

Union Minister Parshottam Rupala Confers National Gopal Ratna Awards 2023 During "National Milk Day" Celebration in Guwahati

The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying celebrated "National Milk Day 2023" in Guwahati on Sunday, 26th November 2023. The day commemorates the birth anniversary of Dr. Verghese Kurien, popularly known as the "Father of the White Revolution in India". It also highlights the achievement and importance of the dairy sector in India.



(Pic Credit - Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying)

Shri Parshottam Rupala, Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying was the Chief guest of the event. Besides, Shri Atul Bora, Minister of Agriculture, Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Government of Assam; Shri Parimal Shuklabaidya, Minister for Transport, Fisheries and Excise, Assam; Shri Tage Taki, Minister of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary, Arunachal Pradesh, Members of Parliament from Assam along with other dignitaries were also present during the occasion.

Union Minister Rupala told media that India is leading in world milk production and is making its mark in international markets. He stressed upon the critical role of youngsters in enhancing the dairy sector and the entrepreneurial efforts to expand the sector. Rupala released the "Basic Animal Husbandry Statistics 2023" and a Coffee Table Book titled "Milky Way Over the Years, showcasing Indian dairy sector's 10-

year achievements. He also launched the Accredited Agent for Health & Extension of Livestock Production (A-HELP) training programme for Assam.

Minister Atul Bora underlined the efforts being put up by government of Assam to benefit farmers to boost the milk production by introducing sex sorted semen across the state.



During the event, National Gopal Ratna Awards 2023 were given to the winners of the Best Dairy Farmer rearing indigenous cattle/buffalo breeds, Best Artificial Insemination Technician & Best Dairy Cooperative Society (DCS)/ Milk Producer Company/ Dairy Farmer Producer Organization in India.

Moreover, an exhibition displaying innovative startups, entrepreneurs & milk unions, and a technical session on “Feed & fodder for sustainable Milk Production” was also organized. Over 3000 farmers from Assam and other NER States participated in the event.