

Dr. Kurien Award

Shri Meenesh Shah

Shri Meenesh Shah has been chosen as the recipient of the 14th 'Dr. Kurien Award'- 2023 in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Meenesh Shah, Chairman & Managing Director of National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) has an illustrious and multifaceted career of more than 37 years in Dairy sector. He has been a great proponent of innovations and has been instrumental in conceptualising, planning and implementation of several interventions in the dairy and allied sectors for bringing about efficiencies, effectiveness, sustainability and more importantly enhancing the income of small and marginal dairy farmers.

Shri Shah is also Chairman of Mother Dairy, Indian Immunologicals, IDMC, NDDB Dairy Services & NDDB Mrida, which are furthering the objectives of NDDB and catering to various value chains of our dairy sector from animal & human health, dairy machineries, institution building, marketing of milk & milk products to manure management. He also chairs Pristine Biologicals, Anandalaya, Animal Breeding Research Organisation and NDDB Foundation for Nutrition. He is also on the Governing Boards of many premier institutions of the county like IRMA, NCDFI, Vidya Dairy, FES, North East Dairy and Foods, Bharatiya Beej Sahakari Samiti, National Cooperative Organics.

He is the Member Secretary of Indian National Committee of International Dairy Federation (INC-IDF) and also a Member of the Standing Committee on Dairy Policies and Economics of IDF. He spearheaded successful organisation of the World's largest Dairy Conference IDF-WDS 2022 in India in September 2022 which was graced by the Hon'ble Prime Minister, Hon'ble Home & Cooperation Minister, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Uttar Pradesh, seven other Union Ministers with participation of large number of international and national policy makers, experts, academicians, dairy professionals, farmers, etc. During the event, India has been able to showcase and suitably position our Small Holder based Indian Dairying System to the World.



He also ensured successful implementation of the World Bank funded Central Sector Scheme 'National Dairy Plan Phase I' with the highest outcome rating of 'Highly Satisfactory' by the World Bank and the Independent Evaluation Group which paved way for the second phase.

During the early part of his career as scientist, he contributed in development of several new and innovative products. He was then deputed to Kiriya Milk Industries, a joint venture company between NDDB and Government of Sri Lanka and the first overseas project of NDDB to promote dairy development in Sri Lanka.

Shri Shah is a Dairy Technologist from Sheth MC College of Dairy Science and a post graduate in Rural Management from the Institute of Rural Management, Anand.

The Dr. Kurien Award being bestowed on Shri Meenesh Shah speaks volumes of his outstanding contributions to the growth of Indian Dairy Industry.



Dr. Kurien Award

Shri Sangram R Chaudhary

Shri Sangram R Chaudhary has been chosen as the recipient of the 15th 'Dr. Kurien Award'- 2023 in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Sangram is a story extraordinaire. For a child, who was born in the manger of buffaloes, in a remote hamlet of Mehsana district, to an illiterate marginal farm-family. It was probably the design of the destiny, that the picture of Dr. Kurien, which he uses to see every day on the walls of VDCS, shall decide the course of his life. It is nothing short of a miracle that a dyslexic child, who couldn't learn to read and write till the age of 12 and ran away from the school, is standing tall amongst us. He is BSc. Biochemistry from St. Xavier's college and Masters in Life Sciences from Gujarat University. He has been a brilliant student with a unique personality and a scientist to the core with an immense propensity to learn and apply his leanings into real life situations. He is a PGDRM from 5th Batch from IRMA. He received his further training from AOTS, Japan in TQM and in Cooperative Leadership from Michigan and Missouri Universities, USA.

He has 37 years of experience in nurturing Cooperative Dairy Sector, especially women leadership and empathizes deeply with the milk producers. He joined Banas Dairy in 1992, when daily milk procurement was only 1 LLPD which he steered it to reach 40 LLPD till 2011.

He served at NDDDB as Executive Director and was member of Governing body from 2011 to 2018. He was the MD of MDFVPL, Delhi from 2019-2020 in the crucial period of Covid-19 pandemic. At NDDDB, he has played a key role in implementation of the NDP, besides being instrumental in taking up many new initiatives in the areas of Animal Breeding, Product and Process Development, Project Engineering, Animal Health and Nutrition, Gobar BioCNG and Solar Energy harvesting. He also played a pivotal role in the governance of Dairy Cooperatives in Jharkhand, Jalgaon Maharashtra and Assam (Wamul). He has also



served on the Boards of IDMC, NCDFI, Vidya Dairy, ILL, NDDDB Dairy Services and MDFVPL, besides holding the Chair of Dairy Asia. He has represented India at FAO for Dairy Consultation.

Presently, he is leading Banas Dairy, now Asia's largest Dairy Cooperative with 90 LLPD milk processing, establishing new model of socio-economic development with modern management techniques as TQM (1999) and Banas Excellence System of Transformation, BEST (2020) with multifaceted activities to sustain dairying as an instrument of change for harvesting happiness at grassroot level, carrying on the unfinished dream of Dr. Kurien and has devoted his whole life to the Dairy Sector to bring quality change in the lives of rural milk producers.

The Dr. Kurien Award being bestowed on Shri Sangram R Chaudhary speaks volumes of his exemplary dedication, sincerity, honesty, humility and the values, which Dr. Kurien practiced.



Patronship

Dr. R.S. Gandhi

Dr. Ravinder Singh Gandhi has been chosen as the recipient for IDA Patronship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Born in 1960, Dr. Ravinder Singh Gandhi has 36 years of professional experience and served as Assistant Director General, Animal Production & Breeding, ICAR; Head, Animal Genetics Division and Director, Centre for Advanced Faculty Training (Animal Genetics & Breeding), NDRI Karnal; Head, Animal Genetic Resources Division, NBAGR Karnal; Principal Scientist, NDRI Karnal and NBAGR Karnal.

Dr. Gandhi has been instrumental in production and dissemination of superior germplasm of Sahiwal, Karan Fries cattle and Murrah buffaloes in organized herds and under field conditions. He has also worked for characterization of animal genetic resources of Sikkim state especially Sikkimese Yak. Dr. Gandhi has undergone training in the area of in vitro fertilization in cattle at Department of Animal Sciences, University of Wisconsin, USA. He has guided 5 Ph.D. and 10 M.V.Sc. scholars as major advisor. He has published 177 research papers in international/national journals, 12 review articles, 25 popular articles, 54 technical articles, 13 books, 16 book chapters and presented 37 invited/lead papers in various seminars/symposia/conferences, etc.

As an active member and Fellow of IDA, Dr. Gandhi was Vice-Chairman of IDA (North Zone) during the year 2011-2013 and contributed significantly in organizing 40th Dairy Industry Conference at Delhi in 2012 and also contributed in 29th Dairy Industry Conference held at NDRI Karnal in 1998. He has also worked as Referee to evaluate research papers for best paper award published in Indian Journal of Dairy Science (IJDS) for the last 5 years in the area of dairy production besides reviewing articles for publication in IJDS and Indian Dairyman. Dr. Gandhi has published 15 informative articles in esteemed Indian Dairyman, out of which 3 articles have been given Best Paper Award. He has also published 45 research articles and 2 review articles in IJDS.



Dr. Gandhi has been conferred with awards/recognitions viz., Dr. Rajendra Prasad Award (ICAR New Delhi), Hari Krishna Shastri Memorial Award (IARI, New Delhi), Dr. D. Sundaresan Award (NDRI Karnal), Fellowship of Indian Dairy Association, Fellow National Academy of Dairy Science (India), Fellow Indian Society of Animal Genetics & Breeding, Fellow Society for Conservation of Domestic Animal Biodiversity, Bioved Fellowship, Outstanding Young Indian Award by Indian Junior Chamber and 10 Best Paper Awards. Dr. Gandhi is also Paul Harris Fellow of Rotary International, recipient of Four Avenues of Service Citation and Presidential Citation from Rotary International besides Certificate of Appreciation from Indian National Polio Plus Committee. The various prestigious positions held by him previously are: Vice-President Indian Society of Animal Genetics & Breeding, Vice-President Society for Conservation of Domestic Animal Biodiversity, Convener Indian Science Congress Association (Karnal Chapter), Treasurer Indian Science Congress Association (Karnal Chapter) and Treasurer Indian Society of Animal Genetics & Breeding.

The Patronship is a fitting tribute to Dr. R.S. Gandhi, for his exemplary role in the development of the dairy industry and his numerous contributions to its progress.

Patronship

Dr. Abhijit Mitra

Dr. Abhijit Mitra has been chosen as the recipient for IDA Patronship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Abhijit Mitra is presently serving as Animal Husbandry Commissioner, Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Govt. of India since November 2022.

Born on 12th November 1965 in Jamalpur, Bihar, after completing B.V.Sc. & A.H. (1987; BCKVV, West Bengal), Dr. Mitra obtained his Masters in Dairying (1990) and Ph.D. (1994) in Animal Genetics & Breeding from ICAR-NDRI, Karnal. He was conferred with Gold Medal in both Under Graduate and Post-Graduate courses. Dr. Mitra persuaded a part of the Doctoral Research (1993-94) in Technical University of Munich, Germany as DAAD Fellow, and Post-Doctoral Fellowship in USDA-ARS, Beltsville MD, USA (2000-01) and in Roslin Institute, Edinburg, UK (2009).

Prior to his present assignment, Dr. Mitra has served as Director, ICAR-Central Institute of Research on Cattle, Uttar Pradesh (2020-2022); Director, ICAR-National Research Centre on Mithun, Nagaland (2015-2020) and in ICAR-IVRI, Izatnagar in the capacity of ICAR-National Fellow (2011-15); Principal Scientist (2009-15) and Senior Scientist (2001-2011); and in ICAR-NDRI, Karnal as Scientist (1995-2001).

Dr. Mitra has research interests in the field of genetics of disease resistance, reproductive genomics, and transgenesis. He has authored more than 75 peer-reviewed research papers and several books and book chapters. Besides, cloning and characterization of genes influencing the economic traits of livestock species including novel variants of Interferon tau; delineating maternal recognition of pregnancy in buffalo; host's genetic resistance against brucellosis and genetic manipulation (RNAi) of myostatin gene; his notable contribution has been developing a noble and first-ever protocol of sperm as well as testes-mediated gene transfer for producing transgenic goat. As a Director, ICAR-NRC on Mithun, Dr. Mitra launched several new research and development initiatives namely the registration of



mithun as a food animal under FSSAI; implementation of AI in Mithun; developing bankable schemes for mithun rearing; semi-intensive rearing of mithun and diversifying the use of mithun as a dairy animal. Dr. Mitra has also been instrumental in popularizing scientific mithun rearing in North-Eastern hilly states.

He has been involved in PG teaching for more than 20 years in two of the most prestigious Deemed Universities (viz., ICAR-IVRI and ICAR-NDRI); and guided 8 Ph.D. and 7 M.V.Sc. students. He has developed a Mobile-App - "Mithun Mitra" and has registered patent of several appliances/tools including Mineral Dispenser and Feeder that are useful for animal husbandry. Dr. Mitra has the distinction of receiving several awards including ICAR Team Research Award (2007-08); DST-BOYSCAST Fellow; and DST-SERC Visiting Fellow. He has been bestowed with distinguished Fellowships of noted academics and professional societies, viz., NAAS; NAVS (India); National Academy of Dairy Science (India); IAAVR and Society of Extension Education, Agra; and Indian Society of Veterinary Immunology & Biotechnology. He has been the Life Member of IDA; Association for promotion of DNA-fingerprinting and Associated Technologies; and Indian Association of Veterinary Microbiology & Immunology, Society of Biological Chemist.

The Patronship is a fitting tribute to Dr. Abhijit Mitra, for his exemplary role in the development of the dairy industry and his numerous contributions to its progress.

Fellowship

Dr. Bimlesh Mann

Dr. Bimlesh Mann has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Bimlesh Mann is presently working as Assistant Director General (Education Planning and Home Science) of Indian Council of Agricultural Research. She has 31 years of research and teaching experience and contributed in the area of Chemistry of milk and Milk Products; Milk proteins and peptides; Plant Bioactive Components and their encapsulation for functional foods; Quality Assurance of milk and milk products. She also has other Research Management Position (RMP) experience i.e. more than six years as Head, Dairy Chemistry Division, ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) and more than two years as Joint Director Research (Acting) of ICAR-NDRI.

Dr. Mann she has been teaching various courses pertaining to dairy science since 1991 and guided 14 Ph.D. and 22 Masters' students till date. For her contribution in teaching, she received ICAR Bharat Ratna Dr. C. Subramaniam Award for Outstanding Teachers-2014; NDRI Best Teacher Award for Postgraduate Teaching (2012); Erasmus Mundus Visiting Professor scholarship (2012) and Prof. Jiwan Singh Sidhu Award (2012) to recognize the teacher-par-excellence from the Association of Food Scientist and Technologist (India).

Dr. Mann has immensely contributed in dairy science and technology with more than 515 publications (including 104 research papers, 22 popular articles, 16 Book chapters, 8 books, 25 conference proceedings, etc.), 10 patents and 15 technologies out of which 7 technologies were commercialised at 28 different occasions in dairy industry. For these technologies, she received Low Cost Technology Team award-2016 from the AFSTI (India) and DBT-Biotech Product, Process Development and Commercialization Team Award-2020 (India) from Department of Biotechnology. She was also invited as speaker in 39 different national and international conference organised by various associations/academics including American Dairy Science Association, International Union of Food Sci. and Tech. and Russian Academy of Sciences. Dr. Mann led the delegation to University of Queensland, St. Lucia



Australia, in 2016 to participate and facilitate discussions about research collaboration on Nanotechnology research on Buffalo Milk. He was also visiting Professor to Food Science, Department, Rutgers University, New Jersey, USA, in 2019, to discuss about the future collaboration research and education and International Visiting Professor (Erasmus Mundus scholarship) in 2012 at Dublin Institute of Technology, Ireland to partake teaching in a master programme. Dr. Mann organized several training programmes for dairy/food Science teachers under aegis of consultancy cell of ICAR-NDRI and Education Division, ICAR for Dairy industries/Dairy professionals.

Dr. Bimlesh Mann is the Editor, Indian Journal of Dairy Science published by Indian Dairy Association, since 2018, Member of Editorial Boards of Asian Journal of Dairy and Food Research, published by ARCC, and Applied Food Research published by Elsevier. She is also a Member of Scientific panel on Milk and Milk Products of FSSAI (2020-2023). She has also served as Adjunct Faculty, Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Dairy Technology, Patna (2019-21). Apart from this she is the elected member of IDA Central Executive Committee and involved in the process of framing policy guidelines for the benefit of dairy industry.

Dr. Bimlesh Mann has been actively associated with various activities of IDA and is its Life Member. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Dr. Bimlesh Mann for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Shri Kuldeep Sharma

Shri Kuldeep Sharma has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Kuldeep Sharma, after completing his Dairy Technology Degree from NDRI Karnal in 1987, took the road less travelled by becoming a dairy consultant at the age of 25.

Initially, he gained hands-on experience as a turnkey dairy manufacturer and supplier. His company Suruchi Consultants, known for its honest and unbiased advice since 1990, garnered more than 50% market share of the dairy plant in Nepal. It was at the start of the 21st Century that he thought of supporting dairy entrepreneurs in a much more meaningful way, rather than just supplying plant and machineries. He set up a first of its kind Dairy Entrepreneurship and Development Center. He developed and launched a unique dairy entrepreneurship development program (DEDP) in 2006. The program attracted more than 2300 aspirants in a 15 year time span.

To impart best insights in dairy farming, he collaborated with International Farm Comparison Network, Germany (IFCN), to conduct research on the typical sustainable dairy farm structure in India. He authored and published Dairy Vision 2020, Vision 2030, Sustainable dairy farm structure in India and Indian Dairy Map 2017 during his third decade in the industry. He also realized that skill was an important aspect which was missing in the success equation of a dairy entrepreneur. In 2014, he joined hands with IGNOU and began to impart a Diploma in Dairy Technology.

In 2016, he came in contact with FSSAI and designed and conducted the National Milk adulteration survey. He was also part of the team, which did the 2018 survey on a national scale. He also became part of the team which authored the GMP document for dairy processing and also the regulation on analogues and the modified standard for ghee. He also established an NABL accredited laboratory, "Safe Labs", for testing of milk and milk products.



In order to make the industry aware of developments in the sector, he launched an exclusive channel dairynews7x7.com for dairy related news. His fortnight dairy newsletter has crossed 175 editions now.

Shri Kuldeep Sharma has been actively associated with various activities of Indian Dairy Association and is its Life Member. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Shri Kuldeep Sharma for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Dr. Himmat Singh

Dr. Himmat Singh has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Himmat Singh is Bachelor of Veterinary Science from Bikaner. He did his Masters in Veterinary Science from Udaipur in 1973

and joined Rajasthan Cooperative Dairy Federation (RCDF) in 1975. During his more than 25 years of service in RCDF, he held various key positions in various milk unions and elevated to the position of Managing Director, Jaipur Dairy, the largest milk union of RCDF. Dr. Singh has also worked as Additional Managing Director of Mother Dairy, Delhi.

He has served as State Head in Reliance Dairy Food Ltd, Jaipur. In addition, he was associated with Paayas Milk Producer Company Limited, which is the first Farmer Milk Producer Company incorporated under the guidance of NDDB and NDDB Dairy Services.

Dr. Singh has also made contributions in growth, research and education of Dairy industry. He pioneered milk procurement system on Anand Pattern model in Jaipur District under Rajasthan State Dairy Development Corporation in 1975 and introduced Artificial Insemination programme under operation flood in 1977. He also set up New Generation Cooperative system of milk procurement in Mother Dairy, Delhi. He played a major role in conceptualizing and implementing the Producer Company concept of NDDB and trained manpower in various Producer organisations for establishing operations in India.

For his contributions to the growth and management of the dairy industry and social services, Dr. Singh was given many recognition and awards such as : Letter of Appreciation from Ambassador of the USA for highly successful visit of Mr. Bill Clinton, President-USA to Nayla village, Rajasthan in 2000; Life Time Achievement Award 2022 from Indian Dairy Association, Rajasthan Chapter, Jaipur; Letter of Appreciation from many District Collectors & District Magistrate of Rajasthan for his social contribution; and Letter of Appreciation from Director of



Primary and Secondary Education, Government of Rajasthan.

He was associated with IDA as Chairman, IDA Rajasthan State Chapter; Member, IDA (North Zone) Executive Committee; Vice Chairman, IDA (North Zone). He was also the Honorary Member of Veterinary Council of Rajasthan.

Dr. Himmat Singh has been actively associated with various activities of Indian Dairy Association and is its Life Member. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Dr. Himmat Singh for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Shri Amit Vyas

Shri Amit Vyas has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Amit Vyas is known for his exemplary contribution and sustained commitment towards modernizing dairying through his unflustered resilience and drive of adopting path-breaking digital and technological innovations at Amul Dairy. He not only controlled the effusions residing at different levels of operations to significantly bring down the costs, but also led his team to work with improved zeal and efficiency to ensure higher returns for the members of Amul Dairy. He has a vast experience of over 30 years in dairy industry, working in different areas like engineering, utilities, production and many more.

He was always aware of the fact that to scale up the dairy industry to international level, systems should be made strong and that's where he started replacing manual processes with technological interventions. Ever since he started his journey at Amul Dairy in year 2018 as Managing Director, he very well knew that milk procurement is the critical control point for dairy to remain sustainable, and there was lack of authentic data to act upon. Therefore, he not only digitalized the end-to-end animal husbandry and breeding activities, but also brought in concepts like digital tags to track health and heat of the animals, use of sexed semen technology to improve female calf birth ration on field, and embryo transfer, thus aiming breed improvement in coming years. With a success rate of about 83% birth of female calves, to a more than 200 calves born through Embryo Transfer at the Dairy farm till date, he has been successful in digitalizing entire cow to customer network.

At the plants also, he persuaded to bring in the culture of automation and technology through numerous initiatives like installation of fully automated Liquid milk processing plant, cattle feed plant, chocolate plant and butter plant, installation of cold storage with Automatic Storage & Retrieval System and Mobile Racking System. His other major achievements at Amul Dairy include preeminent steps for energy management and



conservation, implementing renewable energy system, and extensively adopting EVP and homeopathy for animal treatment. He also guided his team towards new products development, thus tantalizing our taste buds with regular supply of new and outstanding Amul products. Initiatives from villages to the plants at Amul Dairy have in total resulted into reduction of total carbon emission by 52216 MT/Annum, while doubling the milk procurement of Amul Dairy in just past four years.

An Engineer and an IRMAN, he is a perfect example of how passion for excellence can actually bring unstinting growth across entire dairy industry. He has received many accolades during his entire career and as an author has written many impactful articles.

Not afraid of intrepid decisions and resiliently working towards maximizing returns for the dairy producers, he has initiated radical transformation of the entire dairy industry in India.

Shri Amit Vyas has been actively associated with various activities of IDA and is its Life Member. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Shri Amit Vyas for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Dr. P. Sudheer Babu

Dr. P. Sudheer Babu has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Sudheer Babu is the founder Secretary of the Kerala State Chapter of the IDA and was instrumental in bringing up the membership base of IDA. He had contributed a lot as the Chairman of the Kerala State Chapter for the period 2010-2012. A National Seminar named "Subhiksha 2012-Kerala Dairy and Food Industry Conference" was organized under his able leadership. He was one of the lead organizers of 46th Dairy Industry Conference held at Cochin during February 8-10, 2018.

As an eminent academician, Dr. Sudheer has made remarkable contributions as Professor and Head, Department of Dairy Engineering, College of Dairy Science and Technology, Head University Dairy Plant and later Faculty Dean, Dairy Science Faculty of Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University. He was instrumental in establishing a new college while serving as Special Officer, College of Dairy Science and Technology, Thiruvananthapuram. Presently, he is the Registrar of Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University.

He has proved his leadership qualities during his various elected tenures such as Member, General Council, Kerala Agricultural University and Member, Board of Management, Kerala Veterinary and Animal Science University. He was the elected Secretary of Teachers Organization of Kerala Agricultural University for a period of 2 years. He was the Founder General Secretary of Teachers Organization of Veterinary University, Kerala, when Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University was newly formed in 2011.

Born on 29th May, 1968 at Peringara village of Pathanamthitta District in Kerala, Dr. Sudheer Babu pursued his graduation in Agricultural Engineering from KCAET, Tavanur, Kerala. Later, he post graduated from National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana and did his Ph.D. from Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul, Tamil Nadu. He has also attended advanced training



in "Governance of Food Quality in International Food Chains" at Wageningen University, Netherlands as recipient of NUFFIC Fellowship programme.

He has played a key role in developing Dairy Processing sector of Kerala, by providing consultancy for the design, fabrication and erection of milk chilling and pasteurizing units at various locations in rural Kerala. He has authored more than 30 articles in Research journals and popular publications.

Dr. P. Sudheer Babu has been actively associated with various activities of IDA and is its Life Member. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Dr. P. Sudheer Babu for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Prof. Dinesh Chandra Rai

Prof. Dinesh Chandra Rai has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

As Professor of Dairy Science since 2009, Prof. Dinesh Chandra Rai had been the Founding Head of Department of Dairy Science & Food Technology, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University. Prof. Rai also initiated B.Tech. and M.Tech. programs in Dairy Technology and Food Technology. He headed the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying for two tenures in BHU.

Prof. Rai has done B.Sc. (Agriculture) from Gorakhpur University (1984) and M.Sc. (Dairy Science) from BHU (1986) as Gold Medallist. He completed his Ph.D. in Dairy Technology from BHU (1992). He has got 30 years of experience in teaching and research area. He is credited with publishing 162 technical/research papers in national and international journals, edited 3 Books, co-authored 5 books/manuals, 31 chapters in edited books and 14 technical articles in Hindi. Prof. Rai has so far supervised 23 Ph.D. and 52 M.Sc. students.

Prof. Rai is the recipient of SAB Award of Excellence in Food Biotechnology 2012. He was awarded with ICAR Best Teacher Award-2012-13 and is presently the Editor of three referred journals. He is Fellow member of National Academy of Dairy Science (India), 2019; U.P. Academy of Agricultural Sciences (UPAAS), 2019; Bioed Research Society (FBRS) 2014; Society of Applied Biotechnology (FSAB) 2012; and Society of Environmental Sciences, India (FSESc) 2009.

As Commonwealth Academic Fellow at University of Reading, UK (2009-2010) Prof. Rai has worked under the world's prestigious Commonwealth Academic Fellowship program of Commonwealth commission of UK. In the last 25 years, Prof Rai visited 20 countries of five continents on official invitation. He visited Cornell University and Tuskegee University of United States as a Visiting Professor under AIP programme of USAID in 2011 to work jointly for developing novel approaches for instruction in emerging areas of Animal and Dairy Sciences. The Union Ministry of Human Resource Development (India) deputed him for Training on Leadership for Academicians Programme (LEAP) at Ohio State University (USA) in 2019.



Prof. Rai is an Executive Council Member of Mahatma Gandhi Antarrastriya Hindi Vishwavidyalaya (Central University) at Wardha. He is Visitor's Nominee for Selection Committees in Central University of Karnataka, Central University of Jharkhand and Central University of Punjab. He is a member of Monitoring Committee for CSIR Mission Project - FOCUS (Food and Consumer Safety Solution); and an Expert & Collaborative partner of Safer and Sustainable Packaging group (SPG) of FSSAI (FSSAI-SPG).

Prof. Rai is the Founder Chairman of the IDA (Eastern UP Local Chapter) and Founder Convener of Eastern Region Chapter of National Academy of Dairy Science (India).

Prof. Dinesh Chandra Rai has been actively associated with various activities of IDA. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Prof. Rai for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar is having over 22 years of experience in Teaching, Research, Extension and Administration. He is presently Associate Professor and Head of Dairy Technology Department at Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Dairy Technology under Bihar Animal Sciences University, Patna. Dr. Kumar obtained his PG Degree in Dairy Technology from Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Naini, Allahabad and subsequently earned his Ph.D. from ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Karnal, Haryana.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar started his professional career as a Research Associate under ICAR funded Network project on "R & D support for Process upgradation of Indigenous Milk Products" at NDRI, Karnal (2000-2001). He later joined Rajendra Agricultural University, Pusa to serve as Jr. Scientist (Dairy Technology) and officer In-charge at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Banka (2001-2006). Dr Sanjeev Kumar took up academic, research and extension responsibilities when he was offered the position of Assistant Professor in Dairy Technology at Sanjay Gandhi Institute of Dairy Technology, Patna in 2007. He also worked as Programme Coordinator and Senior Scientist-cum-Head for KVK, Nalanda under Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour during the year 2012-2017.

During his service period, he has not only contributed towards UG/PG teaching and research, but also organized several capacity building programmes for dairy farmers/women for strengthening the dairy sector. He has been mainly working in the area of Cheese, Traditional Dairy Products and Functional Dairy Foods, etc. He has published over 80 Research paper/Review paper/Book chapter/Technical articles in journals/Magazines of National/International repute and presented research paper in more than 35 National/International Conferences. He has also published three books and several manuals in the area of his expertise. He has to his credit a process patent on Feta Cheese



from Buffalo milk using microbial Rennet.

Dr. Kumar has diverse professional experience and excelled as performer in leadership role. During his tenure as Administrative Head/Programme Coordinator, KVK, Nalanda was conferred ICAR-Best KVK Award (Zonal) by ICAR on 16th July 2016. In recognition of his meritorious service, Society for Upliftment of Rural Economy (SURE), Varanasi bestowed upon him Best Extension Scientist award in the same year. He is also recipient of Young scientist award of All India Veterinary Public Health Association (2010) and several Best paper/poster awards in International/National Conferences. Dr. Kumar is Associate Fellow of National Academy of Dairy Sciences, India and Fellow of SURE, Varanasi. He has been shouldering major responsibilities in activities of professional societies including IDA and contributed to organization of many national/international conferences and trainings.

Dr. Sanjeev Kumar has been actively associated with various activities of IDA and is its Life Member. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Dr. Sanjeev Kumar for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Dr. Atanu Jana

Dr. Atanu Jana has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Atanu Jana has rendered his services at Sheth M.C. College of Dairy Science, Kamdhenu University, Anand, formerly under Anand Agricultural University (AAU) and Gujarat Agricultural University (GAU), for 38 years and currently holding the post of Principal since July, 2022. Dr. Jana is the Chairman and erstwhile TQM member of Vidya Dairy, Anand. He is the Patron of Alumni Association, SMC College of Dairy Science, Anand.

Dr. Jana completed his M.Sc. (Dairying) and Ph.D. in Dairy Technology from GAU, Sardarkrushinagar. He was associated in teaching (Undergraduate, Postgraduate and Doctoral students in the field of Dairy and Food Technology), research and extension. Dr. Jana has specialized in cheese and cheese analogues and had developed several new natural flavours for ice cream.

He is the Principal Investigator for research concerning "cheese analogue simulating Mozzarella" and has guided 22 M.Tech. and 4 Ph.D. students. Dr. Jana has to his credit more than 8 Book chapters and about 150 papers (Research and Technical) in Indian as well as International journals (USA, Australia, UK, Egypt, Canada) of repute. One book "Textbook of Cheese Technology" written by him with three co-authors is in its final stage to be published by ICAR, New Delhi. Dr. Jana had contributed invited papers for journals/magazines. Dr. Jana is a Member, Editorial Board for Dairy Research and Technology, Herald Scholarly Open Access, CIBTech and STM Journals. He is on the panel of Referee for journals viz., Int. Dairy J., Foods, Afr. J. Food Sci., JAOCS, J. Food Sci., J. Food Sci. & Technol., Asian J. Dairy & Food Res., etc.

Dr. Jana is the Vice Chairman of IDA (Gujarat State Chapter). He had been Member of Broad Subject Matter Area for Dairy Technology. He had been Member, UGC-Expert committee for accreditation of NDRI, Karnal and Sam Higginbottom Univ. of Agric. Sci. & Technology, Prayagraj. He has served as External expert for Sub-group of FSSAI regarding formulation of standard for



low-fat Mozzarella, processed cheeses. He was reviewer for two UG courses in NAHEP, e-Learning. Dr. Jana had been the Quiz Master and Organizing Secretary for 'National Dairy and Food Quiz Contest' held at the SMC College.

Dr. Jana is Life Member of IDA; AFSTI, Mysore; Dairy Technology Society of India, Karnal and Indian Science Congress, Kolkata. He was bestowed with 'Best Teacher Award' for the year 2014-15 by Dairy Science College, AAU, Anand and 'Life Time Achievement Award' by Agro Environmental Development Society, Rampur in 2021. Dr. Jana is the Fellow of National Academy of Dairy Sciences (I), Karnal.

Dr. Jana was conferred with 'Reviewer Excellence Award' by Agric. Res. Comm. Centre and Annual Research & Review in Biology journals.

Dr. Atanu Jana has been actively associated with various activities of IDA. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Dr. Atanu Jana for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Fellowship

Shri Vishvas Parshuram Chitale

Shri Vishvas Parshuram Chitale has been chosen as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2023, in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

The name "Chitale" is a household name in Maharashtra as a synonym for quality, transparency, and excellence. Chitale Dairy reminds the sweetness of milk products like Shrikhand, Basundi, instant mix products, and famous namkeen 'Bakarwadi' that are shipped to countries like Singapore, Dubai, USA and other European countries. "Quality is a journey, not a destination", is the motto for this voluminous growth and well-established brand. Shri Chitale has religiously followed three key principles of industrial growth: Innovation, modernization, and automation.

Shri Chitale received first-hand knowledge of running the business from his elders and thus provided a strong foundation for the legacy of the family business with his significant educational qualifications. Shri Chitale completed his B.E. in Electronics and Communication Engineering from Dharwad University, Karnataka. He has also completed a course in Food Processing from Lund University, Sweden. Both these degrees are highly appropriate to the Dairy and Food processing business he is running successfully.

Chitale Dairy is one of the oldest organized private dairy initiatives in the country. Established in 1939, the Chitale family has made a huge impact in the dairy products and animal husbandry industry in the last eight decades, however under his able leadership, the dairy business underwent a huge transformation. The 50,000 farmers are the backbone of this dairy industry, to ensure their financial stability; Chitale provided well-bred animals that can give quality and quantity in milk production as well as resistance to diseases. Database bank is created knows as cows to cloud which is used to analyse best breed for productions, progeny testing program and health status. Shri Chitale has been instrumental in building largest Sex sorted semen Lab in Asia Pacific with genomically selected bulls, also instrumental in building India's first veterinary blood analysis lab.

Shri Chitale has established 50 satellite dairy farms and



10,000 small-holding dairy farms that have generated employment for thousands of people in rural areas. He has been instrumental in developing electronic ear tags for animals that can store lifetime records of the animal such as the breed, type of vaccination, medicines, and nutrients given in various stages. A data-storing device-adaptable reader has also been developed. Shri Chitale has been on various boards such as NDRI Karnal, ICAR-CIRB and NAIP to help the farming community.

As a responsible entrepreneur, Shri Chitale has always shown a strong sense of social responsibility through the Chitale Group. The graph of his social work is as elevated as that of industrial growth. He has inspired many villages for Gram Swachhta Abhiyan and many of them have won awards. He has always come forward to give a helping hand in natural calamities like earthquakes, cyclones, floods, drought, etc. He has been constantly giving substantial donations to the Prime Minister, Chief Minister, and other Relief Funds.

Shri Chitale's journey as a businessperson is highly inspiring to the thousands of budding engineers and entrepreneurs. He has been actively associated with various activities of IDA and is its Life Member. This Fellowship is a fitting tribute to Shri Vishvas Parshuram Chitale for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Best Women Dairy Farmer Award

Smt. Gayatriben Riteshbhai Patel

Smt. Gayatriben Riteshbhai Patel has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (West Zone) as the recipient of the Best Woman Dairy Farmer Award-2023, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

The 44-year-old Smt. Gayatriben is from a small but historical village Ajarpura of Anand district of Gujarat, which has the honour of hosting the first Dairy Co-operative Society (DCS) in India, where three Prime Ministers have so far visited; Shri Lalbahadur Shastri, Shri Jawaharlal Nehru and Smt. Indira Gandhi ji. She has been recently elected as the Chairperson of the same DCS where she has been pouring milk for the last 8 years.

Smt. Gayatriben is a role model for the farmers of her area having a herd size of 40 animals on her farm. She has adopted scientific management methods of dairying, gaining her about Rs. 40 Lakh during the previous year. In a true entrepreneurial spirit, she has also been involved in integrated farming like cow dung value addition. She makes pots, logs, wall-clock, toran, Incense sticks, puja thali, dhoop cup, Ganesh idol, car hanging, keychains, earrings, and other jewelry. She started this activity during covid pandemic year 2020. She also started mushroom farming in 2022, growing oyster mushrooms at her farm and now she is running a café-store at the front side of the farm where she is doing value addition from mushrooms. She sells samosa, pakoda, khakhra, bhakri, and sugar-free sweets out of mushrooms. Her leadership role is also seen from her work as Chairperson of the Madhurkranti Sakhi Mandal group (SHG). Smt. Gayatriben is empowering women dairy farmers in other states.

The Best Women Dairy Farmer Award bestowed on her is a fitting tribute to Smt. Gayatriben for her outstanding contribution in furthering the cause of dairying in the village Ajarpura, Anand district of Gujarat and the Indian dairy industry as well.



Best Women Dairy Farmer Award

Smt. Rekha Devi Sharma

Smt. Rekha Devi Sharma has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (North Zone) as the recipient of the Best Woman Dairy Farmer Award-2023, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

Smt. Rekha Devi Sharma hails from Barna village in Jaipur district of Rajasthan State. As a member of Paayas Milk Producers' Company Ltd., she has been pouring milk since 2012. Her average daily milk pouring capacity is 260 litres. As a hard working woman dairy farmer, she has not only earned a good reputation in the Paayas Milk Producers' Company Ltd. but also established herself as a best dairy farmer member.

Smt. Rekha Devi Sharma is a role model for dairy farmers in her area having a herd size of 35 milch animals on her farm. She has adopted scientific management methods of dairying and has been improving her working day by day. She has been helping nearby dairy farmers with her experiences thereby supporting the dairy development activities in her area.

With her positive looking approach, Smt. Rekha Devi Sharma has been using best dairy farming practices. She is keeping high value dairy breeds at her farm to support her daily pouring capacity. During the highly difficult COVID-19 era, she had demonstrated herself as successful dairy woman entrepreneur. With her success in dairy farming business, Smt. Rekha Devi Sharma has earned respect in the family as well as in the society.

She has been taking active and regular participation in the clean milk production campaign and women empowerment activities of Paayas Milk Producers' Company Ltd. She has always encouraged and motivated other woman to join the profession of dairy farming.



The Best Woman Dairy Farmer Award bestowed on Smt. Rekha Devi Sharma is a fitting tribute to her outstanding contribution in furthering the cause of dairying in the Barna village of Jaipur district of Rajasthan State and the Indian dairy industry as well.

Best Women Dairy Farmer Award

Smt. Nikita Kumari

Smt. Nikita Kumari has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (East Zone) as the recipient of the Best Woman Dairy Farmer Award-2023, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

Smt. Nikita Kumari hails from Karbindha village in Madhupur Block of Jharkhand State. She started her dairy farming with five cows initially with the support from family and was looking for government support. Under the Kamdhenu Dairy Farming Scheme, she got support from the government. When the milk production increased, she started facing difficulty in its marketing. Many times, she had to sell milk at less than market price.

Later, her husband got in touch with the Deoghar unit of Jharkhand Milk Union. Since then, she has been pouring milk to her village dairy cooperative society of Jharkhand milk union and getting the sale proceed directly credited into her bank account.

Smt. Nikita Kumari is a role model for dairy farmers in her area having a herd size of 26 milch animals on her



farm. Out of 26 milch animals, currently she is milking from 18 cows. She has 3 buffaloes and 14 female calves. She has adopted scientific management methods of dairying and has been pouring more than 140 litres of milk daily to Jharkhand milk union and earning Rs. 1.5 lakh per month from her dairy farming. She has been supporting her family in a big way. She is hopeful of establishing a milk collection centre at her village besides increasing milk pouring capacity to 500 litre per day.

The Best Woman Dairy Farmer Award bestowed on her is a fitting tribute to her outstanding contribution in furthering the cause of dairying in the Karbindha village of Madhupur Block of Jharkhand State and the Indian dairy industry as well.

Smt. Sujatha

Smt. Sujatha w/o of Shri Venkatesh has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (South Zone) as the recipient of the Best Woman Dairy Farmer Award-2023, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

The 42-year-old Smt. Sujatha hails from Buhalli village in Ramanagara district of Karnataka and has been pouring milk to her village dairy cooperative society of Bangalore milk union for the past 20 years. Smt. Sujatha is a role model for dairy farmers in her area having a herd size of 15 animals on her farm. She has adopted scientific management methods of dairying and has poured 69,540 litres of milk earning an amount of Rs. 18,93,598 during the previous year.

The Best Woman Dairy Farmer Award bestowed on her



is a fitting tribute to her outstanding contribution in furthering the cause of dairying in the Buhalli village, Ramanagara district of Southern India and the Indian dairy industry as well.