

Chinese Delegation Met Team IDA at its Head Office, New Delhi

Dr. J.B. Prajapati; Chairman, IDA (EZ) Shri Sudhir Kumar Singh; and Shri Hariom Gulati, Secretary General, IDA welcomed the Chinese delegation.



A delegation led by His Excellency Mr. SONG BO, Counsellor, Embassy of the People's Republic of China in India along with Mr. Tang Zhishao, First Secretary and Mr. Wu Junmin, Second Secretary visited IDA Head Office in New Delhi on February 7, 2025.

Dr. R.S. Sodhi, President-IDA along with Vice Presidents of IDA Shri A.K. Khosla and Shri Arun Patil; Chairman, IDA (SZ) Dr. Satish Kulkarni; Chairman, IDA (WZ)

place during March 6-7-8, 2025, at Patna. Mr. Tang Zhishao showed interest in participating such Expo.

During the presentation, it was explained that how Indian dairy sector became world's highest milk producer in the world. The Operation Flood and the Anand Model were also discussed in detail. The discussions also focused on possible collaborative engagements mutually beneficial to both the country.

Dr. Sodhi explained briefed the delegation about the current status of Indian dairy sector through a slide presentation. Delegates were also shown the opportunities available in the Indian dairy sector. They were also informed about the upcoming 51st Dairy Industry Conference scheduled to take

Shri Chandramogan, Chairman, Hatsun Agro Product Ltd. Honoured with Padma Shri Award

First IDA's Lifetime Achievement Awardee Shri R.G. Chandramogan, Chairman, Hatsun Agro Products. Ltd. have been honoured with **Padma Shri Award** on January 26, 2025. This is India's fourth-highest civilian award. It was bestowed for his contributions in the field of Trade and Industry.

The Indian Dairy Association proudly congratulates Shri R.G. Chandramogan on being conferred the prestigious **Padma Shri Award 2025!** This recognition is a testament to his visionary leadership, relentless dedication, and transformative contributions to the dairy industry and agriculture sector. Shri Chandramogan has been a trailblazer, driving innovation and sustainability while empowering dairy farmers across the nation.

Earlier, during the 50th Dairy Industry Conference, he was honoured with IDA's Lifetime Achievement Award, celebrating his decades of impactful service and his role in shaping the future of India's dairy sector.



First Announcement— Second Southern Dairy Summit 2026

The Second Southern Dairy Summit-2026 will be organized by IDA Kerala Sate Chapter during

January 2026. The announcement was made by Dr. S.N. Rajakumar, Chairman, IDA Kerala State Chapter during the Valedictory function of the Southern Dairy Summit held at Bengaluru in the presence of Shri K.S. Mani, Chairman KCMMA (MILMA). The exact date and venue will be announced soon. For further details please mail to sdsKERALA2026@gmail.com

NATIONAL News

AH&D Department and World Organisation for Animal Health Set Roadmap for PPP in the Livestock Sector

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD), under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying in collaboration with the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH), organized the WOAHPVS-PPP (Performance of Veterinary Services-Public Private Partnership) Targeted Support Workshop from 11-13 February, 2025 in New Delhi. The workshop aimed to strengthen the veterinary services through public-private partnerships (PPP) in areas such as vaccine platforms, veterinary workforce development, institutional infrastructure, and the creation of Foot-and-Mouth Disease (FMD)-Free Zones.

The discussions centered on bridging the critical gaps in veterinary services in India through structured PPP engagement, with emphasis on:

- Expanding veterinary infrastructure, including the establishment of NABL-accredited veterinary laboratories at the district level.
- Strengthening disease control programs through enhanced surveillance and FMD-Free Zone development.
- Building veterinary workforce capacity through structured training and knowledge-sharing platforms.
- Strengthening self-reliance in veterinary vaccine production by developing a robust vaccine value chain.
- Defining a comprehensive PPP policy framework to integrate private sector expertise in veterinary research, diagnostics, and extension services.

Ms. Alka Upadhyaya, Secretary, DAHD, highlighted the critical role of veterinary services in supporting the livestock sector, which contributes over 30% to India's Agricultural Gross Value Added (GVA). She underscored the need for establishing veterinary laboratories with NABL accreditation and emphasized that private sector collaboration is essential for disease surveillance, workforce capacity, and vaccine production.

Dr. Hirofumi Kugita, World Organization for Animal Health, Regional Representative for Asia and the Pacific, acknowledged India's leadership in veterinary services and its potential to contribute to global best practices through knowledge-sharing and laboratory collaborations.

Dr. Abhijit Mitra, Animal Husbandry Commissioner and the chief veterinary officer of the country, noted that scaling up veterinary services requires a structured institutional framework where the public and private sectors work together.

The workshop brought together over 100 participants from State Animal Husbandry Departments, Veterinary Councils, Disease Diagnostic Laboratories, ICAR research institutes, Agent for Health and Extension of Livestock Production (A-HELP), the Agriculture Skill Council of India, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization, private sector stakeholders, Indian Federation of Animal Health Companies (INFAH),

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

vaccine manufacturers, Food and Agriculture Organization and the World Bank. Seven WOAH experts facilitated discussions, defining PPP strategies for resource mobilization, risk management, and stakeholder integration during the workshop. The workshop concluded with the presentation of a PPP Roadmap for the Veterinary Sector, outlining actionable strategies to enhance veterinary services, disease surveillance, and livestock productivity. The outcomes will contribute to policy development, investment mobilization, and structured PPP implementation, ensuring long-term benefits for India's animal husbandry sector.

Mother Dairy Turnover may Rise 15% to Cross Rs. 17K Cr in FY25



Mother Dairy is likely to achieve 15 per cent growth in turnover this fiscal to more than Rs 17,000 crore on strong demand for its food products and expansion of production

capacity as well as distribution network.

Besides fresh milk and other dairy products, Mother Dairy sells edible oils under 'Dhara' brand and horticulture (fresh and frozen fruits & vegetables) items under 'Safal' brand. It is the leading milk supplier in Delhi-NCR. In an interview, Mother Dairy Managing Director Shri Manish Bandlish noted that fiscal year 2024-25 marks a momentous milestone for the company as it completed 50th year of inception.

"We are poised to conclude the year with an impressive growth of approximately 15 per cent, achieving a turnover exceeding Rs 17,000 crore," Shri Bandlish said.

In 2023-24, Mother Dairy had achieved a turnover of Rs 15,037 crore. Dairy business contributed about 75 per cent to the total annual revenue.

This strong performance is a testament to our strategic initiatives –expanding our national presence beyond Delhi-NCR, strengthening our reach through new-age distribution channels, scaling up manufacturing capacities, and enriching our portfolio with exciting new product launches to engage and delight consumers. For capacity expansion, Mother Dairy is setting up a mega milk processing plant in Nagpur, Maharashtra with an estimated investment of over Rs 500 crore. This new facility is expected to be commissioned by 2026 and will serve the markets of central and southern regions.

In horticulture business, Mother Dairy laid foundation stone for two integrated fruits & vegetables processing facilities – one in Itola, Vadodara, Gujarat and the other in Chittoor District, Andhra Pradesh. The two greenfield

plants, which will be operated under 'Safal' brand, are being established with an estimated cumulative outlay of over Rs. 350 crore.

The facilities will produce pulp and concentrates for a variety of products, including tomato and various fruits such as mango, guava, banana, and pomegranate, along with producing frozen french fries for domestic and international markets.

During the current fiscal year, Mother Dairy has launched more than 30 new products across varied categories.

Dodla Dairy: Poised for Solid Growth through Expansion

With solid domestic and international performance, a new Maharashtra plant, and enhanced distribution channels, Dodla expects continued revenue and margin growth in FY26. The demand scenario for dairy products remains robust, post-festive seasons, with the management indicating an uptick in consumption patterns as summer approaches.

Revenues grew 20.7 percent year on year (YoY) to Rs 901.2 crore and was driven by higher volumes and a healthy festive demand. Domestic business grew by 14.5 percent YoY to Rs 802.6 crore, whereas international business saw a phenomenal YoY growth of 114 percent and registered revenues of Rs 98.5 crore in Q3FY25.

Indian dairy operations were well complemented by the performance of Africa and Orgafeed businesses, both of which delivered healthy growth rates on the back of higher capacity utilisation levels.

The Kenya and Uganda markets are performing well, with Dodla gradually ramping up plant capacities. The Kenya plant currently operates at 40 percent capacity, leaving significant room for growth, while Uganda has shown a steady volume growth, positioning Dodla to capitalise on the expanding demand in Africa.

Milk procurement prices increased due to lean season dynamics, impacting gross margin for the quarter. However, the company maintained adequate inventory levels to address rising procurement costs and ensure supply chain stability.

EBITDA margin stood at 10.6 percent, slightly lower than the 11.1 percent from the previous year. This was mainly due to higher employee costs, driven by annual increments and staff addition at the Kenya plant.

In terms of pricing, the company has maintained its selling prices in Q3FY25 but plans to increase milk prices to account for the rising procurement costs. This price hike is in line with industry trends and is expected to offset cost increases without disrupting the market.

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Milk prices are expected to continue their upward trend, with a further hike of Rs 1- 2 by March or April, as per management commentary. This price increase is in line with the broader industry trends, with competitors also adjusting prices to account for inflationary pressures at the farmer's level.

VAP (value-added product) sales have contributed 31.2 percent to revenues in Q3FY25. However, sales were softer than anticipated due to seasonal factors affecting demand for products like curd, flavoured milk and ice cream. With summer season approaching, DDL expects a rebound in VAP sales, driven by a strong demand for products like flavoured milk, buttermilk, curd and ice creams, which traditionally sees increased consumption during the period.

A key highlight of the quarter was the announcement of Rs 280 crore capex plans for a new greenfield facility in Maharashtra, with a 10 lakh litre per day capacity, expected to start by FY27. The expansion will be primarily funded through internal accruals, though debt options may be explored, if government incentives and favourable interest rates are available.

The plant will source milk from Solapur and nearby areas, improving distribution efficiency by tapping into Maharashtra's milk production. This strategic move is designed to enhance presence in both southern and western India, support long-term growth, and meet the rising demand in existing and new markets.

Currently, Dodla is available only on Zepto in Hyderabad, contributing less than 1 percent to revenue. The company is exploring key channels to expand its presence across Andhra Pradesh and Telangana. Additionally, Dodla continues to grow its network of Dodla Parlors, now at 657, with projected annual sales growth of 2-3 percent.

The demand scenario for dairy products remains robust, post-festive seasons, with the management indicating an uptick in consumption patterns as summer approaches. DDL has maintained its guidance for FY26, with a 10 percent volume and 15 percent revenue growth forecast.

Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on the Functional Plan for the Dairy Sector of NCR

Chairman, NDDDB, Dr. Meenesh Shah, along with Ms Archana Agrawal, Member Secretary, Dept of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Min of FAHD; Shri Jugmohan



Singh, Chief Regional Planner, NCRPB; and Shri S Regupathi, ED, NDDDB, inaugurated the Stakeholder Consultation Workshop on the Functional Plan for the Dairy Sector of NCR in New Delhi, organized by NDDDB. The workshop brought together a diverse group of stakeholders, including government bodies, cooperatives, FPOs, and private dairies.



During his inaugural address, Chairman, N D D B, Dr. Meenesh Shah emphasized the critical role of dairying in NCR, where millions of small dairy farmers significantly contribute to meeting the rising

demand for milk and dairy products and plays an integral role in rural development, food security, and economic sustainability. He stressed the need to expand processing infrastructure, ensure milk quality, and improve animal productivity through better animal breeding, nutrition, and health.

Dr. Shah also highlighted the importance of waste management for the NCR region and emphasized the potential of circular dairying models, where dung is treated as a valuable resource, creating a robust biogas/manure value chain that enhances farmer incomes, promotes sustainability, and mitigates environmental concerns. Expressing gratitude to the NCR Planning Board for recognizing dairy's contribution to inclusive growth, he noted that deliberations from this workshop would lay a strong foundation for the Functional Plan for the Dairy Sector of NCR.

Secretary, NCRPB emphasized the dairy sector's role in improving farmers' socioeconomic conditions and welcomed its inclusion in the Draft Regional Plan for NCR 2041. She highlighted its potential in poverty alleviation and stressed the need for a transparent

procurement system. Noting emerging trends, she underscored dairy's nutritional importance, especially for children, and expressed confidence in NDDB to develop a comprehensive dairy plan for NCR.

During the workshop, Ms Varsha Joshi highlighted dairying as a key driver of economic growth, ensuring a stable income for farmers and acknowledged NDDB's efforts in strengthening dairying in remote regions like Ladakh and Manipur, benefiting both farmers and consumers. She expressed confidence that the functional plan for Delhi NCR, coupled with modern technologies, would enhance farmer incomes while ensuring safe and high-quality milk & milk products for consumers.

Indian Nelore Breed Cow Viatina-19, World's Most Expensive



Viatina-19 had also won Miss South America at the "Champion of the World"

An Indian-origin cow is the world's most expensive cattle. As per the Guinness World Record, the cow - Viatina-19 - was sold for Rs 40 crore at an auction in Minas Gerais, Brazil in 2023. The cow reportedly weighs around 1,101 kg, twice the average weight of other cows of the same Nelore breed.

The 53-month-old stands out for her gorgeous white fur, loose skin, and a noticeable hump on her shoulders.

In addition to setting a world record, Viatina-19 won Miss South America at the "Champion of the World" competition in Fort Worth, Texas. It's a Miss Universe-style cattle contest pitting bulls and cows from various nations against one another. Her exceptional muscle structure and rare genetic lineage contributed to her victory.

The Nelore breed is well known for its ability to adapt to tropical climates and disease resistance. Due to this, Viatina-19's embryos are in high demand globally for breeding programs.

Lorrany Martins, a veterinarian, said that Viatina-19 was the closest to perfection attained so far. "She's a complete cow and has all the characteristics that proprietors are looking for," Martins added.

According to Oklahoma State University data, Brazil is now the world's largest breeder of Nelore cattle, and the breed has been exported to Argentina, Paraguay, Venezuela, Central America, Mexico, the United States, and numerous other nations.

At least 80 per cent of cows in Brazil are Zebu cattle, a subspecies that originated in India and is distinguished by its hump and dewlap.

Viatina-19 belongs to the Nelore breed, also known as the Ongole breed, which was first brought to Brazil in the 1800s. Reports suggest that this muscular breed originated from the Prakasam district of Andhra Pradesh, India, and was first introduced by the Aryans around 2,000 years before the Christian era.

The Nelore breed, which makes up the majority of Brazil's cattle stock, is primarily raised for meat. According to the US Department of Agriculture, Brazil has about 230 million cows.

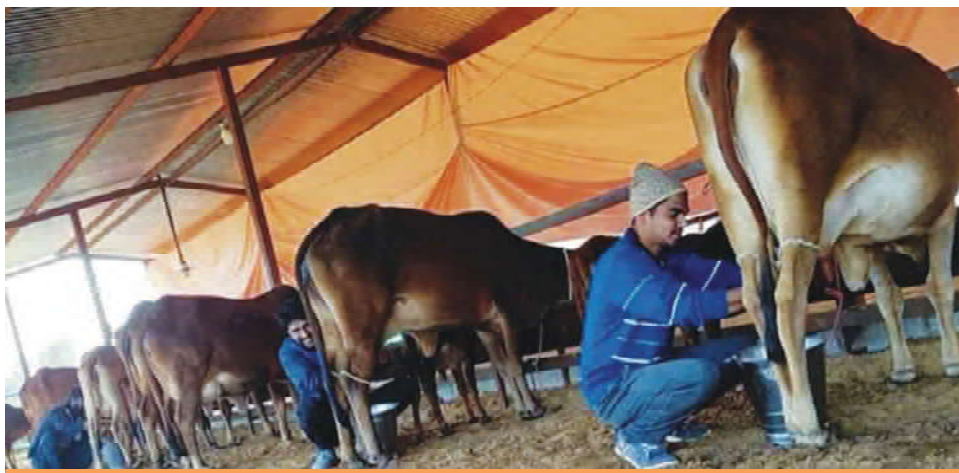
NDDB Organized a Training Program for 25 Pashusakhis

NDDB organized a training program on Dairy Animal Management for 25 Pashusakhis from Bhavnagar District, Gujarat, affiliated with the Gujarat Livelihood Promotion Company Limited. The five-day training covered key topics, including an introduction to the A-HELP Program, productivity enhancement of dairy animals, integrated dairy farm management, quality assurance, and clean milk production. As part of the program, participants visited the Mujkva Dairy Cooperative Society, NDDB's manure chain model, AMUL Plant, AMUL Chocolate Plant, and the fodder demonstration unit to gain hands-on exposure to best practices in dairy farming and allied activities.



Rajasthan Farmer Builds Rs 17 Crore Organic Farm and Dairy

A Rajasthan Farmer- a resident of Rajasthan's Kotputli district- Shri Lekh Ram Yadav turned his 550-acre organic farm and dairy business into a Rs. 17 crore venture by using sustainable practices, organic farming, and indigenous cows, emphasizing profitability through dedication and knowledge.



His journey started with organic farming on 120 acres of land. He is proving that farming can be a highly profitable and sustainable business when done with the right knowledge and dedication. He believed in the long-term benefits of organic methods, unlike the traditional farmers who rely on chemical-based farming. He considered his vision a long-term process toward obtaining profit to contribute to the environment and society.

Through hard work and careful planning, he has gradually expanded his organic farming area to 550 acres of farmland. He believes in using natural fertilizers, traditional soil enrichment techniques, and eco-friendly pest control methods, which have helped him produce high-quality yields while keeping the soil fertile.

Agriculture and animal husbandry go hand in hand. Shri Lekh Ram knew the value of a ready source of organic manure for his farms. He faced issues in sourcing cow-based products for organic farming during the COVID-19 pandemic. Then he started his dairy farm to have an independent source of those products.

He began his dairy business with 120 indigenous 'Sahiwal' cows Five years ago. These indigenous cows are known for their high milk yield and excellent quality of milk. He chose to raise *desi* cows instead of foreign breeds. *Desi* cows have the adaptability to Indian climatic conditions and their ability to produce A2 milk. The A2 milk is highly nutritious and in demand.

He constructed a cowshed as simple and cost-effective.

He has built it using straw and locally available materials while most dairy farmers go on to spend much on infrastructure building. It reduced his initial investment but provided a natural and comfortable environment for the cows.

He adopted traditional architectural practices in the construction of the cowshed. This traditional cow shed ensured proper ventilation, water availability, and hygiene. This cowshed is best for the Indian climate as

we have tropical and subtropical type climates. The cowshed was designed to ensure that milk production, cleaning, and feeding could be done with minimal labour costs.

He feels that proper breed selection is very important to make a dairy business successful. He recommends the selection of breeds based on the market demand. He has chosen buffaloes for cheese production and cows

for milk and ghee.

He also ensures the calves do not leave their mothers. The mother cow can only produce more milk when they have their calves. It is nature's rule and he is ensuring to follow nature's rule. This process keeps the cows stress-free and increases milk production without the assistance of artificial stimulation.

Shri Lekh Ram maintains a sustainable environment for his dairy farm by using the TCBT formula for pest control and odor management. He practices Agnihotra, a traditional fire ritual with cow dung, rice, and desi ghee, which purifies the air and controls pests. The Tarachand Belji Technique (TCBT) enhances plant health using energy science and nanotechnology, balancing energies to help plants thrive naturally. He also uses organic bio-fertilizers prepared through the TCBT formula to grow high-quality fodder for his cows. This not only ensures that the animals get nutritious food but also boosts their immunity. All these practices are done to keep them healthy and disease-free.

Shri Lekh Ram's success lies in his ability to combine traditional farming wisdom with modern business strategies. His dedication to organic farming, cost-effective dairy management, and sustainable practices have made him one of the most successful farmers in the country. His contributions have not gone unnoticed. He has received multiple state and national awards. The awards are the National Awards in Millionaire Farmer of India Awards by Krishi Jagran in (MFOI)

2023 and 2024.

Shri Lekh Ram Yadav's journey states that this sector can also be used to make money if done correctly. His journey teaches farmers that organic farming if done systematically, can yield high profits. Dairy farming can also complement agriculture to increase overall income. Farmers can reduce investment while maximizing profits by adopting simple and cost-effective methods.

All his practices are inspiring a thousand farmers around him to farm organically as well as using sustainable dairy-farming methods. His journey from being a helpless farmer to creating a business value of Rs 17 crore, proves that with a little knowledge and dedication, blended with traditional wisdom, success is not a mirage in agricultural activities but indeed a reality, waiting to happen.

Significant Milestone for Madhya Pradesh in Milk Production

In the presence of Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah and Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav, a collaboration agreement will be signed on February 25 at Kushabhau Thackeray International Convention Center in Bhopal between the M.P. State Co-operative Dairy Federation Limited (MPSCDFL), associated milk unions, and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). This partnership marks a significant achievement for the state government in the field of milk production.

Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav said that the state government has taken a significant step toward doubling the income of milk producers and promoting milk production. The cabinet has approved the collaboration agreement between the MPSCDFL, associated milk unions, and the NDDB, which is now being formally executed. The agreement, will be in effect for five years, with the possibility of extension through mutual consent. Under this initiative, collection centers will be established in every Gram Panchayat, the processing capacity of milk unions will be expanded, and the number of milk committees will be increased. These measures are expected to result in a substantial increase in the income of milk producers across the state.

Dr. Mohan Yadav said that the State Government's Sankalp Patra-2023 includes a commitment to establishing dairy cooperative societies and collection centers in every Gram Panchayat to ensure efficient milk procurement and provide dairy farmers with fair prices. The plan also involves increasing the number of milk coolers, mini dairy plants, and chilling centers in every district, alongside Sanchi Dairy, as part of the White Revolution Mission, with an investment of Rs.2,500 crore.

He said that the newly signed agreement will play a crucial role in achieving these objectives. It will further strengthen the cooperative system and enhance the Sanchi brand under the Animal Husbandry and Dairy Department of the state.

Chief Minister Dr. Mohan Yadav said that collection centers will be established in every Gram Panchayat to ensure efficient milk procurement and fair pricing for dairy farmers. Currently, there are 6,000 milk committees in the state, which will be expanded to 9,000. Each milk committee collects milk from approximately one to three villages, allowing 9,000 committees to cover around 18,000 villages. As a result, daily milk collection is expected to increase from 10.50 lakh kg to 20 lakh kg.

Additionally, the number of villages covered by the NDDB through Milk Producer Organizations (MPO) will expand from 1,390 to 2,590, and milk procurement will rise from 1.3 lakh kg to 3.7 lakh kg per day.

The processing capacity of milk unions will also be enhanced, with the current dairy plant capacity of 18 lakh liters per day set to increase to 30 lakh liters per day. Over the next five years, an estimated investment of Rs. 1,500 crore will be made in this sector. The initiative aims to double the total annual income of milk producers from Rs. 1,700 crore to Rs 3,500 crore.

Dr. Yadav said that the NDDB will play a key role in further strengthening the Sanchi brand and expanding its presence at the national level.

The brand name will remain unchanged, and no management fee will be charged for the operation and administration of milk unions. Additionally, no consultancy fee will be levied for the development of new processing facilities and infrastructure. To enhance efficiency, technical and management experts will be appointed to the milk unions as needed, ensuring smooth operations while safeguarding the interests of the existing staff. A complaint redressal system will also be established to address and resolve grievances of dairy farmers associated with milk cooperative societies.

Milk Procurement Price to be Hiked in Belagavi

Belagavi District Co-operative Milk Producers Societies Union limited (BEMUL) will increase the procurement price of milk that is paid to farmers, BEMUL, Chairman Shri Balachandra Jarkiholi said in Gokak recently.

However, this will not lead to a rise in the market price of milk, Shri Balachandra said. The price of buffalo milk will go up to Rs.45 and cow milk to Rs.30. Farmers will end up getting Rs.50 for buffalo milk and Rs.35 for

cow milk, due to the addition of Rs. 5 per litre of production incentive, he said.

He was addressing a grievance meeting of milk producers and society office-bearers. He said that transparent systems and processes are being put in place to see that milk producers are paid in 10 days of them supplying milk. The district union is expected to achieve a turnover of Rs.400 crore this year. It made a profit of Rs.68 lakh last year, he said.

Efforts are being made to increase the profit to Rs.5 crore. "We have plans to redistribute our profits among milk producers," Shri Balachandra added.

Shri Balachandra further said that he will positively consider demands of strengthening cooperative societies and revise wages of employees. He also said that he is planning to set up a mega dairy that can process over four lakh litres of milk per day in the district.

Chhattisgarh to Join Hands with NDDB to Bring Dairy Revolution

Chhattisgarh will soon unfold its wings towards dairy revolution under a pilot project in collaboration with National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), to drive a large-scale expansion in the sector. A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between the Chhattisgarh Govt and NDDB in Dec 2024, aimed at accelerating dairy development across the state. To ensure the seamless implementation of the pilot project, state govt has committed an initial investment of Rs 5 crore.

Covering six districts initially, the project will later be scaled up to establish Chhattisgarh as a major dairy producer in India.

Chief Minister Shri Vishnu Deo Sai chaired a high-level review meeting with the officers of Animal Husbandry Department at Mahanadi Bhavan in Naya Raipur and said that state is committed to transform into a leader in dairy production by boosting farmers' income, strengthening rural infrastructure, and achieving self-sufficiency in milk production.

Highlighting the importance of the dairy sector as a catalyst for economic growth, he emphasized that concerted efforts are being made to turn milk production into a profitable and sustainable industry.

"A significant portion of Chhattisgarh's population depends on agriculture, with dairy farming serving as a critical secondary source of income. Expanding the dairy sector will generate new employment opportunities, increase rural incomes, and play a crucial role in improving the nutritional standards of women and children. Officials should prioritize initiatives that boosts per capita milk availability and optimize the

utilization of surplus milk along with awareness campaigns to educate farmers and dairy entrepreneurs on adopting modern technologies," said CM.

During the meeting, NDDB Chairman Dr. Meenesh Shah provided an overview of the current dairy landscape and the strategic roadmap for its expansion. He reported that Chhattisgarh currently produces approximately 5.8 million kgs of milk per day, with huge untapped potential for growth.

To accelerate the sector's development, NDDB has formulated a comprehensive action plan, which includes strengthening cooperative dairy societies to provide modern processing and marketing infrastructure, enhancing milk quality testing facilities to maintain superior dairy standards, implementing a digital payment system to ensure instant transactions for farmers, promoting biogas and bio-fertilizer plants to create additional income streams and encourage sustainable practices.

Himachal became First State to Set MSP for Milk

Chief Minister Shri Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu has recently said that the state government was committed to strengthening the rural economy through sustainable and farmer-friendly policies. The government has taken a pioneering step by becoming the first state in the country to fix the highest support price for wheat and maize under natural farming.

The Chief Minister said that Himachal has also set a benchmark in the dairy sector by being the first state to fix the minimum support price for milk. Cow milk was being procured at Rs. 45 per litre and buffalo milk at Rs. 55 per litre. A state-of-the-art milk processing plant with a capacity of 50,000 liters per day has been inaugurated in Dattanagar, benefitting over 20,000 dairy farmers and a foundation stone of an Automated Milk Processing Plant has been laid in Dhagwar, Kangra district, with a capacity to process 1.5 to 3 lakh liters of milk per day. Apart from this of milk processing and



chilling plants were also being established in Kangra, Kullu, Nahan, Nalagarh, Una and Hamirpur. MILKFED was procuring 2 lakh liters of milk daily and in a pioneering move, goat milk was being purchased at Rs. 70 per litre in Una district.

He said that the state has also launched Rs. 500 crore 'Him Ganga' scheme to boost milk production. More than 26,000 below-poverty-line farmers have been benefited over the past two years by providing 50 percent subsidy on feed for pregnant cattle.

New Zealand Explores Collaboration with Punjab's Dairy Sector

A high-profile delegation from New Zealand, comprising Professor Garry Udy from MPI, Prof. Nicolas Lopez from Massey University, and Dr. David Hayman from TRG/ABS, along with Dr. R.O. Gupta from NDDDB, recently met with Principal Secretary of Punjab Animal Husbandry department Shri Rahul Bhandari to discuss mutual collaboration in the animal husbandry sector, with a special focus on animal breeding and small-holder dairy systems.

Shri Rahul Bhandari briefed the delegation on the ongoing initiatives under the National Dairy Plan-1, which was launched in July 2013. He said that the project focuses on improving genetic merit in cattle and buffalo populations through progeny testing, genetic evaluation, and selective breeding. Key objectives of the project include producing high genetic merit (HGM) bulls for semen stations, establishing a robust system for genetic evaluation of young bulls, bull dams, and bull sires, and achieving steady genetic progress in milk, fat, SNF (solid-not-fat), and protein yields in cattle and buffalo populations.

Shri Bhandari said that currently, the project is being implemented across 160 institutions in three districts of Punjab including Patiala, Sangrur, and Barnala. Significant milestones have been achieved under the project, including over 4,50,000 artificial inseminations (AI), registration of 50,000 female calves, body measurements of 2,20,000 animals, milk recording and type classification of 6,000 calved daughters, and procurement of 650 HGM male calves, he said.

He also emphasized the need for procuring high-quality bulls to further enhance milk production and quality in the state. Meanwhile, the delegation also engaged in detailed discussions on management practices and visited project villages in Patiala district, including Chaswal, Saholi, and Laut, to interact with local farmers and observe the success of the Murrah Progeny Testing (PT) Project.

Accompanied by the Director of Animal Husbandry Punjab Dr. G.S. Bedi, the New Zealand team expressed satisfaction on the working and progress of the project in the state. Among others, Project Coordinator Dr. Amit Khurana and Dr. R.P.S. Bali also attended the meeting.

INTERNATIONAL News

International Dairy Market: USDA

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

EUROPEAN

Western European

The UK-based Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) released data showing daily milk deliveries for the week ending February 2 averaged at 33.75 million liters, down 0.2 percent from the week prior but up 1.9 percent from the same week last year. Ireland's Central Statistics Office estimates total milk intakes by processors and cooperatives in December 2024 at 267.1 million liters. This is an increase of 61.8 million liters from December 2023. Fat content in milk deliveries averaged 4.83 percent in December 2024. For the period of January to December 2024, domestic milk intake is estimated at 8.43 billion liters, down 30.6 million liters, -0.4 percent, compared to 2023. Domestic butter production fell from 273,200 tons in 2023 to 267,600 tons in 2024. Domestic skim milk powder production decreased from 167,200 tons in 2023 to 138,800 tons in 2024.

A large dairy cooperative in Ireland announced increases in its January purchase price index (PPI). The January PPI is 161.9 up from 159.3 in December.

No additional cases of foot and mouth disease (FMD) have been detected in Germany since the initial case was confirmed in a herd of water buffalo in Brandenburg, Germany on January 10. The European Commission announced surveillance zone measures will remain in place until February 24. After February 24, the surveillance zone borders will shrink and remain in force until April 11.

Eastern Europe

The European Commission Combined Drought Indicator lists warning drought conditions in pockets of East Europe due to precipitation deficits, while other areas are in recovery drought conditions or normal conditions.

OCEANIA DAIRY MARKET

New Zealand

A group representing dairy farmers in New Zealand has a farmer levy that has remained the same price at

3.6 ¢/kgMS, since the levy was established. The group's board is currently exploring options to increase this levy. The "Maintain" option would increase the levy to 4.4 - 4.6 ¢/kgMS and would keep their current research and programs, retain some projects, and meet the organizations financial obligations.

Meanwhile, the "Accelerate" option increase the levy to 4.6 - 5.0 ¢/kgMS and would enable them to expand investment in science and research, farm system extension, and prepare for future challenges. The group has sent out letters to levy payers with information to provide secure online feedback. A financial institution recently released a report discussing expectations for agriculture in New Zealand in 2025. The financial institution forecasts 2025 milk production will increase in New Zealand by 0.8 percent from the prior year. The report noted milk production, on a tonnage basis, was up 1.4 percent year over year in December and up from the start of the season through December by 3.1 percent. The report also forecasts dairy farm margins will increase in New Zealand during 2025. The report stated farm level milk prices have been higher from a year earlier in recent months, while feed has remained favorably priced and available.

A spokesperson for a New Zealand dairy cooperative recently stated they are considering expanding their organic milk from the North Island into the South Island. The spokesperson noted their organic business has more than doubled in the last few years and longterm projections for organic dairy demand outpace their current growth projections. Before determining if the cooperative will expand organic production to the South Island, they are researching whether milk producers are interested in organic production and determining the level of investment needed for organic milk production and processing. A group in New Zealand, which forecasts dairy prices, increased the forecasted milk price for the 2024/2025 season, following GDT event 373, by 16 cents, to \$10.11/kgMS. The spot value of milk also increased by 38 cents to \$11.66/kgMS. The group stated the primary factor contributing to increased prices was the strong results for all commodities traded at GDT event 373.

Australia

Dairy Australia recently released export data for Australia showing milk export volumes from July 2024 - December 2024 were 84,898MT, down 16.3 percent from the same time period a year earlier.

SOUTH AMERICA DAIRY MARKET

Milk output in the South American region varies. Uruguayan contacts reported some positives regarding expectations even during the summer months. Meanwhile, in Argentina and Brazil, output is less bullish.

The WASDE report from February 11 cut corn estimates in both countries based on heat, dryness and delayed early-season corn planting. Still, as economic conditions stabilize in parts of the region, milk payments have stabilized or grown. With the exception of Brazil, contacts in the key dairy centers of the continent are somewhat bullish about milk expectations moving into the near and medium-term.

Trading activity is bustling. Seasonally tighter milk supplies have given rise to demand from Brazilian and Algerian customers for dairy commodities. Brazilian importers were expecting some bearish momentum in late 2024 and early 2025, but global and regional market bears were minimal. Now, expectations are that Brazilian customers will need to refill pipelines from recent months of hand-to-mouth purchasing activity, notably during the summer stretch. Market tones for most dairy commodities have firmed.

UK Dairy Production Set to Rise in 2025: AHDB Senior Analyst (Dairy)

The first half of the 2024/25 milk year saw sluggish growth, with wet weather in spring and lower prices leading to reduced yields. However, things started to turn around in September as prices climbed and margins improved.

Favourable weather allowed cows to stay out in the fields longer, contributing to a resurgence in milk flows. By November and December, milk deliveries saw notable increases, with volumes up by 4.5% and 3.3%, respectively.

According to Susie Stannard, AHDB Senior Analyst (Dairy), "After a tough start to the season, the industry is showing signs of recovery. Higher milk prices and a stronger milk-to-feed ratio are encouraging farmers to boost production. We're seeing solid growth, but we must also be mindful of global risks, from fluctuating commodity prices to disease outbreaks, which could disrupt this upward trajectory."

While milk prices are set to remain high in the short term, with an average of 45.14ppl recorded in October 2024 (excluding aligned contracts), prices may start to decrease towards the back half of 2025.

Increased production could put downward pressure on prices during the spring flush, as milk supplies surge just as consumer demand starts to level out. Retail milk demand is expected to remain stable, but volume per household could decline slightly as more workers return to office settings, reducing their in-home consumption.

Cheese demand will continue to rise, supported by promotions and the popularity of home-cooked meals.

Butter consumption may decrease due to price competition with plant-based alternatives, while yogurt sales are expected to grow, driven by health trends.

Susie further added, "The dairy sector has demonstrated resilience in the face of significant challenges. However, the industry's ability to navigate these uncertainties will depend on how well it can balance production increases with fluctuating demand and external pressures."

With key issues like disease control, policy changes, and global supply chain dynamics in play, the year ahead promises to be one of cautious optimism for the UK dairy industry.

The outlook for 2025 suggests that while growth is likely, dairy producers will need to stay resilient to adapt to changing market conditions.

GEA Launches a Carbon-free Dairy Evaporator for the Dairy Industry

With the GEA Dairy Evaporator eZero, GEA Group presents an innovative evaporator that operates with zero CO₂ emissions. This solution is designed to meet the increasing demands of the dairy industry, which is facing challenges such as high energy prices and stricter climate targets.

Evaporators are among the largest energy consumers in dairies. They are used in the production of whole and

skim milk powder, infant formula and whey powder. Reducing their energy consumption can have a significant impact on both energy costs and overall plant sustainability. The new eZero Dairy Evaporator enables these energy savings without compromising product quality.

GEA's Dairy Evaporator eZero aligns with the company's commitment to eliminating dependency on fossil fuels by transitioning to renewable energy sources and empowering customers to produce more sustainably. Depending on plant operation specifics, resources, and the electricity emission factor, the new system can reduce energy consumption up to a 60 percent and eliminates CO₂ emissions entirely compared to conventional mechanical vapour recompression (MVR) evaporators.

Thermal vapour recompression (TVR) is typically applied to multi-effect evaporators powered by live steam, while mechanical vapour recompression (MVR) is more energy efficient and uses electricity to recompress and recycle product vapour in single-effect evaporators. Both technologies rely on steam for heating products before evaporation. The eZero evaporator is compatible with MVR systems and can also be applied to TVR evaporators after conversion to MVR technology. It is also adaptable to new and existing systems.

To convert an existing TVR evaporator to use the eZero, the thermocompressor is replaced by a standard compressor, while reusing the evaporator's calandria

GDT Index Prices Down by 0.6% from Previous Event

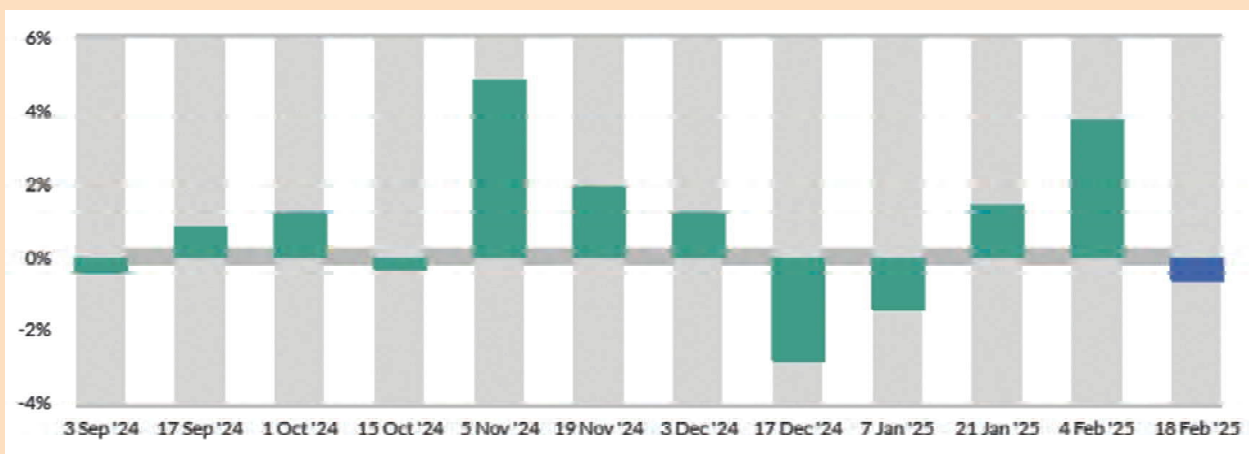
The Global Dairy Trade (GDT) Event 374, held on February 18, 2025, saw a slight decrease in Index price by 0.6% from its previous event.

Global dairy price index average winning price was USD 4370/MT. Butter price was up by 2.2% at USD 7378. Whole Milk Powder (WMP) prices was down 0.2% at USD 4153 and Cheddar cheese down by

3.4% at USD 4862. Skim milk powder was also down by 2.5% at USD 2754.

The Anhydrous Milk Fat was down by 0.8% at USD 6723. Mozzarella cheese was little down by 0.1% to an average of USD 4148.

A total of 22,651 MT of product was purchased by 120 successful bidders.



and the high-speed mechanical compressor for the evaporation process. This conversion is the first crucial step in reducing steam consumption and CO₂ emissions by moving away from fossil fuels.

The eZero evaporator takes a further step by integrating an ammonia heat pump to transfer the heat from the vapor at the condenser to a low-pressure steam generator or flash vessel. This process naturally creates two loops of water: a cold loop (approximately 35-45°C) that cools the condenser water loop, and a hot loop (approximately 80-90°C) that provides heat for the heat treatment system. Hot water is flashed to produce low-pressure steam, which is then recompressed to higher pressure for efficient product heating.

SIG to Invest 40 mn Euros for Plant Expansion in India

Global packaging solutions provider SIG will invest 40 million euros (around Rs 360 crore) in the second phase to increase capacity of its plant in India, a "key growth market" for the Swiss multinational, a top company official said.

With the new tranche of fund infusion, the total investment of SIG at the Ahmedabad-based plant will increase to 130 million euros (around Rs.1,168 crore), including the 90 million euros of investments during the first phase.

"Phase II has been activated now, the board has already approved 40 million euros. This confirms that we are in line with our mid-long term plan," SIG President & General Manager, India, Middle East and Africa, Abdelghany Eladib confirmed.

Work on the second phase would be completed in the next three years by 2027, he added.

Phase I of SIG, a global player in aseptic packaging and filling solutions, has been completed in just 20 months. Its current production capacity at Ahmedabad is 4 billion packs per annum, and with subsequent investments it has plans to ramp up the annual output to 10 billion packs.

This will not only serve the domestic demand but also cater to export opportunities in the neighbouring markets after the second phase is operational, said Eladib.

SIG, which has over 50 packaging machines deployed at leading companies, including Amul, ITC, Coca-Cola, Parle and Varun Beverages, is looking at dairy and juices as its growth drivers.

"In five years, we have more than 50 fillers (machines) in the field across all the major players of both NCSD (non-carbonated soft drinks) and dairy, which is a success story," he said, adding, "We brag about India, for us, it is a key growth market." According to Eladib, in 2022 the dairy market in India was estimated in the range of

USD 150 billion, which is expected to be doubled four years later.

Besides, SIG is also taking attempts in the pharma industries, where it will provide panicking solution of ORS and pro-biotic drinks.

"A very important consumer demand is coming from health sector," he said, adding that SIG is providing affordable packaging solution to the sector as spouted pouch besides carton packaging, which will help retain nutritional values.

Asked whether the recent consumption slowdown in FMCG and consumer goods sector had any impact on SIG's business in India, Eladib said: "We are here for a long term.

"We have to understand that seasons, environment, pressure from currencies, availability of financials will never change our determination to continue to grow," he added.

Ms. Vandana Tandan, Head of Market India and Bangladesh at SIG, said the company is expanding its presence in the country. It is also working to increase visibility and awareness about the brand SIG. In India, SIG is growing with a 60 per cent CAGR, she added.

New Research Offers Hope to Tackle the Global Threat of AMR

A Loughborough University-backed research project investigating the development of new treatments for drug-resistant bacterial infections is set to launch.

Experts from Loughborough, alongside colleagues from the University of Nottingham, aim to combat antimicrobial resistance (AMR) by investigating how resistant bacteria spreads between humans, livestock, and wildlife and will explore innovative treatments to combat this by using bacteriophages - viruses that specifically target and destroy bacteria.

AMR is one of the greatest challenges of the 21st century, with projections estimating up to 8 million annual deaths worldwide by 2050 (Lancet, 2024).

The £1.7million funded international research project, which has been funded by the BBSRC and the Indian Government Department of Biotechnology (DBT), will be delivered by Loughborough University, the University of Nottingham, the Quadram Institute and the UK Health Security Agency.

Partners in India include the Maharashtra Animal & Fishery Sciences University, the Central India Institute of Medical Science, the National Environmental Engineering Research Institute, the Wildlife Research and Training Center, Nagpur and the University of Delhi.

The collaborative project focuses on *Escherichia coli*,

a common source of infection in both humans and animals, and a member of the ESKAPE group of drug-resistant pathogens given high priority by the World Health Organization.

Researchers will study *E. coli* transmission on farms in the UK and India over a two-year period. This involves sampling livestock and humans, analysing environmental factors, and interviewing farmers to understand management practices that influence the spread of AMR.

Professor Emily Rousham, Professor of Global Public Health at Loughborough University, said: "Many of the antibiotics that we rely on to treat human and animal infections are becoming ineffective, so this is an exciting opportunity to develop new treatments for drug-resistant bacterial infections by using bacteriophages.

"This UK-India collaboration will bring together researchers in medicine, veterinary sciences as well as biological and social sciences to engage with farmers, improve dairy farming practices and reduce the risks of antibiotic resistance developing in livestock and humans."

To address the growing threat of AMR, the project will also develop a new bacteriophage-based treatment. Bacteriophage (or 'phage') are viruses which specifically kill bacteria, including antibiotic-resistant strains. By harnessing artificial intelligence, the team will optimize combinations (or "cocktails") of bacteriophages to target AMR *E. coli* strains circulating in livestock and people.

Given the global nature of AMR, where resistant bacteria can spread across borders through international travel and trade, this research highlights the urgent need for worldwide cooperation to tackle the issue.

This groundbreaking project offers hope in the fight against AMR, paving the way for effective, alternative treatments and strategies to protect public and animal health.

Philippines and France Partner for Dairy Sector Development

The Philippines and France have agreed to strengthen their cooperation in the dairy sector, the Department of Agriculture (DA) announced recently.

In a news release, the DA announced the recent signing of a memorandum of understanding (MoU) between the National Dairy Authority (NDA) and France-based Phylum SARL for the conduct of a feasibility study for the Philippine Dairy Project.

The feasibility study would be funded through a grant from the French government.

"The study will assess whether the project qualifies for a concessional loan from the French government. The Philippine Dairy Project envisions establishing a modern

dairy farm in Ubay, Bohol, with the capacity to care for more than 300 cows for milk production," it said.

The dairy farm will have a facility capable of processing up to 10 metric tons of raw milk daily. The dairy project also includes collaboration with local cooperatives for milk and fodder production, along with capacity-building efforts to improve training and advisory services.

The DA said the deal would facilitate the establishment of milk collection centers and milk processing facilities in select areas nationwide. Phylum SARL is a French company specializing in food, animal health and welfare.

As on date, the Philippines' milk sufficiency is just 1.66 percent. The DA said the NDA is eyeing five percent or 80 million liters of milk by 2028.

"The country's average milk production per cow remains low at eight liters per day, hindered by poor feed and management practices, high production cost, and insufficient dairy infrastructure," the DA said. The NDA welcomes international collaborations and private sector investments to improve the country's local dairy industry.

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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Mob.: +91 9557328059; +91 9848450521

Visit: www.51dic.in

IDF World Dairy Summit 2025

Date: 20-23, October, 2025

Venue: Santiago, Chile

Visit www.idfwds2025.com

Dairy Industries Expo

Date: 29-30, October, 2025

Venue: NAEC Stoneleigh, UK

Visit www.dairyindustriesexpo.com