

## National seminar on Vision 2030 for Dairy Industry and Alumni Convention organized at SMC College, Anand



A National seminar on “Vision 2030 for Dairy Industry” and Alumni Convention was organized jointly by SMC College of Dairy Science and Alumni Association on 4-5 January, 2019 at SMC College of Dairy Science, AAU, Anand.

Our country possesses the unique distinction of being the largest producer and consumer of milk in the world. Contribution of the dairy industry, to the growth of agriculture sector in India is tremendous. In spite of being in such a situation, the dairy industry has to constantly keep on tackling challenges. People working for the dairy industry need to equip themselves with ideas to manage the exponential growth forecasted for this sector in the coming years. Considering this scenario, the present seminar was organized.



The function was inaugurated by customary lamp lighting. Dr. J. B. Prajapati, Principal and Dean, SMC College of Dairy Science, welcomed the dignitaries, delegates from India and abroad. He briefed about importance of Anand for dairy development and explained about the contribution of SMC College Dairy Science in dairy education and research in the country. He also informed about the first Dairy Vigyan Kendra of the country at Anand and role of dairy professionals for the farmers of India.

Dr. K. B. Kathiria, Director of Research of AAU appreciated the selection of theme of the seminar. He opined that even though several technologies are being regularly developed in Institutes, it is very important that it percolates down to the consumer. He informed about the booklet on technologies available for commercialization developed by the college.

Professor Hitesh Bhatt, Director, IRMA, Anand, pinpointed out the major transformative role dairy industry would be playing by 2030 namely increasing the productivity of the milch animal as well as ensuring the value of dairy commodity for the consumers. He suggested involvement of trained and experienced dairy managerial profession in teaching of basics of dairy management to under graduate students. He also spoke on the proposed five year integrated MBA program in dairy management with B.Tech. (DT) under triparty agreement among AAU, IRMA and NDRI



Dr. RRB Singh, Director, ICAR-NDRI, Karnal also graced the inaugural function as Guest of Honour. He pointed out that since last decade, bovine and buffalo population has increased by 0.8% and 1.8% respectively. He stressed on the need to address issues related to non-productivity, semen sexing and reproductivity of milch animals. He also expressed his concern about malnutrition in our country. He concluded his talk by urging young students to engage in entrepreneurship as a career choice. He was hopeful that the proposed integrated five year

course with IRMA would improve the prospects of dairy technology students opting to initiate their own business.

Dr. R. S. Sodhi, Managing Director, GCMMF, Anand, began his address by acclaiming that dairy industry can play a major de-stressing role for farmers, by providing them an alternative yet lucrative source of income. He said for the changing diet habit of people with more inclusion of protein and fat rich diet, where dairy products offer a good option. He figured out that the population of our country is expected to increase to 1.6 billion by 2030





while the projected growth of dairy industry would be 280 million metric tons by 2030 at a CAGR of 4.8%. Dr. Sodhi added that India would be the only nation in the world that will be investing 3000 crore rupees specifically in dairy development. He also believed that such a huge growth would require skilled and competent technocrats. He remarked that every lakh litre of milk provide livelihood to 6000 people, which accounts that dairy sector will create job for about 70 million families by 2030. He also listed various challenges that dairy professionals have to counter in the future, viz., improving productivity of milch animals, managing the malice of adulteration and aflatoxins, improving energy efficiency, convenient packaging of products, usage of renewable sources of energy, high speed packaging lines for faster product packaging, packaging and shelf life extension of traditional sweets and control of environmental pollution including greenhouse gas emission. He concluded his speech by saying that a bright future depends upon the satisfaction of all persons involved in dairy sector from farmer to consumer.



Dr. N. C. Patel, Hon'ble Vice Chancellor, Anand Agricultural University, Anand, presided over the function. He emphasized the need to modernize the Indian dairy industry by using latest techniques like artificial intelligence. He suggested that the unorganized dairy sector needs to be tapped by professionals by providing them technical, educational and marketing support. He urged the technocrats to come up with ideas for

mechanization and marketing of traditional milk delicacies. He expressed his concern over pollution control and suggested that decentralization of dairy industry by establishing local processing facilities would lower the transportation and marketing cost, and yield high returns to milk producers. He persuaded the scientists to develop rapid and cost effective methods to detect adulteration of milk and milk products. He signified the need of multidisciplinary project to address the challenges faced by the dairy sector. He hoped that the seminar will give deliberations which can help dairy industry that its farmers.

The souvenir on "Vision 2030 for Dairy Industry" was released on this occasion by dignitaries. The seminar had four technical sessions with eminent speakers from academia and Dairy industry. It also organized an oral presentation session for young scientist and a poster presentation where the researchers showcased their work. The seminar was attended by more than 400 delegates from India and abroad.

The 13<sup>th</sup> Alumni convention of SMC College of Dairy Science was organized on Saturday, 5<sup>th</sup> January, 2019 at SMC College, which observed an august gathering of Graduates and Post Graduates of the year 1993 and 1994. This event is religiously organized every alternate year by SMC College and its alumni association to honour its Silver jubilee batch of Alumni for their valuable contributions to their profession and to the society.

The Guest of Honour for the function Shri Sangram Chaudhary, Executive Director, National Dairy Development Board was present as the guest of honour during the convention and sensitized the audience towards the issue of poverty and hunger eradication. He reminded that it is a moral duty of all concerned with dairy profession to help India tackle the problem of malnutrition. He shared the fact that almost 15 % of the total population of our country is undernourished and it is the responsibility of all food and dairy professionals to work towards eliminating malnutrition. He also projected the dairy industry as a secured source of income for rural people. He added that NDDB works for small holders towards removing inequality of income and improving quality of their life. He concluded his talk by declaring dairy technocrats as assets to the country, who must add value to the nation's progress.





At this event, Dr. JR Patel Memorial Awards for Education & Research as well as Dairy Professionals were given. Best student awards for 2017 and 2018 were also presented. On this occasion 33 Graduates and Post-graduates of 1993 and 1994 batches were felicitated for their contribution to dairy industry and society. Apart from this, 8 distinguished Alumni namely Dr. RRB Singh, I/C Vice Chancellor & Director, NDRI, Karnal; Dr. Bhesh Bhandari, Professor, The University of Queensland, Australia; Dr. Nandita Das, Director of Financial Planning Program, Associate Professor of Finance, Founder-owner, Das Financial Health; Dr. Jitendra R. Patel, Lead Scientist, United States Department of Agriculture (USDA); Mr. Vinith Poduval, Senior Vice President, Schreiber Foods, USA; Mr. Somit Mukherjee, Vice President, Dabur India Ltd; Dr. Hasmukh Patel, Technical Director, Land O' Lakes, Inc., USA and Mr. Nishith Shah, Founder and Managing Director, Jain Dairy, Ahmedabad were honoured by Alumni Association.

