

### Chairman's Address:

I am delighted to extend my warmest welcome to each one of you as we gather here for the 77th Annual General Meeting of our Union. It is with immense gratitude that I acknowledge your steadfast support and collaboration, which have been instrumental in propelling our Union to exemplify excellence in development, quality, and production within the dairy sector throughout our illustrious 77-year journey. We shall always remain indebted to the founders of our Union - the great visionary leader Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, our founder patron Shri Tribhuvandas Patel, and the Father of White Revolution - Dr. Verghese Kurien. Their selfless contributions have not only shaped AMUL but have also determined the path to a bright future for lakhs of milk producers.

In an era marked by declining agricultural incomes and employment opportunities, India is increasingly establishing itself as a significant player in the global dairy industry. Amidst these economic challenges, animal husbandry has emerged as a promising and thriving sub-sector, offering new avenues for growth and prosperity. As a highly advantageous alternative sub-sector for livelihoods, animal husbandry now offers a reliable source of income. Elevating milk production stands out as one of the most potent strategies for poverty alleviation and fostering comprehensive growth throughout India, benefiting one and all.

Dairying and animal husbandry play a pivotal role in providing employment to over 10 crore families across India. These sectors contribute significantly to the country's economy, accounting for 5.20% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP). Over the last decade, milk production in India has displayed a remarkable growth, increasing by 4.60%. It is noteworthy that in 1974, India's milk production was merely one-third of America's and one-eighth of Europe's. Today, India boasts a staggering achievement, producing more than twice as much milk as America and 30% more than the entire European continent. This remarkable progress underscores the transformative impact of the dairy and animal husbandry sectors in our nation.

Despite operating with limited financial resources, the milk sector in India has exhibited a remarkable growth. Now, India is steadfast in its pursuit of achieving and maintaining the top position in the global Dairy Sector. With ambitious targets, India aims to produce a staggering 628 MMT (Metric Million Tonnes) of milk, contributing to approximately 45% of the world's milk production. To realize these aspirations and sustain growth, it is imperative to implement systematic changes promptly. Many state governments have taken proactive measures, encouraging milk producers through ethical interventions and subsidies, laying the foundation for increased milk production in the coming years. This collective effort underscores India's determination to lead the way in the global dairy landscape.

The substantial increase in input costs, particularly in grains and fodder, has created a crisis for milk producers in India. Unpredictable monsoon patterns in different regions, coupled with rising prices of essential food grains such as maize, wheat, and soybeans, have driven up the expenses associated with animal feed. Additionally, companies operating in the dairy sector have had to contend with soaring costs in logistics, processing, and packaging; further exacerbating the challenges faced by milk producers. These multifaceted cost pressures highlight the need for strategic



**Shri Vipulbhai K. Patel**  
Chairman

measures to ensure the sustainability of the dairy industry in the face of such economic challenges.

The increasing income of the urban population has facilitated the Union in offering better prices to milk producers. The robust resurgence of hotels, restaurants, and catering, coupled with an uptick in the price of loose milk sales, is poised to bolster the dairy industry, aiming for a growth rate of 12% to 14%. According to a report by ICRA, income levels have shown a notable increase in the financial year 2022-23.

The rapid individual growth of 7% to 8% in the liquid milk segment during the fiscal year 2022-23 has had a detrimental impact on the production of milk products. Conversely, the escalating expenditures have become a pressing concern for the dairy industry.

Our Union places a significant emphasis on the production of clean milk. To achieve this goal, we maintain a continuous awareness campaign at both the Union and Society levels, diligently striving for clean milk production while adhering to stringent Food Safety Norms. We value our customers as much as we do our farmers, and our commitment is to ensure that we provide the desired products directly to consumers' doorsteps, ensuring their satisfaction. Our aim is to excel globally by orienting our milk products towards customer preferences and consistently surpassing all quality standards.

I am delighted to share with you that in the fiscal year 2022-23, we have successfully paid our members a price ₹900 per KG Fat. This achievement underscores our commitment to ensuring fair compensation to our members. Through our steadfast dedication to animal husbandry, we have consistently achieved sustainable growth while upholding the principles of faith and integrity within the co-operative structure. Our unwavering progress serves as a shining example of exceptional business management, and we take immense pride in this accomplishment.