

Dr. V. Kurien Award

Dr. R.P. Aneja

Dr. Ram P. Aneja is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association as the recipient of the 16th Dr Kurien Award-2025 in recognition of his outstanding contribution to the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. R.P. Aneja, Former Managing Director of NDDB, made significant contributions to the dairy industry in India, even before the initiation of the Operation Flood Project. He assisted in formulating policies related to the two-axis pricing of milk and transfer prices for imported dairy commodities. This ensured that milk producers received fair prices for both cow and buffalo milk. Additionally, it established the basis for transfer prices of donated dairy commodities, ensuring that imported dairy products did not adversely affect Indian milk producers.

Dr. Aneja, along with his team of dairy technologists and market research professionals, initiated practical research to develop suitable manufacturing processes for recombined milk. This innovation made recombined milk acceptable to urban consumers, replacing a portion of the locally produced milk that was initially in short supply. He played a leading role in the planning and economic analysis of the Operation Flood project. Later, NDDB integrated the project with the assistance of the World Bank to extend it to other states. Dr. Aneja also led the team in negotiating loans with the World Bank to ensure the continued viability and monitoring of the program.

With the help of consultants, Dr. Aneja developed and implemented a Management Information System (MIS) that collected the necessary information to monitor the project from the milk unions to the operation of the National Milk Grid. This system helped manage the dairy economy under the Technology Mission on Dairying. Dr. Aneja devoted considerable time, effort, and resources to setting up the Sugam Dairy as a pilot plant for developing processes to manufacture indigenous dairy products. He launched factory-made Shrikhand, Gulabjamuns, cheese spreads, yogurts, vegetable protein-based tea and coffee whiteners. The product development work was based on market research in urban areas and the demand patterns for milk and milk products.



He played a key role in developing electronic milk testers and setting up a joint venture for their large-scale manufacture. These devices facilitated the establishment of computerized milk collection systems at the village level, enabling village cooperatives to electronically transfer milk payments to producers instantly. As the Ex Additional Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India (DARE) under the Technology Mission on Dairy, Dr. Aneja initiated the restructuring of the graduate programs in dairy technology to include a year of practical dairy operations. This enabled students to master dairy plant operations before completing the program. The Technology Mission on Dairy Development helped set up student dairies at Anand and Karnal for this purpose. This was Dr. Aneja's way of giving back to dairy education, which had supported his 65-year career in the sector.

Dr. Aneja continues to share his vast experience in dairy, oilseed, and horticulture with economists at Sai University in Puttaparthi. He is also an Emeritus Professor at IRMA. He continues his work on process development that has resulted in the setting up of the world's largest Khoa plant. Dr. Aneja is a graduate of the very first batch of dairy graduates from the Dairy Science College, Karnal. He holds a Master's degree in Dairy & Food Science from the University of Saskatchewan, Canada and a Ph.D. from Gujarat Agriculture University, Anand.

The Dr. Kurien Award being bestowed on Dr. R.P. Aneja speaks volumes of his outstanding contributions to the growth of Indian Dairy Industry.



Lifetime Achievement Award

Dr. J.S. Punjraht



IDA's Lifetime Achievement Award is being conferred on Dr. Jagjit Singh Punjraht, former Executive Director of NDDB. A renowned multi-skilled international Dairy expert, Dr. Punjraht played a pivotal role in India's Operation Flood Programs (the world's largest dairy development project) alongside Dr. V. Kurien. He is also recognized for his expertise in turning around numerous struggling projects in both India and Sri Lanka. His turnaround strategies have been featured as case studies in prestigious management institutions such as IRMA and the IIMs in Ahmadabad. Dr. Punjraht's exceptional contributions towards restructuring the dairy industry in India and abroad are widely acknowledged.

Following his graduation from Dairy Science College, NDRI Karnal, Dr. Punjraht briefly served as Technical Bacteriologist/Technical Superintendent at Hindustan Milk Foods Manufacturer (Horlicks) Ltd. in Nabha. He then pursued further studies in the United States with a Teaching/Research Assistantship at Cornell University and Michigan State University. Notably, he was the first B.Sc. (Dairying) student from NDRI, Karnal to earn a Ph.D., specifically in the field of Engineering. He was also the first from India to receive an M.S. from the Department of Food Science at Cornell University (after a gap of many decades since Dr. C.P. Ananthakrishnan), paving the way for other dairy technology graduates from Karnal to attend Cornell.

Dr. Punjraht has served on the Board of Directors of

numerous organizations, including NCDFI, Hindustan Packaging Co. Limited, REIL, Mehsana District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union, Bihar State Coop. Milk Producers' Federation Ltd., Junagarh Dairy, Banas Dairy, The Orissa State Oilseeds Grower Coop. Federation, Sugam Dairy, Vidya Dairy, Aseptic Packaging Plant Surat, Bhavnagar Vegetable Oil Project, Maharashtra Coop. Milk Federation, and many other district cooperative unions.

As head of R&D at NDDB, he was instrumental in developing numerous products and technologies that have transformed the dairy industry, including a continuous plant for industrial-scale paneer manufacturing (the largest of its kind), sweetened condensed milk, UHT products, cheese spreads, specialty cheeses, and a variety of ice creams. The introduction of sweetened condensed milk broke Nestle's monopoly, while the sale of paneer by GCMMF has surpassed 100 MT/day and continues to exhibit strong growth, along with ice creams and UHT processed milk variants. Today, significant percentage of GCMMF's revenue stems from products developed under Dr. Punjraht's leadership.

The Government of Sri Lanka appointed Dr. Punjraht to the Governing Board and Board of Directors of ITI (equivalent to the Indian Council of Scientific Research). He also served as a member of the Cluster on Livestock Development of the National Council on Economic Development. He led NDDB teams to Israel, France, and Sri Lanka, establishing various successful collaborations.

Dr. Punjraht represented India as an expert on several International Dairy Commission groups, including New Technologies for Fermented Milks (Group B-45), Hygienic Design of Equipment used in the Dairy Industry, Selective Food Additives (Group 43), Membrane Processing (Group B-47), Commission B- Technology and Engineering, and the Standing Committee on Standards for Dairy Products other than Cheese.

Furthermore, Dr. Punjraht has been Chairman of the Dairy Products & Equipment Section Committee - FAD 57 of the Bureau of Indian Standards (Indian Standards Institute) and a member of the Advisory Committee of the Department of Food Science and Technology, Government of India.

The IDA is honored to bestow this award upon Dr. Jagjit Singh Punjraht in recognition of his outstanding contributions to India's dairy industry and his positive impact on the lives of countless farmers, consumers, employees, trade partners, and investors.



Shri S.S. Mann

Shri Sukhbir Singh Mann is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Patronship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA, the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry and Indian Food Processing Industry.

Shri Mann's career in the Dairy industry has been more than five decades during which he has been a recognised leader and trail blazer especially in area of Entrepreneurship. Being a graduate of prestigious National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) and Final Year 1st Rank holder, Shri Mann was campus selected by Nestle India Limited (formerly known as Food Specialities Ltd.). There he was widely respected for his technical and leadership skills and was key member in capacity expansion from 42,000 Lt. to 7,00,000 Lt. during his 17 years tenure. One of his other key achievements was first in Nestle to achieve continuous Ghee manufacturing using Vacuum Pan Drying. He was active member of the team that introduced Condensed milk, baby foods and Dairy Whiteners. All these products are market leaders in Dairy industry. Both these plants expanded multi-fold under his leadership. When he left Nestle, he was the Manufacturing Chief at then Nestle's largest plant in Moga.

In 1987, demonstrating remarkable courage and a strong entrepreneurial spirit, he took the leap into business by founding a co-packing facility for GSK Consumer Healthcare Ltd., where he produced milk-based products such as Horlicks. What started as a small venture has grown substantially, and today, his company, Mann Ventures, is one of the largest food manufacturers in the country and a major processor of dairy products. Mann Ventures operates 14 manufacturing units across North, East, and South India, employing over 7,000 people. These units hold industry-leading certifications, including SMETA, FSSC, and American Institute of Bakery, among others. The company offers a diverse range of products, from dairy-based bakery products range and Dry Mix Powder to malted food drinks and ice cream, as well as confectionery, condiments, tea, healthcare, pharma, and personal care items. Committed to sustainability, he ensures that 25% of the company's energy needs come from renewable sources. Under his leadership, Mann Ventures has implemented Total Quality Management (TQM), advanced quality management systems, and automation



innovations to improve the quality of its products. Additionally, he has led numerous CSR initiatives focused on primary and technical education, dairy industry advancements, and women's health. His company is trusted by global corporations such as Mondelez, Indian food giants like Britannia and ITC, and cooperatives like Mother Dairy. For his services, he has received many prestigious Business awards - Arch of Excellence (1993), Icon of Haryana (2018), Kaum Gaurav (2024) among others.

Shri Mann has been unanimously elected the Chairman of IDA (North Zone) from 2018 to 2021 and 2021 to 2024 for two consecutive terms. During his tenure as Chairman, he has brought far reaching initiatives in making the organisation self-sustaining and making it a leading voice in the Dairy industry. He has been associated with IDA for more than 3 decades as Life Member and spearheaded crucial reforms, including the much-needed amendments to the Association's constitution and moving away from cumbersome paper ballot to the electronic voting, which also required updating the pan India membership' database for the successful implementation of E-Voting. It was under his leadership that the 48th Dairy Industry Conference in Jaipur was successfully conducted. He has sponsored various Dairy conferences under IDA and World Dairy Summit.

The Patronship is a fitting tribute to Shri Sukhbir Singh Mann for honouring his exceptional contributions to the advancement of the dairy industry and his pivotal role in its development.

Patronship

Dr. Satish Kulkarni

Dr. Satish Kulkarni is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Patronship-2025 in recognition of his exceptional contributions to the IDA and his instrumental role in advancing the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Kulkarni obtained his undergraduate degree from Mysore University and pursued his Diploma and Doctoral degrees in Dairy Technology at the ICAR- National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Bengaluru and Karnal. He further enhanced his expertise through Post-Doctoral Research in Germany for two years. In 2009, he earned a Postgraduate Diploma in Intellectual Property Rights from the National Law School University, Hyderabad. In 2019, he completed his law degree from Karnataka State Law University, driven by his keen interest in Food Safety & Regulations.

Dr. Kulkarni began his professional journey as a Dairy Technologist with the Karnataka Milk Federation before joining the ICAR-NDRI, Karnal as a Scientist. He was elevated to the position of Principal Scientist in 1998 and later appointed as the Head of the Southern Regional Station of NDRI, Bengaluru in 2008, a position he held until his retirement in 2015.

As a Scientist with a high reputation in Dairy Technology and Head of ICAR-NDRI, Bengaluru, Dr. Kulkarni led multiple research projects and mentored numerous Diploma, M.Tech, and Ph.D. students. His research contributions are evident through a large number of publications in National and International Journals. Additionally, he played a pivotal role in supporting over 90 dairy processing units in product development, processing, and market launch initiatives. As a Certified Lead Auditor for ISO 9001 and ISO 22000, he has made significant contributions to quality and safety assurance in the dairy sector. His accomplishments have been recognized through numerous prestigious awards, including the Lalji Godhoo Award from the Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (India) [AFST(I)], Fellowships from AFST(I) and Dairy Technology Society, Karnal, three team awards, and Best Teacher Award (2008) from the ICAR, New Delhi. He has also served as an expert member on the scientific panels of the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) for over three terms.



Following his retirement, Dr. Kulkarni co-founded the Dairy Skills & Food Quality Academy in Bengaluru, undertaking several consultancy projects in Southern India. He later co-founded Legalwrax Business Solutions, a Bengaluru-based consultancy specializing in food regulatory compliance.

Dr. Kulkarni has been actively involved with professional organizations such as the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) and the AFST(I), serving in various leadership roles. He was the President of AFST(I), Mysore (2009-10), the Chairman of IDA (South Zone), and the Vice President of IDA, New Delhi. Additionally, he served as the Secretary General of the Dairy Industry Conference held in Bengaluru (2005). Serving a second term as Chairman of IDA (South Zone), Dr. Kulkarni successfully led the 50th Golden Jubilee Dairy Industry Conference (2024) in Hyderabad and the maiden Southern Dairy Summit-2025 held recently in Bengaluru.

Dr. Kulkarni's association with IDA over the past two decades has significantly contributed to the industry's progress. As Vice President of the IDA, he contributed critical reforms, including amendments to the constitution of the association, and transitioning from traditional paper ballots to an electronic voting system, which required a comprehensive update of the IDA's nationwide membership database for its successful implementation.

The Patronship is a fitting tribute to Dr. Satish Kulkarni, for his outstanding contributions to dairy research, education, and development of the Indian Dairy Industry.



Shri Arun Patil

Shri Arun Patil is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Patronship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

He has immensely contributed in expanding the outreach, enhancing the visibility, and improving the finances of the Association. This award also acknowledges his significant technological contributions to the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry over the past 50 years.

Shri Patil is a B.Tech. (Agricultural Engineering) from Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri, Maharashtra. He did his M.Tech. (Dairy & Food Engineering) from IIT Kharagpur, West Bengal.

He has worked in the Engineering Division of the National Dairy Development Board from 1977 to 1988, during the implementation of India's world-renowned dairy development program, 'Operation Flood'. He played a key role in the planning, designing, and execution of numerous milk chilling centers, dairy plants, and cattle feed plants across India. He was also a member of the team responsible for preparing Perspective Plans for various northern states in India. While on deputation to Mahanand Dairy, Mumbai, he successfully worked to popularize cow milk in the city.

Through his company, Procon Engineers & Consultants, he installed many milk processing plants, ice cream plants, cheese plants and cattle feed plants all over India. He also developed Pre-cooling Technology, crucial for the export of fresh grapes and mangoes. The Tractor-Mounted Mobile Pre-cooling Vans developed by him in 1991, paved the way for the export of grapes by the Grape Growers' Cooperatives in Maharashtra. For the first time, Indian grapes were exported to European countries by reefer containers. Additionally, as Chairman and Managing Director of Green Gold Exports Pvt. Ltd., he played a pivotal role in boosting the export of grapes, mangoes, and strawberries from Maharashtra.

Shri Patil is the longest-serving Chairman of IDA (West Zone). He has built a very good team of office bearers, since 2000. He has organized four Dairy Industry Conferences, international exhibitions, and numerous seminars and workshops for the benefit of the dairy industry.



Under his leadership, IDA (West Zone) established its own office, in Mumbai, at a prime location. As a CEC Member, he has made invaluable contributions to various committees, guiding the growth and increasing the activities of the Association, at multiple levels.

In 2010, he appeared as a member of the IDA team, before the Standing Committee on Agriculture and the Leader of the Opposition in the Indian Parliament to present the challenges faced by the dairy industry.

In 2013, Shri Patil successfully proposed the celebration of Dr. Kurien's birthday as 'National Milk Day'.

The Patronship is a fitting tribute to Shri Arun Patil for his exemplary contributions to the growth of the IDA and the Indian Dairy Industry.



Shri Ram Chandra Choudhary

Shri Ram Chandra Choudhary is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Choudhary is the Chairman of the Ajmer District Milk Cooperative Union, has dedicated over 35 years in transforming the dairy sector and uplifting rural communities in Rajasthan. His unwavering commitment to cooperative growth, infrastructure development, and farmer welfare has positioned Ajmer as a model for dairy excellence in India. Under his leadership, the cooperative movement in Ajmer has flourished, expanding to 835 milk committees across 1,123 villages, with 251 specifically for women, promoting gender inclusivity in rural development. His efforts have directly impacted over 60,000 livestock farmers, including 18,247 women, ensuring steady income through organized milk collection and fair pricing mechanisms.

A landmark achievement of Shri Choudhary's tenure has been the establishment of a state-of-the-art milk processing plant in 2019, with an 8-lakh-liter capacity and a 30 MT powder plant. This Rs.320 crore project, financed through NCDC loan with NDDDB support, has significantly enhanced milk processing capabilities, reducing dependency on external districts and saving Rs. 8-10 crore annually. The plant generates an additional Rs.18 crore annually by processing milk for other unions and has expanded product diversity with 56 high-quality dairy offerings, strengthening consumer trust.

In times of crisis, Shri Choudhary has demonstrated exceptional leadership, ensuring the well-being of livestock farmers during severe droughts by securing a 50% subsidy on fodder for five lakh cattle. His advocacy has also led to critical social security measures, including health and cattle insurance for farmers, further safeguarding their livelihoods.

His contributions to rural livelihoods are unparalleled, as he championed initiatives to secure the highest milk prices nationally for farmers and successfully lobbied for government schemes such as a Rs. 5/liter incentive for milk producers and animal insurance under the Chief Minister's scheme. His efforts facilitated the acquisition of over 42,000 high-yield milch animals, significantly enhancing milk production and breed quality in Ajmer.



A proponent of continuous learning and innovation, Shri Choudhary has actively engaged in global and national dairy conferences, integrating best practices to enhance local dairy farming operations. His strategic vision led to the deployment of 373 state-of-the-art FTIR milk testing machines and bulk milk coolers at Dairy Cooperative Society levels, ensuring the highest quality standards in milk collection.

Shri Choudhary's leadership and advocacy have not only ensured financial stability for dairy farmers but have also championed social equity, particularly empowering women through active participation in dairy cooperatives. His work embodies Dr. Verghese Kurien's vision of "Operation Flood," transforming Ajmer into a beacon of cooperative excellence and commitment to farmers' welfare and women's inclusiveness has led Ajmer Dairy's growth to new heights and made SARAS a household brand for quality and trusted dairy product. His tireless dedication continues to shape the future of dairy farming, ensuring prosperity and sustainability for rural communities.

The Fellowship of the IDA is a fitting tribute to Shri Ram Chandra Choudhary for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Tapas Chatterjee

Shri Tapas Chatterjee is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Tapas Chatterjee is a Post Graduate Degree holder in Chemistry from Kurukshetra University. He is recognised as a member of scientific fraternity, who has raised the stature of India globally by immense contribution in the field of research, innovation and commercialization of invented technologies.

His expertise in the field of Evaporation & Drying Technologies has led to many industrial solutions for various industrial processes. Dairy application being the most important amongst them.

Shri Tapas Chatterjee is the Managing Director of SSP Private Limited. Along with respected Shri R.P. Banerjee, he has nurtured SSP into a unique institution that provides research-based solutions customised to the Indian ecosystem.

SSP has a state-of-art Innovation Centre just across the Delhi border comprising of:

- The Research & Development wing (recognised by DSIR, Ministry of Science & Technology, Government of India) where processes are conceptualised, designed, developed and customised to Customer's/Market's mandates.
- The Demonstration Plant Cluster comprising of Industrial scale equipment and accessories where realistic Trials/Tests/Simulations of the processes are undertaken based on raw materials of the Customer. This enables the prospective Customers/End-Users to see the actual process in operation and test and feel the results thereof.

Shri Chatterjee's credentials as an innovator are validated by the ten numbers of patents granted to him while five more await approval. **At SSP, innovation is a way of life and an on-going process.**

SSP is probably the only organization in the country that can demonstrate the invented process on industrial scale as a prelude to formal procurement by the Customer. Furthermore, operating through the Innovation Centre, Shri Chatterjee is among the few experts in upscaling technology from the laboratory to viable commercial production units.



Three decades back, Shri Chatterjee took the bold step to challenge the European multinationals in the international stage. Today SSP's references include over 1500 projects in fifty six countries including developed countries like USA, Europe, Canada, Russia, etc.

True to his extra-ordinary style of operation, Shri Chatterjee took the unusual step of taking over a Canadian organisation ProSoya inc. to cross the threshold into the market in the Americas. Thus, SSP truly became an Indian multinational in 2016.

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



Shri Sudhir Kumar Singh

Shri Sudhir Kumar Singh is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Singh is currently working in National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), supporting policy execution, cooperative expansion, and dairy infrastructure development across India, working closely with state federations and milk unions.

He is a veteran leader in India's dairy sector, with over 44 years of experience in dairy cooperatives, milk federations, and national dairy development initiatives. His expertise lies in strengthening cooperative structures, expanding milk procurement networks, modernizing dairy infrastructure, and enhancing farmer incomes. With a career spanning leadership role across NDDB, Jharkhand Milk Federation (Medha), and Patna Milk Union (Sudha), he has been instrumental in driving self-sufficiency, innovation, and market expansion in the Indian dairy industry.

Shri Singh did B.Tech in Dairy Technology from ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI), Karnal in 1981. He joined Vaishal Patliputra Milk Union as Chief Executive in 1981. He completed his MBA (Marketing of Dairy Products) from Cranfield University, UK in 1990.

In 2007, he elevated to the post of Managing Director, Vaishal Patliputra Milk Union and worked till 2019. During this period, he positioned Sudha as a leading dairy brand in Eastern India, driving operational expansion and infrastructure development through new processing and feed plants, enhancing efficiency, market reach, and farmer prosperity.

In 2019, he was appointed as Managing Director, Jharkhand Milk Union (Medha) and worked till 2024. He spearheaded strategic expansion and infrastructure growth, strengthening market presence while fostering high-impact partnerships to elevate dairy quality, efficiency, and farmer integration.

Amongst the various awards received by him, some of them are: -Bihar Times Excellence Award (2011 & 2012); Lifetime Achievement Award by ASSOCHAM; Best Marketing Man of the Year (2016, All India



Management Congress); and Bhamasah Award by Bihar Govt. - First in India's Dairy Industry, etc.

He is the Chairman, Indian Dairy Association (East Zone); Member, Central Executive Committee-IDA; Chairman, Bihar State Productivity Council; Vice President, Association of British Scholars; and Life Member, Dairy Society of India.

The Fellowship of the IDA is a fitting tribute to Shri Sudhir Kumar Singh for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri B.V.K. Reddy

Shri Busireddy Venkata Krishna Reddy is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Shri Busireddy Venkata Krishna Reddy (Popularly known as B.V.K. Reddy in the Indian Dairy Industry), a visionary leader in the dairy industry, hails from Pulgacherla, a small village in Telangana. He obtained his Bachelor of Science (Dairy Technology) Degree from Kamareddy College of Dairy Technology, Osmania University in 1985. He has participated in educational programs at various prestigious institutions like the Indian School of Business, Hyderabad, and Cornell University on Strategic Management and leadership.

Soon after his graduation, Shri Reddy began his professional journey as a Technical Officer in Amul Co-operatives (1985 - 88), where he gained foundational experience in the Dairy Industry. He then moved to Premier Industries, Indore, where he played a key role in its operations for six years. During 1994-97, Shri Reddy held leadership positions in Shiva Shakti Dairy and Ravi Leela Dairy as Head of Operations.

In 1997, Shri Reddy joined Dodla Dairy as Chief of Operations at its Nellore Plant. Later with his exceptional expertise and dedication, he rose to become the CEO of the Company in 2013. As the Group CEO of Dodla Dairy, Shri Reddy now leads the senior management teams across India and Africa, contributing to the company's sustained growth and operational excellence. Under his leadership, Dodla Dairy has witnessed significant milestones and become a prominent name in the industry. Shri Reddy sets overall direction and leads the Dodla Dairy Ltd.'s management team in all aspects of Company's Operations in India as well as abroad. With the Managing Director and Board of Directors, he also plays a key role in setting the strategies of the Company. He has a concern with the farmers community, to which he pushed his team to collect directly from the farmers and pay them directly by avoiding middlemen. He is focused on enhancing Dodla's inherent strengths and securing future growth for the Company through people, product, market, and capacity expansions. He has been instrumental in driving the Company's Operations and Chief Architect of its exceptional growth



in recent years. With over 39 years of experience in the Dairy Industry, Shri Reddy has been instrumental in managing and driving all facets of the business such as Milk Procurement, Supply Chain Management, and Sales & Marketing.

Shri Reddy is an active member of several prestigious industry associations, namely, Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), Federation of Telangana Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FTCCI) and Indian Dairy Association (IDA). He has been serving in the Central Executive Committee of IDA. He played a pivotal role in the establishment of the Telangana chapter of IDA and in organizing the 50th Dairy Industry Conference, 2024 held in Hyderabad, ensuring its success and strengthening the region's prominence in the Dairy Sector.

The Fellowship of the IDA is a fitting tribute to Shri Busireddy Venkata Krishna Reddy for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.



Dr. Surendra Ranade

Dr. Surendra Ranade is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Ranade has over 45 years of active service in the Indian Dairy Sector. He started his career with the NDDDB in 1978 and served for about 15 years. During this period, he performed different roles, including Programme Coordinator for North Eastern States. He represented NDDDB as its nominee on the Board of seven Milk Unions of the Eastern Region.

A veterinary Graduate and PG Diploma holder (OYP) from IRMA, Dr. Ranade served as Chief Executive Officer of three District Milk Cooperatives and also a New Generation Cooperative at Junagadh (Gujarat). Of these, The Rajkot Milk Union (Gujarat) had accumulated losses of Rs 1.25 Crores whereas the Pune Milk Union had accumulated losses of Rs 11.25 Crores. The farmers of Pune Milk Union were not paid for Nine months for the milk supplied by them and about 700 employees were not paid salary for Six months. Under the leadership of Dr. Ranade the Pune Milk Union was converted into a profit-making unit in a span of three and half years. Due to the robust monitoring system introduced at both these units, they are currently successful milk cooperatives.

Dr. Ranade joined the Kolhapur District Cooperative Milk Union as its Managing Director in April 2004. The Unit is the largest milk cooperative of Maharashtra. In order to increase Milk Procurement, an incentive scheme for Calf rearing was introduced, which resulted in doubling the milk procurement from an annual average of Five lakh LPD to 12 Lakh LPD in a five-year period. He along with an former Scientist from BARC also developed a low-cost formula for Milk Replacement for calves, which was PATENTED by Gokul Dairy. He introduced Provident Fund Scheme for Farmer milk Suppliers and also LEAVE bank Scheme for the Employees during his tenure as of MD, Gokul Dairy.

During his tenure with Gokul Dairy, Kolhapur, various Milk products like Butter Milk, Lassi, Curd, Paneer, and Cow Ghee were introduced under the GOKUL Brand.



Later in October 2008, Dr. Ranade joined the Jungadh Unit of Mother Dairy, New Delhi, where NDDDB was organising New Generation Cooperative - Maahi Milk Producers Company. Apart from the revival of closed dairy units of Saurashtra and Kutch of the erstwhile GDDC, the Dairy plant Junagadh was expanded from 3 to 6 Lakh litre capacity, and a 30 MTD milk drying plant was commissioned in a record 15 months' time.

Dr. Ranade, also served as a Milk procurement Specialist with the NDDDB Dairy Services. He also served with Maharashtra State Milk Federation; a NGO-ISAP, New Delhi; and Prabhat Dairy, Maharashtra.

Currently he is working as an Advisor-Milk, Dairy & AH initiative under CSR Projects of M/S Pidilite Industries, Mumbai.

He has been associated with the Indian Dairy Association since 1980 and was office bearer of IDA West Zone for nine years. The Fellowship of the IDA is a fitting tribute to Dr. Surendra Ranade for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. S.N. Rajakumar

Dr. S.N. Rajakumar is being honoured by the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) as the recipient of IDA Fellowship-2025 in recognition of outstanding services rendered by him in furthering the cause of IDA and the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Dr. Rajakumar graduated in Dairy Technology from the University of Agricultural Sciences, Bangalore in 1987 and completed Master's Degree in Dairy Technology from the same University in 1992. After serving the Dairy Industry for a brief period, he joined Kerala Agricultural University as Assistant Professor (Dairy Technology) in 1994. Dr. Rajakumar was instrumental in fulfilling the academic requirements for the B.Tech Dairy Technology programme started in 1993. He pursued Ph.D. in Dairy Technology at NDRI, Karnal during 2004-2008.

Dr. Rajakumar is officiating as University Head, department of Dairy Technology since 2011. He has succeeded in introducing new dairy products while officiating as Head of University Dairy plant. He served as Special officer of College of Food Technology when the University started B.Tech Food Technology in 2017. He was selected as faculty Dean, Faculty of Dairy Sciences, Verghese Kurien Institute of Dairy & Food Technology in 2022 and is continuing in the post till date. He succeeded in bringing state-of-the-art infrastructural facilities in the institute which helped to start various academic programmes including Doctoral programmes under the faculty.

Dr. Rajakumar has extensive research contributions in the frontier area of Dairy Technology such as process modification, development of high value dietetic dairy products with enhanced health attributes and food products as dietary supplements with proven research records in peer-reviewed Journals, patents and commercialized technologies. He has taken a leading role in the development of nutraceutical products to combat Osteoporosis, Type-2 diabetes, hypertension and hypercholesterolemia. The latest effort was the development of geriatric food to improve calcium and iron bioavailability besides reducing the dysphasia condition. His research group has developed functional Swiss type cheese from UF retentate using the principle of pre-cheese technology. He has recently been awarded three patents. Apart from his academic pursuits, Dr. Rajakumar has also proved his professional expertise



through his participation in professional organizations. He is Life member of Indian Dairy Association, Association of Food Scientists and Technologists (India), Dairy Technology Society of India and National Academy of Dairy Science (India). He officiated as the Chairman of AFST (I), Thrissur Chapter later National Vice President AFST(I), Mysore, and is presently the Chairman of IDA Kerala State Chapter. He has succeeded in the conduct of many conferences and seminars under these organizations which has assumed much national importance. He was also conferred Fellowship of National Academy of Dairy Science (India) in 2024.

The Fellowship of the IDA is a fitting tribute to Dr. S.N. Rajakumar for his exemplary role and contributions to IDA and to the growth of the Indian Dairy Industry.

Best Women Dairy Farmer Award

Mrs. Anjali Kumar



Mrs. Anjali Kumar W/o, Shri Shailendra Kumar has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (East Zone) as the recipient of the Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award-2025, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

The 59 year old Mrs Anjali Kumar hails from Bajitpur village in Vaishali district of Bihar and has been pouring milk to the Sudha Dairy, for the last more than 5 years.

Mrs Anjali Kumar started her business since March 2020 along with her husband. Initially, she bought 3 Sahiwal, 1 Rathi and 5 Jersey cows from Karnal, Haryana. Later on, she bought some more cows including 1 Gir, 1 Swarn Kapila and some other good breed from Gujarat.

Presently, She is a highly experienced dairy farmer and a role-model for farmers of her area having a herd size of 20 cows, 20 buffaloes, and 25 calves. In her dairy farm, there are five people working on Salary.

Initially, average milk production of her farms was 100 litre per day and currently, it has reached 250 litre per day. She used to buy mineral and feed Supplement, Milk-gainer Gold Dana, along with veterinary medicine from Sudha Dairy.

Mrs Anjali Kumar is also producing organic fertilizer by properly processing cow dung. In order to ensure availability of green fodder all year round, she also make silage out of maize.

Her monthly income varies from Rs. 40,000 to Rs. 50,000/-. She is expecting to increase her dairy farm average milk production further by increasing her herd size to 100 from next year onward.

Mrs. Anjali Kumar is currently struggling with some of her problem at her dairy farm, such as infertility of the animal, animal not coming into heat at the right time, inability to conceive/timely vaccination, etc. Delay in menstruation, lack of emergency medical facilities, availability of semen of correct genotype, reduction in procurement price of milk etc. are the major problems, she has been facing. However, she has been able to solve some of her problems with the help from Sudha Dairy.

The Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award bestowed on Mrs Anjali Kumar is a fitting tribute to her outstanding contribution in furthering the cause of dairying in Bajitpur village of the Vaishali district of Bihar and Indian dairy industry as well.

Best Women Dairy Farmer Award

Mrs. Rajput Dariyaben Trikamaji



Smt. Rajput Dariyaben Trikamaji has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (West Zone) as the recipient of the Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award-2025, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

Smt. Rajput Dariyaben Trikamaji is a testament to perseverance, vision, and unwavering determination. Her journey from humble beginnings to becoming a successful dairy entrepreneur is an inspiration to many. Once relying on daily labour for survival and living in a modest brick house with a metal-plated roof, she embarked on her dairy farming journey in 2011 with just two cattle.

Through sheer hard work and dedication, she gradually expanded her dairy business, transforming her life and that of her family. Today, she owns an impressive herd of 270 cattle, comprising 165 buffaloes, 5 indigenous cows, and 100 Holstein Friesian cows. Managing her enterprise with the support of three family members, she has also generated employment for 15 individuals, contributing to rural economic development.

Smt. Trikamaji's success is a reflection of her resilience and strategic approach to dairy farming. Her enterprise has provided her with a monthly income of Rs. 1,125,209 and an annual income of Rs. 13,502,511 along with an additional Rs. 3,356,043 received annually from price differences. Beyond financial success, she has significantly improved her standard of living—moving into a three-story modern home, acquiring two cars, and continuing to scale her business.

Her remarkable progress has been supported by Banas Dairy, which facilitated access to key resources such as a milking machine, an animal cooling system, an electric chaff cutter, and participation in the open shed program and the Gaman subsidy. These interventions helped her overcome critical challenges and optimize her dairy operations.

Smt. Trikamaji has established a state-of-the-art open shed spanning 40,000 square feet on one acre of land, ensuring the well-being of her cattle and enhancing productivity. Her transformation from struggling for basic necessities to becoming a leading dairy farmer underscores the power of persistence and innovation in the dairy industry.

Her journey is a source of motivation for aspiring farmers, especially women, demonstrating that with dedication and the right support, success is achievable. Smt. Rajput Dariyaben Trikamaji is a true pioneer in the field, embodying the spirit of entrepreneurship and resilience in dairy farming.

The Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award bestowed on Smt. Rajput Dariyaben Trikamaji is a fitting tribute to her outstanding contribution in furthering the cause of dairying in Deesa Taluka of Banaskantha, Gujarat and the Indian dairy industry as well.



Best Women Dairy Farmer Award

Mrs. Vidhu Rajeev



Mrs. Vidhu Rajeev W/o, Mr. Rajeev Mathew has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (South Zone) as the recipient of the Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award-2025, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

The 46 year old Mrs. Vidhu Rajeev hails from Muttuchira village in Kottayam district of Kerala and has been pouring milk to the Government Dairy Institution, Kerala Dairy Development, Kottayam, for the last 6 years.

Mrs. Vidhu Rajeev is a highly experienced dairy farmer and a role-model for dairy farmers of her area having a herd size of 50 dairy animals on her farm. She has adopted all scientific management methods of dairying and has poured 1,03,596.30 litres of milk earning an amount of Rs.49,10,919 /- during the previous year. She is the recipient of Best Integrated Farmer State Award, and Best Entrepreneur District Award.

The Indian Dairy Association records its appreciation and congratulates her for the achievements.

The Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award bestowed on Mrs. Vidhu Rajeev is a fitting tribute to her outstanding contribution in furthering the cause of dairying in Muttuchira village in Kottayam district of Kerala State and Indian dairy industry as well.

Mrs. Hardeb Kang



Mrs. Hardeb Kang has been selected by Indian Dairy Association (North Zone) as the recipient of the Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award-2025, in recognition of her contribution to the growth and development of the Indian dairy sector.

The 71 year old Mrs. Hardeb Kang from Phiddey village of district Ferozepur and has been pouring milk to Verka Ferozepur Dairy for the last 10 years. She started her dairy journey under the guidance of her husband Late Mr. Gurbinder Singh Kang.

She is an experienced dairy farmer and a role-model for dairy farmers of her area. She owns a herd size of 150 animals on her farm. She has adopted scientific management methods of dairying and has poured an impressive 4,75,564 litres of milk earning an amount of Rs. 1,95,09,940/- during the previous year and also become a dairy entrepreneur by value addition and marketing of dairy products.

The Indian Dairy Association records its appreciation and congratulates her for the achievements.

The Best Dairy Woman Farmer Award bestowed on her for this year is a true recognition of her contribution to the progress of dairying in Ferozepur district of North West India and Indian dairy industry and Women empowerment.

(On behalf of Mrs. Hardeb Kang, Shri Gurbhej Singh Tibbi, Director, Milkfed, Punjab received the award.)