

Mother Dairy to put ₹65 cr to upgrade Nagpur plant

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Nagpur: Chief Minister of Maharashtra Devendra Fadnavis inaugurated the refurbished milk processing plant of NDDB's subsidiary Mother Dairy in Nagpur on Sunday.

Mother Dairy will be investing around Rs65 crore to upgrade the Nagpur plant and setting up of milk procurement network in the regions of Marathwada & Vidarbha. A part of the investment would also be made towards development of sales network across the city with 100 milk booths at key spots.

"The milk procurement set up in the initial 3 years will cover around 3,000 villages across 11 districts covering about 60,000 farmers," it added. Radha Mohan Singh, union minister for agriculture & farmers welfare, and Nitin Gadkari, minister for road transport & highways were also present at the inauguration event.

The plant has been upgraded as per the agreement between government of Maharashtra and Na-

tional Dairy Development Board (NDDB). The Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetable Pvt Ltd, a subsidiary of NDDB will operate the plant and take up dairy development initiatives like setting up of milk procurement network in Maharashtra. Fadnavis said that Vidarbha and Marathwada region of Maharashtra includes some of the most backward districts in the country with extreme drought conditions prevailing over many years. Dairying often remains the only hope in such adverse climatic conditions to ease farmer distress. He showed confidence that NDDB and its subsidiaries will put in their best efforts to implement the dairy development initiative for the benefit of the milk producers of Vidarbha and Marathwada.

S Nagarajan, MD, Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetable Pvt. Ltd. said that Mother Dairy is committed to the cause of rural prosperity by promoting dairy development aimed to support milk producers and enhancement of farm productivity.