

Dr Kurien Award Conferred On Shri Meenesh Shah, Chairman, NDDB



Shri Amit Shah, Hon'ble Union Minister of Home Affairs & Cooperation conferred the 14th Dr Kurien Award 2023 on Shri Meenesh Shah, Chairman, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) at the 49th Dairy Industry Conference in Gandhinagar on 18th March 2023.

Named after the Father of White Revolution – Dr Verghese Kurien, the award instituted by the Indian Dairy Association bestowed on Shri Meenesh Shah, for his outstanding contribution to the development and growth of Indian dairy industry.

Shri Meenesh Shah said that I am truly honoured to have received Dr Kurien Award of IDA with whom I worked for a number of years. Getting an award instituted in the name of my mentor is a very special feeling and it gives me deep satisfaction that I have been able to carry forward the vision of Dr Kurien in the present context.

Karnataka cooperatives reduce packet size amid production dip



Kolar Co-operative Milk Union Ltd (Komul), a key supplier of Nandini brand milk to Bengaluru, took a unilateral decision to increase the price of milk procurement from rural producers by Rs 2, up from Rs 31.90 to Rs 33.90, beginning from March 16.

Komul, however, did not pass on the increase in procurement cost to consumers on account of the Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF) increasing the price by Rs 2 in November 2022.

Since February this year, Komul has also carried out a “quantity revision” in the amount of high-fat Samrudhi milk packaged at its facilities and sold largely in Bengaluru. The quantity of milk in one-liter packets has been reduced to 900 ml while the 500 ml packets have been reduced to 450 ml, with prices remaining at Rs 50 and Rs 24, respectively.

Centre In Talks To Take Charge Of Mahanand Dairy Under NDDB

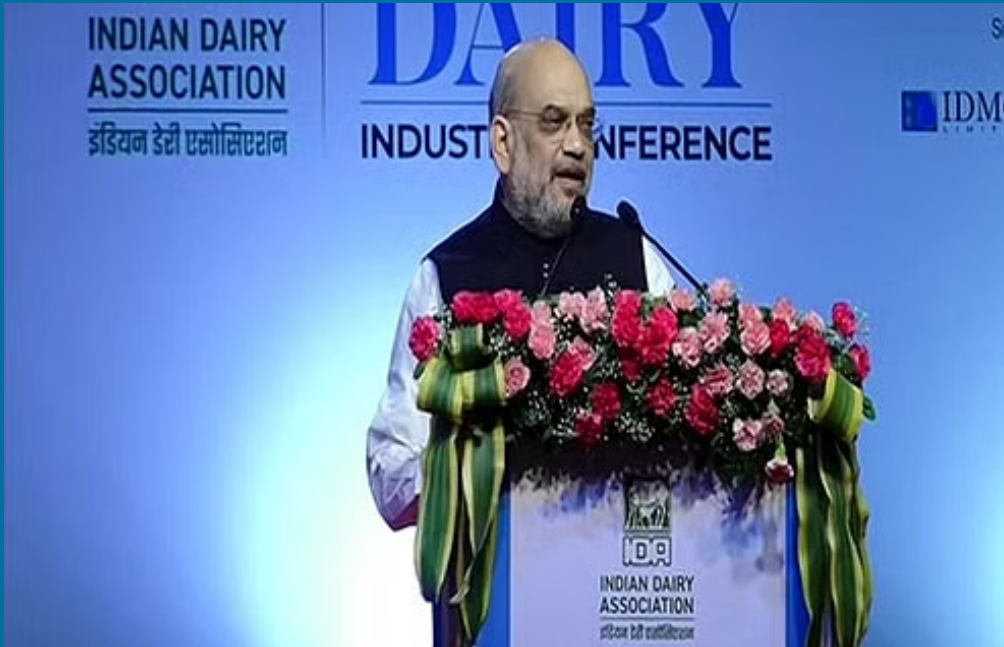


Maharashtra government is all set to lose its prime government dairy 'Mahananda' to the Central government.

An indication to this effect came from Dairy Development Minister Radhakrishna Vikhe Patil, who informed the State Assembly that the state government is unable to run the dairy. So, the Mahananda dairy will be handed over to the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), a statutory body that is under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and has its main office in Anand (Gujarat).

"We decided to rope in the NDDB as didn't want hand over the Mahananda Dairy to a private trust or company. The talks are in the final stage" Mr Patil said in the Assembly during the social discussion

India must aim to become world’s biggest dairy exporter: Amit Shah



India must not be satisfied by becoming the world’s largest milk producer but must also aim to become the biggest dairy exporter, said Union home and cooperation minister Amit Shah on Saturday speaking at the 49th Dairy Industry Conference in Gandhinagar with the theme “India Dairy to the world: Opportunities & Challenges” organised by Indian Dairy Association’s (IDA)

Shah said that India’s milk processing capacity is around 126 million litres per day, which is the highest in the world. From 1970 to 2022, India’s population has increased fourfold, but milk production has increased by ten times, he added.

Amit Shah also said that while dairying is a global industry, it offers India’s enormous population opportunities for job creation, a method to boost the rural economy, and solutions to issues like malnutrition and women’s empowerment. He also announced that his ministry of cooperation would establish milk-producing committees in two lakh villages across the country, with a goal of producing 330 million metric tonnes by 2033-34.

In his speech, Amit Shah stated that dairy is a global business, but in a country like India, with a population of 130 crores, it is a source of employment, an alternative to strengthening the rural economy, a solution to malnutrition problems, and a sector with enormous potential for women empowerment.

Speaking about the government’s initiative to boost India’s dairy sector, Shah said that the Indian dairy sector has grown by 6.6% per year in the past decade and the centre is taking initiative to grow it even further and for that, he said, the government is planning to set up two lakh dairy cooperatives in villages, which will boost India’s dairy sector to 13.80%, making India’s share of global milk production at 33%. “Our dairy exports will be at least five times the current level,” he added.

Fodder inflation at 24 per cent in February

Showing signs of some relief, the Wholesale Price Index-based fodder inflation has declined marginally to 24 per cent in February 2023, which is lower as compared to 29.29 per cent in January, shows an analysis of the official data.

However, the latest fodder inflation is still higher than the figure (11.55 per cent) recorded in February, last year. The elevated fodder prices are a cause of worry as they fuel milk price, which has already seen multiple hikes in the last year.

The prices of fodder, which has a weight of 0.5314 per cent in the Wholesale Price Index (WPI), have been rising since November, 2021. The WPI-based fodder inflation had hit its highest ever level of 30.93 per cent in November last year. In December 2022, the fodder inflation figure stood at 30.56 per cent. The high level of fodder inflation is in contrast to the decline in overall WPI inflation, which has come down to over two-year low of 3.85 per cent in February 2023.

To ease the fodder supply, the government had announced setting up 100 fodder plus Farmer Producers Organisations (FPOs) during 2023-24. Of these, a maximum 16 are planned in Gujarat, followed by Karnataka (11 FPOs), Bihar (9), Kerala (9), and Rajasthan (8).

WPI-based fodder inflation at 24 per cent in February, 2023					
Commodity Name	Commodity Code	Weight (%)	Index Value		Inflation (%)
			Feb-22	Feb-23	
All commodities	1000000000	100	145.3	150.9	3.85
Fodder	1102030008	0.5314	192.1	238.8	24.31
p. Manufacture of prepared animal feeds	1301160000	0.3563	204.1	208.2	2.01
(i) Gola & similar Cattle Feed	1301160001	0.21073	200.5	217.4	8.43
(ii) Rice Bran Extract	1301160002	0.03918	182.5	199.7	9.42
(iii) Soya preparations excluding oil	1301160003	0.01012	197.6	179.6	-9.11
(iv) Cotton seed oil cake	1301160004	0.06115	207.6	195.4	-5.88
(v) Mustard oil cake	1301160005	0.03512	245.3	192.9	-21.36

J&K Govt announces Rs 129.05 Cr initiative to reduce fodder deficit under HADP



Jammu and Kashmir, recognizing the potential of livestock husbandry to improve the socio-economic conditions of farming communities and boost the overall economic growth of the region, has launched several measures under the Holistic Agriculture Development Program (HADP).

As per Additional Chief Secretary (ACS), Agriculture Production Department, Atal Dulloo, an Apex committee has devised a comprehensive plan under HADP, which amounts to ₹ 129.05 crore, to mitigate the fodder shortfall in the UT by 80 per cent. The primary

objective of this program is to augment the agricultural and livestock sectors and equip farmers with vital resources such as financial assistance, improved seeds and technical guidance to amplify productivity, profitability, and overall economic progress of the area.

In J&K over 70 per cent of the population in the region depends on agriculture and related vocations for their livelihood, either directly or indirectly. Over the years, livestock husbandry has emerged as a crucial growth engine for sustainable and equitable development, which is vital for uplifting the socio-economic status of farming communities.

Livestock sector can boost demand for millets

MILLETS are believed to be among the first crops domesticated by mankind; hence, they are often called the super crops of our ancestors. They include three major (sorghum, pearl, finger) and six minor crops (barnyard, proso, foxtail, kodo, browntop and little). Till about 60 years ago, millets were the major grain grown in India. Before Green Revolution, millets made up around 40 per cent of all cultivated grains (contributing more than wheat and rice). The changing dietary pattern, coupled with government policies that favoured rice and wheat production to ensure food security, led to a sharp decline in millet acreage and its production.



The deepening climate crisis and environmental stresses have heightened the need for crop diversification by promoting climate-smart crops. Acknowledging the role of millets in responding to nutritional, agrarian and climate challenges, the UN declared 2023 as the International Year of Millets (IYoM).

Finger millet is nutritionally rich in terms of minerals, proteins and digestible fibres as compared to corn (maize) and hence could be fed to dairy cattle as a supplement to corn. The crop is also a good choice for making hay or silage — preserved form of green fodder. Likewise, proso millet has a nutritive value similar to that of other grains used for livestock feed and therefore can be used for calves, dairy cows and small ruminants without compromising on milk production. As millets uses less water per unit of forage production and tolerate heat as well as drought, their cultivation is economical in areas where environmental conditions, especially rainfall and temperature, are too harsh to grow other cereals.

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The inclusion of millet grains in poultry feed has also gained momentum in recent years. Studies have indicated that the replacement of corn with pearl millet in broiler diet results in significant enhancement of the bird's growth and feed efficiency.

Focus on improving crop-livestock integration through millet product systems, particularly in ecologically fragile rainfed areas, would be crucial for bridging the fodder deficit, enhancing animal nutrition and performance, while ensuring our food and nutritional security. Strengthening the quality seed chain for dual-purpose varieties, frontline demonstrations on making hay/silage from green biomass and forging market linkage of farmers with the feed industry should also be among the priorities. Promoting start-ups with technical backstopping for preparing millet-based cattle feed can spur the production of these super crops in the long run.

CEDSI in association with ASCI has organised the TOT for the officials of Dairy Development Department, Govt of Assam

CEDSI recently organized a successful Training of Trainers (TOT) program for 86 officials of the Dairy Development Department, Government of Assam. The TOT was focused on the job role of Dairy Farmer/Entrepreneur and was organized under the APART project, which is supported by the World Bank. The TOT covered a range of topics related for the officials including breed selection, feeding and nutrition, animal health management, milk processing, and marketing. The TOT was highly interactive, and the officials were exposed to a range of practical training techniques. The program included a combination of classroom sessions and hands-on demonstrations.

The TOT program was a great success, and the officials expressed their gratitude for the valuable insights and skills they gained during the training. CEDSI is proud to have organized this program as part of its ongoing efforts to support the development of the dairy sector in Assam, and looks forward to continuing to work with stakeholders to promote sustainable and inclusive growth in the sector.



CEDSI has organised a upskilling for the field functionaries of Saahaj Milk Producer Company

A three-day upskilling program, was organised for the field functionaries of Saahaj Milk Producer Company held on the 15th and 16th of March in Aligarh. A total of 28 mid-senior field functionaries participated in the training program and received skill training on various aspects related to dairy production. The program was designed to provide the participants with an in-depth understanding of the dairy value chain and to equip them with the necessary skills and knowledge to enhance the efficiency and productivity of their operations.

The program was sponsored by World Wide Fund. The primary objective of the program was to make the dairy value chain more energy-efficient, and to promote sustainable practices in the dairy industry. The training program covered a range of topics, including critical milk procurement aspects, dairy waste management, and GHG mitigation.





Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India

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✓ Special costs of training in Skill India Certified Programmes	✓ Consultative and advisory services to help members
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✓ Expert advice in day-to-day operations and management of livestock /farm productions	✓ Periodic e-newsletter for the latest news, govt. announcement and schemes in dairy sectors
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Who are we ?

“The Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India (CEDSI)” an autonomous institution working under the aegis of the Agriculture Skill Council of India (ASCI) under the Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, to help the empowerment and betterment of Livelihood of farmers, wage workers, and other stakeholders in the Dairy value chain.

CEDSI Membership will provide a unique platform for the industry leaders, policymakers, development practitioners, dairy scientists, researchers, students, and farmers to debate and discuss the issues of imminent importance to the dairy industry.