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FORTNIGHTLY NEWSLETTER

Dairy Pulse 182nd Edition (16th to 31st, May 2023)



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Dairy Pulse 182nd Edition (16th to 31st May, 2023)

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Indian News

Protest over Amul's entry into TN appears political

MAY 31, 2023

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin has raised a protest over the entry of Amul into the milk procurement scene in the State. The point of contention is whether Gujarat's Amul (which like Karnataka's Nandini sells its value added products in all States) should be allowed to procure milk outside its home State, in Tamil Nadu as well. This is a political turf war more than anything else, as a milk cooperative is also viewed as a political catchment area.



The economic case for allowing more players and competition is straightforward. The entry of more milk processors into this predominantly unorgan-

ised sector will lead to better returns for producers amidst heightened competition between buyers of their milk, with a similar scenario playing out for consumers as different brands compete for their wallet.

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What's The Territorial Battle Between The Milk Cooperatives?

MAY 31, 2023



Row between several dairy brands like Amul, Nandini, Aavin and Milma has been in the spotlight for the last few months. Dairy cooperative brands like these have been at the centre of India's dairy sector growth for the last several decades. The story of dairy sector in India has been one of success. From a milk deficit nation in the early years after Independence, the country scripted a

remarkable turnaround in the sector after Operation Flood during 1970s.

India is presently the largest producer of milk in the world. According to government statistics, India produced 17 million tonnes of milk in 1951, which increased to 210 million in 2021.

At the centre of dairy industry's success is the cooperative model pioneered by the famous milk brand Amul. Just like Amul, which is the product of Gujarat's dairy cooperative, several states have their own cooperative products. Karnataka's Nandini, Kerala's Milma and Tamil Nadu's Aavin are some examples of popular milk brands of states.

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Confident of achieving every target that we have set Jayen Mehta

MAY 30, 2023



Mr Sodhi handed down the baton to you and you are now the new MD of Amul. What are the challenges that you were to take head on from here and being the MD, what does Jayen Mehta intend to do with Amul going forward?

Well, the job I have been handed over is quite challenging but also as much as interesting for a simple reason that the cooperative model is very-very strong. You talked about the three tiers, the village farmers in a village associate into a village cooperative society. All villages of a district form a district cooperative milk processing union, a dairy plant and the marketing is done by the state marketing federation which I represent.

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Cooperative or Combative? The Saga of Milk Wars

MAY 30, 2023



During the recent Karnataka elections, one divisive issue was about the milk brand Amul from Gujarat versus local brand Nandini. How did this become an electoral issue? That is because Amul was seen

to be muscling into Nandini's territory. The entrant was identified with the incumbent ruling party and local Nandini's cause was championed by the opposition. It was also framed as a fight to preserve local identity versus a nationally rolled juggernaut with a Gujarati origin.

Normally a fight between consumer goods brands (whether food or clothing or even milk) would be welcomed by consumers. That's because it signifies more choice, better quality, and perhaps lower prices. That's how capitalism works and how companies compete. However, Amul and Nandini are not companies.

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Ahead of monsoon season, what is the food supply situation

MAY 30, 2023

Even as kharif plantings are set to take off with the southwest monsoon, and the India Meteorological Department (IMD) has reiterated its earlier forecast of (June-September), the supply and demand balances in key food commodities is comfortable, yet tight.

While there are no shortages for now, a great deal hinges on the monsoon, especially its spatial



(rain across major agricultural regions) and temporal (during the crucial sowing and vegetative growth stages) distribution. That has implications both for the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) monetary policy (whether to raise, cut or not change interest rates depending on the outlook for inflation) and the government (in a year leading to national elections in March-April 2024).

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Aavin to hike procurement price to ward off Amul threat

MAY 30, 2023

Tamil Nadu milk cooperative Aavin, controlled by the state government, is in the process of increasing the milk procurement price from farmers, it was announced on Monday.



This is, in a way, intended to ward off the threat posed by Gujarat-headquartered milk cooperative, Amul which is aggressively foraying into the

Tamil Nadu market by procuring milk from farmers there and establishing a plant in Andhra Pradesh close to the Tamil Nadu border. Tamil Nadu Dairy Development Minister Mano Thangaraj told IANS that Aavin was in the process of taking various measures to correct some of the problems that have arisen in the past regarding procurement of milk from vendors. He said that appropriate measures would be taken to provide fair prices to the farmers taking into account the cost of milk production and protecting their welfare.

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Medha dairy project to start shortly in Daltonganj

MAY 29, 2023



The multi-crore Medha dairy project in Daltonganj is 'most likely to be inaugurated/commissioned in this coming month of June.'

Secretary Agriculture, Animal Husbandry and Co-operative, the government of Jharkhand, Ranchi,

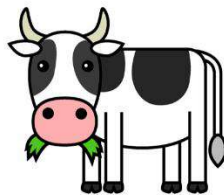
Aboobacker Siddique P, in a message to a query from this correspondent, wrote "The plant will be inaugurated shortly."

General manager of the Jharkhand state co-operative milk producers' federation limited Pavan Kumar Marwaha echoing the same 'hope' of what the secretary Aboobacker Siddique P had said in regard to this Medha dairy project in Daltonganj, said "I can't tell you about the exact date of the dedication of this Medha dairy project plant to the public but I say this with conviction that by June this plant will start catering to the food and livelihood needs of the people."

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World Milk Day: Deciphering the benefits of plant-based milk

MAY 29, 2023



With the increasing alertness regarding shortfalls of lactose intolerance, mindful people are orchestrating the changes by opting for plant-based milk also known as eco-friendly milk. Awareness about the advantages of plant-based products is also

on the rise. Consumers have become more conscious of the detrimental effects of animal farming on animal health and the environment. This has led to a shift in consumer preferences towards dairy alternatives, which are perceived as ethical, sustainable, and cruelty-free alternatives.

World Milk Day is observed on June 1 every year. It was established by the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) of the United Nations to recognise the importance of milk as a global food. Apart from cattle, camel's milk and donkey's milk are on the supermarket shelves.

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Include Dairy Foods Daily in the Diet to Improve Health

MAY 28, 2023

Healthy dairy foods like milk, curds, yoghurt, buttermilk are being consumed since long almost throughout the world. Today, India's dairy industry consists of a wide- range of both regional and international



products including fermentable and non-fer-

mentable products. Curd and yoghurt are considered valuable segments of the industry. References to yoghurt and health date back to 6000 BCE, as seen in Indian Ayurvedic medicinal text. Dairy is a huge industry in India and a big part of many states' economy. In 2021, India is the largest milk producer in the world, currently contributing to almost 22% of the total milk production in the world. India produced 210 metric tons of milk in 2021 with a per capita availability of 427 g/day.

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HP CM Allocates Rs 250 Cr for Modernizing Milk Plant in Kangra

MAY 28, 2023



Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu visited the milk processing plant in Dhagwar, located in Kangra District, and announced a significant in-

vestment of Rs 250 crore to upgrade the facilities. This move is part of the state government's commitment to developing a robust milk-based economy and improving the rural economy as a whole.

Chief Minister unveiled the "Him-Ganga" scheme, which aims to collect milk from cattle rearers and promote the sale of milk by-products. The scheme seeks to ensure fair prices for milk based on its actual cost and enhance the quality and efficiency of milk procurement, processing, and marketing systems.

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Milk Procurement Price Down 10% Retail Rates Unchanged

MAY 26, 2023

Several dairies from Maharashtra and northern India have reportedly slashed milk procurement prices by 10 per cent.

While these milk prices have been brought down in the last fortnight, consumers are reportedly not expected to get any benefit of this as retail rates remain unchanged.

According to a report in the Economic Times, the only relief that consumers will get after a cut in milk procurement prices is that there will not be any increase in prices for the next few months.



It adds that some time back, a section of the Indian dairy sector had approached the central government asking for easing the import of milk products. These include skimmed milk powder (SMP) and white butter and were primarily done to deal with the acute shortage of milk in the country. However, the report mentions that prices of SMP and white butter have fallen 5-10 per cent in last two weeks.

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Milk prices in the world's dairy powerhouse India have spiked 15%

MAY 26, 2023

India is facing an increase in milk prices, and it's not expected to ease up until November.

India, the world's dairy powerhouse, is facing an increase in milk prices, and it's not expected to ease up until November.

"In the last 15 months there has been [an] extraordinary increase in milk and dairy products,

around 14-to-15%," said RS Sodhi, former managing director of India's number one dairy company, Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Foundation.



The price spike comes on the back of higher feed costs, an increase in demand for ice cream, and a contagious cattle disease,

amongst other factors.

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Dairy sector can take India closer to its net-zero goals

MAY 26, 2023



The dairy sector's contribution to India's economy is significant, making it a crucial sector for the country's overall growth and development. It provides employment opportunities to millions of people, particularly in rural areas, and contributes to the country's food security. However, the sector's growth has come at a considerable cost to the environment,

with increasing greenhouse gas emissions and pollution levels.

As India takes significant steps to address climate change and reduce its carbon footprint while moving towards net zero, I believe, achieving this goal will require substantial efforts from all sectors, including the dairy sector.

The dairy industry in India is vast and diverse, with over 75 million farms scattered across the country. These farms vary in size and scope, ranging from small subsistence farms to large commercial operations. The sector's unique feature is that it is primarily dominated by small-holder farmers who own only a few cows or buffaloes, which poses both challenges and opportunities for cutting down on emissions.

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Stalin tells Centre to refrain from milk

MAY 25, 2023

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin on Thursday sought Union Home Minister Amit Shah's intervention in directing Gujarat-based dairy giant Amul to desist from milk procurement with immediate effect citing unhealthy competition with the state's co-operative milk producer Aavin. In a letter to Shah, Stalin urged the Centre to address the issues arising out of milk procurement



stop Amul to procurement

by the Kaira District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union (Amul) in the Tamil Nadu milk shed area.

"Recently, it has come to the state government's notice that Amul has utilised its multi-state co-operative license to install chilling centres and a processing plant in Krishnagiri district," Stalin said.

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FSSAI to conduct nationwide surveillance of milk, milk products

MAY 25, 2023

In a bid to check adulteration, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) on Thursday said it will conduct nationwide surveillance of milk and milk products. The surveillance, to be conducted on a large scale, will involve collecting samples from both the organised and unorganised sectors in all districts countrywide.

Samples of products such as khoa, chenna, paneer, ghee, butter, curd, and ice cream will also be checked as part of the ongoing effort to curb adulteration of milk and milk products.

“The rationale behind choosing milk is due to its indispensable role in our food culture either as a fresh fluid or as processed dairy products. Milk contains vital micronutrients and macronutrients. People of every age group include milk or milk products in their daily diet. Changing lifestyle patterns and increasing health consciousness are the key growth drivers for milk and high-value milk products in India,” the food safety authority said.

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Rajasthan, MP outpace Gujarat in milk output value growth

MAY 25, 2023

A report compiled by the Union ministry of statistics and programme implementation (MoSPI) which compares the value of milk output of all states over the past decade (2011-12 to 2020-21) says that while the value of milk output in Gujarat rose by 54.8% in the last decade, Rajasthan registered an increase of 129.6% and MP a 120.6%

rise.

The report states that Gujarat maintained its fourth position in the country in terms of milk output value. According to the report, Rajasthan ranks first, followed by UP, Maharashtra, Gujarat and MP. The report has used constant prices to compare milk output value.



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J&K Dairy Farmers Association highlights achievements, demands

MAY 25, 2023

On completion of an year since its formation, Jammu & Kashmir Dairy Farmers Association today highlighted its achievements and demands seeking Government help for further promotion of dairy sector in J&K.

While talking to media persons, here today, President of JKDFA, Kulbhushan Khajuria demanded that infrastructure should be developed for cattle mandi; one in Kashmir and other in Jammu, so that the local breeder and Rastriya Gokul Mission Scheme are made successful and the young entrepreneurs are encouraged in the dairy sector.

He also demanded setting up two big cattle hospitals, one each at Jammu and Kashmir with advanced technologies and the facility of cattle

pregnancy diagnose test.

“The cattle pregnancy diagnose test is conducted by private labs in Punjab, which charge Rs 300 for a cattle and this test is done within 28 days of pregnancy. We request the Government to facilitate the dairy farmers in J&K by providing the same testing facility either



through SKUAST Jammu or Animal Husbandry Department,” he said.

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Pune-based dairy Sonai sends defamation notice to 4 farm leaders

MAY 23, 2023



The Pune-headquartered Indapur Dairy and Milk products Ltd, the company which retails under the brand name of Sonai, Tuesday wrote to the Solapur Superinten-

dent of Police seeking action against farm leaders who allegedly “defamed” the dairy on social media and other platforms.

This comes in the backdrop of a protest by the dairy farmers of the region against the decision of the dairies to revise the procurement price of milk. At present, the dairies are paying the farmers Rs 34-Rs 35/litre of milk containing 3.5 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent Solid Not Fat (SNF). A few weeks back, the procurement price was in the range of Rs 37-Rs 38/litre.

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Amul steps into Tamil Nadu to procure milk at premium

MAY 23, 2023



Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited (GCMMF), which owns India's largest dairy brand 'Amul', is preparing to start milk procurement in Tamil Nadu. The marketing division of Amul has released multiple advertisements inviting farmers to supply milk in northern districts

of the state, including Dharmapuri, Vellore, Krishnagiri, Tiruvannmalai, Ranipet and Kanchipuram districts.

This would be Amul's second attempt to procure milk from the state through agents after its first unsuccessful attempt five years ago.

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Why a debate rages over whether ice cream is healthy ?

MAY 23, 2023

In April, a story emerged that for many years scientists have suppressed an astonishing finding—that ice-cream might be good for health. The Atlantic magazine ran a story headlined, 'The Ice-cream conspiracy' by David Merritt Johns, who is generally described as a "public health historian." His story begins in 2018. The research of a doctoral student at Harvard Medical School led him to the conclusion that, "Among diabetics, eating half a cup of ice cream a day was associated with a lower risk of heart problems." The finding



seemed so joyful, which is rare in nutritional science, that his seniors asked him to check again. But the health benefits of ice-cream survived all

rigorous assaults. Harvard downplayed the results.

That was not the first time a scientific study at Harvard linked ice-cream to health benefits; 20 years earlier, researcher Mark A. Pereira studied data from

1985 tracing the effect of food on the hearts of over 5,000 young adults. Low-fat dairy, the data suggested, had a good effect. It was interesting news at the time, but not surprising.

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Dodla Dairy Q4 FY23 Net Sales up 22.82% Y-o-Y

MAY 23, 2023



Net Sales at Rs 724.28 crore in March 2023 up 22.82% from Rs. 589.72 crore in March 2022.

Quarterly Net Profit at Rs. 22.53 crore in March 2023 down 44.35% from Rs. 40.48 crore in March 2022.

EBITDA stands at Rs. 40.03 crore in March 2023 down 21.76% from Rs. 51.16 crore in March 2022.

Dodla Dairy EPS has decreased to Rs. 3.79 in March 2023 from Rs. 6.80 in March 2022.

Dodla Dairy shares closed at 502.10 on May 19, 2023 (NSE) and has given 2.39% returns over the last 6 months and 4.40% over the last 12 months. Cost of goods sold increased by 29.7% YoY to Rs 569.4 crore in the fourth quarter. Employee expenses amounted to Rs 29.9 crore (up 14.8% YoY) while other expenses added up to Rs 91.3 crore (up 17.4% YoY).

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India's White Revolution – Achievements and the Next Phase

MAY 23, 2023



The dairy sector in India has shown very impressive growth since the beginning of Operation Flood launched in 1970. Before this, milk production was not even keeping pace with the growth in population in the country. Because of this, per capita milk output declined from 132 grams in 1955-56 to 110 grams in 1973-74. This led to serious shortage of milk and milk products in the country, like shortage of

staple food during mid-1960s which led the country to go for adoption of green revolution technology.

Milk output in India increased by meagre 1.36 percent per year during 1950-51 to 1973-74 which was lower than population growth rate. As a result, per capita availability of milk in the country dropped by 15 percent in this period resulting into increase in milk deficiency in the country. The shortage was met partly through import and aid in the form of milk powder. GOI launched operation flood in 1970 to achieve breakthrough in milk production. This produced quick results and milk production outpaced population growth after 1973/74.

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Amul launches advanced organic testing laboratory in Gandhinagar

MAY 22, 2023



G CMMF, popularly known as Amul, a leading food products organisation of India has set up Advanced Organic Testing Laboratory at Amul Fed Dairy, Gandhinagar, Gujarat. The lab was inaugurated by Amit Shah, Minister of Home Affairs and Cooperation, Government of India, on Sunday.

With the increasing demand for organic food products in India, there is a growing need for advanced laboratories dedicated to organic food testing. Organic food is produced without synthetic fertilisers, pesticides, and other chemicals. To meet these demands, an advanced laboratory for organic food testing plays a crucial role in verifying the organic integrity of food items. The laboratory employs various testing methodologies and techniques to detect the presence of pesticides, heavy metals, and other contaminants. It ensures that organic food products adhere to national and international organic standards, enhancing consumer confidence and protecting public health.

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Supply stable, no chance of milk price hike this summer in Indore

MAY 22, 2023

Adequate supplies of milk in summers in Indore region as against an average drop of 10 per cent every year has kept milk prices stagnant, giving respite to consumers from price rise.

Every summer, milk cooperatives and private milk suppliers hike milk prices amid shortage in collection but this summer they have ruled out the likelihood of any price rise amid a comfortable supply situation.



Dr RK Doorwar, CEO, Indore Cooperative Dugdh Sangh said, “We are not planning to hike milk prices this summer because there is no drop in milk collection unlike last year. We have a comfortable supply situation and are collecting more milk than the required consumption.”

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Firms rein in price hikes but milk powder rose 18% from a year ago

MAY 22, 2023



A range of businesses, from quick-service restaurants and apparel retailers to biscuit makers and edible oil producers,

are refraining from raising prices, with some even cutting them as commodity costs cool and high prices dampen demand, offering consumers respite from soaring inflation.

Packaged consumer goods company Marico Ltd, for example, cut prices of its Parachute coconut hair grooming oil portfolio and Saffola edible oils in the current quarter.



“The peak for 1 litre of Saffola oil was ₹230, which has come down to ₹170 in May,” said Saugata Gupta, managing director and CEO of

Marico, which has taken at least two price cuts on its edible oils portfolio in the past quarter in line with raw material price reductions.

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NDDB Dairy Services helping UP govt set up 3 women-led firms

MAY 22, 2023



Uttar Pradesh government has mandated NDDB Dairy Services (NDS), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) to promote women empowerment and entrepreneurship by setting up women-owned milk producer companies to harness the dairying potential of the state's 17 districts.

Encouraged by the results of Balinee Milk Producer Company, Jhansi and Kashee Milk Producer Company, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh government announced 'Mahila Samarthya Yojana' (MSY) in the budget of 2021-22 to promote producer-owned enterprises exclusively owned by women and had allocated an amount of Rs. 200 crores in the budget.

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Milk prices unlikely to witness further spike: NDDB chief

MAY 22, 2023

Milk prices are unlikely to witness spikes in the coming months due to cooler temperature in April and parts of May, which has delayed the onset of 'lean' season, when milk production usually drops, according to Meenesh Shah, chairman & managing director, National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

"The end of the flush season when milk production goes up was delayed by rains and cooler climates in the last few months, thus helping dairy cooperatives to build up stocks for the lean summer months when output would drop," Shah told FE.

He ruled out any possibility of imports of dairy products such as ghee at present to meet domestic demands of milk and products.

"There has been an increase of 7.5% in milk procurement by cooperatives in April 2023 compared to a year ago month," Shah said.



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Smoothh: Milking a growing market of Dairy beverages

MAY 19, 2023

Parle Agro has embarked on a mission to make its flavoured milk Smoothh a Rs 5,000-crore brand by 2025. Launched two years ago, the manufacturer of fruit drinks Frooti and Appy made its re-entry into the dairy beverages market in 2021 with Smoothh, which now has a turnover of Rs 685 crore.

Smoothh is one of the younger brands in India's flavoured milk market, estimated to grow from Rs 4,160 crore in 2022 to Rs 15,860 crore in 2028 at a CAGR of 25.8% as per an IMARC Group report. The rising popularity, especially among



health conscious consumers, has been encouraging, the report notes

In an interview with FE, Nadia Chauhan, joint MD and CMO at Parle Agro, pointed out that Smoothh

is targeting rural consumers and that 50% of the brand's revenues come from rural markets. She said, "We have not only introduced a new category to rural India

but also expanded it as a whole." Earlier this year, the company also introduced its range of fruit smoothies.

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Aavin to improve processing capacity to 70 lakh LPD, says Minister

MAY 19, 2023

Minister for Dairy Development Manoj Thangaraj on Thursday said that steps will be taken to increase the processing capacity of Aavin to 70 lakh litres per day (LLPD).



Addressing presspersons before a review meeting with the regional deputy general managers at

Aavin Illam, he said that at present the processing capacity was 45 lakh litres and this would be increased. He advised the officials to ensure that plans drawn up to improve procurement and processing be implemented properly.

On Thursday, Aavin, the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producers Federation, procured a total of 34 LLPD, which is a marked improvement from the past month. At present, Chennai city consumes around 14.50 LLPD of milk and the rest of the State 15.50 LLPD. The remaining milk would be utilised to make butter and skimmed milk powder, which form the backbone of Aavin's milk supplies.

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Centre pushes vaccination as lumpy skin disease ravages again

MAY 19, 2023

With Maharashtra, Uttarakhand, Karnataka and Sikkim reporting fresh cases of lumpy skin disease in May, the Union Ministry of Animal Husbandry reviewed the situation, concluding that the situation was under control despite 10,000 cases in the last two weeks. Noting that there was no need to panic, it urged that vaccination be increased.

After a meeting with States, Ministry officials and scientists said that the infection was not as contagious as it was last year. “The incidences of cases are low because of the protection given by

the vaccination done last year,” Animal Husbandry Commissioner Abhijit Mitra told The Hindu. In Uttarakhand, almost all the cases are new, but in Karnataka and Maharashtra, some of the cases had been reported before May.

In the meeting, the Ministry urged the States to ensure that the vaccination drive is stepped up. About nine crore cattle have been vaccinated so far, and the recovery rate is above 94%. The Centre had issued a circular in March to step up the vaccination before the monsoon. Dr. Mitra said that the vaccines protected the animals; without vaccination, the infection would have been much more contagious.

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Mountaineer Megha dropped as Sanchi’s brand ambassador

MAY 19, 2023

A week after Mountaineer Megha Parmar was removed as brand ambassador of ‘Beti Bachao Beti Padhao’ campaign in Madhya Pradesh, she has now been dropped as the brand ambassador of State Cooperative Dairy Federation.

The Shivraj Singh Chouhan-led BJP government took this step after she joined the Congress on May 9.

Parmar, 28, had been associated with the Beti Bachao Beti Padhao campaign since 2019 and was also made the brand ambassador of State Cooperative Dairy Federation Limited (MPSCDF). Confirming the report, Parmar said that she received an order from MPSCDF regarding termination of her contract as the brand ambassador for Sanchi brand products.

No reason given



“No reason has been given to me for terminating the contract, despite my dedicated work to perform the role as a brand ambassador for the Sanchi brand right to the level of individual dairy farmers. All this is happening since I joined Congress,” she added.

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Dairy farmers protest drop in milk procurement price

MAY 18, 2023

DAIRY FARMERS in Maharashtra are up in arms over the decision of dairies to reduce the procurement prices of milk. Sachin Patil, leader of the Swabhimani Shetkari Sanghatana, from Pandharpur taluka of Solapur district, said dairies in their area have decided to pay farmers Rs 35 per litre for milk with 3.5 per cent fat and 8.5 per cent SNF (solid not fat) — a sharp drop from the Rs 38 per litre they commanded just a day back.

This price drop, Patil said, comes even as farmers talk about a drastic dip in milk production due to non availability of green fodder and rising cost of protein and other cattle feed. Most farmers, he said, have talked about a 10-20 per cent dip in milk production. “It is in summer that demand for milk products like lassi, ice cream also increases, so the dairies are lying when they say demand has declined,” he said.

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Danone-backed yoghurt maker Epigamia shelves plan to sell

MAY 18, 2023

Indian yoghurt maker Epigamia, backed by French dairy giant Danone, has shelved plans to sell its inflation-hit business and is now looking to expand to new markets, its CEO said in an interview.

Founded in 2015 and backed also by Belgian investor Verinvest, Epigamia is a small Indian

startup which became popular in urban centres by marketing flavoured Greek yoghurt and fruit-based drinks to health conscious customers.

But the company has been operating mostly in the red – its struggles a striking example of how surging costs are biting small consumer goods startups in India.



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Akshayakalpa Organic forays into organic F&V with 'Greens'

MAY 17, 2023

Akshayakalpa Organic, India's first certified organic dairy company announces its foray into organic vegetable and fruits category with 'Greens'. Under 'Greens', Akshayakalpa will offer organic Spinach, Tomato, Chilli, and Okra along with several other essential vegetables and fruits. Through continuous diversification, the company has managed to grow beyond dairy category and is now offering products under vegetables & fruits, milk, buttermilk, ghee, batter, paneer, curd, cheese, butter, coconut, bread, honey, herbs and egg category.

According to the market report, published by Sheer Analytics and Insights, it is stated that the organic label on the fruits and vegetables, they



are aware about the various techniques used to grow the greens. The demand for organic greens are growing significantly because of consumer knowledge, the health benefits, and growing accessibility. The new category under Akshayakalpa offers a complete array of organic produce, bringing the best of nature's bounty straight to the consumer's doorstep. Shashi Kumar, CEO, and Co-founder, Akshayakalpa Organic

said, "Akshayakalpa is on a movement to bring back and give the right and nutritious food to its consumers. By expanding our product portfolio, we are taking a big step towards our vision of providing our consumers with a wholesome and nourishing organic food."

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Making Aavin a profit-making enterprise high on agenda: Minister

MAY 17, 2023

Minister for Dairy Development Manoj Thangaraj on Tuesday said making the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producers Federation a profit-making enterprise by increasing production and then paying the farmers their due without burdening the end consumer was the task that he had taken on hand.

Talking about his plans to turn around Aavin after inspecting the Sholinganallur dairy, the Minister, who till recently held the IT portfolio, told The Hindu that his aim was to do it as quickly as

possible. "We are making an in-depth analysis of every activity of the milk major. From fitness certificates for milk tankers to cleaning of dairies and selling price of Aavin products in the market is being studied. Even a correction of 5%–10% will help the organisation in a big way."



[READ MORE >>](#)

Aavin : Strike a balance between payment to farmers and pricing

MAY 16, 2023

Minister for Dairy Development Manoj Thangaraj on Monday said that Aavin will focus on providing good procurement prices to the milk-supplying farmers while ensuring quality products to consumers at affordable costs.



Addressing presspersons after reviewing the functioning of the department and the Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producers Federation, the Minister who was recently given the portfolio, said improving the quality of milk-based products would be given top priority. “Consumers will very soon feel the difference in the quality. We have a strong team and the facilities for this. We will put them to good use,” he said.

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Lumpy is back in Rajasthan and the dairy dept gearing up to fight

MAY 16, 2023



The lumpy skin disease is back in the state, and the animal husbandry department is gearing up to fight it after a few cases were reported from various districts. It broke out in July last year and relented by September.

This viral disease, according to figures from non-government organisations, killed more than 76,000 bovines.

Department Secretary Krishna Kunal has directed starting the vaccination of cattle in the affected districts and coordinating with other departments. He said there would be awareness campaigns for farmers and cattle rearers.

Cattle rearers are coming in large numbers to inflation relief camps to take advantage of various public welfare schemes of the government. The secretary has asked officers to tap them there to make them aware of the preventive measures.

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Does India have room for a dairy behemoth ?

MAY 16, 2023

On an October morning in 1964, Lal Bahadur Shastri, then Prime Minister of India, was engrossed in a conversation. He was looking to clear his doubts after spending the night at a farmer's house in Anand, Gujarat. Shastri, after he was informed about the stellar performance of a local dairy cooperative, was keen to understand why it succeeded while scores of others across India failed. But after speaking to the



residents of Ajarpura village in Anand district, Shastri was puzzled. The soil, rainfall and climate of Anand was nothing out of ordinary. "I had expected to see the entire landscape green, with cattle grazing contentedly, but the whole place is brown, just like the rest of India... I looked at your farmers. They are good people—farmers are always good people—but they are not as hardworking as the farmers of Punjab.

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Who moved our Ghee? It has all but vanished from store shelves

MAY 16, 2023

There has been a ghee shortage in the market since Diwali season 2022. Top brands have been running out of stock at shop shelves and on online portals regularly. With the lean season in milk underway (April to August or the summer-monsoon months when production of milk falls in relation to demand), it seems that this demand-supply mismatch of ghee will persist for a couple of months. Delve deeper, and one finds not just a milk-fat shortage, but a milk shortfall. Post-2014, India has averaged a 6% growth rate in milk production annually. While actual data is not out yet, indications appear that this growth in 2022-23 has fallen to 1-2%.

At the heart of the matter is a rise in cattle-feed prices in the country without a commensurate

increase in milk prices. This is making dairy farming unviable for dairy farmers and reducing growth in milk production. Cattle-feed cost is an



expense for dairy farmers, while milk prices multiplied by production is their income. An important value component of cattle feed is oil meal, which is the residue left after oil has been crushed out of oilseeds.

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Megmilk and Agrocorp announce joint venture

MAY 16, 2023

Megmilk Snow Brand Company Limited has announced a partnership with Agrocorp International Pte Limited, a Singapore-based global agricultural commodities company. The joint venture will manufacture and market plant-based food ingredients. In its 'Medium-Term Management Plan 2025', Megmilk had identified entering the plant-based food sector as an important new business area. Agrocorp too has been looking to further expand its downstream business capacity in plant protein extraction, following its first facility in Saskatchewan, Canada.

This partnership will seek to leverage the strengths of both companies, with the joint venture company established in Singapore and a wholly owned subsidiary in Malaysia, where a



factory will be set up to manufacture plant protein and starch isolates. The venture aims to meet the rising demand for plant-based foods and beverages. The companies plan to infuse capital of \$21 million (approximately ¥2.8 billion) in the joint venture, out of which Agrocorp will invest 51%, while Megmilk will invest 49%.

"We are excited to partner with Megmilk Snow Brand, one of the largest dairy companies in Japan, to further our capabilities downstream in the plant protein extraction business," Vishal Vijay, director of strategic investments, Agrocorp International, said. "This is our second major investment in protein extraction after our first facility in Saskatchewan, Canada, and we hope to be able to service the growing demand in Asia for plant-based food," he added.

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Global News

High prevalence of galactagogue use in breastfeeding mothers

MAY 30, 2023

According to the American Academy of Pediatrics recommendations, infants should be exclusively breastfed for the first six months of their life, with breastfeeding continued for 24 months or longer. However, only 26% of U.S. infants exclusively consume breast milk at the age of six months, with 35% partially consuming breast milk at the age of 12 months.



Inadequate milk production is the most commonly reported reason for breastfeeding cessation in the U.S. Frequent and effective removal of milk from the breast through infant suckling or breast pumping is needed for sufficient milk production. Human milk production can also be impaired by certain risk factors, including obesity, diabetes, genetics, prior breast surgery, and the use of certain medicines.

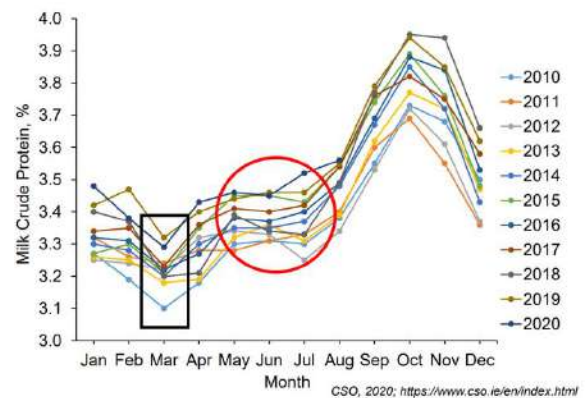
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Actions to improve milk protein percentage in May and June

MAY 29, 2023

John McCabe, Teagasc/Aurivo Joint Programme Advisor, looks at the factors affecting and the steps to take to improve milk protein percentage in May and June.

Figure 1 below from the Central Statistics Office (CSO) indicates a few different things to us. Firstly, milk protein percentage flat lines for the summer months (red circle). Secondly, milk protein percentage takes a dip in March (black box). And finally, milk protein percentage has increased over the last decade.



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Changing Bio Debuts Microbial Dairy: No Need for Pastures'

MAY 27, 2023



The products were launched at the 25th China International Bakery Exhibition, the world’s largest professional exhibi-

tion for the bakery food and sugar products industry. The news follows the company’s \$22 million Series A funding round last year — the largest in China for a food tech company.

The products are identical to dairy in taste and texture, but contain no animal ingredients. “These are not ‘precision fermentation’ products similar to the whey proteins made by startups like Perfect Day, which are biologically identical to those produced by cows,” says the Good Food Institute Asia Pacific.

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Japanese dairy group warns of possible milk glut

MAY 27, 2023



Japanese dairy industry group says producers fear an oversupply of milk towards winter despite production adjustments in the face of falling demand.

The Japan Dairy Association on Friday released its latest supply-demand estimate for the year through March.

The association says raw milk production will fall by 1.5 percent on the year to 7.41 million tons. That’s 50,000 tons less than the previous estimate in January.

More dairy farmers have been getting out of the business due to surging feed prices. The number of dairy cows also fell in response to a decline in demand.

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“In this climate crisis, the dairy industry has no right to exist”

MAY 27, 2023

The Jewish holiday of Shavuot, with its popular custom to consume dairy dishes, has become linked with marketing the local dairy industry in Israel, reflected in the packing of supermarket shelves with special offers and festive launches. However, local products that seek to challenge the industry will

soon land in Israel's supermarkets: dairy products without the use of animals. These include the products of Remilk, a startup that was established in 2019 and last April received its first approval from the Ministry of Health to market its products to consumers.



The founder, Aviv Wolff, is responsible for developing cow's milk protein in the laboratory without the use of animals. The initial products that will be released to the public will be part of a partnership between Remilk and Tara, Israel's leading privately owned manufacturer of dairy products, and in the coming years the protein will be sold as a raw material to manufacturers in Israel and around the world. So what does Remilk have to offer the crowded market shelves of milk, cheese and yogurt? The process Remilk uses is called fermentation. The company copies the segment of DNA required to produce cow's milk proteins, inserts it into yeast and thus turns it into a "factory" that produces the same protein found in animals. Remilk will then market this protein powder to various factories.

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[Fonterra cuts this season's milk price-lower price for next season](#)

MAY 26, 2023

Fonterra announced a lower opening milk price for farmers next season and also cut its forecast for this season as Chinese demand lags behind pre-pandemic levels.

The co-operative expects to pay farmers between \$7.25 and \$8.75 per kilogram of milk solids for the season starting next month. The \$8 per kgMS mid-point, which farmers are paid off, lags behind the \$8.20 per kgMS it expects to pay this season, which it reduced from its earlier forecast of \$8.30 per kgMS.



Fonterra's forecasts are lower than futures pricing on the SGX-NZX Dairy Derivatives market, which had priced in this season's payment at \$8.30 per kgMS and next season's payment at \$8.38 per kgMS.

"We still haven't seen the re-emergence completely of where China was from pre-Covid levels, so that's obviously put a little bit of softening in both the current season and the outlook," Fonterra chief executive Miles Hurrell said in an interview.

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What's the global picture for dairy markets?

MAY 24, 2023

Dairy advisers have warned of future shortages of milk, with little to no growth in production in many major exporting regions, despite a surplus at present.

Global demand is mixed, with a softening requirement reported in Europe and the US, and a slow recovery from China, but there are some growing opportunities from other Asian markets. The EU, New Zealand and the US account for more than 75% of global dairy trade, with the US market share growing each year, while the EU and New Zealand shares are declining.

Milk production has moved into a surplus position globally during the past 12 months, according to Joanne Bills, director at Australian analyst FreshAgenda.

Demand

Weak cheese demand in Europe has pushed more milk into skimmed milk powder production and butter, said Ms Bills.

EU mozzarella production is up and competing with US mozzarella at present, she added.

Asia accounts for about 50% of global demand, according to Jukka Likitalo, secretary general at European dairy analyst and trade body Eucolait. Mr Likitalo said Indonesia and the Philippines had seen the largest growth in demand in recent years.

"Both countries have a low self-sufficiency rate and rapidly increasing per-capita consumption, so there is a lot of potential still, mainly for powders," he added.

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Pathfinder Foundation to promote Lankan dairy sector

MAY 22, 2023



The Pathfinder Foundation, in partnership with the New Zealand High Commission in Colombo, organized a high-level Agriculture Reform Panel Discussion titled Prospects for Sri Lanka’s Dairy Industry: International Case Studies at Courtyard by Marriott in Colombo.

Chairman Pathfinder Foundation, Bernard Goonetilleke, mentioned that this forum takes place at a critical juncture where decisions are being taken to implement several policy reforms in Sri Lanka, including in the agricultural sector.

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Lab-grown breast milk Co. Biomilq aims to change infant nutrition

MAY 22, 2023

In 2020, in a nondescript office building in Durham, North Carolina, a team of scientists used cells to recreate sugar and protein found in breast milk.

The seemingly niche development could years later change the way infant nutrition is understood and distributed in America.

Biomilq, the company behind the breakthrough, had been working for nearly a decade to replicate the process of making human milk — but

outside of the body. Its advancement was made possible by hundreds of volunteers, who donated samples of their milk so the company could build a large enough cell bank to launch its process for replicating milk at scale.

Just two years after Biomilq’s lightbulb moment, the invention’s potential benefits came into focus when several major baby formula brands were recalled

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China’s falling birth rate impacting infant milk industry in Ireland

MAY 22, 2023



THE impact of the falling birth rate in China on the infant milk formula industry in Ireland was raised in the Dáil.

Ireland is one of the leading manufacturers of infant formula. Three of the world's largest producers, Danone, Abbott, and Wyeth, have manufacturing plants here.

Minister of State Neale Richmond, replying to Cork North-West Fianna Fáil TD Aindrias Moynihan, said his officials had informed him that China reported in January that its population had fallen for the first time in 60 years.

China's strict one-child policy, which was implemented from 1980 to 2015 to respond to high levels of population growth, had been indicated as a reason for the decline.

Minister Richmond said the fall in the birth rate, whilst significant, is only one factor impacting the supply of international infant formula brands into China.

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No, the USDA hasn't banned chocolate milk in schools

MAY 19, 2023

Chocolate milk has long been a staple beverage in school cafeterias, but recent stories about a potential U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) ban on chocolate milk in schools has some people wondering if that's changed. Currently, "chocolate milk ban" is a top Google search.

THE QUESTION

Has the USDA banned chocolate milk in schools?

No, the USDA hasn't currently banned chocolate milk in schools, but it is considering a proposal to remove it from elementary and middle school menus.

Answer.

No, the USDA hasn't currently banned chocolate milk in schools, but it is considering a proposal to

remove it from elementary and middle school menus.



The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) proposed updated nutrition guidance for school meals that includes an option that would remove chocolate milk

from school meals for younger students. A second option keeps chocolate milk available for students of all ages.

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EU Parliament votes against plant-based milks in schools

MAY 19, 2023

Members of the European Parliament has voted not to include plant-based drinks in schools, in a “significant blow” to children who cannot or do not want to consume milk.

According to a report by food awareness organisation Proveg International, the majority of Members of the European Parliament failed to include plant-based drinks within their own initiative report on the EU School Scheme, which impacts around 20 million children across Europe. Lucia Hortelano, EU policy manager at ProVeg International, said: “We are very disappointed by

the outcome of this vote, but we are hopeful that the European Commission will still move ahead and include plant-based drinks in the scheme as part of their review, which is out at the end of the year”.



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Dairy prices, volumes fall at auction – GDT events

MAY 17, 2023



International milk prices and volumes fell in this month’s second Global Dairy Trade (GDT) auction on Tuesday.

The GDT Price Index was down 0.9%, with an average selling price of \$3,488 per tonne. The index rose 2.5% at the previous auction held on May 2,

with an average selling price of \$3,506, according to GDT Events.

A total of 21,565 tonnes of dairy products were sold at the latest auction, down about 7.3% from the previous sale, the auction platform said.

The New Zealand milk co-operative, which is owned by about 10,500 farmers, controls nearly a third of the world’s dairy trade.

The results could affect the New Zealand dollar, as the dairy sector generates more than 7% of the nation’s gross domestic product.

GDT Events is owned by New Zealand’s Fonterra Co-operative Group Ltd, but operates independently from the dairy giant.

[READ MORE >>](#)

WHO advises not to use non-sugar sweeteners for weight control

MAY 17, 2023

The World Health Organization (WHO) has released a new guideline on non-sugar sweeteners (NSS), which recommends

against the use of NSS to control body weight or reduce the risk of noncommunicable diseases (NCDs).



The recommendation is based on the findings of a systematic review of the available evidence which suggests that use of NSS does not confer any long-term benefit in reducing body fat in adults or children. Results of the review also suggest that there may be potential undesirable effects from long-term use of NSS, such as an increased risk of type 2 diabetes, cardiovascular diseases, and mortality in adults.

“Replacing free sugars with NSS does not help with weight control in the long term. People need to consider other ways to reduce free sugars intake, such as consuming food with naturally occurring sugars, like fruit, or unsweetened food and beverages,” says Francesco Branca, WHO Director for Nutrition and Food Safety.

[READ MORE >>](#)

EXOSOMM Looks to the Benefits of Mother’s Milk

MAY 16, 2023

BioFoodTech start-up EXOSOMM, Ltd., has explored the natural mechanisms inherent in human breastmilk to create a novel bioactive ingredient that can potentially support millions of adults with inflammatory disorders. Based on its scientific findings

EXOSOMM developed an innovative technology that isolates exosomes—natural particles in maternal milk that play an important role in the healthy development of the immune system.



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Is ban on export of dairy products from Armenia to Russia political ?

MAY 16, 2023



For more than a month there has been a ban on the export of dairy products from Armenia to Russia. In Russia, this decision was justified by “the use of Iranian raw materials in Armenian products, the import of which into the Russian Federation is prohibited.”

Although Rosselkhoznadzor checks revealed this problem only in the products of two Armenian producers, the import of dairy products of all exporters is prohibited, and for an indefinite period.

Farmers also suffer losses

The Igit company does not use Iranian raw materials in its production, but as a result of the ban, it lost the opportunity to export to the Russian Federation. According to the manager of the company Aram Kroyan, mainly cheese was exported to Russia, 30-40 tons per month.

Due to the ban, which has lasted more than a month, the company has had to look for additional premises to store finished products. In addition, the company has reduced the volume of purchases of dairy products from farmers.

The company’s only hope is that the ban will be lifted in the near future and it will be possible to export products to Russia again.

“If the export ban is not lifted as soon as possible, the farmers will suffer first of all. The fact is that with the beginning of the spring season the volume of milk produced has increased and companies are forced to reduce the volume of purchases. If the ban drags on, manufacturing companies will have to look for new sales markets, as well as think about layoffs, and possibly closing production facilities,” Kroyan says.

The problem is being discussed at the state level and negotiations are underway between the Food Safety Inspectorate of Armenia and Rosselkhoznadzor. After a bilateral meeting on April 17, the Armenian side said:

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Introducing

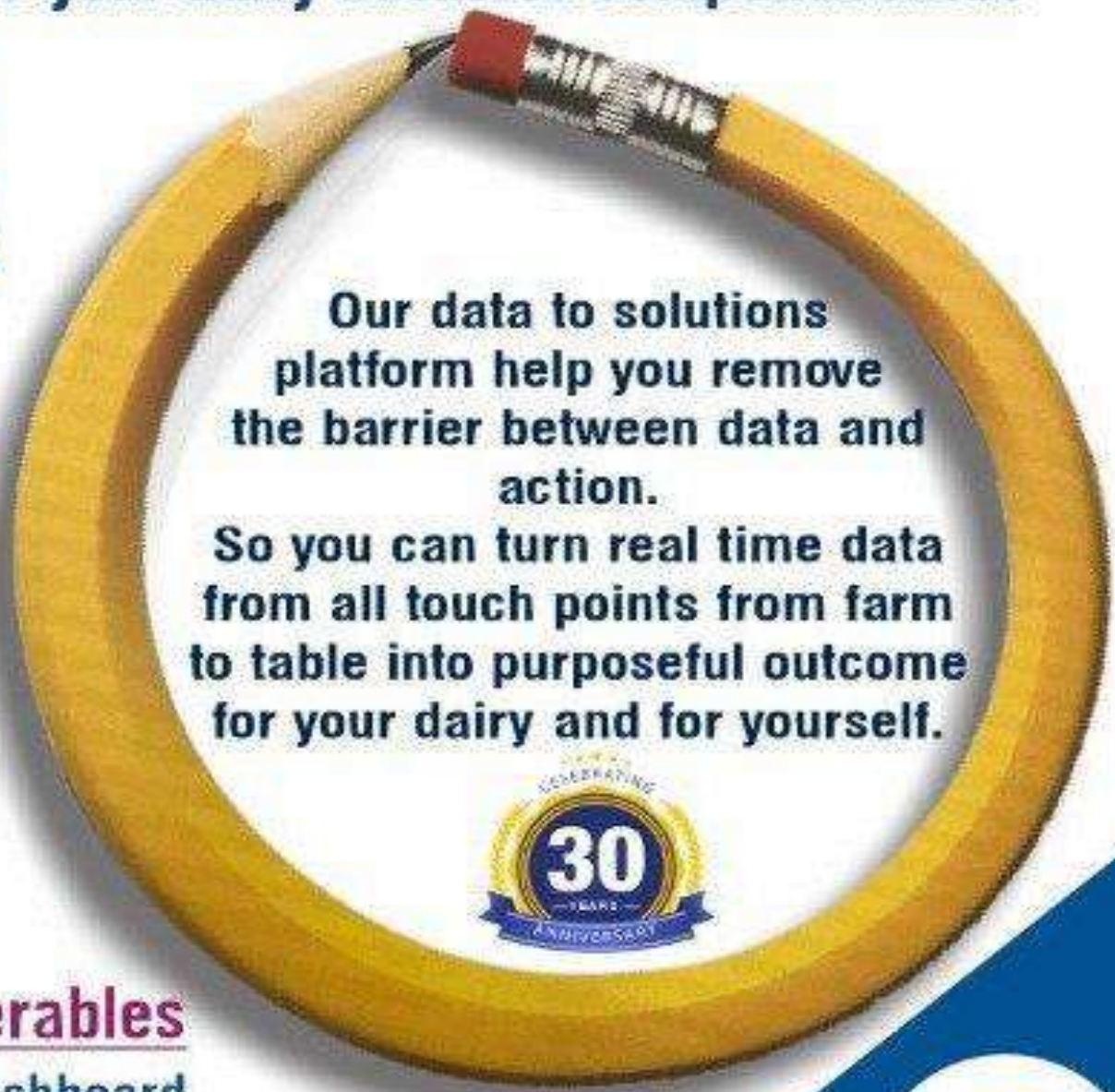
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