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Amul to set up ₹500 cr processing facility in Telangana



Dairy major Amul will set up a milk processing facility in Telangana with an investment of ₹500 crore. The plant, which will have an initial capacity of five lakh litres a day, would be located in a special food processing zone in the State.

Sabar Dairy, a key constituent of Amul's Federation of cooperatives, has signed an agreement with the Telangana Government to set up the facility. The plant is expected to provide direct employment to over 500 people and support several ancillary industries.

Telangana's IT and Industries Secretary Jayesh Ranjan and Sabar Dairy Managing Director Babubhai M Patel have signed a memorandum of understanding in this regard. Sabarkantha District Cooperative Milk Producers Union Ltd is a key player in the Amul network. "We will soon deliver made-in-Telangana milk products," Patel said.

Milky Mist mulls ₹1,000 cr expansion; to foray into chocolate, ice cream segments



Milky Mist Dairy Foods Pvt Ltd, a leading dairy based in Erode in western Tamil Nadu, has chalked out a ₹1,000 crore expansion plan in the next three years to double the plant's capacity and foray into new products like dark chocolate and ice cream. The company, which had already invested ₹550 crore in its existing plant, will fund the expansion through a combination of debt and equity.

In November, the company had signed an MoU with the Tamil Nadu government at the Investors Conference held in Coimbatore for an investment of ₹600 crore. "We have decided to add another ₹400 crore to that," he told at the company's plant.

Eyeing agri market, Australia offers tariff sops on 99% Indian imports



Australia has offered to give tariff concessions to 99% of its traded goods with India under the proposed bilateral free trade agreement in lieu of opening up of India's dairy and agriculture sectors through low or zero tariffs. Canberra is keen to export dairy products, grains, oilseeds and processed food to India. The two sides intend to complete the talks for an interim deal, called early harvest in trade parlance, by the end of this month.

"Australia has indicated to make their import duties zero on 99% goods at the time of entry into force of the agreement," and "Dairy and agriculture are sticking points. An interim package can include products where there is mutual consensus while the contentious issues can be taken up later," said an official.

Second Animal Husbandry Startup Grand Challenge open until 15 Jan

The Startup India which is an initiative by the government of India has announced that the second edition of the Animal Husbandry Startup Grand Challenge is live on the Startup India Portal (www.startupindia.gov.in). The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) is scouting for innovative solutions in the animal husbandry and dairy sector, tweeted Startup India.

The incentives provided are such as cash grants, showcase opportunity, demo day, incubation support, master-classes and mentorship. It started accepting applications from 26th November, 2021 and has set the end date on 15th January, 2022. The result of the grand challenge will be declared on 10th February, 2022, and it is open to startups as well as individual innovators.

The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, in partnership with Startup India, launched the 'Animal Husbandry Startup Grand Challenge', to scout for innovative and commercially viable solutions to address the problems faced by the animal husbandry and dairy sector. The challenge was launched by Prime Minister, Narendra Modi, on 11th September 2019 at a national animal disease control programme in Mathura.

The challenge was open for application to startups from 11th September 2019 to 30th October 2019, on the Startup India portal – www.startupindia.gov.in. 157 applications were received in total for the six problem statements. The second edition of the challenge is now being launched. It is critical for the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) to keep scouting for innovative solutions and harnessing the power of new technologies in these sectors.



Kerala Animal Husbandry dept. attaches microchips on cattle to create database



A small RFID (Radio Frequency Identification) chip attached to the ears of cattle (cow, buffalo and goats) can enable the AHD to know all the details of them in just a click. It will reveal the location of the cattle, whether it is grazing in the field or has been abandoned or even how much milk they can give. All this information are collected as part of the Animal Identification Tracability Project.

75,000 cattle in the Pathanamthitta district will get the chip in the first phase that cost Rs. 7.28 Cr under the Rebuild Kerala Initiative. The Digital University is the nodal agency for the project that is a first of its kind in the nation.

Animal Husbandry Department will maintain the database. Through the e-health Management System, doctors can understand the complete health status of the animal. Through the electronic medical veterinary medical record, overnight emergencies and daily hospital operations can be managed. The RFID tags are placed under the skin of the left ear of the animal using a sterile disposable syringe. Once the microchip is attached, it stays in the body for the rest of its life.