

If we have will for developing dairy industry in the country, a dairy training and research center with a pilot plant should be established. Kathmandu University, Lalitbhawan should be involved if a pilot dairy plant is made available to them. It was sometimes discussed in the NDDB meeting that Lancha facilities of NDC could be converted into a dairy training, research and development Center.

This institute/center can provide tailor made courses in the industry, and also can serve as a dairy research and development center for typical and indigenous cheese and other Nepalese milk and milk products; for process standardization and product development, etc.

2. MANAGEMENT OF NATIONAL DAIRY DEVELOPMENT BOARD AND DAIRY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION:

2.1. Dairy Development Corporation (DDC):

♦ The government should not longer DDC restructuring decision. DDC should be allowed to run as a commercial enterprise. Due to its nature, it is not concerned with the assistance and even there is confusion among the staff and the management.

2.2. National Development Board (NDB):

Nepal Dairy Science Association (NDSA) wants to congratulate those who worked for the establishment of the National Dairy Development Board (NDB). It has been established with a mandate to advise HMG to adopt policy for developing dairy industries and services in the country. It should now be used as an instrument to follow up the policies of HMG to satisfy the ruling party or the ruling minister. NDB should be managed and operated as per the mandate set in the NDB Act 1992. It should be professionally managed. NDB should assist in establishing the ancillary industries to promote the growth of the dairy industry.

♦ Government should support NDB with proper budgetary allocation to enable them achieve the set objectives. One of the ways to generate resources could be to bring the levies on the import of dairy equipment, products and other inputs.

♦ NDB Board should be headed by dairy professional who has experience and acquaintance in the field. These persons should not be failed to bring typical and open competition. The NDB should open competitive/ proper selection process and given a tenure for years of his/her successful operation. Then only a V. Kurus can emerge in Nepal. Government should amend the NDB Act 1992 to make the provision of appointing professional Chairman for National Dairy Development Board (NDB). We should take lessons from the development taking place in our neighboring countries too.

3. MINIMUM QUALITY STANDARD FORMULATION AND ENFORCEMENT:

♦ Government agency must strictly enforce minimum quality standard and minimum code of hygiene practices. Private milk vendors should be licensed and regulated for the sake of quality assurance to the consumers.

♦ Encourage the use of Nepal Standard (NISO) mark in the dairy industry. Government should totally ban the use of acids and other chemicals in milk/milk neutrals, and quality standards for milk and milk products should be revised and upgraded.

♦ Food acts and laws should be suitably amended to upgrade the Quality standards of milk and milk products.

4. DEVELOPMENT OF DAIRY INDUSTRY IN THE PRIVATE SECTOR:

Choosing of private dairies is limited around Kathmandu valley and other urban centers. Private dairies should be provided incentive

package including subsidies to start business in the new areas. Private dairies should emphasize on value added and indigenous products, as far as possible.

5. UTILIZATION OF THE AVAILABLE DAIRY DEVELOPMENT FUNDS/SALES PROCEEDED FUNDS:

The fund generated out of sales proceeds should be used for human resource development including the establishment of the national dairy training and research center, dairy processing, marketing and research facility, improve the quality of milk at the farm, raw and milk and milk products, marketing of dairy and dairy business management as originally signed in the memorandum of understanding. Some funds could be used as a matching funds supporting the small scale dairy enterprises. In no way, these funds should be used for administrative expenses.

6. MILK HOLIDAYS VS IMPORT OF DAIRY PRODUCTS:

We have controversial situation in the dairy industry. Dairy farmers are not able to sell all their produce milk, but sizable quantity of dairy products are imposed in the country. This shows that there is problem some where in the management and policy of the government. Government/NDBD should regulate and monitor the quality of dairy products.

Government should encourage the establishment of more dairy processing and conservation facilities in the potential areas. Private sector should be encouraged to establish large and medium scale milk conservation plants in the hilly pocket of the western region, particularly in the areas where there are no dairy companies. Dairy plants should be established in thermal and low-temperature region of Nepal to increase the income of dairy farmers.

7. THE CONSOLIDATE DAIRY INDUSTRY POLICY:

It is the policy that dictates the growth of particular sector. HMG should come out with a policy statement following aspect of dairy development:

- ♦ Decision on restructuring of DDC (private or cooperative or both) and autonomy to run commercially what it is;
- ♦ Promotion of private sector dairy enterprises (training and follow-ups, marketing grants, joint venture etc.);
- ♦ Manpower development and establishment of dairy training and research facility in the country. (How the producer and processor will be involved in training, testing and related level manpower requirement for the industry will be met);
- ♦ Dairy development through cooperatives (either MPPCS/MPA will work as a condition go for second-tier processing and marketing of dairy products);
- ♦ Quality monitoring and establishing inspection mechanism for maintaining minimum hygienic and quality standards of the dairy plants;
- ♦ Import policy and participation with multinational companies (are we inviting foreign investment or not); and
- ♦ Export-import policy and separate tariff schedule for importing dairy equipment and industry inputs.

8. REPRESENTATION BY THE DAIRY EXPERTS IN THE FIELD:

The NDB Act 1992 provide provision of representation by two dairy experts member in the National Dairy Development Board. The selection for dairy expert should be carried out in consultation with Nepal Dairy Science Association (NDSA). Also, DDC Board must have a dairy expert as member, and be selected in consultation with NDSA.

NDSA hopes that the responsible people will take note of the concerns raised by the dairy specialists in the convention.

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INDUSTRY NEWS

PRIME MINISTER SHER BAHADUR DEUBA INAUGURATED SITARAM GOKUL MILKS LTD

Prime Minister Sher Bahadur Deuba inaugurated the largest private sector dairy plant, Sitaram Gokul Milk Ltd at Dindupokhari of Champapuri VDC on June 18, 1996 amidst a ceremony presided over by Mr Brij Lal Kedai. Mr Deuba called on the industrialists to invest in an innovative industries, adding that the government is pursuing the policy of encouraging private sector. Prime

Minister said that the dairy will not only use Skinned Milk Powder for its market milk production. Mr Deuba felt human civilization and livestock rearing started side by side. Dairy industry plays a major role in meeting needs in terms of protein, often and for meeting crop production. The dairy plant was established at a cost of about Rs 100 million by the Keda group of organization. The dairy has a total milk capacity of 50,000 LPD. Among other dry products produced, ghee is the most popular item. Mr Brij Lal Kedai and Deuba in successful planning and organization of the dairy plant. Managing Director, Mr Manoj Kumar Keda presented a vote of thanks.

Prime Minister Deuba also inspected the processing plant of the dairy plant. □□□

FAREWELL TO MR. LUND AND DR. BONDAM

Mr Peter N. Lund served National Dairy Development Board (NDB) as Chief Advisor of Dandia for a period of three years effective November 1993 to December 1996. NDSA appreciates the contribution made by Mr Lund to the development of Nepalese Dairy Industry. NDSA wishes him a very successful and bright future career.

Dr Charlotte Bondam worked as Milk Quality

Extension Advisor under Dandia/NDB project for a part of three years starting September 1993 to August 1996. She has instrumental in bringing about the change in the dairy sector at district cooperative and farmers level specially in Ilam district. Her input greatly contributed in improving the quality of raw milk supplied to Skinned Milk Powder Plant at Bramaga. She also assisted the private dairy enterprises to improve the hygiene at the collection centers and processing units.

Mr Dr. B. Bondam worked as Milk Quality Extension Advisor under Dandia/NDB project for a part of three years starting September 1993 to August 1996. He has contributed in improving the quality of raw milk supplied to Skinned Milk Powder Plant at Bramaga. He also assisted the private dairy enterprises to improve the hygiene at the collection centers and processing units.

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