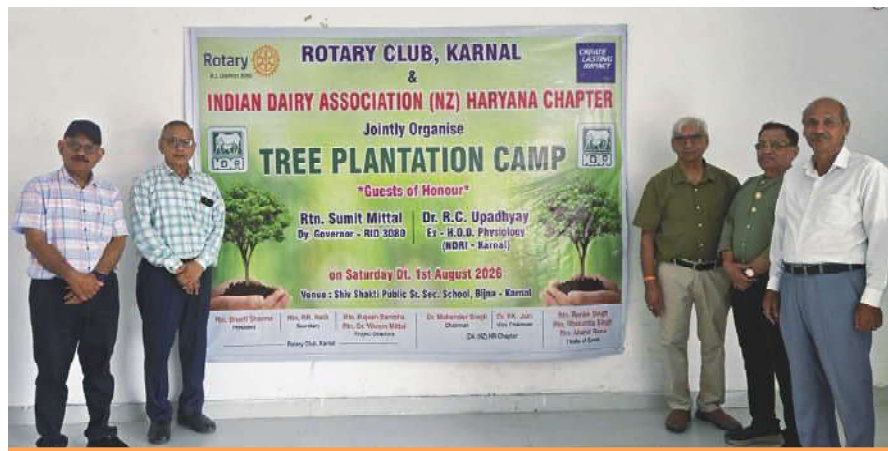


IDA Haryana State Chapter: Tree Plantation Programme



The Haryana State Chapter (HSC) of the Indian Dairy Association (IDA) organised a *Tree Plantation* Programme on the theme “*Go Green, Live Green*” in Bijana village, Karnal, in association with the Rotary Club. The programme was attended by around 100 students. The students, along with members of the HSC Executive Committee, planted trees on the school premises. A total of 71 plants, including medicinal plants, were planted.

After the plantation, Dr. Mahendra Singh, Chairman, HSC, explained the significance of trees in reducing ambient temperature and promoting carbon sequestration. Carbon sequestration is a natural process in which plants capture atmospheric CO₂ and store it as biomass through photosynthesis in the presence of sunlight. He also highlighted the usefulness of trees for indigenous cattle breeds such as Sahiwal, Tharparkar, Rathi, Red Sindhi and Gir, which are more climate-resilient than crossbred cattle.

He explained that prevailing hot and humid conditions favour the growth of pathogens and increase the incidence of udder inflammation and mastitis in cows. Cows managed in shelters surrounded by large tree canopies experience temperatures 4–6°C lower and are less affected by heat stress. Trees absorb atmospheric carbon dioxide and release oxygen, thereby helping to mitigate

the effects of heat stress.

Dr. R.C. Upadhyay, an eminent climatologist and Chief Guest, stated that climate change affects both abiotic and biotic systems. Abiotic impacts mainly affect productivity and health, while biotic impacts contribute to the spread of diseases and disease vectors. Bacterial and viral infections can adversely affect human health and the immune system. Rising temperature and humidity also influence global warming, animal productivity and health. He

emphasised the need to reduce the carbon footprint by limiting the use of vehicles for short-distance travel and conserving energy.

Dr. Upadhyay further elaborated on the significance of tree plantation and emphasised that more trees should be planted at appropriate locations to help reduce greenhouse gas emissions and enhance carbon sequestration.

Shri P.K. Jain, Vice-Chairman, HSC coordinated the plantation programme and interaction with the students. Dr. G.C. Mutreja, Treasurer, IDA (NZ) and Dr. Parveen Kumar, former HSC member were also present and actively participated in the tree plantation activity.

At the conclusion of the programme, the Chairman thanked the students, faculty members, Rotary Club President Madam Bharti Sharma and School Director Shri Ranbir Singh for extending their support and providing the necessary facilities, which contributed to the success of the programme.



IDA Tamil Nadu Chapter Conducts Two-Day Training Programme



The Indian Dairy Association (IDA), Tamil Nadu Chapter, organized a two-day training programme on **“Sales and Distribution Skills for the Dairy Industry”** on 20–21 July 2026 at the Southern Regional Demonstration and Training Centre (SRDTC), National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Campus, Erode. The programme was aimed at strengthening the sales, marketing and distribution capabilities of dairy professionals in an increasingly competitive dairy sector.

The programme brought together dairy professionals, entrepreneurs, executives, cooperative personnel, marketing professionals and young managers from various dairy organizations across Tamil Nadu. It focused on providing participants with practical knowledge and contemporary strategies to enhance market penetration, improve distribution efficiency and promote sustainable business growth.

The programme was inaugurated by Shri Ramamoorthy Sundaram, Managing Director, RGS Feeds, Erode, who highlighted the growing importance of customer-centric sales strategies, superior product quality and efficient distribution systems in ensuring the long-term success of dairy enterprises. He appreciated the initiative of the IDA Tamil Nadu Chapter in strengthening the managerial competencies of dairy professionals through focused capacity-building programmes.

As part of the inaugural ceremony, floral tributes were paid to the bust of Dr. Verghese Kurien, the visionary architect of India’s White Revolution. The bust was garlanded by Shri C.P. Charles, along with IDA office bearers, faculty members and participants, as a mark

of respect for Dr. Kurien’s immense contribution to the development of India’s dairy cooperative movement.

The comprehensive training programme covered several important aspects of dairy sales and distribution, including the demand and supply scenario of milk in India and Tamil Nadu; the distinction between sales, distribution and marketing; identification of brand strengths and market opportunities; the importance of quality in enhancing sales of milk and milk products; essential selling skills for dairy sales executives; development of robust and efficient distribution networks; rural marketing strategies for dairy products; marketing through Village Level Collection Centres (VLCCs) as a sustainable business model; the importance of costing in sales and distribution decisions; and selection of an appropriate product mix to improve profitability and market reach.

The programme featured an experienced panel of faculty members comprising Shri C.P. Charles, CEC Member, IDA; Dr. V.S. Venugopal, former NDDB expert; Shri K.S. Kanna, Chairman, IDA Tamil Nadu Chapter; and guest faculty Ms. S. Sangeetha, Manager (Marketing), Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producers’ Federation Limited (TCMPF), Head Office, Chennai.

The faculty members shared their industry experience, practical case studies and insights through interactive sessions covering current market trends, consumer behaviour, distribution management, pricing strategies and quality-driven sales practices. The sessions encouraged active participation and enabled delegates to exchange ideas and discuss practical solutions to emerging challenges in dairy marketing and distribution.

Addressing the participants, Shri K.S. Kanna emphasized that the future growth of the dairy industry depends not only on increasing milk production but also on developing efficient sales and distribution systems supported by superior product quality, customer satisfaction and innovative marketing approaches. He stated that strengthening the capabilities of dairy professionals in these areas would contribute significantly to improving the competitiveness and profitability of both cooperative and private dairy organizations.

The programme concluded with an interactive feedback session. Participants appreciated the practical orientation of the training and expressed confidence that the sessions would help them implement improved sales and distribution practices in their respective organizations. The IDA Tamil Nadu Chapter reaffirmed its commitment to organizing more industry-oriented capacity-building

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programmes aimed at strengthening the technical, managerial and commercial competencies of dairy professionals and supporting the sustainable growth and competitiveness of the Indian dairy sector.

IDA South Zone Election Results Declared

IDA South Zone election results were declared on 11th August, 2026. The election was held under the nominated Returning Officer Dr. P.A. Shankar. The other election committee members were Dr. K.T. Sampath and Dr. Heartwin A. Pushpadass.

The newly elected members of IDA-SZ ZEC for the term 2026-2029 are: **Chairman:** Dr. N.V. Belavadi; **Vice Chairmen:** Shri N.K. Premlal and Dr. C.S. Prasad; **Secretary:** Dr. S. Subash; **Treasurer:** Dr. Kajal Shankar Roy; **Members (RE):** Ms. Indu B, and Dr. Laxmana Naik N; **Members (PP):** Shri Mohan Kumar Returi and Shri Anil Kumar Parvataneni; **Members (DI):** Shri Srinivas Govindaiah and Shri M Krishnan; **Members (MP):** Shri V Venkatachalapathy and Chikkaballapur Dist. Coop. Milk Producers Union Limited, Karnataka.

IDA (East Zone) Elects New Zonal Executive Committee for 2026-2029

The election process for the Indian Dairy Association (IDA), East Zone, commenced on 10th July 2026. The election was conducted through an online voting system in a transparent and well-organised manner under the supervision of the nominated Returning Officer, Shri Dharmendra Kumar. The other members of the Election Committee were Shri Sajal Biswas and Shri Ashwini Kumar.

The election results were declared on 10th August 2026, and the new Zonal Executive Committee (ZEC) for the term 2026-2029 was elected unanimously. The newly elected IDA (East Zone) ZEC formally assumed office during the 141st ZEC Meeting held on 14th August 2026. The transition was marked by gratitude and reflection, along with a shared commitment to the continued growth and development of the dairy sector. The ZEC expressed its appreciation to the Election Committee members for conducting the election smoothly.

Outgoing Chairman Dr. D.C. Sen welcomed the members of the ZEC and thanked all members and office-bearers of IDA East Zone for their support and cooperation during his tenure.

The newly elected members of the IDA (East Zone) ZEC are:- **Chairman:** Dr. Ashis Roy Burman; **Vice Chairmen:** Shri Sameer Kumar Parida and Shri Pavan Kumar Marwaha; **Secretary:** Dr. Sabyasachi Roy; **Treasurer:** Ms. Chaitali Chatterjee; **Member Category (MP):** Shri Shyam Shankar Prasad Thakur and Shri Rajeev Kumar Mishra; **Member Category (PP):** Shri L. Steady Shangpliang and Shri Amit Kumar Suman; **Member Category (DI):** Shri Dhiman Das and Vaishal Patliputra Dugdh Utpadak Sahkari Sangh Ltd.; **Member Category (RE):** Dr. Subrata Kumar Beg and Shri Suryamani Kumar.

NATIONAL News

Union Home and Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah inaugurated and laid the foundation for development projects worth Rs. 6,453 crore across Rajasthan

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah inaugurated and laid the foundation stones for 954 development works worth Rs. 6,453 crore in Alwar, Rajasthan, including major investments in dairy and cooperative infrastructure. Rajasthan Chief Minister Shri Bhajan Lal Sharma, Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

Addressing the gathering, Shri Shah highlighted the role of farmers, livestock rearers, youth and women in India's development journey towards 2047. He said dairy infrastructure worth Rs. 500 crore was being developed in Rajasthan, while expansion works were also being undertaken for Saras Dairy.

A key highlight of the programme was the Bhoomi Pujan for a 3 lakh-litre-per-day milk processing plant in Alwar. According to Shri Shah, the plant's capacity would subsequently be increased to 5 lakh litres per day. He said that increased milk procurement from livestock rearers and direct payments into their bank accounts could significantly improve rural household incomes.

Shri Shah said the cooperative and dairy sectors have considerable potential to transform the rural economy and create opportunities for future generations. He also emphasised the need to promote high-yielding cattle and buffalo breeds across Rajasthan and noted that livestock insurance initiatives were being undertaken in the state. He added that increased milk production could also create opportunities for exports of dairy products.

In addition to Alwar, four Saras Dairy plants worth Rs. 274 crore are being made operational in Bhilwara, Jaipur, Pali and Rajsamand. Four district cooperative banks are also being launched in Phalodi, Balotra, Didwana-Kuchaman and Pratapgarh, with farmers set to receive loans at zero percent interest.

Shri Shah said Rajasthan currently has around 44,000 cooperative societies, with the goal of establishing cooperatives in every village. He also highlighted the expansion of storage infrastructure, stating that 50 new warehouses are planned for 2026–27, while 62 warehouses of 100-tonne capacity and 100 warehouses of 500-tonne capacity have already been completed.



The Minister reiterated the Government's focus on strengthening agriculture and cooperation under the principle of "Sahkar se Samridhi", with the objective of promoting economic prosperity in rural areas.

Uttar Pradesh Imposes State-wide Ban on Analogue Dairy Products

The Uttar Pradesh government has imposed a state-wide ban on analogue dairy products, including analogue paneer, ghee, khoya, cream and chhena, as part of a major crackdown on adulteration and counterfeit dairy products. The order directs food-safety authorities to enforce the prohibition across the state.

The move is aimed at protecting consumers and ensuring that dairy products sold in Uttar Pradesh comply with prescribed food-safety and quality standards. The state's Food Safety and Drug Administration (FSDA), led by Commissioner Dr. Roshan Jacob, has been tasked with immediate enforcement and action against products made using non-dairy ingredients such as vegetable fats and other substitutes.

Analogue dairy products are generally manufactured by replacing some or all milk-derived ingredients with non-dairy ingredients while producing a product that resembles a conventional dairy product in appearance, taste or function. The issue has gained national attention in recent weeks, with several states taking action against analogue paneer and other dairy substitutes.

Uttar Pradesh's order comes amid growing concerns over the sale of substitute products as genuine dairy products,

particularly during periods of high consumer demand. The state has included several products within the scope of its action, making the move broader than bans focused exclusively on analogue paneer.

The development adds Uttar Pradesh to a growing list of states taking regulatory action against analogue dairy products. Madhya Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Gujarat, Maharashtra and Chhattisgarh have also taken measures targeting various forms of analogue or non-standardised dairy products in recent weeks.

At the national level, the regulatory debate is also focused on the distinction between a legally labelled dairy analogue and a product that is falsely marketed as genuine dairy. FSSAI's framework recognises dairy analogues, while requiring products to be appropriately identified rather than being sold under protected or misleading dairy names. The expanding state-level prohibitions are therefore likely to intensify discussion over the need for a uniform national approach to dairy analogues.

For Uttar Pradesh's dairy sector, the immediate priority will be enforcement, surveillance and testing to identify products that fail to meet food-safety requirements. The action also places greater emphasis on protecting the identity and integrity of traditional dairy products such as paneer, ghee, khoya and chhena.

The Uttar Pradesh ban marks another significant development in India's rapidly evolving regulatory

landscape for dairy analogues and could strengthen calls for clearer, nationwide standards governing their manufacture, labelling, marketing and sale.

NCDFI Conclave Marks Four Decades of Dairy Cooperative-Defence Partnership

NCDFI and the Indian Army have reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening a partnership spanning more than four decades, with a focus on improving local milk procurement, processing, cold-chain infrastructure and dairy supplies to defence establishments.

The commitment was reiterated at the Cooperative Conclave on Dairy-Defence Partnership held in Anand, Gujarat. The conclave brought together senior Army officials and managing directors of dairy cooperatives, particularly from border and North-Eastern states, to discuss operational requirements and the future of cooperative supplies to the Defence forces, including the Indian Army, Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and Assam Rifles.

NCDFI Chairman Dr. Meenesh Shah, who also heads the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), said the long-standing partnership benefits all stakeholders. Defence establishments gain dependable dairy supplies and resilient local supply chains, dairy cooperatives secure assured institutional markets and better utilisation of infrastructure, while farmers gain access to wider markets and more regular income.

The conclave highlighted the role of dairy cooperatives in supplying quality milk and milk products to troops stationed in remote, border and high-altitude areas. Cooperatives have also strengthened milk procurement, processing, cold storage and supply-chain infrastructure in border and North-Eastern regions.

Lt. General Mukesh Chadha, Director General of Supplies and Transport (DGST), Indian Army, appreciated NCDFI and its member cooperatives for maintaining reliable supplies to troops operating in difficult terrain. He also highlighted the potential for stronger dairy cooperative networks in border regions to create sustainable markets, local employment and livelihood opportunities, while supporting local milk production.

A key focus of the conclave was the potential to increase fresh milk supplies to Defence establishments wherever local procurement, processing, cold-chain and logistics infrastructure makes this feasible. Greater use of fresh milk could reduce dependence on UHT milk in suitable locations, while long-life milk would continue to remain essential in areas where operating conditions make fresh-milk supply difficult.

The scale of the partnership has expanded significantly since NCDFI's association with the Ministry of Defence began in 1984. The institutional network now involves 117 dairy cooperatives, with the contract value reaching Rs.1,627 crore in 2025-26. Fresh milk supplies to Defence establishments rose to 18.48 crore litres during 2025-26, while combined fresh and UHT milk supplies reached 22.60 crore litres.

Dairy cooperatives in border and North-Eastern regions are playing an increasingly important role. Ten such cooperatives supplied 6.44 crore litres of fresh milk to 196 Army units during 2025-26, demonstrating the potential for locally integrated dairy supply chains in strategically important regions.

The conclave concluded with a renewed emphasis on better demand visibility, product-wise capacity mapping, alternate supply arrangements, quality assurance, cold-chain strengthening and digital coordination. Participants also discussed diversifying the dairy product basket and developing more sustainable logistics systems.



Amul Advances Circular Dairy Model to Build a More Sustainable Rural Economy



Amul is advancing a circular dairy model aimed at making India's dairy economy more sustainable and resource-efficient by converting agricultural and dairy by-products into useful resources while creating additional economic opportunities for

farmers and rural communities.

The cooperative-led approach focuses on improving the utilisation of resources generated within the agricultural and dairy ecosystem. Instead of treating organic residues and dairy by-products solely as waste, the model seeks to convert them into value-added resources, supporting both environmental sustainability and rural economic development.

The initiative gains further relevance from the Government of India's GOBARdhan Scheme, which provides a national framework for converting organic waste into biogas, bioenergy and other useful products. Linking dairy operations with such waste-to-wealth programmes can help reduce organic waste, promote renewable energy and encourage more sustainable agricultural practices.

For dairy cooperatives, the circular approach could create new opportunities beyond conventional milk procurement and processing. Better utilisation of locally available agricultural and dairy residues can potentially generate additional income streams while improving resource efficiency at the village and farm level.

The model also has a strong rural-development dimension. By bringing farmers, cooperatives and government programmes together, circular dairy systems can create opportunities for local enterprises and employment while strengthening the economic value generated from resources already available within rural communities.

The approach reflects a broader shift in the dairy sector from a linear production system-where resources are produced, consumed and discarded-towards a circular system in which waste streams are recovered and reused. For India's large dairy cooperative network, this could provide a pathway to address environmental challenges while improving the resilience of rural livelihoods.

Amul's circular dairy initiative therefore represents more than a waste-management strategy. It points towards an integrated dairy ecosystem in which milk production, agriculture, renewable energy and resource recovery

can work together to deliver economic as well as environmental benefits.

Urban Dairy Dung Can Become Valuable Resource, Says ICAR-NDRI Study

A doctoral study conducted at the Division of Dairy Economics, Statistics and Management, ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute (ICAR-NDRI), Karnal, has highlighted the immense potential of converting urban dairy dung from an environmental burden into an economically productive resource through biogas, vermicomposting and organic fertiliser production.

The research, undertaken by Ph.D. scholar Shri Banda Sainath under the supervision of Dr Ajmer Singh, Principal Scientist, surveyed 120 urban and peri-urban dairy farms across seven clusters in Hyderabad, Telangana, during 2024-25. The surveyed farms collectively maintained around 1,800 dairy animals. Telangana accounts for nearly 22 per cent of India's 25,789 registered urban and peri-urban dairy farms, making Hyderabad an important hub for the study.

The findings revealed that a considerable quantity of cattle dung is disposed of indiscriminately along roadsides and open drains, contributing to environmental pollution and public health concerns. The study estimated that neighbouring households bear social costs arising from health issues, mosquito breeding, reduced property values and productivity losses that are nearly three times higher than the private costs incurred by dairy farmers. Incorporating these environmental externalities raises the estimated social cost of milk production to Rs. 70-90 per litre, compared with the prevailing market price of Rs. 50-80 per litre.

The researchers identified community biogas plants integrated with cooperative sewage water treatment systems as one of the most economically viable interventions, offering a high benefit-cost ratio. The study suggests that adopting a circular economy approach can transform dairy waste into renewable energy, organic fertilisers and carbon credits, while reducing environmental pollution. Such interventions could eliminate an estimated Rs. 50-80 crore annually in social and private costs in Telangana and generate an additional revenue potential of Rs. 10-15 crore from the state's 5,691 urban and peri-urban dairy farms.

For smaller farms where cooperative models may not be feasible, on-farm vermicomposting supported under NABARD and Paramparagat Krishi Vikas Yojana (PKVY) schemes was found to provide attractive returns with a payback period of less than one year.

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The study also compared milk production economics among buffaloes, crossbred and indigenous cattle, with crossbred animals recording the highest net income per animal. Animal welfare assessments further indicated that peri-urban farms performed better than densely populated urban farms, largely due to greater space availability and better access to green fodder.

The research was carried out under the guidance of Dr Ajmer Singh and Doctoral Advisory Committee Members Dr. Subhasis Mandal, Dr. Gunjan Bhandari, Dr. Gopal Sankhala, Dr. Sanjit Maiti and Dr. P. N. Raju, highlighting the need for sustainable dung management strategies that can simultaneously improve urban sanitation, enhance farm profitability and support environmental sustainability.

Green Energy for Sustainable Dairying: SUMUL's Rooftop Solar Programme

With the support of the Government of Gujarat, the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), and the Sustain Plus Energy Foundation (SPEF), SUMUL Dairy has implemented a Rooftop Solar Programme across Village Dairy Cooperative Societies (DCSs) in Surat and Tapi districts. The initiative aims to promote the adoption of clean energy, reduce electricity costs, and enhance the sustainability of rural dairy cooperatives.

The programme follows an innovative interest-free loan model that enables Village Dairy Cooperative Societies (DCSs) to install rooftop solar systems and repay the investment through savings generated from their electricity bills. To date, 173 rooftop solar systems, with a cumulative installed capacity of 2.9 MW, have been commissioned across cooperative societies. These systems collectively generate approximately 11,460 units of renewable electricity per day.



The clean energy generated powers milk collection and chilling operations, facilitating the energy-efficient chilling of approximately 5.5 lakh litres of milk daily while reducing dependence on conventional grid electricity. The programme has resulted in annual electricity cost savings of nearly Rs. 4.18 crore for participating DCSs, while significantly reducing greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening the sustainability, operational efficiency, and economic viability of rural dairy infrastructure.

Encouraged by the success of the initiative, SUMUL Dairy is now planning to expand the programme to Village Dairy Cooperative Societies equipped with Bulk Milk Coolers (BMCs), where electricity consumption is comparatively higher. The proposed expansion will further strengthen energy self-reliance, reduce operational costs, and enhance the economic viability of milk collection infrastructure in rural areas.

The Rooftop Solar Programme demonstrates how collaboration among dairy cooperatives, the Government of Gujarat, NDDB, and the Sustain Plus Energy Foundation can accelerate India's transition towards clean energy while creating long-term economic and environmental benefits for rural communities.

Dairy Farmers in Namakkal Discuss Scientific Approaches to Cattle Management

More than 100 dairy farmers attended a session of the Dairy Knowledge Series organised by Godrej Agrovet Limited in Namakkal, focusing on scientific approaches to cattle management, nutrition and herd productivity.

The session was conducted by Dr. N. Sri Balaji, Assistant Professor, Department of Livestock Production Management, Veterinary College and Research Institute, Namakkal. The discussions covered management practices at different stages of the cattle lifecycle, with emphasis on calf care, balanced nutrition, water management, ration balancing and Total Mixed Ration (TMR) feeding. A key focus of the session was the objective of achieving "a calf a year from every cow" through improved reproductive management, nutrition and consistent care. Farmers were also provided practical guidance on managing animals during different stages of growth and production.

Dr. Sri Balaji said that interventions at various stages, including calf rearing, transition management, nutrition and reproductive care, can contribute to improved farm performance over time. He emphasised the importance of applying scientific principles to routine herd management.

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Capt. (Dr.) A.Y. Rajendra, CEO - Animal Nutrition Business, Godrej Agrovvet, said that management practices followed during the early stages of an animal's life can influence its subsequent productivity. He said the sessions were intended to provide farmers with access to technical experts and practical information on dairy management.

Godrej Agrovvet said it plans to conduct similar sessions in other dairy-producing areas of Tamil Nadu and in other states, with discussions focusing on locally relevant dairy management practices.

India Targets Global Dairy Leadership with Focus on FMD-Free States

India is seeking to convert its position as the world's largest milk producer into a stronger presence in global dairy trade, with animal-health improvements and internationally recognised disease-free status emerging as key priorities for export expansion.

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh said India is targeting foot-and-mouth disease (FMD)-free status in at least nine states within the next two years. The initiative is intended to help Indian dairy exporters access high-value international markets, including Europe, where FMD-related requirements have remained a significant market-access barrier.

According to the government, sustained vaccination efforts have already reduced reported FMD outbreaks, from 105 cases in 2021 to 40 in 2025. Nine states with consistently low outbreak levels and completed vaccination cycles have been identified as initial candidates for FMD-free certification.

The disease-control programme is particularly important because India's enormous production base has not yet translated into a comparable share of global dairy trade.

India's dairy exports remain relatively small compared with its production scale. APEDA data show dairy-product exports of 97,524.82 tonnes valued at \$407.12 million in FY 2025-26. Earlier data also show that India's dairy exports have been growing rapidly, but the country's share of global dairy trade remains below 1%.

The export challenge extends beyond animal health. Indian dairy companies must also address quality consistency, traceability, processing standards, cold-chain infrastructure and product competitiveness if the country is to move from occasional surplus-driven exports

towards a sustained global export strategy. India's current export basket is concentrated heavily in butter and ghee, while higher-value categories such as whey, cheese and other value-added dairy products remain underdeveloped in global markets.

The government's FMD-free initiative therefore has significance beyond disease control. Internationally recognised animal-health status could improve market access, reduce technical barriers and give Indian processors greater confidence to invest in export-oriented dairy capacity.

India's export ambition is also aligned with a broader push to strengthen agricultural and processed-food exports. The Union Government has called for greater collaboration across the food and agriculture ecosystem to position India as a leading global exporter, while recognising that sensitive sectors such as dairy require careful policy support.

The next phase of India's dairy-export strategy will therefore depend on its ability to combine animal-health certification with export-grade quality, traceability, processing and branding.

If the targeted FMD-free status is achieved, it could mark an important step in India's transition from being primarily a global milk-production leader to becoming a more significant player in international dairy trade.

New Global Brand Manager Appointed for APV and Anhydro

Shri Pranav Shah has been appointed Global Brand Manager for APV and Anhydro, established processing technology brands serving dairy, food, beverage and ingredient manufacturers worldwide. Based in Denmark, he will also continue as Global Market Director for ITT Nutrition and Health Solutions and Product Manager for UHT Technologies.



In his expanded role, Shri Shah will strengthen brand positioning, connect innovation with customer needs and support application-focused solutions. APV specializes in UHT processing, homogenization, separation and complete processing systems, while Anhydro focuses on drying, evaporation and powder processing. Following ITT's acquisition of SPX FLOW in March 2026, the appointment is expected to further strengthen global technology capabilities and support practical dairy processing solutions, including capacity expansion, energy efficiency and value-added product development.

Paneer Whey Emerges as India's Next Big Circular-Economy Opportunity

India's rapidly expanding dairy and paneer industry could be sitting on a valuable resource with significant potential for food ingredients, renewable energy and new revenue streams. A recent 'DairyNews7x7' analysis highlights how paneer whey, traditionally treated as a low-value by-product or wastewater, could become an important pillar of India's emerging circular dairy economy.

The opportunity has gained fresh momentum following research by Heriot-Watt University and Scottish start-up Take Root Bio, which has demonstrated a process for fermenting sugars in whey into bioethanol for vehicles and home heating. The development offers an encouraging example of how dairy processing residues can be converted into useful products rather than being discarded.

For India, where paneer and chenna production generate substantial quantities of whey, the technology points towards a broader opportunity. Instead of viewing whey simply as a waste-management challenge, dairy processors can increasingly consider it a recoverable resource containing valuable nutrients and fermentable sugars.

The economic case is particularly significant because demand for whey-derived ingredients is rising globally. 'DairyNews7x7' notes that whey protein prices have increased sharply since 2023, crossing €25,000 per tonne, reflecting strong demand in the global protein market. This creates an opportunity for Indian dairy processors to explore higher-value whey recovery, fractionation and processing.

The positive takeaway for the Indian dairy sector is that one stream of whey could support multiple value chains. Protein recovery could supply food, nutrition and functional-ingredient markets, while the remaining carbohydrate-rich fraction could potentially be directed towards fermentation and bioethanol production. Such integrated processing could help dairies improve resource efficiency while reducing the environmental burden associated with untreated whey.

India's large milk-processing base gives the country a natural advantage in developing such systems. With appropriate investment in collection, separation, processing and fermentation technologies, dairy companies and cooperatives could create new income opportunities while strengthening their sustainability credentials.

The emerging whey economy could also encourage greater collaboration among dairy cooperatives, private processors, technology companies, research institutions and start-ups. Such partnerships could accelerate commercialisation and help develop technologies suited to Indian dairy plants, particularly those producing paneer and chenna at scale.

Importantly, the future need not be framed as a choice between whey protein and bioethanol. A more promising approach could be a cascading model in which the highest-value food and nutrition components are recovered first, followed by utilisation of remaining sugars and organic matter for energy or other industrial applications.

The message is therefore optimistic: India does not necessarily need more dairy waste; it needs more value from every litre of milk already being processed. Paneer whey could become a powerful example of this transition—from by-product to business opportunity, from waste management to resource recovery, and from conventional dairy processing to a more circular and sustainable dairy economy.



Bhopal Milk Procurement Rises 38% as Better Farmer Returns Strengthen Supply

Milk procurement by the Bhopal Milk Union has increased by around 38% over the past year, reaching 3.81 lakh kg per day, according to a report published in *The Times of India*.

The sharp increase has been attributed primarily to better financial returns for dairy farmers, assured milk procurement and the expansion of village-level milk

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collection infrastructure. The development indicates that stronger farmer economics and dependable market access are encouraging greater participation in organised dairy procurement.

The expansion of collection facilities closer to villages has also helped strengthen the procurement network and improve access for milk producers. For the Bhopal Milk Union, this growing supply base can provide greater stability in sourcing raw milk for dairy operations.

The increase highlights the importance of competitive farmer payments and reliable procurement systems in strengthening organised dairy networks. As collection infrastructure expands, cooperatives can improve their reach among producers while creating a more dependable milk supply chain.

For the wider dairy sector, Bhopal's experience underscores the connection between farmer incentives, last-mile collection infrastructure and milk availability. Sustained improvements in these areas could support both rural livelihoods and the growth of organised dairy processing.

Hatsun Agro Plans Rs. 1,000 Crore Capex in FY27 to Accelerate Dairy Expansion



Hatsun Agro Product Ltd (HAP) is set to strengthen its presence in India's growing dairy market with a planned capital expenditure of around Rs. 1,000 crore in FY27. The investment programme reflects the company's confidence in sustained consumer demand and aims to expand procurement, processing, distribution and value-added dairy operations.

A key focus of the investment will be strengthening Hatsun's milk procurement and production infrastructure. The company is also targeting substantial growth in its product distribution, with plans to increase daily sales to 2.4 crore packs within the next two years, compared with about 1.84 crore packs currently.

Hatsun also intends to expand its retail footprint. Its network is expected to cross 5,000 outlets by the end of FY27, providing a stronger platform for reaching consumers and supporting the launch of new products. The company is simultaneously looking to increase its presence in categories such as ice cream, chocolates and protein-focused dairy beverages.

The investment comes against the backdrop of strong business performance. Hatsun recorded FY26 revenue

of Rs. 9,959 crore, representing 14.5% year-on-year growth. Revenue growth accelerated further in the first quarter of FY27, highlighting the continuing demand for branded dairy products.

The company is also working to manage rising milk procurement costs. Higher cattle-feed expenses, weather-related challenges and firm milk-fat prices have contributed to increased raw-milk costs. Hatsun's direct procurement and distribution model is expected to play an important role in maintaining supply-chain efficiency.

The planned Rs. 1,000 crore investment is a positive development for the broader dairy ecosystem. Increased procurement can strengthen links with milk producers, while new processing and distribution capacity can support greater product availability and innovation.

With its focus on infrastructure, retail expansion and value-added dairy products, Hatsun Agro is positioning itself to participate strongly in India's next phase of organised dairy-sector growth.

Lactose-Free Dairy Emerges as New Growth Frontier for India's Dairy Industry

Lactose-free dairy is emerging as a promising value-added growth segment for India's dairy industry, driven by changing consumer preferences, increasing health awareness and the widespread prevalence of lactose malabsorption. The category is moving beyond its traditional niche of consumers with diagnosed lactose intolerance to attract health-conscious households, fitness consumers and food-service businesses.

According to a 2015 study by the Sanjay Gandhi Post Graduate Institute of Medical Sciences (SGPGI), an estimated 60-74% of Indians are lactose mal-absorbers. Industry estimates cited in the report put lactose intolerance at around 60-70% of the population, highlighting the potential consumer base for easier-to-digest dairy products.

The market opportunity is also reflected in global and domestic growth projections. Globally, the lactose-free milk market is projected to increase from approximately \$13.8 billion to \$21.6 billion by 2031, representing annual growth of more than 9%. In India, the segment is forecast to expand at around 7% CAGR through 2027, with milk expected to remain the largest product category.

For dairy companies, lactose-free products offer an avenue for premiumisation and portfolio diversification at a time when conventional milk faces slower growth and intense competition.

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The opportunity extends into adjacent categories including high-protein dairy, fortified milk, flavoured beverages and specialised nutrition products.

Despite the size of India's overall dairy industry, estimated at more than \$30 billion, lactose-free, organic and fortified dairy products remain relatively under-penetrated, together accounting for less than 4% share according to the DairyNews7x7 report. This leaves considerable room for brands to develop and scale specialised dairy offerings.

Technology is helping companies address some of the traditional challenges associated with specialised dairy production. Controlled lactase-enzyme processing, combined with UHT treatment and aseptic packaging, can support consistent product quality, longer shelf life and wider distribution, including beyond major metropolitan markets where cold-chain infrastructure may be more limited.

The opportunity is also expanding beyond milk. Lactose-free products are being developed in formats such as milkshakes, yoghurt and paneer, while cafés, restaurants and hospitality businesses are increasingly incorporating easier-to-digest dairy options into their offerings.

Importantly, lactose-free milk remains dairy milk rather than a plant-based substitute. Lactase enzyme breaks lactose down into glucose and galactose, which can give the product a slightly sweeter taste while retaining important nutrients such as protein and calcium.

The evolution of the category suggests that lactose-free dairy is increasingly being positioned not simply as a solution for lactose intolerance, but as part of a broader consumer shift toward nutrition, convenience, digestibility and gut-health-oriented products. For India's dairy companies, this could make lactose-free dairy one of the next important frontiers for value-added growth and innovation.

INTERNATIONAL News

International Dairy Market: Overview

As per the latest USDA data during Aug. 03-14, 2026, international market overview are as follows:

EUROPEAN

Western European

June saw five co-operatives increase base milk prices, lifting the average to 37.82 pence per litre (p/L). Despite

this improvement, farmers continue to face drought-driven feed costs and lower production. The current month-long dry spell has sharply increased input expenses while reducing milk output. Base prices are now 3.52 p/L higher than the December 2025 low of 34.30 p/L. However, domestic milk intake has fallen by 35 million litres compared with June 2025, underscoring the ongoing pressure on the sector.

The UK-based Agriculture and Horticulture Development Board (AHDB) recently released a report analysing milk utilisation trends in the country. The report showed that milk production reached record highs in 2025/2026, while milk deliveries reached a new high in 2025. Milk production and consumption continued to shift last year, with 40 percent of production being used as liquid milk, down 5 percentage points from 2015. This year, milk utilisation has continued to shift towards cheese and other dairy products. From January through June, the share of milk used for cheddar production increased to 23 percent, while the share used for other products rose to 17 percent. Meanwhile, the share used for liquid milk declined to 38 percent.

Eastern European

European Energy Exchange (EEX) butter futures closed on August 12 with clear upward momentum, as August, September and October posted the strongest gains. November and December also firmed, reinforcing a bullish tone through Q4 2026.

Beyond year-end, contracts from early 2027 onward held steady between roughly €4,325 and €5,125 per metric tonne, indicating that while the forward curve remains elevated, trading interest and volatility are currently concentrated in nearby contracts. The session's movements highlighted strong buying interest and tightening market sentiment at the short end of the curve.

OCEANIA DAIRY MARKET

New Zealand

Following Global Dairy Trade (GDT) Event 409, a New Zealand group that forecasts milk prices increased its 2026/2027 season milk price forecast to \$9.78 per kilogram of milk solids (kgMS). The spot value of milk decreased to \$9.52/kgMS from \$9.75/kgMS. GDT prices were higher for skim milk powder (SMP), mostly steady for whole milk powder (WMP), and lower for milk fats.

The group's 2025/2026 season milk price forecast remains at \$9.74/kgMS. This prediction reflects a US cents per New Zealand dollar exchange rate assumption of 0.5905 and a forecast range of \$9.51/kgMS to \$10.33/kgMS. The September 2026 Milk Price Futures contract last settled at \$9.75/kgMS.

Demand from dairy farmers is set to drive stronger yearling bull prices and near-total clearances at spring auctions. High beef schedules, record saleyard values and growing use of beef-on-dairy breeding in non-replacement cows are lifting sales. Last spring's \$800–\$1,600 rise over 2024 is expected to hold or improve. Calving ease and modest birthweight are crucial traits for dairy heifer mating. More dairy farmers are buying yearling bulls as the value of beef-on-dairy calves increases. Rising feeder calf prices and increased use of sexed semen signal another firm season for dairy-driven yearling bull demand.

According to Farmers Weekly, global dairy markets entered August on steadier ground. Improving demand and rising uncertainty around future milk production are supporting prices despite comfortable current supply. Sentiment has strengthened most in milk powders as buyers secure product for later in the year. New Zealand remains central, with June production hitting a record 25.4 million kgMS, up 5.6 percent year over year. Global production also grew across the US, Argentina, Uruguay, Australia and the EU, while China recorded a 5.8 percent decline.

Markets are increasingly focused on risks ahead. Heatwaves in Europe and North America, along with the potential onset of El Niño, pose threats to milk production in the Northern Hemisphere and New Zealand during the seasonal peak. Recent GDT events show modest overall gains, with stronger prices for WMP and SMP. Rising New Zealand exports and recovering Chinese imports signal firmer demand, with buyers concentrating on October/November coverage. The market appears more balanced, with demand improving while uncertainty over future supply continues to support prices.

Australia

Dairy Australia recently released export data for Australia, showing that milk export volumes from July 2025 to June 2026 totalled 163,341 metric tonnes, an increase of 10.7 percent compared with export volumes recorded a year earlier.

Contacts report that Australian dairy markets remain steady despite volatility elsewhere. Milk production improved late in the season, supply is strong, and fat markets are softer, with minimal butter exports. Powder demand from Southeast Asia remains strong. Plant closures continue, including one planned for Q1 2027, resulting in imports being higher than normal. Processors are generally content but cautious heading into 2027.

Additionally, there is ongoing debate about Australia's lack of dairy subsidies compared with the EU and the US, with the new EU trade agreement drawing criticism

across the agricultural sector. The EU's growing influence has raised concerns about reduced New Zealand imports. Australia produces little whole milk powder and relies heavily on imports, which are sometimes resold or exported. Domestic prices remain above EU levels, cheddar remains competitively priced, the cream market is weakening, and butter markets are stable despite a steep decline in exports.

The July 2026 Production Inputs Monitor from Dairy Australia reports that input prices declined for the third consecutive month in July. Urea prices continued to soften as global demand shifted towards other fertilisers, while diammonium phosphate remained elevated due to tight global supplies. Diesel prices rose from June, supported by higher global oil prices and the mid-year reduction in the fuel excise discount.

Rainfall was below average across most dairying regions, particularly in Southwest Western Australia, Queensland and northern New South Wales. Western Victoria and parts of Gippsland were exceptions, recording near- or above-average rainfall. Despite the generally dry conditions, good pasture growth for the season and strong feed reserves kept demand for, and prices of, purchased feed subdued.

Hay prices fell again, with cereal hay down 54 percent from last year's July peak. Soft demand for hay and grain continues to pressure prices, aided by improved conditions in northern New South Wales. In contrast, low July rainfall in Queensland and Western Australia supported demand and prevented further price declines.

Temporary water prices increased amid early-season allocation uncertainty and a deteriorating climate outlook. However, some storage areas saw improvements, including Hume Dam, which increased to 56 percent in July, up from 41 percent in June and 27 percent in May.

SOUTH AMERICA DAIRY MARKET

Milk deliveries across the region remain above year-ago levels, sustaining supply pressure on international powder values. In Argentina, the region's largest powder exporter, the farm-gate price rose for a fifth consecutive month in July (in nominal currency) and stands higher year over year. In Chile, the most recent monthly farm-gate price trended slightly lower in nominal local currency terms but was reported somewhat higher year to date. There is concern that higher prices will be outweighed by increased input costs this season, although producers are managing the pressure by accepting lower margins.

El Niño conditions continue to intensify, with a high probability of reaching very strong intensity in the fourth quarter. Above-normal spring rainfall would support milk flows in Argentina and Uruguay, although persistent

early rains and flooding along the Paraná and Uruguay river systems could disrupt the spring flush in the principal export basins.

Iran's Dairy Consumption Plunges as Food Inflation Hits 134%

Iran's dairy sector is facing a sharp decline in consumer demand as soaring food prices put essential nutrition beyond the reach of many households. Food inflation reached 134% nationwide in July 2026 and climbed to

140% in rural areas, forcing consumers to reduce spending on dairy, meat and other essential foods.

Per-capita annual dairy consumption has reportedly dropped dramatically, from about 130 kg in 2010 to nearly 40 kg currently. Dairy products were around 147% more expensive in July compared with the same month last year, further weakening household purchasing power.

Iran's broader inflation situation remains severe. The country's Statistical Center reported annual household

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GDT 410 Chart Shows Recovery in Milk Powders, While Fats Remain Under Pressure

The latest Global Dairy Trade (GDT) auction, Event 410, held on 18 August 2026, indicated a strengthening in global dairy commodity prices, with the GDT Price Index rising 2.3% from the previous event. However, the recovery remained product-specific, with milk powders and Mozzarella gaining ground while milk fats continued to face downward pressure.

Skim Milk Powder (SMP) recorded the strongest increase among the major commodities, rising 7.6% to USD 3,502 per tonne. Whole Milk Powder (WMP) increased 3.0% to USD 3,591 per tonne. Mozzarella also registered a significant gain of 6.1% to USD 4,234 per tonne, while Lactose increased 3.2% to USD 1,807 per tonne. The movements suggest improving demand for powders and selected value-added dairy ingredients.

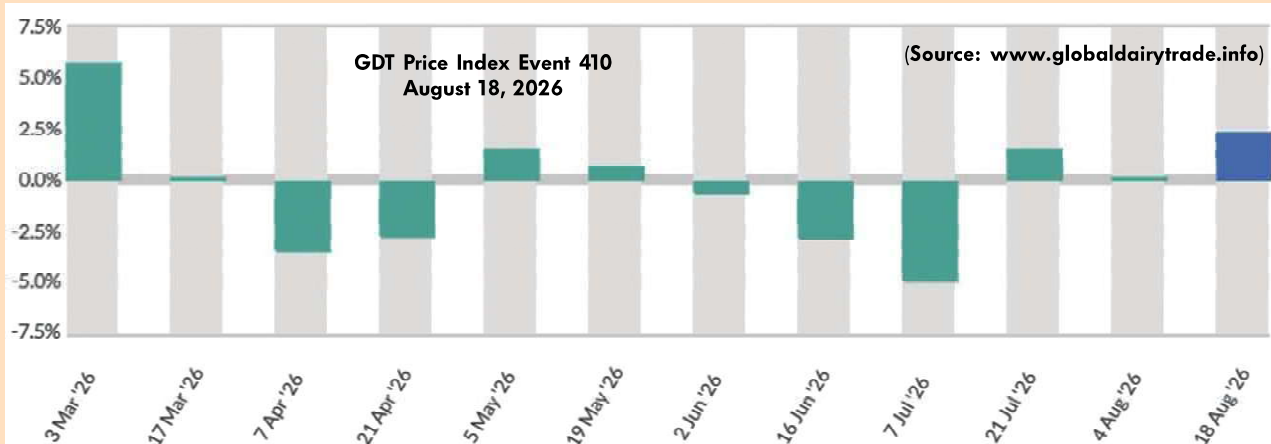
In contrast, the milk-fat segment remained weak. Anhydrous Milk Fat (AMF) declined 6.0% to USD 5,993 per tonne, while Butter fell 2.0% to USD 5,090 per tonne. Buttermilk Powder (BMP) decreased 3.5% to USD 4,552 per tonne. Cheddar was relatively stable, edging up 0.6% to USD 3,744 per tonne.

The latest results suggest that global dairy buyers are

rebuilding inventories selectively rather than returning to aggressive forward purchasing. While the recovery in powders indicates that the market may be establishing a price floor following the correction seen during June and July, it is still too early to regard the movement as the beginning of a sustained global dairy price rally.

Demand remains geographically diversified, with China continuing to be an important market while Southeast Asia, the Middle East, North Africa and parts of Africa are emerging as significant demand centres for milk powders, recombined dairy products and food ingredients. At the same time, improved global milk availability has reduced the urgency among buyers to secure supplies at higher prices.

For India, the rise in SMP and WMP prices provides some support to the international value proposition of Indian dairy powders. However, the decline in AMF and Butter could ease international price pressure on milk-fat products. Domestic milk procurement costs and seasonal availability will continue to have a greater influence on Indian dairy processors than international prices alone.



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inflation of 66% for the year ending July, while point-to-point inflation reached 87.9%. This means households were paying almost 88% more for a comparable basket of goods than a year earlier.

The crisis is also affecting other sources of animal protein. Beef, lamb and chicken prices were about 149% higher year-on-year in July. Meanwhile, Iran's red-meat supply stood at approximately 623,000 tonnes in 2025, down about 20% from 2024.

The developments highlight how prolonged inflation can turn dairy and other nutritious foods from household staples into discretionary purchases, potentially affecting long-term dietary and nutritional patterns.

US Dairy Targets 15 Billion-Pound Production Growth by 2030

The US dairy industry is targeting an additional 15 billion pounds of milk production by 2030, even as the number of dairy farms is expected to decline significantly. The strategy reflects a major structural shift toward larger farms, higher productivity, technology and improved efficiency.

The transformation is already evident in the sector. U.S. milk production increased 32%, from 170.8 billion pounds in 2004 to 225.9 billion pounds in 2024. During the same period, the number of licensed dairy herds fell 63%, from 66,825 to 24,811.

Productivity per animal has also improved substantially. Average milk production per cow rose 28%, from 18,960 pounds in 2004 to 24,178 pounds in 2024. At the same time, the average dairy farm expanded considerably, with herd sizes increasing from an average of 112 cows in 2000 to 283 cows in 2021. Farms with 1,000 or more cows grew by 60% between 2002 and 2022.

The US model points to a future in which dairy growth is driven less by the number of farms and more by productivity gains. Automation, improved genetics, nutrition, farm management and technology are expected to play key roles. However, the expansion also brings challenges, including labour availability, environmental pressures and the need to maintain profitability for producers.

For the global dairy industry, the US approach highlights how scale and technological innovation could shape the next phase of milk production growth.

Lactalis Acquires Saputo's UK Dairy Business for \$1.34 Billion

French dairy giant Lactalis has agreed to acquire the UK dairy business of Canadian rival Saputo for £988

million (\$1.34 billion), in a deal that will significantly strengthen its position in Britain's dairy market. The agreement was announced on August 14, 2026.

The acquisition includes several well-known British dairy brands, including Cathedral City and Davidstow cheddar, Wensleydale Creamery cheese, Country Life butter, and the Clover and Utterly Butterly margarine brands. Lactalis said the transaction will make it a leading player in the UK cheddar, butter and margarine markets.

Saputo's UK business employs around 1,300 people and generates approximately 94% of its sales revenue within Britain. The unit also operates five manufacturing facilities, giving Lactalis a substantial production and distribution footprint in the UK.

The acquisition marks another major step in Lactalis' global expansion strategy and strengthens its access to established British dairy brands and consumers. For Saputo, the sale represents a strategic reshaping of its international portfolio.

Event CALENDAR

53rd Dairy Industry Conference

Date: 21-22-23 January, 2027

Venue: ONGC ATI, Betul, Canaguinim, South Goa

For participation in Sponsorship, Contact:

Shri K. Shyju Sidharthan
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(Also see 53rd DIC related information on Page 16)

IDF World Dairy Summit 2026

Date: 15-20 November, 2026

Venue: New Zealand International Convention Centre, Auckland, New Zealand.

The theme of the event is "Healthy People, Healthy Planet, Healthy Economies".

The Summit will focus on categories related to Safety & Quality – Microbiology; Safety & Quality – Chemistry & Composition; Human Nutrition & Health; Animal Health & Farm Management; Dairy Science & Technology; Environment & Sustainability; and Marketing & Economics.

Visit: <https://www.idfwds2026.com>

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