

National seminar & Alumni Convention organized by SMC College of Dairy Science



A National seminar on ‘Dynamism in Dairy Industry & Consumer Demands’ & 12th Alumni convention was organised jointly by SMC College of Dairy Science, its Alumni Association and Indian Dairy Association (Gujarat State Chapter) during 4-5th February, 2017 at AAU, Anand. The program was attended by 341 delegates from the country and few NRIs including dairy professionals, planners, academicians and students.

The program started with auspicious lamp lighting on 4th morning. Dr. J. B. Prajapati, Principal and Dean SMC College of Dairy Science, welcomed the dignitaries and delegates and gave brief information about the college, alumni association and objective of organizing this seminar.

On this occasion Shri R. S. Sodhi, Managing Director of GCMMF Ltd., Anand was conferred with the ‘Lifetime Achievement Award’ in appreciation of his outstanding professional contribution to dairy industry. He dedicated his award to his mentor Dr. V. Kurien, to 3.6 million dairy farmers, his team at GCMMF and to his family. He emphasized that we have to make dairying more attractive and commercially viable to ensure that future generations continue with the same occupation. We should not promote dairy analogues and ensure sound profession for next generation of dairy farmers.



On this occasion distinguished alumni, Shri C.P.M. Thulsiram, Manager Qatar Dairy; Mr. Hardik Mehta, Awardee Film Maker; Mr. Harshad Joshi, CEO, Mahi Milk, Rajkot; Mr. Meenesh Shah, Group Head Co-operative services, NDDDB and Mr. Kumar Gaurav, Vice-President, YES Bank Ltd., were honoured by the Alumni Association of SMC College Of Dairy

Science. Further, the graduates and post graduates of the 1991-and 1992 batches were honoured by their Alma mater for their twenty five years of contribution to Dairy fraternity in particular and to the society at large.

Dr. J. R. Patel Memorial Charitable Trust Award were conferred on Dr. M. J. Solanky, Former Director of Research, Kamdhenu University, Amreli; Dr. A. J. Pandya, Retired Professor & Head, DDPO, SMC College of Dairy Science, AAU, Anand and Shri S. S. Gokulkrishnan, Manager Quality Assurance, AMUL Dairy Anand for their outstanding contributions to dairy education and dairy industry. Mr. Patel Harshketu Jagdishbhai and Mr. Patel Harshil Dipakkumar received the 'Alumni Association Best Student Award' for B.Tech Dairy Technology programme, for the year 2015 and 2016 respectively.



Dr. K. Rathnam, Managing Director, Amul Dairy, Anand, the Guest of Honour, speaking as key note speaker threw light on the fact that various dynamic changes are bound to happen to the Indian dairy industry in the coming years. Dairy industry will see changes in automatic operations and will need more skilled manpower. We have to consider changing consumer dynamics and also work to reduce overheads, reduce carbon foot print and utilize natural resources. We also need to increase productivity of animals.

We should promote small business startups. The contribution of Amul to the country by introducing improved packaging and innovative products at affordable price, was highlighted by him.

Dr. K.B. Kathiria, Director of Research & Dean PG Studies, AAU, Anand, the Guest of Honour congratulated the batch of 1991 and 1992 for their esteemed contribution to the Indian dairy industry. He appreciated the global presence of the alumni of SMC College of Dairy Science.

The chief guest of the function, Shri. Dilip Rath, Chairman, NDDB gave an overview of present scenario of dairy sector and remarked that India contributes to 18% of world milk production, at the growth rate of 6.5%. He cited that growing market of dairy product has two major challenges to be addressed namely low productivity of milch animals and poor market access by dairy farmers. He briefed on different initiatives taken by NDDB through various programmes like National Dairy Plan to address these issues. He said that mechanization of indigenous products, addressing nutritional issues and continuous focus on R& D are needed to meet growing demands of varied consumer spectrum.

Dr. N.C. Patel, Hon. Vice Chancellor of Anand Agricultural University delivered the presidential address. He endorsed the views expressed by Chairman NDDB and stressed on the need for improving productivity, production of clean milk, ensure safety and take care of changing consumer demands for dairy products. He appreciated Vidya dairy model for the training of dairy professionals and urged to promote collaboration between industry and academic institutions. He also pointed out at the conservation and reutilization of water in the industry.

The seminar had 21 speakers in 3 technical sessions and one industry forum. 42 posters on relevant research areas were also presented. A souvenir containing invited papers, poster and technical articles is also published.

