

A Defining Moment for Dairy in Madhya Pradesh

A National Seminar was Jointly Organized by IDA (WZ) and Vikram University in Ujjain

Madhya Pradesh's dairy sector stands at the cusp of transformation. With robust livestock resources, a strong cooperative backbone, and government intent aligning with institutional expertise, the stage is set for a dairy renaissance in the heart of India. Against this backdrop, the National Seminar on "**Dairy Development in Madhya Pradesh - Opportunities & Challenges**" was convened in Ujjain on 4th-5th July 2025, jointly organized by the Indian Dairy Association (West Zone) and Vikram University.



The seminar served as a multi-stakeholder platform aimed at knowledge exchange, policy dialogue, industry-academia collaboration, and farmer empowerment. It was attended by more than 350 delegates from the dairy industry, academia, farmer organizations, students, technocrats, and policymakers. Themed around emerging possibilities in dairy, the event also aligned with the broader vision of making Madhya Pradesh a significant contributor to India's dairy economy.

Inaugural Session

After the traditional invocation and the lighting of the



ceremonial lamp, dignitaries and esteemed guests were felicitated for their contributions to the dairy ecosystem. **Dr. Arpan Bhardwaj**, Hon. Vice Chancellor of Vikram University, welcomed the gathering with a visionary address, reiterating the university's commitment to supporting dairy development

through education and innovation.

Dr. J.B. Prajapati, Chairman of the IDA (West Zone), Mumbai, outlined the objectives of the seminar, emphasizing the importance of collaboration among stakeholders in advancing dairy in Madhya Pradesh. He also stressed the significance of dairy education and public awareness regarding the role of dairy in nutrition, public health, and social well-being.

Shri Sanjay Gupta, Commissioner of Ujjain Division and Guest of Honour, underlined the importance of integrating farmer-centric technologies and inclusive policy frameworks. **Shri Anil Jain Kaluheda**, MLA, Ujjain, and Chief Guest of the event, spoke about the dairy potential of Madhya Pradesh and reiterated the government's commitment to making the state the "Dairy Capital of India." The inaugural session concluded with a formal vote of thanks delivered by **Shri Madhav Patgaonkar**, Secretary of IDA (WZ), who acknowledged the unwavering support of sponsors and collaborators.

Technical Sessions

The two-day seminar featured vibrant deliberations across multiple thematic tracks. **Session I**, chaired by **Dr. Alok Juneja** (BAIF), focused on animal husbandry, smart dairy farming, and government policies. The discussions covered genetics, nutrition, and preventive veterinary care as key factors in enhancing productivity. Emphasis was placed on sustainable practices, breed improvement, and timely interventions. Experts discussed the potential of AI-powered herd monitoring systems and IoT-enabled sensors to revolutionize dairy farming in Madhya Pradesh. Policy specialists shared insights on central and state schemes, particularly the recent partnership between the Government of Madhya Pradesh and NDDB to strengthen the State Dairy Federation (Sanchi).



A key highlight of the session was the address by **Dr. Chandrakant Sant**, who drew attention back to the grassroots-the farmer and the cow. He shared actionable tips on better cattle care, emphasizing that healthy and happy

animals are the foundation of a profitable dairy enterprise. Dr. Pawan Patidar, State Head of MP, BAIF, discussed initiatives aimed at improving productivity and farm management practices in the state. Shri Mangalbhai Chaudhary, General Manager at Anik-Lactalis, shared his experience in milk procurement and dairy operations. Shri Ram Chandra Chaudhary, Chairman of Ajmer Milk Union, advocated for castrating stray bulls and promoting breeding with proven genetics. He also narrated the success story of Ajmer Union.

Session II featured discussions by dairy entrepreneurs and brands including Siddhi Vinayak Milk



Products, Shubham Food, Shridhi, Amul, and Ujjain Dugdh Sangh, who shared procurement strategies, market trends, and innovative product developments. The session was chaired by **Dr. J.V. Parekh**, Vice Chairman of IDA (WZ).

Session III, chaired by **Shri Arun Patil**, Vice President of IDA, New Delhi, involved technology providers such as Delaval, Aamikza, Ice Make, and Benny Impex. These companies showcased automation tools, testing equipment, and cold chain solutions. All participating companies had set up stalls to present their products and solutions to farmers, students, and delegates, thereby



enhancing their understanding of technological innovations. The session served as a robust demonstration of how modern technologies can improve efficiency, milk quality, and farmer profitability.

Public Awareness and the Role of Dairy in Health and Livelihood

Session IV, chaired by **Shri K. Shyju**, Vice Chairman of



IDA (WZ), focused on public awareness regarding dairy nutrition, health, and livelihood. Designed to increase understanding of dairy products among the general public, this session welcomed doctors, students, and other opinion-makers. Experts debunked myths surrounding dairy and countered misleading narratives related to plant-based alternatives. Presentations underscored the unique nutritional value of milk proteins and their vital role in combating malnutrition and promoting wellness.

Dr. J.B. Prajapati addressed the group on the nutritional benefits of milk and its role in tackling malnutrition. He urged the audience to challenge confusion spread by vegan and plant-based lobbies. Referring to the research of Dr. Mohan, he clarified that milk is not responsible for causing diabetes; rather, it helps control it. Dr. K.D. Aparanti, former Head of Dairy Chemistry at AAU Anand, gave an enlightening presentation on the superior nutritional value of milk protein compared to plant-based alternatives. He supported his claims with scientific data, including DIAAS scores, to demonstrate that milk is a high-quality protein source essential for growth, immunity, and cognitive development.

Shri Kuldeep Sharma, a prominent figure in India's dairy industry, addressed global concerns around sustainability, nutrition, and livelihoods. He expressed concern about internal voices echoing external criticisms labeling dairy as "cruel" or "unnatural." He urged the industry to remain unified and to view all dairy initiatives from the cow's perspective to ensure inclusive and sustainable growth.

Dr. Sarang Phophaly of Dairy Science College, Raipur, delivered a detailed presentation on food safety, focusing on HACCP, ISO standards, and SOPs required to meet global dairy industry expectations.

Dairy Education and Human Resource Development

Session V, chaired by **Dr. R.R.B. Singh**, Vice Chancellor of K.U. Durg University, focused on dairy education, human resource development, and training needs.



Dr. Bimlesh Mann, ADG at ICAR, discussed the New Education Policy and its relevance to dairy education. Dr. Sudhir Uprit, Dean of Dairy Science College, Raipur, introduced the launch of a B.Tech. course in Dairy Technology at Vikram University-the first of its kind in Madhya Pradesh. He emphasized that the New Education Policy promotes industry-academia linkages and outcome-based learning, preparing students for real-world challenges. He also highlighted the urgent need for trained dairy technologists in the state, given the government's expansion plans.

Shri Divyesh Chouhan from Vidya Dairy explained how the dairy plant is operated entirely by B.Tech. students of Dairy Science College in Anand, serving as a model of experiential learning. Dr. Pranali Nikam of Dairy Science College, Raipur, presented new innovations in adulteration testing, including a newly developed paper strip that can detect six types of adulterants within seconds-an affordable and consumer-friendly solution.

The session was widely appreciated for rekindling public trust in milk, especially among students and young attendees. It added a much-needed human and nutritional perspective to the otherwise industry-centric dialogue. The launch of dairy-specific educational programs is expected to bridge the talent gap and create

new opportunities in production, processing, quality assurance, and marketing.

Valedictory Session

The Valedictory session was chaired by the **Chief Guest, Sabhapati Smt. Kalavati Yadav**. In her inspiring address, she



envisioned Ujjain becoming the "Milk Capital of Madhya Pradesh," drawing a parallel to Indore's

national recognition in cleanliness. Dr. Arpan Bhardwaj reaffirmed Vikram University's commitment to expanding education and research in dairy science and allied fields, aiming to build a future-ready academic ecosystem.

Other dignitaries present included Dr. J.B. Prajapati, Chairman of IDA (WZ); Shri Arun Patil, Vice President of IDA; Shri J.R. Daruwala, Organizing Secretary; Shri Madhav Patgaonkar, Secretary of IDA (WZ); and Dr. Kamlesh Dashora of Vikram University. The organizing committee expressed sincere gratitude to the sponsors whose support enabled insightful discussions, live demonstrations, and valuable networking opportunities throughout the seminar.

The Ujjain seminar was more than just a conference-it was a clarion call for unified action. With Vikram University setting a new benchmark in dairy education and IDA (WZ) championing industry-wide collaboration, the foundation for Madhya Pradesh's dairy revolution has been firmly established. The journey from potential to performance begins now. As many participants echoed during the event: "With the right direction, Madhya Pradesh can be the dairy powerhouse India needs."

