.html>)

(7) Reviving Bull-Driven Oil Extraction: A Sustainable Role for Draught Animals in Modern Agriculture

Bull-driven wood-pressed oil, also known as Ghani oil, is a traditional method of extracting edible oil by using draught animals to rotate a wooden pestle inside a mortar. This time-tested technique produces high-quality, chemical-free oils and offers a sustainable, low-cost alternative to modern, electricity-dependent machinery. As farm mechanization reduces the need for animal power in field operations, integrating draught animals into post-harvest activities like oil extraction provides a meaningful way to preserve their utility. This practice supports rural livelihoods, promotes organic farming, and strengthens small-scale village industries. In various parts of India-such as Tamil Nadu (Erode, Madurai), Maharashtra (Vidarbha, Marathwada), Rajasthan (Udaipur, Alwar), Chhattisgarh, Madhya Pradesh, and Karnataka (Belagavi, Bagalkot)-bull-driven oil mills are being revived to meet the growing demand for traditional, cold-pressed oils. These initiatives not only preserve cultural heritage but also create income opportunities for farmers, reinforcing the value of draught animals in a modernizing agricultural landscape.

In recent years' bullock are labelled as the "unsuitable boy" of Indian agriculture, citing its declining role due to mechanization and modern farming equipment. Earlier the backbone of traditional agriculture, bullocks are now a day considered as an inefficient compared to tractors and diesel-powered machinery. However, this narrative can be reshaped by promoting innovative strategies. By blending heritage with economic incentives, these strategies can revitalize the bullock's role, proving that the so-called "unsuitable boy" still holds untapped potential to empower rural livelihoods and preserve India's agricultural traditions.

Untapped Potential of Draught Animals:

- Draught animals can generate annually 21,924

million kW of energy if they work roughly for at least 5 hours a day in the country.

- Only about one fourth of this potential (4,263 million kW) is currently being utilized because the average usage of a draught animal is less than an hour a day.
- If draught animals are optimally utilized, they can fulfill the required power of around 44 % of the country's net sown area, up from the current level of around 20%.
- Use of draught animals can reduce the farm sector's fossil fuel expenditure by Rs 60,000 crore, says a December 2018 report on increased utilization of draught animals, released by Bhopal-based ICAR-CIAE, Bhopal.
- Use of draught animals (30.77 million) can also reduce its carbon dioxide (CO₂) equivalent emissions by 13 million tones.
- This reduction in CO₂ equivalent emissions saved are almost equivalent to what almost 3,000 cars emit in a year (calculation is based on the 2018 report's assumption that diesel consumption rate/ tractor / year comes to about 3.25 ton and one kg diesel releases 3 kg of CO₂).
- Use of draught animals in India will help increase its share of organic farming. Draught animals eat crop residue and produce dung, which enhances the soil fertility.
- The dung is a major source of biogas, which is a renewable energy.
- Transition to draught animals is possible since farming communities across India already use bullocks for various farm activities.
- The farmers are traditionally using animals for draught purposes in most parts of India. So, we only need to identify such practices and fine-tune them for different communities.
- It has been estimated that currently in most of the states draught animal power are underutilized, but this can be reversed if the innovations are popularized on the ground.
- The other issue is lack of skill among local artisans who manufacture farm implements.
- Localized innovation in implements, suiting the specific animal breeds, and size should also be prioritized by the Union and State Governments.
- Due to fragmentation of landholdings, the major challenge is how to augment productivity with limited land. Under this situation draught animals can play an important role.

Conclusion

Utilization of Draught Animal Power (DAP) is a convincing opportunity for drastic reduction of greenhouse gas emissions and reducing the non-renewable energy consumption compared to dependence on mechanization. Use of DAP has proved to be beneficial in rural areas however resources are limited. The DAP can be acquired at a nominal cost since the crop residues and by-products are utilized by the draught animals. DAP has all the benefits over mechanization still the population of draught animals decreased drastically in recent years. Therefore, this is the cause of concern and there is an urgent need to revitalize the role of draught animals in Indian agriculture under the changed scenario through innovative strategies to integrate these animals into modern farming practices. By prioritizing these considerations, the sustainable utilization of draught animals can be effectively promoted, thereby enhancing ecological and economic benefits while safeguarding animal welfare.

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IMPORTANT NOTE:-

- Please add 18% GST on all the above registration fees.
- Non member of IDA will have to pay at least one year Annual Membership Fees along with admission charges (Rs. 1770/-) in addition to normal Registration Fees.
- Farmer/Student/Sr. Citizen need to produce a document to verify that they belong to particular category. Student will have to produce certificate from College/ID Cards while senior citizen may upload Aadhaar Card. Farmers need to upload Aadhaar Card with evidence from Coop Society or Company where they pour milk.
- The accompanying spouse/Representatives of Exhibitors will not be entitled for Delegate kits. However, they will have entry to all seminar halls and enjoy foods offered to delegates.
- Those who intend to register are advised to complete the registration formalities as early as possible.
- **Refund Policy:-** In case of Cancellation before 15th Jan.'2026, 50% of Fees will be Refunded. However, GST will not be returned. No refund is applicable from 16th Jan.'2026 onward.

PAYMENT DETAILS:

Payment of INR /USD

☐ Online Payment

☐ Cheque/ DD

☐ NEFT

Bank Name.....

Branch Name:

Online Payment Transfer Reference / UTR No.....

Cheque / DD No.....

Dated:

Bank Details: Name of the Account : Indian Dairy Association 52nd DIC Account; Bank: ICICI BANK;
Branch: Kaushambi, Ghaziabad (Uttar Pradesh). Account No.: 025505006967; IFSC - ICIC0000255

Contact No.: Email: 52nddic@gmail.com Mobile: +91 9811620563 | +91 9810567457

Obituary

Shri Mandava Janaki Ramaiah



1932-2025

The Indian Dairy Association (IDA) expresses deep sorrow at the demise of Shri Mandava Janaki Ramaiah, the recipient of the ninth '*Dr. Kurien Award*', in 2012, who left for his heavenly abode on 6th November 2025. He was former Chairman of the Krishna District Milk Producers' Mutually Aided Cooperative Union Ltd., Vijayawada, popularly known as *Vijaya Dairy*.

Shri Ramaiah dedicated his entire life to strengthening the cooperative dairy movement in Andhra Pradesh and worked tirelessly for the welfare of milk producers and dairy farmers.

Born on 10 April 1932 in Movva village, Krishna District, Andhra Pradesh, he hailed from a farming family. His commitment was always toward the economic upliftment of small, marginal, and landless farmers in rural areas through dairying under the cooperative sector.

He served as the Sarpanch of the Gram Panchayat, Movva, from 1981 to 1987. He became the President of the Milk Producers' Cooperative Society, Movva, in 1992, and subsequently served as Chairman of the Krishna District Milk Producers' Mutually Aided Cooperative Union Ltd., Vijayawada, from 1992 to 2011.

Under his visionary leadership, Vijaya Dairy expanded its operations and gained recognition not only in the Krishna district and erstwhile Andhra Pradesh but across the country.

A staunch advocate for dairying and agriculture, Shri Ramaiah served as a member of the Krishna Livestock Development Association, Vijayawada; Executive Member of the Andhra Pradesh Livestock Development Association, Hyderabad; and Member of the Andhra Pradesh Farmers' Federation, Hyderabad.

His commitment to rural development was further reflected through several leadership roles. He served as President of the Village Development Committee and Kshetriah Kala Samithi, Movva; Chairman of the Kshetriah General and Technical Society, Movva; and Chartered President of the Lions Club of Movva during 1987-88.

In recognition of his lifelong contributions, Shri Ramaiah received several honours. He was awarded the Udyog Rattan Award by the Institute of Economic Studies, New Delhi. He received a Gold Medal from the Dr. C. Krishna Rao Endowment Trust, Hyderabad (2005), and another Gold Medal from the Senior Veterinarians Association and the Krishna Veterinary Association (2007). He was also honoured multiple times by the Rotary Club of Vijayawada for his distinguished service to dairying and agriculture. The Indian Dairy Association conferred upon him its highest honour, the *Dr. Kurien Award*, during the 40th Dairy Industry Conference held in New Delhi in 2012.

His demise has been deeply mourned by political leaders, dairy farmers, cooperative members, and the broader community. Prominent leaders, including local MLA Shri Chalasani Anjaneyyalu; Chairman Shri Kolli Eswar Babu; Managing Director, Vijaya Dairy; governing body members; officers; and staff paid their respects.

The Indian Dairy Association pays its rich tribute to Late Shri Mandava Janaki Ramaiah and prays for his noble soul to attain eternal peace.

Obituary

Dr. Faqir Chand Shukla



The Indian Dairy Association (IDA) expresses profound grief at the passing of Dr. Faqir Chand Shukla, Senior Member of IDA, who left for his heavenly abode on October 8, 2025. Dr. Shukla, former Professor of Food Technology at Punjab Agricultural University (PAU), was an exceptional scholar, visionary researcher, and a compassionate human being whose contributions enriched India's dairy and food technology landscape.

A distinguished and multifaceted personality, Dr. Shukla will be remembered internationally as an eminent food technologist, prolific writer, social worker, and artist. During his illustrious career at PAU, he conducted trailblazing research in soy milk, soy paneer, nutritious beverages, food preservation, and yoghurt-based functional foods. His scientific publications earned national and global acclaim, establishing him as a respected authority in food science.

Dr. Shukla led several pioneering research projects, including a major ICAR initiative on paneer processing and preservation. His extensive contributions to dairy foods, functional nutrition, and innovative snack development played a pivotal role in advancing public health and food technology. As a mentor and academic guide, he shaped countless young minds and inspired the formation of the IDA Punjab State Chapter, where he remained a steadfast pillar of guidance and motivation. His efforts in disseminating practical and scientific knowledge to Punjab's youth have left a lasting legacy.

Beyond academia, Dr. Shukla dedicated himself to popularising science through accessible literature, nurturing public understanding of nutrition, health, and scientific temper. He pioneered progressive curricula in dairy technology and generously supported scholarships for deserving students in memory of his late wife. As President of the Punjab Sahitya Kala Manch, he contributed meaningfully to educational, social, and cultural advancements.

His remarkable achievements earned him numerous honours, including the Dr. J.S. Pruthi Award (the highest in Indian food technology), Shiromani Sahitkar Award, Punjab Rattan Award, Rashtriya Vigyanik Award, and several other national and state recognitions. Many of his books received international acclaim, including listings in the World's Who's Who. On National Milk Day 2024, the IDA Punjab Chapter honoured him with a special recognition award for his lifelong service.

With his demise, the dairy fraternity has lost an eminent dairy and food technologist, a guiding mentor, and a prolific author whose writings have been translated into multiple regional languages of India.

The Indian Dairy Association conveys its heartfelt condolences to the bereaved family and pays rich tribute to Late Dr. F.C. Shukla. We pray for eternal peace to the departed soul and strength to his family to bear this profound loss.

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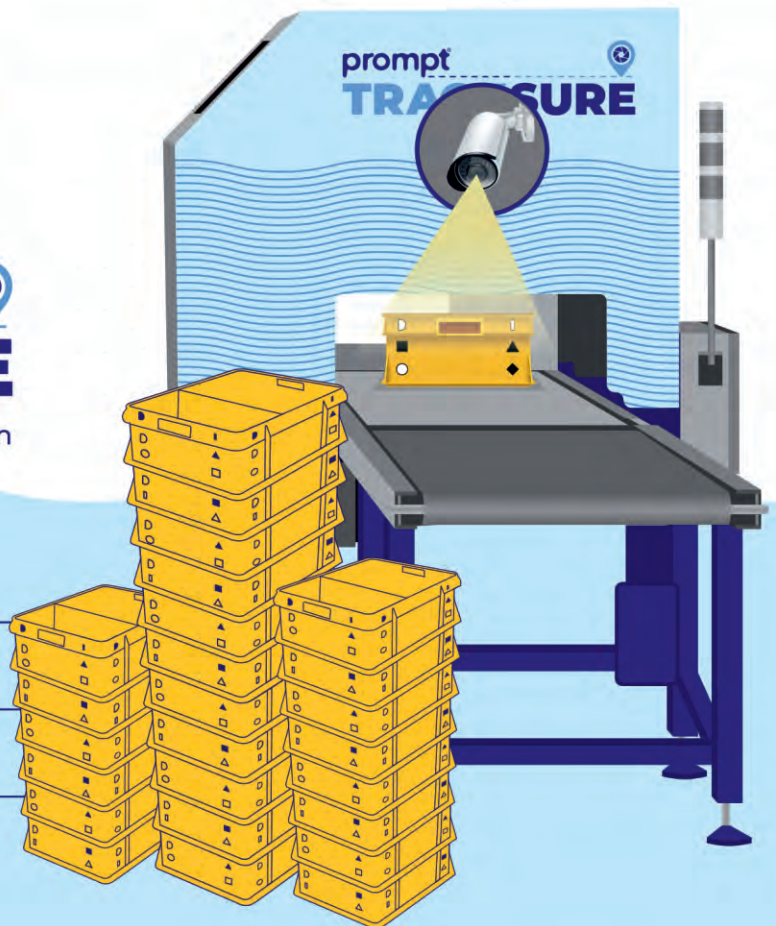
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