

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA  
AGRICULTURE  
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2288

ANSWERED ON:03.12.2007

GROWTH OF DAIRY SECTOR

Adsul Shri Anandrao Vithoba;Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai;Verma Shri Ravi Prakash

**Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:**

(a) whether some States have formed regional conference to strengthen inter-State cooperation to augment sustained and equitable growth in the dairy sector;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the country has become the top milk producer in the world but the per capita consumption and availability of milk here were far behind the global average;

(d) if so, the facts thereof; and

(e) the steps taken by the Union Government to encourage to explore possibility of establishing a common regional milk grid to strengthen cooperation in dairy sector?

**Answer**

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN )

(a )&(b): The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of Kerala organized a regional conference of Ministers of Dairy Development and Animal Husbandry on 21st November 2007 for strengthening regional cooperation for synergy in dairying and animal husbandry sector at Thiruvananthapuram. It was inaugurated by Shri V.S. Achuthanandan, Chief THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI TASLIMUDDIN ) (a )&(b): The Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying, Government of Kerala organized a regional conference of Ministers of Dairy Development and Animal Husbandry on 21st November 2007 for strengthening regional cooperation for synergy in dairying and animal husbandry sector at Thiruvananthapuram. It was inaugurated by Shri V.S. Achuthanandan, Chief Minister of Kerala and participated by the Dairy Ministers and Officials of Maharashtra, Goa, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Pondicherry, Andhra Pradesh and Kerala to take stock of the situation and strengthen inter-state cooperation to augment sustained and equitable growth in the dairy sector.

(c)&(d): Yes Sir. India now ranks first among the world's milk producing nations. The production of milk during the year 2005-06 was 97.1 million metric tones and has achieved a level of 100.90 million metric tones (Provisional) during 2006-07. The per capita availability of milk was 241 gram per day during 2005-06 and has achieved 245 grams per day during 2006-07 but it is still low compared to the world average of 265 gram per day.

(e): The Union Government has not received any proposal for establishing a common regional milk grid to strengthen cooperation in dairy sector. The National Milk Grid which existed during Operation Flood period used to divert excess milk from neighbouring States to the Metro dairies/milk deficient regions. However, presently the dairy cooperatives in the country have a system of linking major milk production centres in the country with the markets in urban areas through a network of Rail Milk Tankers (RMTs) and Road Tankers. RMTs are used to transport milk to Delhi and Kolkata from Gujarat, Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu etc.