

DSVC Kamdhenu University and IDA (WZ) Organize National Conference in Raipur



Dau Shri Vasudev Chandrakar Kamdhenu Vishwavidyalaya (DSVCKV), Durg, and Indian Dairy Association (West Zone), jointly organized a two-day National Conference on **"Dairying: A Sustainable Approach for Transforming Livelihoods and Health"** on the 10th and 11th of April 2025 at Dr. C. Rajeshwari Auditorium, Sri Sathya Sai Sowbhagyam, Centre for Human Development, Raipur, Chhattisgarh. The objective of this conference was to explore sustainable strategies and innovative solutions in the dairy industry that can enhance rural livelihoods and promote better health outcomes. The event brought together experts, policymakers, industry leaders, and stakeholders to exchange insights and discuss advancements in the field.



The inaugural ceremony was graced by Hon'ble Minister of Sports and Youth Welfare, Govt. of Chhattisgarh Shri Tank Ram Verma as the Chief Guest and Shri S. Rajeev, Executive Director, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) as the Guest of Honour. Dr. R.S. Sodhi, President-IDA was the Special Guest.



The Inaugural Session was chaired by Dr. R.R.B. Singh, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, DSVCKV, Durg. The stage was further adorned by the presence of Dr. J.B. Prajapati, Chairman IDA (WZ); Dr. Sudhir Uprit, Convener & Dean CDSFT Raipur; and Dr. Vikram Singh Sisodia, Secretary to Speaker, Chhattisgarh

Vidhan Sabha.

On this occasion, the Hon'ble Minister Shri Tank Ram Verma ji highlighted the role of dairy sector in livelihood and also stressed upon efforts to encourage rural youths to take up dairying as a vocation. Shri S. Rajeev, in his address, focused on the role of NDDB in boosting the dairy sector in the state. He also indicated that after the takeover of the State's Cooperative Dairy Federation with brand name 'Devbhog', the strategies for its development are being made to enhance the prosperity of dairy farmers. Dr. R.S. Sodhi provided insights on comprehensive development of the dairy sector in the state. With interesting statistics on dairy development in Chhattisgarh, he insisted that all round efforts should be made to increase productivity of milch animals with



better genomics, feed, fodder and management



practices. Farmers should also keep crossbred cows along with indigenous breeds for better substantiality of the dairy business. Dr. J.B. Prajapati, in his speech brought out the nutritional and therapeutic significance of dairy products and advocated consumption of milk as it has preventive role on type 2 diabetes

and other metabolic syndromes. Negative propaganda about milk by vegan and plant based lobbies must be countered with scientific data.



The Inaugural Session also marked the felicitation of 7 progressive dairy farmers of the state including 4 women farmers by the Hon'ble Minister.

The two day conference was attended by about 350 farmers, 100 scientist, 150 students from and around the state and representatives of leading dairy industries of the country. Special lectures and interactive talks were organized for the dairy farmers. Subject specialist from NDDB, BAIF, academia and industry deliberated on some key issues related to dairy farmers of the state. **Technical Session-1** was dedicated to emerging challenges in the animal husbandry and milk production management. Speakers from different government and non-government organizations enlightened the audience with their presentations. The **Technical Session-2** covered the processing aspect of milk and saw some very important presentation from experts of Nestle India Ltd, ISSER Mohali, Helly Food and Dairy Consultancy, RA consultancy and Kamdhenu University Gujarat on new technologies, emerging challenges and potential start-up ideas related to dairy.



A **National Dairy Quiz** was organized as an integral part of this conference in which 23 teams from 15 different academic institutions around the country and 2 teams from dairy industry participated in the multi-event rounds. The quiz was tailored, curated and presented by the quiz masters Dr. Jarita Malik and Dr. Amit Patel from SMC college of Dairy Science, Anand. The first round was an off-stage round in which all the teams participated. Eight teams fought in the on-stage semi-final round. After several gruelling rounds on



different aspects of dairying and a nail-biting finish, Dairy Polytechnic, Bemetara, DSVCKV emerged as the First winner and ICAR-NDRI at the Second place. All the finalist teams were awarded special prizes.

A cultural program was also organized for the participants, wherein students of DSVCKV, Durg, enthralled the audience with their dazzling performances.

The two day event was organized due to the generous support from the sponsors:- Sarda Dairy & Foods Pvt. Ltd., Raipur; IB Group, Rajnandgaon; Chhattisgarh State Milk Cooperative Federation & NDDB; BIS, Government of India; Shri Bajrang Alliance Ltd.; Vama Dairy; DeLaval India; Everest Instruments, Ahmedabad; Ice

Make Refrigeration, Ahmedabad; DAPL, Mumbai; BEC Foods Durg, UCO Bank, SBI and IDBI Bank. The Valedictory ceremony of the two day event was graced by Dr. R.R.B. Singh, Hon'ble Vice-Chancellor, DSVCKV, Durg; Dr. J.B. Prajapati; Shri. Venkat Ramanna, Director, Sarda Dairy and Foods, Dr. Bhanupratap Rathiya, Registrar, DSVCKV; Shri Arun Patil, Vice-President-IDA; Shri Madhav Patgaonkar, Secretary, IDA(WZ) and Dr. Sudhir Uprit. The ceremony began with floral welcome of the guests followed by report presentation on farmers and technical sessions by the respective rapporteurs. This was followed by felicitation of Sponsors, winners of the quiz competition and the entire organizing team of IDA (WZ) and DSVCKV, Durg and Vote of thanks by Shri Madhav Patgaonkar.

