

GOVERNMENT TO CONFER DAIRY FARMERS WITH GOPAL
RATNA AWARDS - CM

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Bhadra 26, 1941

Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant has said that Government will confer Gopal Ratna Award from the ensuing Goa Liberation Day to the dairy farmers producing highest milk in Goa.

Dr. Sawant was speaking as chief guest at “State milk Producers meet” organized by the Goa State Cooperative Milk Producers Union Ltd., Curti, Ponda under National Programme on dairy Development at a function held at Rajiv Gandhi Kala Mandir, Ponda, yesterday.

Elaborating further on the Gopal Ratna award the Chief Minister said this award will be instituted through Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary services. This Endeavour of the Government he said will encourage the farming community and boost milk production in the state.

Addressing the dairy farmers numbering around eight hundred, the Chief Minister informed that as many as 9377 farmers from Goa are engaged in dairy farming producing 1.2 lakh liters milk per day which he said is not sufficient to cater to the milk requirement of the state. In order to meet milk requirement on day today basis the state is procuring milk from neighbouring states. Chief Minister also stress the need for Vermi compost and green fodder for better yield and at the same time called upon farming community to support the endeavor of the government to make Goa self sufficient in the milk production.

The chief minister said efforts are being made to promote organic farming and the endeavor of the government in this direction will soon yield desired results to make Goa a organic state as regards to use of fertilizers for agriculture production.

The Chief Minister urged the Goa State cooperative milk producers union and Animal husbandry and Veterinary Services Department to work in coordination to encourage dairy farmers and increase milk production in the state. The chief Minister further informed that the government has plans to keep open the veterinary Hospital one each in North and South Goa 24 x 7 to make available the services of Veterinary doctors.

Minister for Cooperation Shri Govind Gaude said farmers are backbone of the country who are putting hard efforts to sustain their livelihood. He said that, to enhance milk production there are plans to provide new

variety feed to few dairy farmers on trial basis and if positive results are yielded in this direction said feed will be provided to other farmers in the state.

Secretary, Animal Husbandry and veterinary services Shri Kuldeep Singh Gangar, IAS, also expressed his views on the occasion.

The Chief Minister felicitated highest milk producers namely Shri Nakul Paryekar, Shri Madhav Sahakari and Shri Rajendra Sawal in Male Category and Dr. Sushma Prabhu, Smt. Sarita Dalvi and Smt. Nirmala Komarpant in Female Category. The Chief Minister also distributed milk can to the dairy farmers on the occasion.

Director of AHVS Dr. Santosh Desai, Administrator Dr. Vilas M. Naik, and Managing Director Mrs. Radhika V. Kale were present.

Shri Nitin Kolvekar Compered the function.

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DIRECTORATE OF INFORMATION AND PUBLICITY.
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