

# UP to set up dairy FPOs, buy milk directly from producers

## ₹10k-Cr Nand Baba Mission Office Opens

TIMES NEWS NETWORK

**Lucknow:** In an effort to benefit milk producers, the state government has proposed setting up of dairy farmers producers organisations (FPOs) through which milk will be purchased directly from producers at the village level at appropriate rates.

Inaugurating the Nand Baba Milk Mission Office and a Milk Development portal on Tuesday, animal husbandry and milk development minister Dharmpal Singh said: "Rs 1,000 crore has been spent under the Nand Baba Milk Mission to develop the dairy sector over the past five years and now



Minister Dharmpal Singh and ACS Rajneesh Dubey at inauguration of mission office & portal

the government is making arrangements to purchase milk directly from milk producers in villages through milk cooperatives. To this end, there is a proposal to set up dairy FPOs. In 2023-24, we will carry out a pilot project by setting up a dairy FPO each in five districts, in which women will also play an important role."

ACS, animal husbandry and dairy development, Rajneesh Dubey said that there are immense opportunities for new industries to invest

in the dairy sector. The state government has brought out a dairy promotion policy to ensure maximum benefit to all stakeholders, he added.

The minister said that there is also a proposal to make a comprehensive database of milk producers in the state in order to facilitate the purchase of indigenous breeds of cows from other states and to provide incentives to progressive farmers for improvement in cattle breeding etc.

He said that to monitor various projects under the Nand Baba Milk Mission, a committee headed by the chief secretary has been set up at the headquarter level, while committees headed by the district magistrates have been set up at the district level. A provision has also been made to provide testing kits to farmers for cattle diseases, milk adulteration testing kit etc.