

# Min discusses growth plan for dairy sector

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**Lucknow:** With the govt offering tax exemptions, grants and other facilities, a favourable investment environment to promote the dairy industry was created in UP.

The claim was made by UP minister for livestock and dairy development, Dharampal Singh, on Monday.

He was speaking at an investors' workshop organised by the department.

Singh said, "The govt's goal is to increase milk production and promote the dairy sector while maintaining Uttar Pradesh's leading position in the country."

He informed that currently, UP ranks first in India with an annual milk production of approximately 387 lakh metric tons, accounting for about 16% of the country's total milk production. The state produces 1,062 lakh litres of milk daily.

The minister engaged with dairy entrepreneurs, highlighting the state's comprehensive policy aimed at the overall development of the dairy sector, increasing farmers' income, and creating employment opportunities.

"The Dairy Development Department's contribution will be significant in achieving the goal of making the state's economy worth one trillion dollars. Our plans, policy reforms, and tax structures will elevate the dairy sector to new heights," he said.

Principal secretary, Amit Kumar Ghosh, briefed the investors about the concessions given to dairy products under the revised GST rates announced by the government of India.

"Ultra High Temperature (UHT) milk and packaged paneer have been made entirely GST-free. The GST rate for butter, ghee, cheese, and dairy spreads was reduced from 12% to 5%, and for chocolate and ice cream from 18% to 5%. These reforms will benefit dairy producers, consumers, and all stakeholders in the dairy sector," he said.

He also outlined the vision for the comprehensive development of the state's dairy sector, aiming for more than a threefold increase in milk production, the creation of over one crore jobs in rural areas, and making Uttar Pradesh the leading exporter in the country by 2047.