

IDA (West Zone) Elects New Zonal Executive Committee for 2026-2029

The election schedule was announced to the IDA (WZ) members on 23 May 2026, setting in motion a transparent and well-organised process. The election was conducted through an online voting system under the supervision of the nominated Returning Officer, Shri Dattatray V. Ghanekar. The other members of the Election Committee were Shri Mahesh Padhye and Shri Pankaj Kulkarni.

The election process was completed on 8 June 2026, and the new Zonal Executive Committee (ZEC) for the term 2026-2029 was elected unanimously. The newly elected ZEC brings together a diverse and accomplished group of professionals.



Chairman: Shri Kalathupurath Shyju Sidharthan (Director, Micron Industries Pvt. Ltd.); Vice Chairmen: Shri Anil Shriram Hatekar (Managing Director, Mahanand) and Shri Yogesh Kumar Godbole (Managing Director, Kolhapur Milk Union); Secretary: Shri Madhav Vasudeo Patgaonkar (Dairy Business Consultant); Treasurer: Ms. Swati Srivastava (NDDDB, Mumbai); Member (RE): Dr. Sudhir Uprit (Dean, Dairy Technology College, Raipur); and Dr. Dhiraj H. Kankhare (College of Agriculture, Pune); Member (MP): Valsad District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Ltd.; and Govind Milk & Milk Products Pvt. Ltd.; Member (PP): Ms. Richie Agarwal (RA Consulting, Pune); and Shri Shreenandan Sharma (Dairy Business Consultant, Indore);



Member (DI): Shri Ketul Kamleshkumar Sheth (IDMC Limited, Anand); and Shri Shridhar Pravinchandra Mehta (Prompt Equipments Pvt. Ltd., Ahmedabad). Former Chairman: Dr. J.B. Prajapati.

The newly elected IDA (West Zone) Executive Committee (ZEC) formally assumed charge during the 13th ZEC Meeting held on 18th June 2026. The transition ceremony was marked by gratitude, reflection, and a shared commitment to the continued growth of the dairy sector.

ZEC thanked the Election committee members for conducting the election very smoothly and felicitated them with flowers and a Memento.

Outgoing Chairman Dr. J.B. Prajapati expressed appreciation for the support extended to him during his three-year tenure. He highlighted key achievements of the Zone, including the successful organization of seminars and workshops across five states, the landmark 49th Dairy Industry Conference (DIC), and consumer awareness programmes conducted in collaboration with Mumbai Grahak Panchayat, BAIF, and industry partners. He conveyed his best wishes to the incoming committee and assured them of his continued support.

Secretary Shri Madhav Patgaonkar and CEC Vice President Shri Arun Patil lauded Dr. Prajapati's leadership, dedication, and contributions to strengthening the Zone. Members also fondly recalled his efforts and expressed their gratitude.

Taking charge as the new Chairman, Shri K. Shyju paid tribute to the outgoing Chairman's accomplishments and pledged to build upon the strong foundation laid by the previous committee. He

introduced the newly elected team and emphasized collaboration, innovation, and collective growth as key priorities for the new term.

Several newly elected members, including Shri Anil Hatekar, Shri Shreenandan Sharma, Shri Godbole, Shri Kapadia, Ms. Richie Agarwal, and Dr. Kankhare, also addressed the gathering, assuring their wholehearted cooperation and commitment to the Zone's future initiatives. The ceremony concluded with floral felicitations to the outgoing and incoming members, followed by a vote of thanks by Secretary Shri Madhav Patgaonkar.

With a strong leadership team and renewed enthusiasm, the West Zone looks forward to advancing the dairy industry while strengthening engagement with consumers and stakeholders.