

'Co-operative dairying a great business model for small farmers in poor countries'

RUTAM VORA

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India's co-operative dairy model can be the guiding force to prosperity for poor countries, said Prime Minister Narendra Modi, inaugurating the International Dairy Federation (IDF)'s World Dairy Summit 2022 at Greater Noida on Monday.

India's dairy sector is different from other developed countries and its real strength has been the small and marginal farmers, who contribute in a big way to the country's India's milk production, Modi said.

India is hosting the summit after a gap of 48 years. During that period, milk output has grown from 23 million tonnes in 1974 to about 210 million tonnes now.

"About 70-per cent of the money received from the consumers directly go to the farmers in their accounts and in case of Gujarat the entire money go to the women dairy farmers. There is no other country in the world, where you would find such high ratio (of revenue sharing)," Modi said.



PM Narendra Modi inaugurates the International Dairy Federation World Dairy Summit 2022, in Greater Noida, on Monday. Uttar Pradesh CM Yogi Adityanath and Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying Parshottam Rupala are also seen PTI

Indigenous breeds

From the World Dairy Summit platform, Modi also showcased to the world Indian dairy sector's other uniqueness such as indigenous breeds that are "climate comfortable and also equally adjusting".

Modi also stated that women living in villages are the driving force for ₹8.5-lakh crore dairy industry. He appealed that the global leaders at World Dairy Summit need to recognise women's contribution in dairying and give them access to different global platforms. Listing out the priorities in the coming times, Modi stated that the government now focuses on creating a balanced

dairy ecosystem in the country. "We will look after not just milk and milk products, but also trying to find solutions for other challenges (like creating) additional income for farmers, empowering the poor, cleanliness, chemical-free farming, clean energy and animal care. These are all inter-linked areas," he said pointing at the ongoing government schemes such as Rashtriya Gokul Mission, Govardhan Yojana, Digitisation of dairy sector, Universal vaccination of Animals are some of the efforts in this direction.

The writer is at IDF-WDS 2022 at the invitation of National Dairy Development Board

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