



A Transformative Journey at the 50th Dairy Industry Conference : An Experience Sharing

Introduction

Before we start our journey, let me show you how it all started. Two months before the conference, the Indian Dairy Association (Kerala State Chapter) had selected a bunch of IDA student members from different colleges of Kerala Veterinary and Animal Sciences University to volunteer at the 50th Dairy Industry Conference (DIC). That is how we met each other, as we are from different colleges at the same university. Let me give a brief introduction to everyone. Starting with myself, Chandra Bhushan, and my team, Jemima Sam Sentic, Aakash Lal S, Alan Paul, Maanal S Panicker, Wafa Navas, Ashiba Farhath, Ameera C B, Hanan, Suhada, Chindu, Shilja, Akhil Binu, and Gowri Nandana. As a student volunteer at the Indian Dairy Association's 50th DIC, we had no idea how much of an influence this three-day

event would have on us. The conference, which took place during March 4-6 at Hyderabad's HITEX Exhibition Centre, was a life-changing event that went beyond the confines of academics. It brought together professionals, experts, dairy farmers, scientists and all dairy stakeholders.

Diverse Responsibilities, Endless Learning

As a student volunteer, we had a broad responsibility that included anything from running technical seminars to helping out the prominent speakers, guests, and organizers. We were able to acquire a variety of abilities and insightful knowledge about the inner workings of a large-scale event thanks to this practical experience. This led us to a broader awareness of the opportunities and complexity found in the dairy sector throughout our time as student volunteers, which was overall quite fulfilling. We were able to network with industry professionals and develop a greater understanding of the commitment and hard work involved in dairy production. This experience has strengthened our desire to work in the sector and motivated me to keep studying and developing in it. The first-hand exposure to the intricate workings of such a colossal event was an education in itself. However, the real treasure lay in the diverse array of sessions that I had the privilege to attend. These



sessions covered topics ranging from sustainability practices to technological advancements, providing me with valuable insights that I can apply in my future endeavors within the dairy industry. Overall, attending this event was a transformative experience that has fueled my enthusiasm for a career in dairy production.

A Glimpse into the Professional Landscape

Meeting experts from prominent dairy corporations and people who had finished their master's degrees in a range of dairy technology fields was like taking a peek into the professional environment that lay ahead of us. The insights and advice shared by these individuals provided invaluable guidance for our future careers in dairy technology.

It was inspiring to see the diverse paths that can be taken within the industry, giving us a glimpse of the possibilities that await us. All things considered, the event strengthened our desire to work in dairy technology and demonstrated the value of ongoing education and networking within this field. The knowledge that there is room for advancement and success in this industry gave us confidence and inspired us to put in a lot of effort in our future endeavours. Learning from their journeys added a pragmatic dimension to our academic knowledge, instilling a sense of purpose and direction.

Overall, the event catalyzed our professional development and inspired us to take proactive steps towards achieving our goals in dairy technology. It is essential to continue to seek out new skills and knowledge to stay competitive in the field of dairy technology. By building a strong foundation of expertise and experience, we can ensure that our careers continue to thrive. Ultimately, success in any career path requires a combination of hard work, dedication, and a willingness to continue learning and growing.

In retrospect, the 50th DIC was not just an event; it was

an odyssey of discovery and enlightenment. As a student volunteer, I am immensely grateful for the opportunity to be a part of this transformative experience. The knowledge gained, the connections forged, and the camaraderie shared during those three days has left an indelible mark on my journey as a dairy technology student. The discussions were not confined to theoretical frameworks; they resonated with practical applications and real-world scenarios. These insights were like a compass, guiding us through the maze of strategies that fuel the economic engine of the dairy industry.

Acknowledgement

We extend our heartfelt gratitude for the remarkable opportunity to participate in the 50th DIC. This prestigious event allowed us to engage with key players in India's dairy industry, and it was truly an honour.

We owe a debt of thanks to the IDA Kerala chapter and Faisal Sir for their unwavering support. Their guidance ensured the smooth functioning of the program, from inception to conclusion.

Special recognition goes to Dr. Aparna Sudhakaran V madam, whose dedicated efforts secured our involvement as volunteers. Her commitment and enthusiasm were instrumental in shaping our journey throughout the conference.

The challenges we encountered along the way taught us the importance of composure, cooperation, and proactive problem-solving.

As a team, we take immense pride in the work we accomplished together and remain humbled by the appreciation we received. The journey continues, and the memories of this conference will be a guiding light in the chapters of life. I am grateful for the opportunity to have been a part of such a transformative event and look forward to applying what I have learned in my future endeavours.

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