



# NATIONAL MILK DAY

26<sup>th</sup> November 2024

We proclaim with great pride the prosperity of ancient India by describing it as a land where rivers of milk used to flow. Why dwell into ancient times and dig into history to verify the truth, let us recognise that if there are rivers of milk flowing anywhere in the world, it is India and only India. "Land flowing with milk and honey" is how symbolically a place of prosperity and abundance has been traditionally described. And we could take pride that we have grown to be the biggest global producer of milk. A paltry trickle of 17 million metric tonnes (mmt) with a per capita per day availability of 130 grams in the year 1950-51, early years of our independence, has grown into a flood of 230.6 million tonnes constituting one fourth of the global milk production. Isn't it a sterling achievement! To add to the crowning glory is our share in the global production of ghee and butter which stands at 40%. Per capita per day availability stands at 459 grams, higher by 137 grams over the global average of 322. The total value of our dairy produce in the year 2021-22, at current prices, was a staggering ₹9,95,215 crore, higher than the combined value of wheat and paddy during the corresponding period which stood at ₹6,01,313 crore (₹2,31,722+3,69,591 respectively). Let us celebrate the incredible dairy India and say "Cheese" to the millions of our dairy farmers.

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भारतीय कृषि एवं खाद्य परिषद्  
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