

## Baramulla Dist Leads the New White Revolution in Dairy Production



Baramulla district in north Kashmir has experienced a remarkable turnaround, becoming a symbol of a new "white revolution" with a substantial surge in dairy production post the abrogation. The district now produces over 5.5 lakh liters of milk daily, a remarkable shift from its previously milk-deficient status.

Only four years ago, the Animal Husbandry department in Baramulla faced the challenge of inadequate milk production. However, a determined community has orchestrated a change, propelling Baramulla to the forefront of the dairy sector. The fertility of areas like Sopore and Pattan has been pivotal in achieving this transformation.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi lauded Baramulla's progress during his June edition of the monthly radio program, 'Mann ki Baat.' He commended the women of Baramulla, singling out Ishrat Nabi, a graduate from Nehlpora, Pattan, for her pioneering dairy venture 'Mir Sisters Dairy Farm.' Ishrat's farm sells approximately 150 liters of milk daily, standing as a beacon of inspiration.

## Odisha Government Takes Steps to Transform PACS into Multi-Purpose Cooperatives



In a strategic move to enhance the role of primary agriculture cooperative societies (PACS) and infuse versatility into their operations, the Odisha state government has directed the Cooperation department to identify potential PACS for development as multi-purpose cooperatives. The state's cooperative development committee, led by Chief Secretary Pradeep Jena, decided that district cooperative development committees will select suitable PACS and designate diverse business activities for each.

Under the Ministry of Cooperation's model by-laws, adapted with modifications by the state, PACS will be empowered to engage in over 25 businesses, including dairy, fishery, grain storage, and fuel sales. Additionally, PACS will offer long-term credit lending, become hiring centers, and function as common service points. Presently, 492 PACS are part of common service networks.

Furthermore, Odisha's Cooperation department has identified 150 PACS for opening Jan Aushadhi Kendras under the Pradhan Mantri Bharatiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana, and the process to designate PACS as PM Kisan Samridhi Kendras is underway.

## Assam's Veterinary Department Set for Transformation with Rs 700 Crore Revamp



Assam's Chief Minister, Himanta Biswa Sarma, has called for a comprehensive overhaul of the state's Veterinary and Animal Husbandry Department. The department, which has often faced neglect, is poised for a revival as the Chief Minister allocates a substantial budget of Rs 700 crore towards its modernization. As a part of this initiative, each veterinary sub-centre will receive Rs 25 lakh, bolstering its capabilities.

The state currently hosts 421 veterinary dispensaries, 767 sub-centres, 19 disease diagnostic laboratories, 61 instructional farms, 17 frozen semen stores, and 10 training centers under the Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department. Despite its significance, the department has endured challenges, including the LoC scandal. This transformative move holds immense potential for boosting Assam's animal husbandry and veterinary sectors, aligning with the state's agriculture-centric identity.

## National Programme for Dairy Development Restructured to Boost Dairy Industry and Farmer Income



In a significant move to fortify the dairy sector and empower farmers, the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD) has unveiled the restructured National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD). This visionary scheme, initiated in February 2014, has now been realigned with renewed vigor to run from 2021-22 to 2025-26.

With two distinctive components, the scheme aims to bolster infrastructure, enhance market access, and upgrade processing facilities, thus fostering a thriving ecosystem for dairy enthusiasts.

**Component 'A': Elevating Quality Standards and Infrastructure** The first facet of the NPDD, aptly named Component 'A', zooms in on the creation and strengthening of top-notch infrastructure for quality milk testing equipment and primary chilling facilities. This upgrade is set to benefit a wide spectrum of stakeholders, ranging from State Cooperative Dairy Federations and District Cooperative Milk Producers' Unions to Self-Help Groups (SHGs), Milk Producer Companies, and Farmer Producer Organisations.

**Component 'B': Empowering Farmers through Cooperatives** Taking a giant stride towards enhancing farmer income and enriching their market participation, Component 'B' of the NPDD scheme focuses on "Dairying through Cooperatives." This dynamic initiative operates in nine states, namely Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Uttarakhand, and West Bengal. With a total outlay of Rs 1568.28 crore, including a noteworthy Rs 924.56 crore as an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan from the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), this facet seeks to expand farmers' access to organized markets, modernize dairy processing facilities, and augment marketing infrastructure.

## Dairy Producers Call for Halt in Milk Powder Imports Amidst Local Production Surge

In a meeting with Agriculture Minister Mahinda Amaraweera on 3rd aug, local dairy producers have strongly urged the cessation of milk powder imports. This call comes in light of a remarkable increase in local milk production this year, marking a significant turnaround for the industry.



The domestic dairy sector had been grappling with challenges like a shortage of animal feed and the economic crisis over the past two years, resulting in a decline. However, the tide has now turned, with both government-owned dairy companies, Milco and the National Livestock Development Board (NLDB), as well as the private sector-owned Pelwatta Dairy Co., experiencing a surge in local milk production.

The NLDB reported an impressive increase, reaching 2,599,617 liters of milk production in the last six months. Meanwhile, Milco's output surged to 19,152,766 liters, marking a substantial 30 percent rise compared to the previous year.

In response, the Minister has directed officials from the Livestock Division of the Agriculture Ministry to draft a comprehensive report addressing the challenges arising from the increased milk production. The report will be presented to the Cabinet for a decision on the import of milk powder.

Milco, which halted milk powder and Highland frozen milk production due to liquid milk shortages in the past two years, has resumed production this year. Simultaneously, the NLDB has escalated the production of all its dairy products, signifying a positive shift in the sector.

## No plans to eliminate milk and milk products from GST net, says Union Minister Pankaj Chaudhary



There is no proposal to eliminate the Goods and Services Tax (GST) on milk products as the rates are based on the recommendation of the GST Council, Union Minister of State for Finance, Pankaj Chaudhary, said on Tuesday, August 1, 2023.

Mr. Chaudhary said fresh milk and pasteurised milk are exempt from GST. The rates are prescribed based on the recommendations of the GST Council that comprise representatives from both the Centre and States

A concessional GST of 5% is levied on milk products like curd, lassi, butter milk and paneer that are sold in pre-packaged and labelled form, apart from ultra-high temperature milk. Moreover, a GST of 12% applies to condensed milk, butter, ghee and cheese. These GST rates are levied uniformly across States.

To a question by Rajya Sabha member Kanimozhi Somu on plans to reduce or eliminate GST on milk and milk products, the Minister said there was no recommendation for such a proposal from the GST Council.

The Minister also said there was no proposal for a comprehensive financial package for dairy farmers. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying was providing financial assistance to farmers under various schemes, including the National Programme for Dairy Development and the livestock health

## Focus on Preventive Measures Enhances Health of Organic Dairy Cows



Health discussions concerning organic dairy cows are often overshadowed by intricate lists of approved treatments. Dr. Guy Jodarski of CROPP Cooperative/Organic Valley stressed the importance of holistic environmental health, from calves to cows, soil to forage, to minimize treatment requirements. Highlighting prevention, he emphasized that a robust system prevents many issues. The foundation lies in nurturing healthy soil, considering the intricate microbiomes of soil, plants, and cows.

Diverse plantings and grazing intervals are essential, along with insects like dung beetles that mitigate parasite risks by breaking down manure. Cattle rotation reduces worm exposure, especially vital for calves to build their immune systems. Vaccines, colostrum feeding, and milk feeding aid parasite control.

Dr. Jodarski advised culling infected calves, stressing prevention and urging evidence-based emergency treatments. Organic remedies, including cold butter for bloat and apple cider vinegar for ketosis, can be used. Although certified organic materials are preferred, emergencies permit other options. He noted fewer medical interventions in organic cows compared to conventional ones, underlining the efficacy of prevention.

The NDDDB will be the main promoter, they said, adding that these products would be marketed under the Amul brand. A new brand will also be unveiled for the marketing of the products globally.

## 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.



## Centre of Excellence for Dairy Skills in India

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- ✓ Consulting and advisory services to help members
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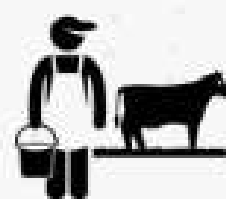
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