

Feed & Feed Ingredients Conclave – 2017
15th & 16th July 2017 at Hotel Conrad, Pune

WELCOME ADDRESS

by

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Ladies & Gentlemen, Good Evening,

I welcome you all to this important “Feed and Feed Ingredients Conclave –2017” organized in Pune, the Cultural Capital of Maharashtra. For a long time we had been thinking of having a Conference designed to bring all stakeholders on one common platform. We were pleased that both CLFMA and AICOSCA had similar ideas. This made the task of Organizing this Conference much easier. I am sure this Conference would become an annual feature and grow from strength to strength.

This year we have selected the theme “Future Outlook for Feed Industry”

Let me at the outset, convey compliments to CLFMA of India for their yeomen services to the Feed Industry in the last 50 years and this Conclave is organised as a Curtain -Raiser of CLFMA's Golden Jubilee Year.

Today, I am honoured to welcome our Guests of Honour Padmashree Dr. D.Y. Patil, Former Governor of Tripura & Bihar and Dr. O. P. Chaudhary, Joint Secretary (CDD), Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Government of India. I also welcome Mr. R. S. Sodhi, Managing Director, Gujarat Coop. Milk Federation, Dr. Bharati Singh, Director CPDO (WR) and Dr. S .K. Saxena, Director, Export Inspection Council of India. I am confident that your valued presence and guidance will rejuvenate our Compound Feed Industry not only in the State of Maharashtra but in India.

I also extend my welcome to senior officials from Central & State Governments, all special invitees, speakers, sponsors and delegates and look forward to very interactive sessions during the course of this Conclave.

Friends,

Our country is grappling with whole lot of problems as far as Agriculture and Allied sectors are concerned. Earlier it was a problem of drought for two consecutive years and now it is a problem of plenty. On the one hand the farmer is fighting low prices for their produce and on the other hand the user Industry is fighting for survival. For the first time in decades we are seeing prices of a lot of commodities falling below MSP. The most glaring example is that of Soya where the values have plummeted below MSP. Low prices does not necessarily mean good margin for Crushing plants who are busy fighting a losing battle and their capacity utilization has shrunk to around 30%.

Our Oilseed Production has stagnated for the last two decades and this has compounded the problems for our Feed Industry which depends on the Oilmeals from domestic sources.

For a country boasting of GDP growth of more than 7% this situation seems a little strange and difficult to digest. Something has gone terribly wrong in our planning over the years that we still see farmers unable to meet their debt obligation and committing suicides.

Our Compound Feed Industry is growing at 7-8% per annum. Our feed industry has directly contributed towards increasing yield and production of animal proteins such as milk, eggs, meat and fish. In India, the present demand of total feeds by a conservative estimate is over 35 million tons and will touch about 45 million tons by the year 2020. If we compare ourselves with the advanced countries like U.S.A. & U.K., where out of total 320 gm of protein consumption per day, the animal protein is about 128 gm, in India the per capita protein consumption is around 50 gm per day out of which only 11 gm is contributed by the animal proteins.

Friends, with such a low consumption of animal protein in our country, I see great opportunities available for growth of animal protein industry like dairy, eggs & meat and aqua and appeal to you all to work together by incorporating innovative trends to enhance production of milk by upgrading genetic potential, better management of feed & fodder, eggs, meat and fish.

We must realize the importance of the supply chain logistics and management of this sector. We must strive to play our role in more scientific manner and process our products hygienically; implement GMP and safety at all stages of production to

produce the best quality products, using software technologies for feed formulations for local & global markets.

GMO varieties are going to play a very vital role in near future and it will be great challenge to all of us, e.g., GMO has started giving us large quantities of cotton seed oil cake and meal. Gossypol is a major limiting factor and we need to address the development of economically viable technology for removal of Gossypol from the cotton oil cakes/meals. Similarly, anti nutritional factors of many oil meals have to be removed or processed for better utilization in the feed.

Biotechnology will also play a crucial role in tomorrows' formulations. Many problems could be solved at a very low cost, through this technology. As far as Genetics is concerned, mainly for dairy livestock, we need more R & D work and to allow imports of high yielding milk cows from various parts of the world. As we foresee, the milk demand will be going up and we may face shortage both of milk and fodders, in future. We have to face this challenge with newer and better eco - friendly technologies.

In a Globalised world with our own agricultural production not keeping pace with rising demand and changing food habits it is not fair to deprive our own Feed Industry of competitively priced import options. We need to unshackle this Sector which will allow it to grow to its potential.

I am sure the deliberations today and tomorrow would help us in homing in on the issues confronting our Industry and set the agenda for future. Being an incorrigible optimist I am positive our industry as well as the farming community would prosper in coming years.

Before ending let me read a few lines from the poem penned by the doyen of this industry-Shri Nadir Godrej (I have his permission)

**Our weather now is out of range
Perhaps because of Climate Change.
Our policies have badly failed
Our water resources aren't availed.**

**So agriculture's growth is slow
And the only sector that we know
With really good growth potential**

**Is animal husbandry and it's essential
That this sector should rapidly grow
For agriculture to clearly show
It can approach the heady growth
Of the other sectors, as both
Services and industry
Are known to grow rapidly.
And without growth there'll be no charm
In struggling on at the farm.
The demand for meat as well as eggs
Stands on very sturdy legs:
As the population rises
And the nation urbanises
Women will work more and more
And so consumption's bound to soar.
The people will have time to roam
More meals will be outside the home.
More chicken and eggs they will taste.
Some vegetarians will make haste
To branch out just a little bit
And eggs and chicken will be a hit
And so I think the future scene
If we work with all our might
Can indeed be very bright.**

Thank-you

Jai - Hind

Date: 15th July 2017