

## **Proceedings of workshop on “Strengthening Cooperative Dairying to Meet the Challenges Ahead”**

A workshop on “Strengthening Cooperative Dairying to Meet the Challenges Ahead” was organised at NDDDB, Anand on 16th May 2017. The participants included Chairman, NDDDB, ED, NDDDB, MD, GCMMF, MD/Senior representatives from milk federations, milk unions.

Chairman NDDDB, Shri Dilip Rath in his opening remarks lauded the efforts made by dairy cooperatives for success of National Dairy Plan 1. He also stated that post liberalisation, dairy cooperatives can no longer take the markets for granted and the need to continuously make efforts for market development and maintain sales. Ensuring transparency and good governance remains of utmost importance and dairy cooperatives need to consistently work towards this. Chairman also emphasized that, cooperatives must take lead in providing AI services to the milk producers and not remain dependent on the Government or private agencies.

Executive Director, NDDDB, Shri Sangram Chaudhary presented the current status of cooperatives in terms of membership, procurement and village coverage, highlighting the glaring disparities amongst the states. He stated the need for cooperatives to immediately take steps to ensure remunerative prices for farmers, transparency in operations, input services and professionalising the management. Many dairy cooperatives have made little efforts towards market and brand development.

### **Summary of workshop deliberations:**

In the session on “Technological interventions in strengthening Dairy Cooperative Network” Shri Niraj Prakash Garg, DGM(ICT),NDDDB discussed a range of technical solutions like Open source application, Mobile AMCU, Data Loggers and Touch Screen Kiosks which can help in strengthening the DCS network. He also mooted an idea of developing a common ERP application for all the dairy cooperatives.

Shri Rajiv Agrawal of National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) , presented various products developed by NPCI for farmer payments and retail transactions. The forum advised him to take up the issue of transactions costs in such payments with concerned authorities, as cooperatives may not be able to bear such costs.

Shri Suresh Pahadia, Manager (Quality Assurance), NDDDB provided details of “Quality mark” award for dairy cooperatives initiated by NDDDB. It is aimed at instilling confidence in the consumers for quality of milk marketed by dairy cooperatives.

Shri P Saha, DGM (ES) underscored the need for up-gradation of milk processing infrastructure to improve operational efficiency. He talked about Process Automation, Automated Refrigeration Plant for energy savings, improved thermal efficiencies in boiler and use of solar and renewable energies.

Talking about human resource issues, Shri Y Y Patil, Executive Director, NDDB emphasised upon, introduction of HRD systems and processes in dairy cooperatives. NDDB will provide all support in building a learning environment and development of need based training modules in dairy cooperatives. An idea of industry-academia interface was also presented by him.

Shri B M Bhandari, Scientist II (AN), NDDB provided details of calf rearing pilot projects being implemented by NDDB on Kankrej cows in Banaskantha district and Murrah buffaloes in Ludhiana district.

Shri S K Rana, Group Head (Animal Health) spoke about encouraging results in NDDB's intervention for detection of sub-clinical mastitis and its control in Sabarkantha milk union. Emphasizing the rational use of antibiotics, he pointed out that more than 6000 cases of mastitis have been treated with 92% success through ethno-veterinary treatment (EVM) alone without use of antibiotics.

Shri Sarvesh and Shri Ashutosh, Manager (CMC) informed about Village Awareness Programme (VAP) on benefits of Ration Balancing Programme/Fodder Development and Village Based Milk Procurement System. Dairy Cooperatives who are implementing sub-projects of RBP/VBMPS may avail funding for the organizing VAP.

Shri Rajesh Gupta, Team Leader (CS), NDDB presented highlights of model bylaws formulated by NDDB for promoting good governance in dairy cooperatives. He also discussed the possible ways to take this initiative forward.

Shri S Chadrsekhar, DGM (ES) informed about implementation of Concentrated Solar Thermal (CST) projects in different dairy plants of the country by NDDB.

Shri Shilp Verma from International Water Management Institute (IWMI) spoke about world's first solar power cooperative society formed by six farmers of Gujarat to sell surplus power generated from solar water pumps installed at their farms.

In his concluding remarks, ED, NDDB Shri Sangram Chaudhary called upon everyone to work collectively to make a difference in the lives of dairy farmers.

**Way Forward.**

No	Action Point	Responsibility
1.	Dairy Federations/Milk Unions will provide information about existing purchase procedure being followed. NDDB will prepare a Model Purchase Manual and share with Dairy Federations/Milk Unions.	NDDB/State Dairy Federations/Milk Unions

2.	NDDDB will provide support in Manpower Study, Recruitment of Senior level human resource and other Human Resource Development related aspects like training and capacity building for Dairy Federations/Milk Unions on request.	NDDDB/State Dairy Federations/Milk Unions
3.	On request NDDDB will undertake Dairy Plant Study for the interested milk unions for up gradation of milk processing infrastructure.	NDDDB/State Dairy Federations/Milk Unions
4.	The draft copies of Model bylaws for all three tiers of dairy cooperatives have been circulated. Each Federation/Union will return back with its comments in one month. NDDDB officers will hold consultations with Dairy Federation/Milk Union to finalise model bylaws and circulate it for implementation.	NDDDB/State Dairy Federations/Milk Unions

Finally, Shri Rajesh Gupta, Team Leader (Cooperative Services), NDDDB thanked all the speakers and participants for meaningful deliberations.