

Southern Dairy Summit 2025 - A Grand Success

The Indian Dairy Association (South Zone) organized the maiden regional conference - the **Southern Dairy Summit (SDS)** from 9th to 11th January 2025 at the NIMHANS Auditorium Bengaluru. The Summit was well attended with about 900 delegates registered for the Summit all over the country.

The **First-day** Techno Commercial Presentations was inaugurated by Dr. R.P. Aneja, Former MD, NDDB, Anand, and Former President of the Indian Dairy Association. Shri G.S Krishnan the former Managing Director of Novozymes, Bengaluru, and the current, President of biotechnology apex body ABLE was the Guest of Honor.

Dr. R.S. Sodhi, President, Indian Dairy Association (IDA) presided over the function. While briefing the genesis of the maiden regional conference, Dr. Satish Kulkarni, Chairman, IDA (SZ) welcomed the guests and delegates to the Summit.

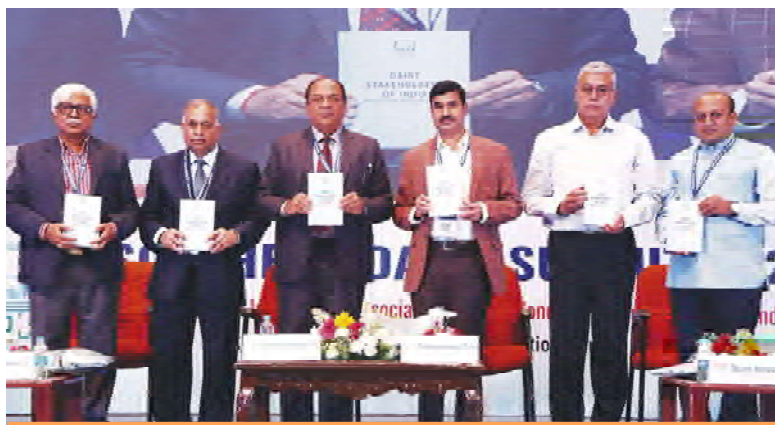
Dr. K.S. Ramachandra briefed about the Southern Dairy Summit and Shri C.P. Charles, IDA CEC member and Director, ABT Foods Ltd, Coimbatore - the convenor of the Techno Commercial Presentations - explained the background of the exclusive techno commercial presentations. Shri G.S. Krishnan inaugurated virtually the poster session, and the Summit Souvenir was released by Dr. R.P. Aneja. In the evening the delegates were entertained by the Abhinava an internationally acclaimed dance company with a blend of Classical and fusion dances. The first Dairy Summit



attracted media attention with the program being covered widely by the print and electronic media.

The **Second-day** program was the inauguration of the scientific session. The Guests of Honor on the day were Dr. Dheer Singh, Director & Vice Chancellor of NDRI deemed

University, Shri B. Shivaswamy, the Managing Director, Karnataka Milk Federation, and Shri D.Sunil Reddy, Managing Director of the Dodla Dairy, Hyderabad. During the inaugural session a special publication, Dairy Stakeholders of India - Historical Perspectives was released by the dignitaries.



Dr. K.S. Ramachandra welcomed the guests and the delegates and Dr. Satish Kulkarni briefed about the scientific seminar. Dr. S. Subash, Secretary of IDA (SZ) proposed the vote of thanks. In the evening selected Dairy Professionals from South India were felicitated by the association. The scientific sessions were organized

in two parallel sessions - Dairy Production & Dairy Processing. In all, there were 7 scientific sessions with about 28 speakers from all over the country.

The **Third-day** was dedicated to the Felicitation of the Best Women Dairy Farmers from Southern India. The felicitation of the awardees was done by **Shri K. Venkatesh, the Hon'ble Minister of Animal Husbandry and Sericulture of the Government of Karnataka**. Shri K.S. Mani, Chairman of KCMF, MILMA and Shri B. Shivaswamy, Managing Director of Karnataka





Milk Federation was the Guest of Honour. Dr. Satish Kulkarni welcomed the gathering and Dr. S.S. Hiremath proposed the vote of thanks. Dr. N.K.S. Gowda facilitated the smooth conduct of the award ceremony. Best Poster prizes were distributed during the award ceremony. As a gesture of acknowledgment, the association felicitated all the sponsors for their contribution and participation. The program was attended by more than 400 Farmers from all over Southern India.

Poster Session

During the Summit, following the international trend, poster session was held featuring scientific presentations in the form of poster sessions related to 'Sustainable Dairy Production and Traditional Dairy Products etc.' with its everlasting indigenous and exotic flavour. A large number of abstracts received from across the country and out of that selected 74 abstracts were presented for the competition as e-poster during the first day of this

scientific event. These posters were on the **Theme A:** Dairy Production; **Theme B:** Dairy Processing; **Theme C:** Quality Assurance, Food Safety and Analytical Capability; **Theme D:** Dairy Extension, Economics, Entrepreneurship; and **Theme E:** Case Studies and Innovation Practices.

It was well participated, and through an exciting competition, following were winners:

M Shobha *et al*; Farzana Beegum *et al*; Anjana and Pushpa; Deepak *et al*; Manju G and Ramesha V; M Anupama *et al*; Rakendhu *et al*; Spoorthy *et al*; Priyanka B N *et al*; Gunashekar H *et al*; Kausar Banu *et al*; Indhu B *et al*; as per the respective category.

This poster presentation event was meticulously conducted by Session Chairman Dr. Kajal Sankar Roy; Co-chairman Dr. C.T. Sathian; Convenor Dr. Laxman Naik along with poster committee members and experienced external experts as judges. There was huge enthusiasm found among the participants for presentation of the poster which is very good trend for these young generation towards creation of strong scientific force of this nation in coming years, specifically for this economically promising dairy sector.



Best Women Dairy Farmers Awardees from Southern India

- (a) **Mrs. Vidhu Rajeev**
Muttuchira Kottayam District, Kerala State
Poured 1,03,596.30 litres of milk & earned an amount of Rs. 49,10,919 /- during the previous year
- (b) **Mrs. Selvanayaki**
Kodangipalayam Village Tirupur District Tamil Nadu State. Poured 20,747 litres of milk & earned an amount of Rs. 7,52,773/- during the previous year.
- (c) **Mrs. Naveena Kumari**
Maddirala Village Chittoor District Andhra Pradesh State. Poured 8663 litres of milk & earned an amount of Rs. 3,08,961/- during the previous year
- (d) **Mrs. Pudhari Gangavva**
Sangam Palli Village Jagityala Rural District Telangana State. Poured 14,521 litres of milk & earned an amount of Rs. 6,10,205/- during the previous year.
- (e) **Mrs. Mangamma**
Dinka Village Mandya District, Karnataka State
Poured 1,01,915 litres of milk & earned an amount of Rs. 33,06,370 during the previous year.

Best Women Dairy Farmers Awardees



Dairy EXPO

In conjunction with the Summit, a Dairy Expo was organized on a small scale. About 20 Exhibitors from Cooperative dairies viz., KMF, MILMA, AMUL; Private sector dairies of southern region viz., GRB, DODLA, Heritage along with other companies participated in the Expo showcasing their products, equipment, machinery, or services to a focused audience. The Expo was inaugurated by Dr. R.P. Aneja, Former Managing Director, NDDDB in the presence of Dr. R.S. Sodhi, President, IDA and other dignitaries. Shri K. Venkatesh, Hon'ble Minister for Animal Husbandry and Sericulture, Govt. of Karnataka, who visited and interacted with the exhibitors, had a word of appreciation to the Exhibitors for showcasing the latest technologies, innovations and products in the Expo.



Cultural Events



Recognizing the contribution of the selected Dairy Professionals towards dairy development in Southern India, Indian Dairy Association (South Zone) felicitated them during the Southern Dairy Summit



Ms. Salini Gopinath
Director, Dairy Development Department, Govt of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram



Dr. H. Chenne Gowda
Former MD Karnataka Milk Federation, Bengaluru



Dr. B.S. Gangadhara
Former MD Karnataka Milk Federation, Bengaluru



Shri D. Sunil Reddy
Managing Director Dodla Dairy Ltd. Hyderabad



Dr. R. Ponnusamy
Founder Chairman Aroma Group of Companies, Coimbatore

IDA News

French Delegation Led by Director General, ALCO Visits IDA House

A delegation led by Mr. Laurent Chupin, Director General, ALCO - An Association of Cooperative Dairy Farms, France, visited IDA Head Office in New Delhi. The delegation included farmers and industry representatives, engaged in enriching discussions about the dairy sectors of India and France.

Shri Hariom Gulati, Secretary General, IDA welcomed the guests. Delegates were briefed about the current status of Indian dairy sector through slide presentation. Delegates were also shown the opportunities and challenges of the Indian dairy sector.

Shri Kuldeep Sharma, Founder, Suruchi Consultants and Member Advisory Committee of IDA addressed the

gathering. He explained in detail, how Indian dairy sector became world's highest milk producer in the world. Operation Flood and especially the Anand Model was discussed in detail. Shri Sharma responded to all the queries raised by some of the delegates.

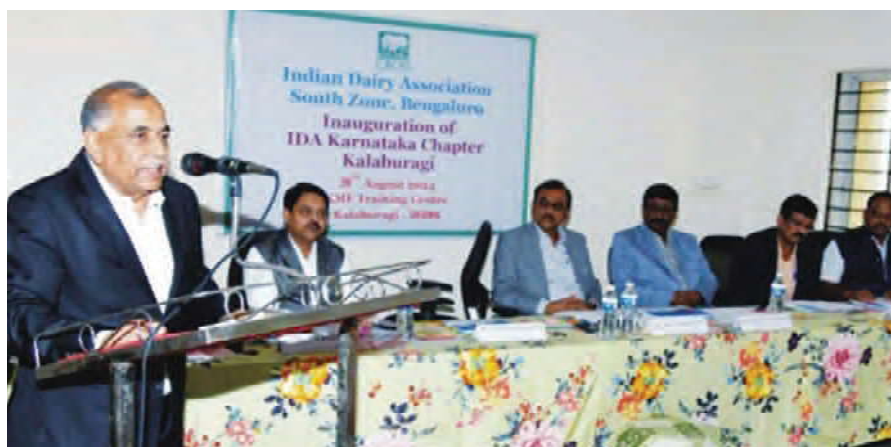
It was particularly inspiring to have the French Dairy farmers in the delegation, who shared their practices, challenges, and innovative approaches to dairy farming. They shared their experiences wherein they highlighted the global challenges faced by dairy farmers in France.

The discussions also focused on India's dynamic dairy sector, its growth trajectory, innovations, and cooperative structures. Such collaborative engagements strengthen global partnerships and underscore the collective responsibility to support and empower farmers, ensuring a sustainable future for the dairy industry.



IDA Karnataka State Chapter Formed

Formation of the Karnataka State Chapter (KSC) of IDA got the formal approval from the Central Executive Committee of IDA in its recent meeting held in Mumbai on December 5, 2024. It is the fifth Chapter under IDA South Zone. KSC has become the 13th State/Local chapter of IDA. Although KSC was initially formed on August 28, 2024 at Kalaburagi, Karnataka,



the formal approval of CEC was required to announce about the same, as per the Memorandum of IDA.

Inauguration of the KSC was done in a program organised at KMF training centre, Kalaburagi District, Karnataka wherein Dr. K.C. Veeranna, Vice-Chancellor of KVAFSU, Bidar was the Chief Guest and Dr. H. M. Jayaprakasha, Board of Director, KVAFSU, Bidar, Dr. P.V. Patil, Managing Director, Kalaburgi, Bidar and Yadgir District Milk Union, Dr. H. Manjunatha, Dean, Dairy Science College, Kalaburagi were the Guests of Honour.

Dr. Satish Kulkarni, Chairman, IDA (SZ) presided over the program. During the inaugural program all the dignitaries spoke and appreciated IDA (SZ) for fulfilling the long pending demand of creation of KSC. Further, it was much appreciated for establishing the office of IDA KSC at Kalaburagi District, considering the potential of dairy development in the Kaylana Karnataka region. The dignitaries also expressed their confidence that presence of IDA KSC in the region would provide an effective platform for the dairy science college students and dairy professionals from KMF.

After the inaugural session a technical seminar was also organised. While Dr. N.K.S. Gowda, Dean, Veterinary College, Hebbal, Bengaluru and Vice-Chairman, IDA (SZ) deliberated on 'Dairying: Current Challenges and Way Forward', Shri Peerya Naik, Managing Director, Bellary, Raichur and Koppal Dist. Milk Union delved upon 'Dairy Processing Scenario' of the Kalyana Karnataka region. More than 100 participants attended the inaugural program and seminar, including the faculty and students of dairy science college, dairy industry personnel, IDA members and other dairy professionals. Dr. S. Subash, Secretary, IDA (SZ) delivered a Welcome address and Shri N.B. Marathe, proposed Vote of Thanks. Ms. Basava Bharathi, Asst. Prof. Dairy Science college, Kalaburagi anchored the entire program.

Subsequently, the meeting of the IDA KSC members was convened and the ad-hoc committee was formed to carry



forward the activities of State Chapter. The ad-hoc committee consists of the following members: **Chairman:** Shri N.B. Marathe; **Vice Chairman:** Dr. S.S. Hiremath; **Secretary:** Shri Vijayeendra Venkatesh Rao Deshpande; **Treasurer:** Dr. Devaraju R.; **Member (RE):** Dr. Somashekar Hosamani; **Member (PP):** Mr. Raghavendra R.T.; **Member (MP) :** Shri Mohammed Idress; **Member (DI):** Managing Director/ Representative, Belagavi Dist. Coop. Milk Producers Societies Union Ltd. Belagavi. **Permanent Invitees:** Managing Director, Kalaburgi, Bidar & Yadgir Dist. Coop. Milk Producers Societies Union Ltd. Kalaburgi; and Dean Dairy Science College Mahagaon, Kalaburgi.

Application Invited for the Best Maintained Dairy Plant Award Extended till March 31, 2025 by IDA North Zone

In order to include more applicants for the Best Maintained Dairy Plant Award, IDA North Zone has extended the last date of submission till March 31, 2025. The application was invited from Private and Cooperative/Govt. Sector in North India covering states - Haryana, Punjab, Jammu-Kashmir, Himachal Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Rajasthan in the prescribed format.

The Application Form can be downloaded from IDA Website or through link (<https://indiandairyassociation.org/uploads/others/IDA-NZ-Best-Maintained-Dairy-Plant.pdf>). The duly filled applications should be sent to IDA (North Zone) Office, IDA House, Sector-IV, R.K. Puram, New Delhi-110022.

Last date for receipt of the applications is now 31-03-2025.

The applications should be accompanied with a fee of Rs. 10,000/- (Ten thousand) per plant. It may be paid directly to IDA North Zone bank account in ICICI Bank as per details given below:

Account Holder Name:

Indian Dairy Association North Zone

Bank: ICICI Bank

Account No.: 182401001311

IFSC Code: ICIC0001824

Branch: R.K. Puram Branch, IDA House, Sector IV, R.K. Puram, New Delhi - 110022

NATIONAL News

Secretary DAHD Urges Dairy Federations to Join Circular Economy Movement

A meeting to review the Milk Situation in the country was held under the Chairpersonship of Smt. Alka Upadhyaya, Secretary, Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying during mid-December 2024 in New Delhi. The meeting was attended by representatives from NDDDB, NCDFI along with officials of DAHD and State Cooperative Dairy Federations Milk Unions across the country. Milk situation in the country and the progress being made by the State Milk Federations were discussed in detail during the review.

Secretary (DAHD), Smt. Alka Upadhyaya emphasized that India holds the top position globally in milk production, generating approximately 239.3 million metric tons in the year 2023-24. She emphasized that Dairy Federations should focus on enhancing milk procurement and increasing the price paid to the farmers, while also considering consumer interests. Secretary DAHD said that the overall milk situation in the country is stable and the Wholesale Price Index (WPI) & Consumer Price Index (CPI) with the year-on-year inflation rates for milk recorded at 2.09 and 2.85 respectively for the month of November 2024. There is an adequate commodity stock of Skimmed Milk Powder, Whole Milk Powder, White Butter, and Ghee. At the same time, there has been an improvement in milk procurement and milk procurement prices over the year. Secretary (DAHD) advised, all Milk Federations to take up active participation in the Midday Meal and Integrated Child Development Services (ICDS) programs of the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) and the Ministry of Human Resource Development (MoHRD), as these represent the largest institutional domestic market for the dairy sector. During the meeting, the initiatives undertaken by the State Milk Federations such as Amul (Gujarat), Nandini (Karnataka), Saras (Rajasthan), and Megha (Jharkhand) were commended, and it was recommended that other Federations should undertake similar efforts. DAHD is also consistently collaborating with MoWCD and MoHRD to promote the inclusion of

milk in the Midday Meal and ICDS programs. It was observed that commensurate to the production, consumption of processed dairy has increased by 20%. A detailed discussion was held concerning the strategies and initiatives required to further enhance the processing of milk to value added products and accordingly detailed presentations were made by NDDDB which also offered support to the states for evaluating projects under



National Programme for Dairy Development particularly in light of evolving consumer preferences for packaged milk and value-added offerings.

During the review, a presentation on Circular Economy was made by NDDDB highlighting the interventions made in the area with respect to the dairy sector. In its presentation, the National Dairy Development Board demonstrated three models of bio gas generation namely the Zakariyapura Model (The Household level biogas-based Manure Value Chain model), the Banaskantha Model (Dung based large capacity biogas plant to produce Bio CBG and Organic Fertilizer) and the Varanasi Model (Dung based large capacity biogas plant to suffice Steam and Power needs of Dairy Plant). These biogas plants are giving a boost to the circular economy by promoting sustainable green fuel energy and producing organic fertilizers. Till date more than 27,000 household biogas plants have been installed in 19 states across the country under various schemes/ CSR initiatives/ through NDDDB support etc. Two large capacity dung based CNG/Biogas plants with a total capacity of 140 MT/Day of dung are already operationalised and another 11 plants having a combined capacity of 675 MT/Day are under various stages of being taken up.

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Further the Household biogas initiative has also helped in generating carbon credits for the Dairy cooperative sector. Under first such initiative, a total of 11,000 carbon credits have been earned by 1,040 farmers, giving boost to both farmer incomes and contributing to the aim of achieving circular economy. It was also informed that NDDDB has entered into an MOU with Suzuki R&D Centre India Pvt Ltd (An affiliate of Suzuki Motor Corporation). The major objective of the MOU is to jointly design, develop, implement and scale up innovative business models to efficiently utilize cow dung as a source of energy for fuelling transportation needs and as a rich source of organic fertilizer while achieving carbon neutrality.

Secretary, DAHD advised the dairy federations to work on circular economy in the dairy sector and be proactively involved in getting the benefits in consultation with NDDDB. She stated that during the Department's upcoming conference on circularity in the Dairy sector, every State should come up with at least one project on Biogas to join the circularity movement. This will help in reducing the carbon footprint of the dairy sector and at the same time also help in enhancing income of Dairy Farmers. The discussion also included the use of water within the dairy value chain and approaches to ensure its efficient utilization.

Secretary DAHD concluded the meeting with remarks on the need of benchmarking in the dairy industry for bringing efficiency, reducing cost of production and the carbon footprint of the industry. The milk federations were also directed to speed up formation of cooperative societies to enhance milk procurement and bring more milk in the organized sector in order to improve the social and economic status of milk producers in India.

Women Cooperative Leaders Invited for 'At Home Reception' by Hon'ble President of India During the Republic Day Celebrations

Smt Droupadi Murmu, Hon'ble President of India has invited Smt Hemaben Nareshbhai Padhiyar, Chairman and Smt Jagrutiben Sanjaybhai Padhiyar, Secretary of NDDDB-promoted Mujkuva Sakhi Khad Sahkari Mandali Ltd (MSKSML), Anand, Gujarat for 'At Home Reception' during the Republic Day function on 26th January 2025.

While praising their achievement, Dr. Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDDB said, "The women of Mujkuva Sakhi

Khad Sahkari Mandali Ltd, first of its kind khad mandali, are emerging as torchbearers of innovative, women-led rural livelihood initiatives that positively impact the environment. The invitation extended to Hemaben and Jagrutiben, who transformed dung into wealth, marks a significant milestone highlighting the empowerment of rural women. Their leadership has driven sustainable agricultural practices." Both of them have been instrumental in spreading NDDDB's biogas and organic fertiliser model nationwide. Their hard work is further recognised with a prestigious invitation to the Hon'ble President's 'At-Home Reception' on the occasion of the Republic Day at Rashtrapati Bhavan.

The leaders of the country's all-women manure-based cooperative are confident as they prepare to step into the Rashtrapati Bhavan and discuss the transformative impact of smallholder biogas initiatives with the Hon'ble President of India. Smt Hemaben stated, "NDDDB's biogas and organic fertiliser model has made the dairy sector more sustainable. It has multi-faceted benefits: clean energy for cooking, income from the sale of surplus slurry, organic fertilizer, better soil health and increased agricultural productivity." Smt Jagrutiben said, "The biogas plants not only replaced traditional kitchen fuels like firewood and LPG (saving Rs. 1500 per month) but also helped the women earn additional income from slurry up to Rs. 3000 per month."

NDDDB has been associated with Mujkuva village since 2017, when it began working through the Mujkuva Village Dairy Cooperative Society. The goal was to create a live lab near Anand where new dairy farmer-centric interventions could be tested and demonstrated. NDDDB implemented several pioneering interventions in renewable energy and efficient dairy management in Mujkuva village. Recognising the vast potential of bovine dung, which can meet up to 50% of India's LPG needs and 40% of its NPK requirements, NDDDB aimed to pilot dung-based biogas plants. The women of Mujkuva village, led by Smt. Hemaben and Smt. Jagrutiben, enthusiastically embraced the new project. With the success of the first few biogas plants, the number of installations grew rapidly and now there are 182 biogas plants in the village.

With the support of NDDDB, India's first all-women manure cooperative was established in Mujkuva in March 2020. The cooperative was extensively experimenting with slurry to produce organic fertilisers. Eventually, following the model of milk production, a slurry testing mechanism was setup and a slurry collection system was established, geotagging every biogas owning household. NDDDB helped the cooperative setup the entire slurry processing system through initial grant support and continued to provide guidance for commercial operations. Gradually, another village Zakariyapura joined the initiative, with

100% of its households owning animals installing biogas plants with NDDB's support. So, collectively 450 women farmers from these two villages led NDDB's manure value chain initiative.

NDDB started replicating the model across the country, through various partnerships leveraging mutual expertise and over the years, has helped establish more than 27000 biogas plants across the country, with the numbers continuing to grow.

Odisha Govt. Plans - 200 ml of Milk in Mid-day Meals



Odisha's Fisheries and Animal Resources Development Minister Shri Gokulananda Mallik has confirmed that the state government is planning to include 200 ml of fortified milk in mid-day meals for school children. The minister's comment came a day after Hon'ble President

Smt. Droupadi Murmu virtually launched a 'Gift Milk' initiative of the NDDB for the Odisha State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation (OMFED) at Rairangpur in Mayurbhanj district.

'Gift Milk' programme initiative aims at addressing malnutrition among children by providing 200 ml of milk fortified with Vitamin A & D on school days. About 1,184 students in these schools, spread over 200 villages of the Rairangpur sub-division of Mayurbhanj district, will benefit from the NDDB's 'Gift Milk' programme in the first phase, which was introduced on a pilot basis, Shri Mallik said.

The initiative will be extended to other parts of the state later, he confirmed. Presently, around 44.5 lakh children of 51,500 primary and upper primary schools are being served with cooked food under the mid-day meal scheme. The minister also said that 3,000 high-quality cows procured from Gujarat are to be distributed among dairy farmers in Mayurbhanj. It is planned to spend Rs. 38 crore under the Rashtriya Gokul Mission launched by NDDB in Mayurbhanj. The minister said the objective of the initiative is to make dairy farmers self-sufficient and ensure a stable rural economy. He also said that the state aims to develop cattle wealth in the state under the 'Mukshya Mantri Kamadhenu Yojana', a five-year initiative with a budget of Rs 1,423.47 crore. The objective of the scheme is to boost milk production in the state, he said. This scheme will support small dairy units, provide subsidised calf feed, enhance livestock insurance coverage, and strengthen dairy cooperatives, he added.

Mother Dairy Signs Up as Exclusive Distribution Partner of Bharat Organics

Mother Dairy has signed up with Bharat Organics as the exclusive distribution partners for their range of organic staples to the Delhi NCR market.



Under the initiative the company will ensure distribution of packed and certified brand 'Bharat Organics' produce for consumers across NCR through its network of booths across the region. The collaboration marks the launch of 'Bharat Organics Atta' and 'Bharat Organics Sweetener (Jaggery)' in the NCR market. The 'Bharat Organics Atta' is made from 100% certified organic grains, ensuring exceptional purity, freshness, and a naturally wholesome flavour. Complementing this, the

'Bharat Organics Sweetener (Jaggery)' is a healthier, natural alternative to conventional sugars, catering to the growing demand for sustainable and nutritious food options.

Shri Manish Bandlish, MD, Mother Dairy, said, "With this partnership, Mother Dairy aims to build a healthier and more sustainable India. By combining the expertise of National Cooperative Organic Ltd. (NCOL) in organic farming with our extensive distribution network and deep consumer trust, we are uniquely positioned to bridge the gap between premium organic products and affordability. This launch reinforces our commitment to making high-quality, organic staples accessible to every consumer, empowering families to embrace healthier lifestyles."

Mother Dairy has entered into an MOU with NCOL to distribute the brand products across multiple channels

and geographies. Aligning with its commitment to consumer well-being and quality, the Bharat Organics range will be made available at 300 Safal stores and around 10,000 general trade outlets in Delhi NCR, as well as through modern trade and e-commerce platforms. The collaboration marks a pivotal step in democratising organic food access while meeting the growing demand for nutritious and sustainable food options.

Shri Vipul Mittal, managing director of NCOL, said, "Atta is just the beginning. Our vision is to offer an entire basket of organic staples that cater to daily needs while ensuring fair returns for organic farmers. The Bharat Organics brand will stand as a symbol of trust, affordability, and quality for consumers."

Danone Found A New Space To Thrive in Indian Dairy Market

In an interaction with media, Marketing Director Shri Sriram Padmanabhan said, Danone entered India with high hopes, leveraging its global strengths in dairy and nutrition. It invested in dairy plants in Punjab and Haryana, intending to carve out a share of the competitive Indian dairy market. However, this sector proved to be a challenge. India's dairy industry is dominated by local giants like Amul and thrives on fresh, home-prepared products, leaving little room for packaged offerings from international brands.

By 2018, Danone made the difficult decision to exit the dairy business in India. Despite significant investments, the company struggled to gain traction in a market where consumer loyalty to local brands and fresh products outweighed the appeal of international alternatives.

"Danone has observed a significant shift in the Indian market, with consumers' increasingly prioritising health and nutrition," says Shri Padmanabhan. Over the years, awareness around dietary choices has grown, as more people seek products that support their well-being, immunity and digestive health.

Following its departure from the dairy sector, Danone turned its attention to specialised nutrition. Products like Protinex, Aptamil and Dexolac have become the cornerstone of its India strategy. Protinex, in particular, has been at the forefront of raising awareness about protein deficiency in the country.

Protinex has been actively driving a national movement to raise awareness about protein-rich diets since 2017. The brand revamped its look and packaging to appeal to modern consumers and launched campaigns that addressed the importance of protein for health and wellness. This focus aligns well with India's growing health consciousness, where consumers increasingly seek functional foods that provide specific health benefits.

For infants and young children, Danone's Aptamil and Dexolac products offer science-backed nutrition tailored to Indian needs. The company's AptaGrow campaign introduced tools like the 'Growth Chakra' to help parents assess and address their children's nutritional requirements, creating a reputation for the brand as a trusted provider of nutritional solutions across life stages.

One of the keys to Danone's strategy in India has been its ability to adapt global expertise to local needs. He said, "Indian consumers value tradition, yet are open to new, science-backed innovations that enhance their quality of life." To meet these expectations, Danone has tailored its offerings to fit Indian tastes, textures and nutritional needs. The localisation also extends beyond products to include educational initiatives that empower consumers with knowledge about balanced nutrition.

Danone's marketing strategies in India are purpose-driven, focusing on health, nutrition and conscious living with the company's mission of 'bringing health through food to as many people as possible' at the heart of campaigns. At the heart of our efforts is purpose-driven marketing, where every campaign emphasises making healthier choices. Through a mix of traditional and digital channels and hyperlocal content tailored to regional preferences, Danone has leveraged digital channels to foster deeper connections with its consumers.

Danone's exit from the dairy market highlighted the need for a deep understanding of local dynamics and the importance of focusing on areas of expertise. Through this journey, Danone has not only deepened its roots in India but has also established itself as a trusted brand by addressing key health concerns and aligning with the aspirations of a growing health-conscious demographic.

Renewed investments, such as a EUR 20 million boost for operations in Punjab, demonstrate Danone's long-term commitment to India. The company is also exploring potential acquisitions to strengthen its presence further. Danone aims to balance its global expertise with local insights, ensuring that its products meet the needs of India's diverse and complex market.

Hatsun Agro Acquires Milk Mantra Dairy



Hatsun Agro Product Limited (HAP), a dairy product manufacturer and a Benefactor

Member of IDA, has announced the acquisition of 100% of the share capital of Milk Mantra for Rs. 233 crore (\$27.5 million).

This acquisition aims to strengthen HAP's presence in the Eastern India dairy market, particularly in Odisha,

where Milk Mantra's brand, 'Milky Moo', has established a strong foothold, HAP declared in its stock exchange report submission.

The acquisition will be completed through a series of Share Purchase Agreements (SPAs) and other transaction documents with Milk Mantra's existing promoters and shareholders. Post-acquisition, Milk Mantra will become a wholly-owned subsidiary of HAP.

Milk Mantra has raised nearly \$35 million from the likes of Aavishkaar Venture Capital, Fidelity Growth Partners, Neev Fund, Eight Roads Ventures and US-based DFC. Established in 2009, Milk Mantra provides a range of products including milk, curd, cottage cheese, buttermilk, and cattle feed, among others.

This acquisition seems to be a slump sale, given that Milk Mantra reported an operating revenue of Rs 276.42 crore in FY24, while the acquisition cost is Rs 233 crore. The Bhubaneswar-based company also recorded a profit of Rs 9.78 crore in the last fiscal year. However, its revenue has remained nearly stagnant over the past three fiscal years.

Karnataka Milk Federation Partners with Chai Point at Maha Kumbh Mela



Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) has partnered with the tea café chain, Chai Point for the Maha Kumbh Mela at Prayagraj.

As part of this collaboration, the brand has established 10 stores within the Maha Kumbh Mela premises, and these stores are poised to serve over 1 crore cups of tea during the event, aiming to set a Guinness World Record for the highest number of tea cups sold at a single event.

Every cup of tea brewed at the Maha Kumbh Mela will feature rich and high-quality milk from Nandini, ensuring a delightful experience for tea enthusiasts.

The Maha Kumbh Mela has already started from January 13 and will end on February 26, 2025, and is expected to attract millions of visitors from across the globe.

According to KMF, in addition to tea, its stores will also offer a variety of Nandini products, including sweets and milkshakes, further enhancing the brand presence at this mammoth spiritual gathering.

This partnership highlights Nandini's commitment to expanding its footprint in the northern markets of India and underscores its dedication to delivering high-quality

dairy products to customers nationwide, stated KMF in its communication note.

Shri B. Shivaswamy, Managing Director, KMF, said they are thrilled to partner with Chai Point for the Maha Kumbh Mela 2025. This is a unique opportunity for Nandini to showcase its products to a diverse audience and reinforce KMF brand presence in North India.

Madhya Pradesh CM announces Cow Protection Year

Madhya Pradesh CM Dr. Mohan Yadav announced recently that from Chaitra to Gudi Padwa festival, the state will observe "Cow Protection Year." As part of this initiative, one village in each block will be developed as a "Vrindavan Village" to promote milk production and rural livelihoods. To further encourage dairy farming, the government will provide subsidies for rearing milch animals and bonuses on milk production. Additionally, no management fee will be charged for operating milk unions, nor will consultancy fees be imposed for developing new processing plants and infrastructure. The Chief Minister said technical and management experts will be appointed to the milk unions on the government's payroll, as required, to safeguard the welfare of the existing workforce. A grievance redressal mechanism will also be established to address complaints from dairy farmers associated with cooperative societies.



Dr. Yadav highlighted that the average milk production in the state per person is 673 grams, which exceeds the national average of 471 grams. Under the White Revolution Mission, an investment of Rs 2,500 crore will be made to increase the number of milk coolers, mini dairy plants, and chilling centres in collaboration with Sanchi Dairy Federation in every district. He said an agreement with the NDDB will play a crucial role in achieving these goals. This initiative will strengthen the cooperative system under the state's Animal Husbandry and Dairy Department, as well as the Sanchi brand.

The Chief Minister announced that in alignment with Prime Minister Modi's vision, the state government has entered into a collaborative agreement between the MP State Cooperative Dairy Federation Limited, affiliated milk unions, and the NDDB. This agreement aims to double the income of dairy farmers and boost milk production in the state. The agreement will have tenure of five years, with provisions for extension by mutual consent. Under this agreement, collection centres will be established in every gram panchayat, the processing

capacity of milk unions will be enhanced, and the number of milk committees will be increased from 6,000 to 9,000. A single milk committee serves approximately 1 to 3 villages, and with 9,000 committees, around 18,000 villages will be covered. Daily milk collection is expected to increase from 10.50 lakh kilograms to 20 lakh kilograms. Additionally, the number of villages covered by milk producer organizations (MPOs) under NDDDB will rise from 1,390 to 2,590, and milk procurement will increase from 1.3 lakh kilograms to 3.7 lakh kilograms per day.

The milk unions' processing capacity will also be enhanced. Currently, the dairy plants have a capacity of 18 lakh litres per day, which will be increased to 30 lakh litres a day. Chief Minister Dr. Yadav stated that the NDDDB will work to further strengthen the Sanchi brand in Madhya Pradesh. Through extensive promotion, the brand will be established at the national level.

Dr. Yadav expressed hope that as a result of these efforts, the total annual income of dairy farmers will more than double, increasing from 1,700 crore to over 3,500 crore rupees. Madhya Pradesh is set to become the dairy capital of the country. He further stated that the state government is committed to ensuring milk procurement across the state and helping dairy farmers receive fair prices for their milk.

Milma and Kerala Bank Sign MoU to Extend Credit

Milma, aimed at enhancing credit flow to the dairy sector, has signed an MoU with Kerala Bank to ramp up credit support to dairy farmers. The MoU was exchanged by Milma Managing Director Shri Asif K Yusuf and Kerala Bank CEO Jorty M Chacko in the presence of Milma Chairman Shri K.S. Mani and Kerala Bank President Shri Gopi Kottamurickkal. The partnership facilitates the implementation of Milma's Ksheera Mithra Credit scheme, under which loans up to Rs. 3 lakh will be made available for farmers at a low interest rate. It also envisages a cash credit scheme of up to Rs. 1 lakh for franchisees distributing Milma's products based on their stock or sales turnover.

"This is a significant partnership that acknowledges the immense potential of Kerala's dairy sector. The agreement will promote entrepreneurship in the dairy sector and increase the state's milk production," Milma Chairman Shri K.S. Mani said.

Milma has been implementing several schemes to increase the State's milk production and support the welfare of dairy farmers. This collaboration between the two leading cooperative entities will further strengthen efforts to enhance milk production and support dairy farmers, he said.

Technology Drives Paneer Production Amid Rising Global Demand

Paneer, the soft, creamy cheese at the heart of so many Indian dishes, is undergoing a transformation. From curries to snacks, this protein-packed dairy favourite has been a kitchen staple for generations. However, as demand for paneer soars in India and the global market, traditional methods of production are struggling to keep up. One of the key advancements is the adoption of automated coagulation systems. These systems carefully regulate pH, temperature, and acid addition, delivering a product with perfect texture and yield every time. Continuous whey separation systems, meanwhile, replace the laborious task of manual handling, maintaining optimal moisture in the curd with high precision. Fully automated heating systems ensure uniform pasteurisation at 90°C, eliminating the inefficiencies of traditional batch processes and enabling seamless, high-throughput production, according to industry experts participated in the three-day Southern Dairy Summit-2025, organised by the Indian Dairy Association (South Zone), recently. For decades, paneer production was largely a manual affair. Milk was coagulated with acids like citric acid, whey was separated by hand, and the final product was cut manually.

While this hands-on approach worked for small-scale operations, it often led to uneven texture and taste, inconsistent moisture levels, and hygiene concerns owing to direct handling. Labour-intensive and time-consuming, traditional methods also struggled to keep pace with modern market demands.

"Mechanisation is a game-changer. With automated systems, we are seeing consistent quality that was impossible with manual methods. The texture, taste, and moisture are uniform, and contamination risks are drastically reduced because there's minimal human contact," Shri Kirit Patel, founder of Flavi Dairy Solutions, said.

For consumers, these advancements mean better paneer – more hygienic, tastier, and reliably consistent. For producers, it means the ability to meet the soaring demand without sacrificing quality, all the while lowering production costs and boosting efficiency, concluded Patel.

He highlighted how the paneer market is growing: "Globally, the market was valued at \$9.8 billion in 2023 and is projected to grow to \$23.2 billion by 2030, with an annual growth rate of 8.7%. India, the largest consumer, has seen its market swell from Rs 570 billion in 2023 to a forecasted Rs 1,848 billion by 2030, growing at an impressive 14% annually.

Meeting this demand requires innovation, and automation appears to be the answer. Shri H.J. Shankaralinge Gowda, a dairy safety and management professional at Karnataka Milk Federation, highlighted paneer's growing appeal as a protein source during the Summit.

IIT Research-Cow Urine has Anti-infective Properties

Indian Institute of Technology-Madras Director Dr. V. Kamakoti on January 20, 2025 said five scientific papers published in peer-reviewed journals validated the anti-infective properties of cow urine. On January 15, at a goshala in West Mambalam, he had said cow urine had anti-fungal, anti-bacterial, and anti-inflammatory properties. He said researchers had conducted experiments and published scientific papers on the subject. He was invited to the goshala on 'Mattu Pongal' Day, dedicated to cattle.



A video clip of his speech went viral on social media, with many ridiculing his claim as unscientific and unbecoming of the head of an institution of eminence. During a media interaction, he said that five research papers on the properties of cow urine had been published in peer-reviewed journals. One of them, **'Peptide profiling in cow urine reveals molecular signature of physiology-driven pathways and in-silico predicted bioactive properties'**, by Rohit Kumar *et al*, has been published in *Nature*. The research was done by ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal, Haryana. It was published in 2021. The other articles are **Review on Gomutra (Cow Urine)**, published in *Asian Journal of Pharmaceutical Research*, April-June 2020; **Benefits of cow urine—A review**, published in the *International Journal of Recent Advances in Multidisciplinary Research* in 2017; **Miraculous Benefits of Cow Urine: A Review**, published in the *Journal of Drug Delivery and Therapeutics* in 2020; and **Chemotherapeutic potential of cow urine: A review**, published in the *Journal of Intercultural Ethnopharmacology* in April-June 2015. He also disclosed the details of a patent from the United States given to Khanuja *et al* on the use of bioactive fraction from cow urine distillate, issued on May 24, 2005. The patent has been filed by the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research. "The researchers have experimented and presented their findings. *Nature* is one of the top journals in the United States. The output in the research papers is

the evidence," he said. Asked what was the topic of his speech, he said, "They asked me to speak on science and cow and I spoke on five topics, including about natural farming and *gobar* gas. They asked if there was scientific evidence that cow urine had medicinal properties." When it was pointed out that research papers on the harmful effects of cow urine had been shared on social media, he said: "I have not seen them. There may be other researchers." Mr. Kamakoti said one paper had studied the indigenous breeds of cows. He suggested that since there was much interest now, researchers in the Indian systems of medicine could conduct research.

Milk Food to Expand into Ice Cream, Cheese

Milk Food Ltd., has announced the sale of its 21-acre Moradabad plant land to a reputed developer for an estimated value of Rs. 140 to 150 crore. The land has been approved as residential zone. The land will be repurposed for the development of a modern residential colony, marking a significant step in the city's urban expansion plans.

The Moradabad plant, which processes 5 lakh litres of milk daily received from Mother Dairy on job work, has been a vital contributor to the company's operations. However, this strategic decision to sell the land aligns with Milk Food Ltd.'s broader vision to diversify and strengthen its presence in the dairy sector. The proceeds from the deal will fuel the company's ambitious plans to venture into the lucrative ice cream market and expand its portfolio into cheese and butter production. The sale of the Moradabad plant land is a pivotal move that reflects Milk Food Ltd.'s focus on innovation and growth. The company plans to use the proceeds to establish a state-of-the-art ice cream manufacturing facility in Delhi NCR, positioning itself as a formidable player in the rapidly growing ice cream segment. The company is also exploring opportunities in the cheese and butter markets, sectors with significant demand and growth potential in India.

"We are excited about this transformative phase for Milk Food Ltd. The sale of our Moradabad plant land allows us to invest in high-growth opportunities like ice cream, cheese, and butter. These ventures will not only strengthen our product portfolio but also enable us to become a debt-free company, ensuring long-term financial stability," said Shri Sudhir Avasthi, Managing Director of Milk Food Ltd.

The new residential colony is expected to cater to the growing population, enhancing Moradabad's infrastructure and housing options. This partnership of

Milk Food Ltd. with a developer represents a win-win scenario for both. While the company takes a bold step towards diversification, the city benefits from a strategic expansion of residential infrastructure. With the new circular road under construction which shall be complete within 2-3 years will undoubtedly contribute to the city's growth and development.

Moreover, the financial infusion from the land sale will help Milk Food Ltd. eliminate its debt, providing a solid foundation for its future ventures. The company's decision reflects a forward-thinking approach to leveraging its assets for sustainable growth and profitability. Commitment to Quality and Innovation Milk Food Ltd. has a long-standing reputation for quality and innovation in the dairy industry.

INTERNATIONAL News

International Dairy Market: USDA

As per the latest USDA data of mid January 2025, international market overview are as follows:

EUROPEAN

Western European

Ireland's Central Statistics Office released total milk intakes by processors and cooperatives in November 2024 are estimated at 510.0 million liters. This is an increase of 128.3 million liters from November 2023. Milk intake in November 2024 was the highest recorded milk intake in any November since the series began in 1975. Fat content in milk deliveries averaged 4.99 percent in November 2024. Protein content in milk deliveries averaged 3.98 percent in November 2024. For the period of January to November 2024, domestic milk intake was estimated at 8.16 billion liters, down 90.8 million liters, -1.1 percent, compared to the same period last year.

A large dairy cooperative in Ireland announced slight increases in its December purchase price index (PPI). The December PPI is 159.3, which increased from 156.7 in November.

The UK-based Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) released data showing daily milk deliveries for the week ending January 4 averaged at 34.18 million liters, up 0.2 percent from the week prior and up 2.9 percent from the same week last year.

German officials confirmed an outbreak of foot and mouth disease (FMD) in a herd of water buffalo in Brandenburg last Friday. Three water buffalo in this herd died from the outbreak and the 11 other animals in the herd were culled. The European Commission has established a three-kilometer radius protection zone and ten-kilometer radius surveillance zone.

Eastern Europe

New rules published by the Russian Agricultural Ministry suggest subsidies for preferential investment loans issued between 2017 and 2022 will be lowered to 50 percent of the Central Bank's key interest rate, down from the original subsidies ranging from 80 to 100 percent of the Central Bank's key interest rate. Some industry stakeholders believe this rule will limit investments in the dairy industry.

OCEANIA DAIRY MARKET

New Zealand

Export data for November 2024 was recently released for New Zealand. This data showed a 12 percent increase in value for milk powder, butter, and cheese exported in November 2024 compared to November 2023. Fresh milk and cream export values were 19 percent higher in November 2024, when compared to a year earlier. Changes in export quantities from November 2023 to November 2024 for milk powder, milk fats (including butter) and cheese are -9.1 percent, -8.4 percent, and +15 percent, respectively. Infant formula export values in November 2024 were 27 percent higher compared to a year prior, while casein and caseinate values were down 22 percent.

A group in New Zealand, which forecasts dairy prices, increased the forecasted milk price for the 2024/2025 season, following GDT event 370, by 4 cents, to \$9.61/kgMS. The spot value of milk also increased by 46 cents to \$10.85/kgMS. The group noted the exchange rate from New Zealand dollars has decreased recently, pushing their forecasted exchange rate down to 0.6017 USD per NZD.

Australia

According to Dairy Australia, November 2024 milk production, 868.0 million liters, was down 0.2 percent from November 2023. November 2024 milk production was up from the prior year in New South Wales, Victoria, and South Australia. Meanwhile, milk production was down in Queensland, Western Australia, and Tasmania. Milk production from the start of the season in July 2024 through November 2024, 3,859.1 million liters, increased 1.3 percent compared to the same time frame a year earlier.

Results from a survey of Australia dairy farmers were recently published which showed financial pressures are causing some farmers to consider switching away from dairy farming. Dairy farmers in the survey noted low farmgate milk prices and increasing input costs have caused some to consider switching to beef or cropping. A spokesperson for a farming group stated processors should do more to advertise the value of dairy to consumers to aid farmers.

SOUTH AMERICA DAIRY MARKET

As always, weather is playing a part in South American milk output in general. A "weak" La Nina system is underway and expected for the next two to four months. Summertime has arrived so regional contacts expect a crimp in milk output. Crop outlooks vary widely from region to region.

In Brazil, CONAB is reporting the impact on soybean yields by severe drought conditions. Drought conditions are also being reported in Argentina, another soybean producing juggernaut, but yield expectations are being hampered due to dryness of the soil there. Feed output is variant throughout the nations within the continent, but milking expectations are under some pressure in early 2025.

Milk availability is far from long according to dairy industry contacts in South America. This has led to some bullish price movements in the region. The international whey complex is also bringing some new export opportunities for processors in Argentina, as international interest in high protein whey complexes has been notably bullish. Whole and skim milk powder expectations are somewhat bullish throughout Q1.

Whey and cheese interest, in general, has been healthy from the Brazilian importing perspective. Brazilian importer contacts continue to suggest currency fluctuations and logistical costs are holding up some intercontinental dealmaking.

Qualification Changes for 'Fresh Milk' Label Sought

The freshness of locally produced milk gives the nation's dairy industry an advantage in competing with imported milk from New Zealand, which has gained greater pricing power since the removal of import duties on January 1, local dairy farmers said. The Taiwan-New Zealand Economic Cooperation Agreement, signed in 2013, removes tariffs on all imports from New Zealand and 99.88 percent of goods from Taiwan over a 12-year period. Local dairy farmers are hoping that their competitive edge, the freshness of their product, would help them survive the impact of the new measure, Department of Animal Industry head Lee Yi-chien said. Dairy farmers during meetings last month expressed concerns about imported milk that is not processed in compliance with Taiwan's standards for "fresh milk," but is still being labelled as such, he said. According to Chinese National Standards (CNS) 3056, fresh milk is made from raw milk that has been pasteurized and packaged before being refrigerated for consumption.

Locally produced fresh milk has a government-issued sticker of a cartoon cow, certifying it was produced domestically in compliance with CNS. Imported products generally have a much longer shelf life than locally produced fresh milk (sometimes up to 90 days), but are still allowed to use the CNS certification and call their products "fresh milk," dairy farmers said. Lee said the

GDT Index Prices UP by 1.4% from Previous Event

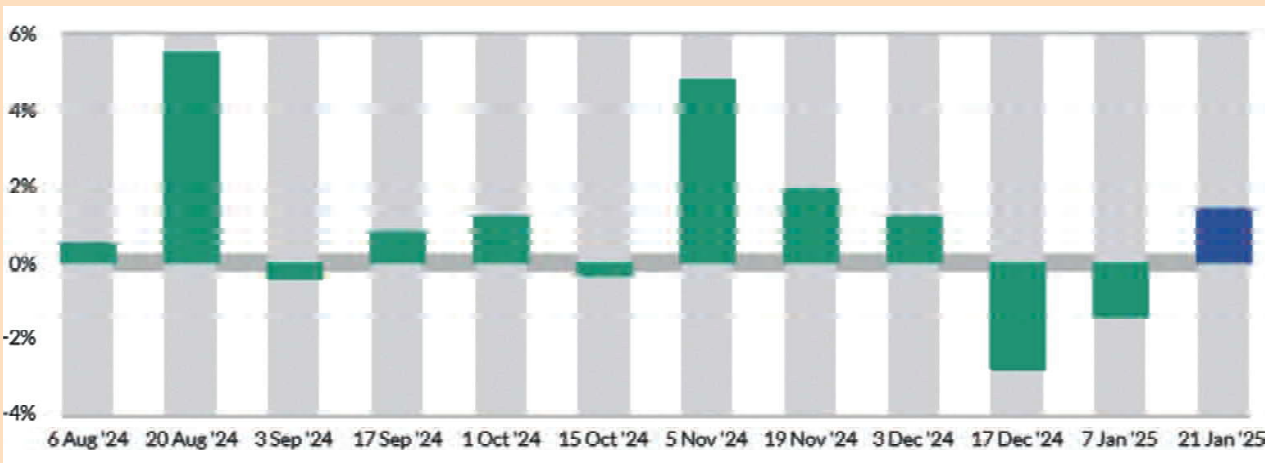
The Global Dairy Trade (GDT) Event 372, held on January 21, 2025, saw an increase in Index price by 1.4% from its previous event. Global dairy price index average winning price was USD 4146/MT.

Whole Milk Powder (WMP) prices was up 5.0% at USD 3988 and Cheddar cheese up by 2.8% at USD 4846. Skim milk powder was also up by 2.0% at

USD 2729.

Butter price was up by 2.2% at USD 6984. The Anhydrous Milk Fat was down by 7.8% at USD 6616. Mozzarella cheese was little down 0.3% to an average of USD 4161.

A total of 27,785 MT of product was purchased by 129 successful bidders.



Ministry of Agriculture supports dairy farmers' call for limiting the use of the term "fresh milk" to products with an expiration period of 14 days or less, a standard adopted by local milk producers. Imported "fresh milk" products from New Zealand and the US have expiration periods that are longer than 14 days. Chen Tung-chieh, who runs a farm with more than 800 dairy cattle in Pingtung County, said he was worried that many beverage businesses are turning to imported milk, and that he opposed labelling imported milk as fresh milk to protect Taiwanese consumers and dairy farmers. Another dairy farmer in Pingtung, Wu Chuan-wu, said it takes locally produced milk less than three days to hit the shelves, and that it is for certain "fresh."

Meanwhile, Fan Chun-yen, a second-generation dairy farmer who has more than 1,500 dairy cattle in Hualien, said his high-quality milk should help him weather the impact of price competition. Fan pasteurizes raw milk at a lower temperature of 65°C to keep its taste and nutrients. Lee said dairy farmers' call for a change on how "fresh milk" is defined and that drink shops disclose where their milk is sourced from would be passed on to the Ministry of Health and Welfare, which oversees the Food and Drug Administration.

IDFA Shares US Dairy's Priorities with President Trump

The International Dairy Foods Association (IDFA) has shared a comprehensive set of federal policy priorities that have been sent to President Trump's team. IDFA President and CEO Michael Dykes, D.V.M., said IDFA and its more than 300 members are looking to the new administration to help U.S. dairy drive innovation, reduce barriers to business efficiency, and open new market access around the world.

IDFA, based in Washington, D.C., represents the nation's dairy manufacturing and marketing industry, which supports more than 3.2 million jobs that generate \$49 billion in direct wages and \$794 billion in overall economic impact. IDFA's diverse membership ranges from multinational organizations to single-plant companies, from dairy companies and cooperatives to food retailers and suppliers. Together, they represent most of the milk, cheese, ice cream, yogurt and cultured products, and dairy ingredients produced and marketed in the United States and sold throughout the world.

IDFA's priorities for the incoming Trump administration are related to Export and Trade; Transportation and supply chain; Workforce and Immigration; Nutrition and Food Assistance; Food safety and standards of identity; Modernizing FDA's Human Foods Programme; Animal diseases; Conservation and natural resource management; and Tax policy.

SIG Partners with Ellen MacArthur Foundation for Packaging

SIG - a leading solutions provider of packaging, headquartered in Neuhausen, Switzerland has announced a network partnership with the Ellen MacArthur Foundation - A UK based organization. This collaboration aims to push forward the transition towards circular packaging systems, reinforcing SIG's commitment to environmental stewardship and innovation.

The collaboration will enable SIG to tap into the expertise of the foundation and its network, further accelerating SIG's commitment to reduce waste, improve recyclability and increase the use of renewable materials. The partnership is an important step in SIG's broader strategy to innovate and scale circular packaging solutions to create a zero waste, low carbon future for the packaging industry, the company says.

The Ellen MacArthur Foundation's mission is to accelerate the transition to a circular economy - one that eliminates waste and pollution, circulates products and materials, and regenerates nature - uniting its global network of businesses, policymakers, financial institutions, and experts to drive systemic change. As a network partner, SIG can exchange innovative strategies to advance business transformation.

"SIG is proud to be a network partner of the Ellen MacArthur Foundation. This reflects our unwavering commitment to building a sustainable future," says Samuel Sigrist, CEO of SIG. "Joining this global network aligns with our mission to innovate and lead the packaging industry towards a circular economy, where resources are reused, waste is minimized, and products are designed to benefit both people and the planet. Together, we want to redefine what's possible by working together to create packaging solutions that not only meet today's needs but also ensure a thriving tomorrow."

UK Bans German Dairy Products after FMD case

Britain has banned imports of German pork, lamb, beef and dairy products to prevent foot-and-mouth disease spreading to the UK after a case of the disease was confirmed recently on the outskirts of Berlin.

As well as prohibiting imports of ham, bacon, salami and cheese, the measure bans the import of live cattle, sheep and pigs, along with other animals which are susceptible to foot-and-mouth. No health certificates will be issued by Britain for fresh meat from Germany.

"Ham, gammon and bacon as well as products like

salami from Germany will not be allowed into the UK," said Mandy Nevel, head of animal health and welfare at the UK's Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB).

Germany is the third-largest exporter of pork to the UK, and has an 18% market share, while it is also the second-largest exporter to the UK of dairy products including cheese, yoghurt and buttermilk.

The government said there were currently no cases of foot-and-mouth disease in the UK, and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs (Defra) said the measures would help to prevent it spreading to Britain, protecting farmers and their livelihoods.

Foot-and-mouth disease does not pose any risk to human or food safety, but is a highly contagious viral disease which affects cattle, sheep, pigs and other animals with cloven hooves.

A particularly severe outbreak of foot-and-mouth in Britain in 2001 saw 2,000 cases of the disease officially recorded and led to the slaughter of more than 6 million sheep, cattle and pigs, wrecking the finances of many farmers.

A case of foot-and-mouth disease in Germany was confirmed in a herd of water buffalo in Brandenburg, outside of Berlin, on January 10, 2025, according to the country's food and agriculture ministry. It added that exclusion zones had been established in the affected area, banning the transport of animals or animal products.

Hundreds of animals in Berlin are currently being tested for the disease, according to German media reports. The outbreak means that Germany cannot be classed as free of foot-and-mouth disease and the UK's import ban is likely to be the first of several trade restrictions. It is the first case of the disease in the EU for several years.

The UK's chief veterinary officer is calling on farmers and livestock keepers to remain vigilant for any signs of the disease in their animals and to maintain good biosecurity. Signs of the disease vary by animal, but cattle suffer from sores and blisters on their feet, mouth and tongue, as well as lameness and problems feeding.

The Farming Minister, Daniel Zeichner, said the government would "not hesitate to add additional countries" to the list of banned imports, should the foot and mouth outbreak spread beyond Germany.

Philippine Dairy Imports Surged

Philippine dairy imports surged by 24.7% in the first nine months of 2024 to 2.71 million metric tons, driven by the 40.7% growth in skim milk powder imports, according to the latest Philippine dairy update from the National Dairy Authority (NDA). Imports continued to dominate the market, contributing 99.1% of the country's

total milk supply, the agency said. Other powdered milk imports rose by 16%, and ready-to-drink liquid milk imports climbed by 3.3% for the first three quarters of the year. In monetary terms, local milk production grew 20.8% to P1.31 billion, while dairy imports' value grew by 3.5% to P61.09 billion. Despite efforts to bolster local production, the share of domestic output in the total milk supply slightly declined to 0.9% from 1% last year. The net supply of milk products increased by 24.6% to 2,736.21 million liters, although exports dropped by 13.5% to 31 million liters. According to the NDA data, the country's dairy inventory rose by 59.4%, reaching 152,619 heads. This growth was led by a 3.2% increase in dairy cows and does, totaling 34,875 heads in NDA-assisted farms. Meanwhile, the livestock inventory overall declined slightly by 1.5% to 9.05 million heads.

The UN Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) Dairy Market Review 2024 projected world trade in dairy products reaching nearly 85 million tons (in milk equivalent) in 2024, up 0.4 percent from 2023.

The Philippines is forecast to import 2.68 million tons of milk and milk products from 2023's estimated 2.32 million tons, an uptick of 13.9%, according to the FAO market review. NDA said in its update, "The Philippine dairy sector demonstrated significant developments during the first three quarters of 2024, reflecting a combination of progress in local production and challenges from heavy reliance on imports."

Event CALENDAR

51st Dairy Industry Conference

Date: March 6-7-8, 2025

Venue : Samrat Ashoka International Convention Centre, South Gandhi Maidan, Patna (Bihar)

Theme: "Indian Dairying : Global Growth; Local Strength."

For **Online Delegate Registration**, visit the link: <https://51dic.in/delegate-registration>

For **Sponsorship & Conference:**

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Visit: www.51dic.in

IDF World Dairy Summit 2025

Date: 20-23, October, 2025

Venue: Santiago, Chile

Visit www.idfwds2025.com