

Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot approves additional Rs 476 crore for milk under mid-day meal scheme



Chief minister Ashok Gehlot approved an additional financial provision of Rs 476.44 crore for providing milk to the students of classes 1 to 8 for two days a week under the Mid-Day Meal Scheme in compliance with the budget announcement for 2022-23.

In order to increase the nutritional value of mid-day meals in government schools, sweet hot milk will be made available using powdered milk for two days a week from July 1 in this financial year. Arrangements will be made to deliver milk at the school level by the Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation.

The Rajasthan Co-operative Dairy Federation has agreed to provide milk to schools in Rajsamand.

Kashmir Has Unexplored Startup Potential In Agri, Dairy Sectors: Union Minister Jitendra Singh



Kashmir has huge startup potential in the agriculture and dairy sectors, which are largely unexplored, said Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Earth Sciences. He assured all possible help to youth from the central government in setting up employment generating units for themselves and others.

The youth should look beyond government jobs as a source of livelihood, the minister said while speaking at the inauguration of a conference organised by the Sher-A-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology at its Shalimar Campus.

He said that India has around 70,000 startups now compared to just a few hundred some years back. The world is ready to be led by India, but the question is whether people in the country are ready to lead the world, the minister added.

AAU, Amul Dairy ink MoU for liquid biofertilizer tech



The Anand Agricultural University (AAU) has signed an MoU with Amul Dairy for transfer of liquid biofertilizer technology that helps reducing excessive use of chemical fertilizers in farming.

AAU and Amul Dairy will jointly work for effective transfer of the technology of liquid biofertilizer for carving the excessive use of chemical fertilizers in farming.

Dean of Post- Graduate Jhala AAU said the MoU is meant for not only promoting the market and business of low cost, reliable and demand driven production of liquid biofertilizer but also effectual technology transmission for changing mindset of farmers to reduce excessive use of chemical fertilizers.

Kerala decides to control cattle feed prices

Focusing on steps to enhance the income of dairy farmers, the Kerala Dairy Development department has decided to control the prices of cattle feed to rein in the spiralling production costs of milk.

A meeting chaired by Kerala Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Minister J. Chinchurani decided against hiking the price of milk and instead focus on enhancing farmers' returns through other means.

Notwithstanding the increasing production costs, Milma and Kerala Feeds would continue to supply cattle feed at the existing prices in view of the farmers' woes, the meeting decided.

Dairy farmers would also be additionally remunerated on the basis of the quality of milk supplied. The funds earmarked by Milma, regional cooperative milk producers' union, Local Self-Government, Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development Departments for related purposes would be pooled in for the scheme. The payments would be made through direct benefit transfer before the 10th of each month. Necessary arrangements would be made for the scheme within June 1.



Doing everything to ensure smooth cattle transportation: Meghalaya minister



Meghalaya Minister in-charge of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department Sanbor Shullai said the state government has taken many steps to ensure hassle-free transportation of cattle from other states to Meghalaya and met with officials concerned to address any problems faced during transportation of cattle.

The minister was responding to multiple complaints received by the government from the butchers' association in the state about traders facing challenges in transporting cattle.

The minister shared that letters have also been written to Assam Chief Minister and the AH&Vet department, requesting their intervention and to facilitate hassle-free transport of cattle from other state to Meghalaya.

He said despite these steps taken by the department, some of the smugglers are emboldened in illegally bringing cattle from outside, through Assam, and it is going unhindered. A series of meetings have also been held with officials of Assam to ensure that cattle traders do not face any problem while transporting cattle through Assam, he said.

Assam Signs Agreement with National Dairy Development Board

Aiming at increasing daily milk production in state to over a million litre, state government, signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) for a period of five years.

Under the MoU, NDDB will look after the managerial operations of East Assam Milk Producers' Cooperative Union Ltd.

Chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma who was present at the event, said, "The MoU will benefit a huge number of milk farmers from eastern districts of Assam. A cattle feed plant at Changsari for production of nutritious, concentrated cattle feed has also been commissioned."



Sarma also addressed milk cooperative unions from across all Northeast states who took part in the North East Dairy Cooperative Conclave 2022. West Assam Milk Producers' Cooperative Union Ltd (WAMUL), popularly known as Purabi Dairy, hosted the first-ever North East Dairy Cooperative Conclave 2022 at the Srimanta Shankardev Kalakshetra Auditorium in Guwahati, in collaboration with National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Limited (NCDFI), to bring together dairy cooperatives from all across Northeast.

Glimmer of hope: Milk prices fall



International prices of dairy commodities have fallen off a cliff in the past month, and the effects are percolating to India as well.

The average price of skim milk powder (SMP) at the Global Dairy Trade fortnightly auction platform hit a high of \$4,599 per tonne on April 5, almost twice its early-May 2020 low of \$2,373. But that price has since eased to \$4,130 per tonne in the latest May 3 auction.

The drop has been even more for anhydrous milk fat (ghee) prices, which have crashed from \$7,111 to \$6,008 per tonne between March 15 and May 3. These had again soared from the worldwide Covid lockdown-induced lows of \$3,870 in July 2020.

The impact of demand destruction — buyers balking at record high prices — is being felt in India, too. Since mid-April, dairies have lowered prices of SMP and white butter produced from buffalo milk, from Rs 320/kg to Rs 300/kg and Rs 375/kg to Rs 365/kg, respectively. Ex-factory prices of cow milk SMP have also dropped from Rs 315/kg to Rs 295/kg in Karnataka and from Rs 295/kg to Rs 275/kg in Maharashtra; yellow cow butter from Rs 405/kg to Rs 395/kg in Karnataka and from Rs 400/kg to Rs 380/kg in Maharashtra.

Kerala Milk union cautions dealers, and consumers about rising atmospheric temperature

The Ernakulam Regional Cooperative Milk Producers' Union has cautioned both dealers and consumers to be aware of the rising atmospheric temperature, which can lead to easy souring of milk. The union said milk should be either boiled or stored in coolers to help keep it intact.

The union said the procurement centres under the regional milk union had sufficient bulk milk cooling facilities where the procured milk is stored as soon as it is brought by dairy farmers. The cooled milk is collected by milk tankers every 24 hours and is taken to the dairy processing centres in Thrissur, Thripunithura, and Kattappana in Idukki district. The regional union has a total capacity to store 7.5 lakh litres of milk at a time.



There are a total of 153 bulk milk coolers for the 930 primary dairy cooperatives at the rate of one cooler each for three milk collection centres. The union also said that since the cooperative did not use any preservatives in the milk, there was a chance for it to be spoiled easily.

CEDSI Organized a Milk Quality Training Program for the Employees of Prabhat Dairy of Lactalis group

The Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India (CEDSI) held a three-day milk quality training programme for staff of Lactalis group India's Prabhat Dairy in Ahmednagar, Maharashtra. The instruction was given in the regional dialect. The training programme was created to improve the quality department's efficiency and assure high-quality milk output.

The CEDSI Industrial Training programme improves staff productivity and contributes to the company's success.





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