

# 10% rise in UP's milk production in 5 years

TNN | Sep 13, 2022, 08.45 AM IST



Lucknow: As Uttar Pradesh is the largest dairy producing state in the country the International Dairy Federation has rightly selected it for the World Dairy Summit 2022. UP's share in milk production in India is around 16.6% followed by Rajasthan and Madhya Pradesh occupying the second and third spot respectively.

Dr Indramani, director, department of animal husbandry, said that milk production in UP had risen by almost 10% over the past five years. "In 2017-18, milk production in UP was 290.517 lakh tons, which increased to 328.821 lakh tons in 2021-22. In the last five years, UP has produced 1,556.763 lakh tons of milk," he said. India, meanwhile, is the largest producer of milk globally, contributing 210 million tons of milk annually.

In 2018, the Yogi Adityanath-led state government brought in the first dairy policy in the state. The policy, with its focus on seeking investments for setting up milk processing plants in the organised sector, saw investment proposals worth Rs 482 crore being made to the state government in June 2022, during the third ground-breaking ceremony. These included the Duss Bareilly project for Rs 80.3 crore in Bareilly, Creamy Foods Limited worth Rs 60 crore in Bulandshahr, CP Milk and Food Products Private Limited for Rs 118 crore in Gorakhpur, and CP Milk and Food Products Private Limited worth Rs 100 crore and DUSS Lucknow worth Rs 124 crore in Lucknow.

A government spokesperson said that while crop production employs the rural workforce for 90 to 120 days a year, dairy provides alternative employment opportunities throughout the year. "Strengthening cooperative milk business across areas where agriculture is less practiced, will help generate alternative employment opportunities, especially for women and economically disadvantaged communities," he said.

For instance, the official quoted Balinee Milk Producer Company Limited, set up in 2019 with 40,000 members from 950 self-help groups, has involved rural women from over 800 villages in six districts of Banda, Chitrakoot, Hamirpur, Jalaun, Jhansi and Lalitpur. Preparations are underway to connect Mahoba district with the scheme as well.

"Balinee has done a business of Rs 314 crore till August 2022 and earned a gross profit of 17.94 crore. At present, over 1,32,000 litres of milk is being collected per day through 675 milk collection centres connecting 839 villages. The company is funded by the National Livelihood Mission and the Uttar Pradesh State Rural Livelihoods Mission. It was inaugurated by the CM in December, 2019. Under this scheme, payment is made directly to the account of women farmers," the spokesperson said.