National Milk Day 2026 to Be Celebrated in Patna, Bihar, with Launch of Key Initiatives and Dedication of Major Dairy and Livestock Infrastructure Projects

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The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD), Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, will celebrate National Milk Day 2026 on 26 November 2026 at Bapu Sabhagar, Patna, Bihar.

The celebration will be graced by the ***Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Panchayati Raj, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh, as the Chief Guest. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Bihar, Shri Samrat Choudhary; Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Panchayati Raj, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel; and Hon'ble Minister for Dairy, Fisheries and Animal Resources Department, Government of Bihar, Shri Nand Kishore Ram,*** will also be present, along with other dignitaries.

On the occasion, Union Minister Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh will confer the prestigious **National Gopal Ratna Awards 2026**, among the highest national recognitions in the livestock and dairy sector. The awards recognise outstanding contributions towards the promotion and conservation of indigenous cattle and buffalo breeds, strengthening dairy development and enhancing livestock productivity. The awards will be presented in three categories: Best Dairy Farmer Rearing Indigenous Cattle/Buffalo Breeds (Non-NER), Best Artificial Insemination Technician (Non-NER) and Best Dairy Cooperative Society (DCS)/Milk Producer Company/Dairy Farmer Producer Organisation (Non-NER). Special Awards in each category will also be conferred on winners from the North Eastern Region and Himalayan States.

Several important dairy infrastructure projects will be inaugurated and dedicated to the nation during the event. These include key projects under the **National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD)**, namely, the distribution of Data Processing and Milk Collection Units (DPMCU) sanctioned for Dairy Cooperative Societies; dedication of Mineral Mixture Plants at VPMU, Patna and TIMUL, Muzaffarpur; and dedication of the Effluent

Treatment Plant (ETP) at Mithila Milk Union (MMU), Samastipur. These initiatives will strengthen milk procurement, quality testing, animal nutrition and environmentally sustainable dairy operations.

The event will also witness the **dedication to the nation Namaste India's 2 LLPD (2 lakh litres per day) Milk Processing Plant at Sikandarpur, Bihta, Patna** established with assistance under the Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF). In addition, certificates will be distributed for Veterinary Medicine Sales Centre sanctioned under the Livestock Health and Disease Control Programme (LHDCP) which will further strengthening access to veterinary healthcare services.

A number of significant initiatives will also be launched during the celebration. These include Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for Rating and Grading of Dairy Cooperatives and Milk Producer Organisations (MPOs), and an Online Application Web Portal for the rating and grading process. These initiatives are aimed at strengthening institutional capacity, promoting transparency and improving the performance of dairy cooperatives and producer organisations.

The **Climate-Resilient Roadmap for India's Livestock and Dairy Sector towards Viksit Bharat @2047** will also be launched, outlining a strategic approach to building a productive, sustainable and climate-resilient livestock and dairy sector.

The **Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics (BAHS) 2026** will also be released during the event. The publication presents comprehensive data on the livestock sector based on the Integrated Sample Survey conducted for the period from 1 March 2025 to 28 February 2026. It provides production estimates of major livestock products, including milk, eggs, meat and wool, along with state-wise production estimates and per capita availability. The statistics serve as an important basis for evidence-based policymaking, sectoral planning and informed decision-making.

A **Dialogue Session with Progressive Dairy Farmers** will also be organised, providing a platform for interaction and exchange of experiences. The session will highlight the experiences, best practices, innovations and contributions of progressive dairy farmers in strengthening the dairy sector, while facilitating knowledge-sharing and encouraging wider participation in dairy development.

The occasion will also mark the launch of **Sudha Brand Makhana Kheer and Rabri** and distribution of **Sudha brand sales outlet keys**, aimed at promoting value-added dairy products and expanding market access for dairy products.

National Milk Day 2026 will witness participation from livestock farmers, milk federations, dairy cooperatives and other stakeholders from across the country. The celebration will provide an important platform to recognise the contributions of dairy farmers and stakeholders, showcase key developments and initiatives, and promote greater collaboration towards building a robust, inclusive and globally competitive livestock and dairy ecosystem.

National Milk Day commemorates the birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, the Father of the White Revolution in India, and recognises his invaluable contribution to transforming India into the world's largest milk producer. The celebration reaffirms India's

commitment to sustainable and inclusive growth in the dairy sector and to advancing the vision of **Viksit Bharat @2047**.

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