

Date: 25 Oct 2024

## White Revolution 2.0

**Context:** The Ministry of Cooperatives released Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on 'White Revolution 2.0. It was launched during diamond jubilee celebration of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB).

### What is White Revolution?

- Operation Flood (1970-1996) led by Dr. Verghese Kurien, known as the "Father of White Revolution," transformed India from milk-deficient to world's largest milk producer.
- **MODEL:** Based on "Anand Pattern" - establishing village dairy cooperatives, linking rural milk producers directly with urban consumers through a three-tier cooperative structure.
- **INSTITUTIONS:** Created key institutions like NDDB (National Dairy Development Board), AMUL (Anand Milk Union Limited), and Mother Dairy (retail outlets) to support the movement.
  - NDDB was registered as a society under the Societies Act 1860. Later it was merged with erstwhile Indian Dairy Corporation, by NDDB Act 1987. It is declared as an institution of national importance.
- **ACHIEVEMENTS:** Milk production increased from 22 million tonnes (1970) to 198.4 million tonnes (2019-20), creating 16 million farmer members across 185,903 dairy cooperatives.
- **IMPACT:** Empowered rural women, generated employment, ensured fair pricing for farmers, and made quality dairy products accessible to consumers nationwide.

### What is India's Status in milk production?

- India is world's top milk producer, with 230.58 million tonnes production during 2022-23.
- National per capita availability of milk is 459 grams/ day, which is higher than global average of 323 g/ day.
- Rashtriya Gokul Mission; National Programme for Dairy Development; Livestock Health & Disease Control Programme (LHDCP); Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund are some of the Initiatives to boost Dairy Sector

### What are the current challenges with India's dairy sector?

- **Low productivity:** Average milk yield per animal in India (1,806 kg/year) remains significantly lower than global averages (2,638 kg/year) due to poor breed quality and management.
- **Quality concerns:** Lack of proper cold chain infrastructure and inadequate testing facilities leads to high bacterial contamination and poor milk quality.
- **Climate impact:** Rising temperatures affect cattle health and milk production, while the sector contributes significantly to greenhouse gas emissions.
- **Feed scarcity:** Inadequate availability and rising costs of quality fodder and feed, with annual deficit of 36% green fodder and 11% dry fodder.
- **Market volatility:** Fluctuating milk prices, unorganized market structure (80% of sector), and increasing input costs affect farmers' income stability.
- **Health management:** Limited access to veterinary services, high incidence of diseases, and rising antimicrobial resistance in cattle.
- **Competition pressure:** Growing presence of private players and potential international competition through trade agreements threatening traditional cooperative structure.

### **What is White Revolution 2.0?**

- Aim: Increase milk procurement by dairy cooperative societies by 50 % over next 5 years (1,007 lakh kg/ day by 2028-29).
- It seeks to empower women, generate employment, and expand cooperative coverage.

#### National Programme for Dairy Development (NPDD) 2.0:

- Targets of White Revolution 2.0 have been subsumed under newly proposed Central Sector Scheme, NPDD 2.0.
- Financial assistance under NPDD is provided for setting up of village level milk procurement system, milk chilling facilities for quality milk procurement to strengthen dairy infrastructure.
- Dairy cooperative societies (DCS): Plan to establish/ strengthen 1 lakh DCS for achieving objective of White Revolution 2.0.
- Ministry of Cooperatives released Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) on 'White Revolution 2.0'

*Can you answer the following question?*

*Despite being the world's largest milk producer, India's dairy sector faces multiple challenges that necessitate a comprehensive White Revolution 2.0.*

### **A case for food subsidies: An investment, not a waste**

(Indian Express, 25-10-24)

**Context:** The article challenges the proposition of reducing food subsidies to increase agricultural R&D funding, arguing that it would adversely affect food security for vulnerable populations.

#### **What are the concerns about current subsidy structure?**

- Inefficient use of resources through input subsidies
- Negative impact on soil fertility
- Declining groundwater levels
- Hindrance to crop diversification
- High financial burden on government

#### **What are the key arguments for increasing agricultural R&D by reducing subsidies?**

- Need to improve crop productivity
- Development of climate-resilient varieties
- Ensuring long-term food security
- High rate of return on R&D investment
- Focus needed on nutritional crops (pulses, milk, eggs, etc.)

#### **Why should food subsidies be preserved?**

- Acts as income transfer to bottom 50% population
- Provides valuable support to poor households
- Enables spending on other essential foods
- Proved crucial during Covid crisis
- Addresses exclusion errors in targeted PDS

### **What are the misconceptions about NFSA's impact?**

- Did not require increased grain procurement
- Balanced increased coverage with reduced per-beneficiary allocation (7.9 kg to 5 kg)
- Did not significantly inflate subsidy burden
- Maintained food security without production pressure
- Successfully addressed targeting errors

*Can you answer the following question?*

*The debate between increasing agricultural R&D and maintaining food subsidies presents a false dichotomy. Critically analyze the complementary role of both in ensuring India's food security and agricultural sustainability.*

### **Move on madrasas, the alienation of Muslims**

(The Hindu, 25-10-24)

**Context:** National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) recommended to stop government funding to madrasas which are not compliant with the Right to Education (RTE) Act, 2009 and to conduct an inspection of all madrasas

### **What is the historical significance of madrasas in India?**

- The word 'madrasa' simply means 'school' in Arabic
- Served both religious and secular education before British colonial education
- Notable figures like Raja Ram Mohan Roy and Rajendra Prasad studied in madrasas
- System prevailed since Delhi Sultanate, patronized by various dynasties

### **Why is the NCPCR's move being criticized?**

- Contradicts the original purpose of the Child Protection Rights Act, 2005
- Appears ideologically motivated rather than child-welfare focused
- Ignores other pressing child rights issues like trafficking and child labor
- Contradicts constitutional freedom of religion under Article 25
- Could potentially alienate religious minorities
- Raises concerns about aggressive majoritarianism

### **What is the Kerala model's perspective on this issue?**

- Kerala has achieved universalization of public education
- Does not need government-funded madrasas
- Maintains Madrasa Teachers' Welfare Fund based on social justice
- Upholds communal harmony and solidarity

*Can you answer the following question?*

*The debate over madrasa education in India reflects the broader tension between religious freedom and educational standardization. Critically analyze the historical role of madrasas in Indian education and the contemporary challenges in balancing minority rights with educational reforms." (250 words)*

## The Gaza war and the Global South's 'interventions'

(The Hindu, 25-10-24)

**Context:** The article discusses the implications of Hamas chief Yahya Sinwar's killing and analyzes how major Global South powers, particularly India and China, have responded to the Israel-Gaza conflict.

### What are the recent developments in the Israel-Gaza conflict?

- Killing of Hamas chief Yahya Sinwar on October 16, 2024
- Previous assassination of Ismail Haniyeh in Iran (July 2024)
- Mounting civilian casualties in Gaza and Lebanon
- Lack of clear blueprint for ceasefire or resolution

### How has China positioned itself in this conflict?

- Hasn't condemned Hamas by name since October 2023
- Hosted 14 Palestinian factions including Hamas in July 2024
- Views conflict through de-colonisation lens
- Prioritized Arab relations over ties with Israel
- Uses BRICS as platform to promote Global South narrative

### What characterizes India's approach to the conflict?

- Maintains balanced position between national interests and international obligations
- Views conflict through counter-terrorism lens
- Continues support for two-state solution
- Recognized Palestinian state in 1988
- Shows tacit support for Israel while maintaining diplomatic balance

### Why has the Global South failed to present a unified response?

- Fragmented approaches among nations
- India-China contestation undermines unity
- Lack of collective political and military leverage
- Individual national interests prevail over collective aims
- Democracy vs non-democracy divide creates additional challenges

*Can you answer the following question?*

*The divergent approaches of India and China towards the Israel-Gaza conflict reflect the broader challenges in establishing a unified Global South voice in international affairs. Critically analyze the factors contributing to this divergence and its implications for global governance.*