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Economic Survey: India's per capita milk availability rises to 427 grams/day



Increased focus on agricultural allied sectors such as animal husbandry has helped improve India's per capita milk availability to 427 grams per day for the year 2020-21, up from 319 grams in 2014-15. The Economic Survey 2020-21, tabled in Parliament on Monday showed that the livestock sector including animal husbandry, dairying and fisheries grew at a CAGR of 8.15 per cent during 2014-15 to 2019-20 (at constant prices).

The livestock sector is an important subsector of agriculture in the Indian economy, contributing 29.35 percent (2019-20) in the total agriculture and allied sector gross value added (GVA), up from 24.32 percent in 2014-15, as per the estimates of National Accounts Statistics (NAS) 2020. The livestock sector contributed 4.35 percent of total GVA in 2019-20.

Budget will help boost shrimp and milk production, says livestock industry



"Increased allocation under Livestock Health and Disease Control programme from Rs. 8.86 billion in RE 2021-22 to Rs. 20.00 billion the 2022-23 BE, reiterates GOI's focus on supporting livestock betterment. This is expected to bolster cattle productivity and increase raw milk availability for dairy processors. Reduction in alternative minimum tax rates for cooperative societies will positively impact margins of dairy cooperatives lending cushion for further CAPEX in dairy processing and passing on benefits to dairy farmers," said Amit Saraogi, chairman, Livestock Taskforce, CII Eastern Regional Council.

However, the livestock industry captains think that the budget gave inadequate attention to livestock sector, even though it contributes 4.11% to GDP and 25.6% to total agriculture GDP.

Decks cleared for GCMMF's second-largest milk processing plant in Gujarat



All decks have been cleared for Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation's (GCMMF) second largest milk processing plant in the state which will come up near Rajkot. The district collector here has identified 72-acre land on Bhavnagar road on the outskirts of the city. Currently, the excess milk from 12 districts of Saurashtra and Kutch regions is sent to GCMMF's Gandhinagar plant. Once the second plant is ready, the GCMMF will save on the transportation cost.

GCMMF wants to start construction work on the milk processing plant as soon as it gets permission of the land. Milk products like chocolate, butter, cheese, ice cream, shrikhand will also be produced at the new Rajkot plant.

Budget allocation to Ministry of fisheries, animal husbandry & dairying increased by 44%

Union Budget for the FY 2022 presented has allocated Rs 6,407.31 crore for the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying. The budget allocation for the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying has been increased by 44 percent.

Atul Chaturvedi, Secretary for the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairy said, "In 2022-23, the budget for livestock has been increased by 40%, and central sector schemes have been increased by 48%, indicating the government's commitment to the growth of livestock and dairy farmers under the leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi".



Chaturvedi has highlighted the fact that the reduced alternate minimum tax and surcharge reduction for cooperative societies will benefit thousands of dairy cooperatives in India, which will result in higher income for the country's 8 crore dairy farmers.

An increase of 20% in the budget in 2022-23 for Rashtriya Gokul Mission and National Programme for Dairy Development will increase the productivity of the indigenous bovine population and quality milk production, benefitting 8 crore dairy farmers. He underlined that the implementation of the One Health Mission with almost 60% enhancement in fund allocation for Livestock Health and Disease Control for 2022-23 over the previous year will ensure healthier livestock and healthier India.

Andhra government and Amul agree to deliver milk to Anganwadis

The government of Andhra Pradesh is preparing to deliver milk and Balamrutham (supplementary nutrition food) prepared in Andhra Pradesh to the state's Anganwadi centers via the internationally known 'Amul' company. As part of it, the state government signed a memorandum of understanding with Amul for an ambitious project today in the presence of chief minister YS Jagan Mohan Reddy.

The chief minister said on the occasion, on Friday that they were commencing on another good initiative, Jagananna Palavelluva in 85 villages in Anantapur district. He stated that the programme is already in place in Prakasam, YSR Kadapa, Chittoor, Guntur, West Godavari, and Krishna districts and that a new one is being launched in Anantapur, which is great news for the district. In addition, dairy farmers receive an additional Rs 5 to Rs 20 profit.

He continued by stating that the state government is creating bulk milk chilling facilities and that, as a result of Amul, private firms were forced to raise their pricing. "We're keeping a careful eye on milk collection scams."



Milma launches project to boost milk procurement

Milma is looking to boost milk collection in the southern districts by giving a leg-up to affiliated dairy cooperative societies whose procurement volumes are relatively low. Daily milk procurement in the southern region comprising four districts has increased by 75,000 litres over the past year, but there is still persists a demand-supply gap of about one lakh litres which Milma's Thiruvananthapuram Regional Co-operative Milk Producers' Union (TRCMPU) hopes to bridge over the next two years.

The TRCMPU, which covers Thiruvananthapuram, Kollam, Pathanamthitta, and Alappuzha districts, has earmarked ₹2 crores in its annual Budget passed on Thursday for Unarvu, a project designed to assist affiliated cooperatives whose daily milk procurement is less than 200 litres.

Milma has also decided to raise dairy farmer pay in the Malabar region starting in February 2022. On Saturday, the union's 32nd annual general body meeting decided that dairy farmers should be paid an additional Rs 1 per litre based on the quality of their milk. Milma Malabar Regional Union head K.S. Mani said in a press statement that the union has put aside 2.3 crores for the purpose.



eFeed start-up plans to establish nutrition advisory centres across north-eastern districts

eFeed, a start-up plans to establish nutrition advisory centers across north-eastern districts that will drive sustainable and accountable animal husbandry. As per the company, North-east India has a total demand of 25,000 metric tonnes of feed across Cattle, Aqua, Poultry and Piggeries which is a huge untapped opportunity for the feed industry. In the recent past Northeast has emerged as a preferred region for the animal feed industry.

Assam has a suitable environment and climate for aqua, fisheries, cattle and piggeries. Established industry players and start-ups are investing near the northeast border with Uttar Pradesh in setting up feed plants which can fulfil demand from both UP & Northeast.

As per numerous studies, focussing on animal nutrition also leads up to reduced carbon footprint and greenhouse gas emissions, including methane. Thus, providing better inputs to farmers and making it safer for human consumption while supporting socio-economic growth is the basic motto of the company.



Goshala project to come up at Mysuru to address the issue of stray cattle

In a big relief to those affected by stray cows and farmers who are struggling to sell their cattle due to a ban on cow slaughter in the state soon, Mysuru will get its first government goshala. This goshala is proposed on 10 acres in Ayarahalli village located around 30 km from here. This goshala is being constructed as part of the government's decision to build one goshala in every district to provide shelter to cows that are deserted for various reasons.

After the anti-cow slaughter act was implemented in the state, farmers and those engaged in the dairy industry are struggling to keep male calves, cows that have stopped giving milk and oxen which become old and can't be used in farming activities. The estimated cost of the project would be Rs 1.84 crore with the capacity of accommodating 500 cows.

This dairy-tech start-up has created a step counter for cows

Bangalore-based Stellapps is a farm-to-consumer digital platform that uses technology to track milk on its journey through the supply chain. "We have a device which is like a Fitbit for cattle," says Ranjith Mukundan, co-founder and CEO of Stellapps. The company's "mooON" device "goes around the animal's leg, and tracks their activity levels," he says.



When cows are sick, they move less, and when they are ovulating, they move more, says Mukundan.

Stellapps combines information from the step trackers with data that farmers and vets enter into a smartphone app, which issues reminders for routine protocols such as vaccinations and artificial insemination. Healthier cows produce more milk, and by tracking and better managing their animals, farmers can increase yields, says Mukundan.

But Stellapps isn't just creating step counters: the mooON device is one small part of a much bigger initiative to transform the world's largest dairy industry with smart tech.

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