

## Banas Dairy Announces Rs.1,650-cr Price Difference for Milk Producers

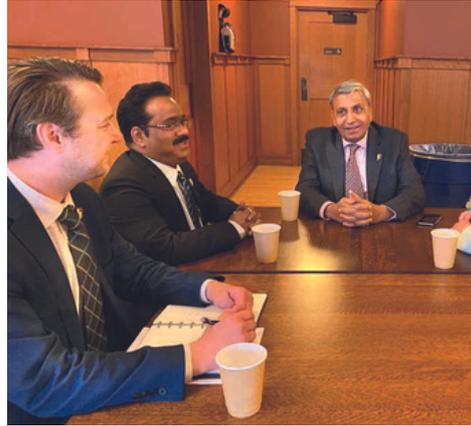


Banas Dairy, one of the country's largest milk cooperative, announced a record 19.12 per cent price difference for its over five lakh milk producing members, which will be in addition to the price of the milk they were paid for.

The price difference is additional profit paid to the milk producer members over and above the price of milk they sell. These are earned by selling value-added non-dairy products and the profit is distributed among the members at the end of the year as a price difference.

Announcing the decision in Palanpur, dairy's chairman and former BJP minister, Shan kar Chaudhary, said that the last year the amount was Rs1,100 crore which was increased to over Rs1,650 crore.

## Canada-based Provita Nutrition willing to invest in Haryana



Haryana Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Animal Husbandry and Dairying Jai Prakash Dalal said that Canada based Provita Nutrition has expressed its willingness to invest in Haryana. He added that company officials will explore investment opportunities in the state during the month of August.

A delegation led by Dalal during the visit to Canada visited Provita Nutrition Company in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan province of Canada. The Provita Nutrition Management Company is mainly engaged in livestock, poultry and fish feed and supplements.

During the meeting, it was discussed to find out the mutual interests of the state of Haryana and the Canadian State of Saskatchewan. The meeting discussed HR exchange for Embryo Transfer Technology training in the month of May next year.

## 'Gift Milk' aiming to address malnutrition launched in government schools in Odisha



To address the problem of malnutrition among school children while providing good refreshments and improving their attendance, the district administration launched a flavoured gift milk programme at the remote Silakota Ashram School under Podia.

The initiative, supported by the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) Foundation for Nutrition with CSR assistance of Indian Railway Construction Limited, will be rolled out in the district on a pilot basis for a month. It is expected to benefit around 3,162 students in government schools in Swabhiman Anchal of Chitrakonda and inaccessible pockets of Mathili, Korukonda and Podia blocks.

## Israeli Startup Wilk Has Made the First Cell-Cultured Milk Fat Yogurt

Israel-based biotech startup Wilk says it has developed the first cell-cultured milk fat for use in yogurt. "It has long been established that milk fat is integral to supporting human health and nutrition, aiding the absorption of key nutrients, such as vitamins D and E and calcium, into the blood while providing a rich source of antioxidant, anti-inflammatory and anti-carcinogenic properties," Wilk CEO Tomer Aizen said in a statement.

According to Aizen, though, the "core" beneficial properties of milk fat cannot be replicated through most alternative technologies. Wilk is the first company in the world to develop a dairy product containing "genuine, cell-cultured milk fat," without the need for cows.

Wilk says its cell-based milk fat is the real thing; it contains all of the core components and nutrient profile of cow-based milk fat.

The company says the cultivated milk fat allows for a more sustainable alternative to dairy but with all of the taste, texture, and applications of conventional milk products. Wilk says the yogurt serves as proof that animals aren't needed in order to have products identical in every other way.



## Bengaluru biotech startup String Bio raises \$20M in Series B round



Biotech startup String Bio said it raised \$20 million in a Series B round from investors, including Ankur Capital, Dare Ventures, Redstart, Zenfold Ventures, and Woodside Energy. The startup has also inked a deal with Australia's Woodside Energy to produce sustainable protein ingredients from greenhouse gases.

Founded by Ezhil Subbian and Vinod Kumar in 2012, Bengaluru-based String Bio uses biotechnology to produce animal feed and food ingredients. String Bio is the only company in Asia that has enabled a methane-based value chain through biological processes.

"We believe String Bio's technology could eventually be used to recycle methane at Woodside facilities. It could also be deployed at third-party sites with available biomethane such as landfill facilities and farms," said Meg O'Neill, CEO, of Woodside Energy.

Methane is a greenhouse gas that traps around 27 times the amount of heat in the atmosphere as carbon dioxide, and is responsible for a third of global warming. Agriculture and oil and gas industries are the biggest methane gas emitters, according to the Intergovernmental Panel of Climate Change's AR6 report.

## Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) To Expand New Zealand Operations, Inaugurates New Sterile Filtered Serum Manufacturing Facility In Dargaville, New Zealand

Pristine Biologicals NZ Ltd, a subsidiary of Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) – one of the largest producers of vaccines in India, which belongs to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) in India has inaugurated a new facility in Dargaville for the production of sterile filtered serum.

Pristine was established in Dargaville, Kaipara District in 2015 for the production and supply of pharmaceutical grade bovine serum used to produce many vaccines and is considered a very successful venture. It is pertinent to note that the serum from New Zealand and Australia have premium value since those

countries are free from OIE listed diseases. Pristine has been able to produce and supply several hundred tonnes of Quality serum to Indian Immunologicals Ltd (IIL) in India and other countries.

The requirement for bovine serum from New Zealand for use in biologics manufacture has gone up many folds and to meet the demands of the world markets, it is important to augment the capacities and also bring in more value-added products, the company feels. Many vaccine manufacturers in India have expressed difficulty in obtaining quality serum and have sought the help of IIL through the Government.



## Kerala Licensing rules for dairy and poultry farms to be liberalised :



The State government is planning to liberalise the licensing rules for dairy and poultry farms to enhance the domestic production of milk, meat and eggs. Minister for Animal Husbandry and Dairy Development J. Chinchurani told the Assembly, that the proposed reforms were expected to attract more youngsters to the sector.

She said two pilot projects, to set up dairy parks and heifer farms on the lines of industrial and IT parks, were on the anvil. The first dairy park would come up at Kolahalamedu in Idukki. The Kerala Livestock Development Board (KLDB) would provide the basic facilities including animal health

management and artificial insemination of cows. The second pilot project would be a heifer farm equipped to produce sexed semen calves and nurse them for 30 months before giving them to farmers.

She said the department was gearing up to introduce RFID tags for livestock under plans to improve milk production through animal mapping and traceability. The project named e-samrudhi would also help in disease diagnosis and treatment. The project would be rolled out in Pathanamthitta district first.

The Minister said 29 new mobile veterinary units had been procured under the Centrally sponsored Livestock Health and Disease Control project. She also outlined plans to enhance fodder production by 3.56 lakh metric tonnes and set up herd quarantine-cum-cattle trading centres in the border areas.

## How a mother's search for clean milk led to a profitable dairy & grocery startup

Seven years ago, as her young daughter battled a disease caused by adulterated milk, Rupali Kakade was frantically surfing the Net to find out where major dairy brands were sourcing their milk. What she realised was that most big brands did not make their sources known publicly. "So We decided to buy cows for our farm in Junnar for milk and dairy products," she says. It worked and Kakade went on to set up a farmer-producer company, Gauecogram Agrovikas Producer Co Ltd, to bring chemical-free, organic products to a market that lacked such options.

In 2018, the company started selling the products under the brand, Truly Desi, with Rupali Kakade and Mohit Rathod as co-founders. In the first year, it earned a revenue of Rs 5.42 lakh, growing to Rs 89 lakh the next year and, then, to Rs 2.71 crore in the last financial year. Truly Desi keeps more than 100 cows at their Junnar farm and has 300-400 cows more at connected farms.

Truly Desi is trying to create an ecosystem around a cow-bred economy, with every dimension of the business connected to one another. The byproducts of milk are sold in the market directly and in a B2C or business-to-consumer model, through supermarkets in Pune. The cow dung is being used to produce biogas and the liquid slurry to make bio-fertilisers.



## Karnataka poultry, livestock breeders up demand for GM crop feed



Citing that over 80% of poultry and livestock in Europe are fed genetically modified (GM) crops, breeders in Karnataka plan to strengthen their pitch for procuring the same kind of feed for reared animals in India by taking their concerns to the Centre.

At a state-level event organised by Compound Livestock Feed Manufacturers' Association of India (CLFMAI), over 90 industry players and stakeholders from Karnataka came together to discuss the benefits of GM feed and the impact it will have on meat production in India.

While it has been a year since the meat production industry experienced notable challenges in procurement of maize and

soybean feed animals fit for human consumption, the demand for GM crops has never been louder. Due to decreasing availability of soybean and maize (to feed poultry and livestock), farmers are rooting for genetically modified versions of these crops.

The concerns around genetically modified crops have been a roadblock for the industry. Environmental activists and scientists say GM crops are unfit for human consumption and that they will negatively affect human health in addition to compromising soil quality and natural ecology. So far, the only GM crop to be allowed by the government of India is *Bacillus thuringiensis* (BT) cotton. In May, the Centre approved the import of 5.5 lakh tonnes of GM soymeal for poultry feed.



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