

Radha Mohan lays foundation for Mother Dairy's milk plant

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MOTIHARI: Union minister of agriculture and farmers welfare Radha Mohan Singh on Tuesday laid the foundation stone of Mother Dairy's milk processing plant at Math Banawari village under Kotwa block of East Champaran district on Tuesday.

The state-of-the-art processing plant of Delhi's Mother Dairy, a wholly owned subsidiary of National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), spread in an area of 4.5 acres, to be constructed at the cost of Rs 11 crore, will have capacity to process 1 lakh litres of milk per day. The plant is expected to commence operation within a year.

Addressing a massive gathering of farmers on this occasion, Singh said the new plant would bring prosperity to the farmers of East and West Champaran and Gopalganj.

He said in May last, around 10,000 farmers of East Champaran had formed Bapu Dham Milk Producer Company (BDMPC) under Cooperative Act to mark the Gandhiji's satyagrah centenary year, and at present they were supplying 30,000 litres of milk to Mother Dairy, Delhi



• Union minister of agriculture and farmers welfare Radha Mohan Singh addressing a gathering in East Champaran on Tuesday. HT PHOTO

daily. The farmers were getting Rs 3 crore every month as price for the milk, he added.

Speaking on the occasion chairman, NDDB, Dilip Rath, said through this endeavour the board was aiming to increase the farmers' income. "The plant will serve the dual objectives of bringing rural prosperity while enhancing the milk production," he said.

Managing director, Mother Dairy Fruit & Vegetable Pvt Ltd, Sanjeev Khanna, said the dairy would be introducing its branded poly pack milk variants across the region. "We hope that our efforts will help us in developing a strong and sustainable

eco-system for both farmers as well as consumers," he said.

BDMPC is currently working in East and West Champaran and covering 246 villages. The milk procurement through this institution has crossed the mark of 32,000 litres per day. "The BDMPC is now planning to extend its milk procurement operation to about 1,000 villages and has set a target to procure about 1.5 lakh litres of milk per day," Khanna said.

Pramod Kumar, minister for tourism of Bihar, Sachindra Singh MLA, Bablu Gupta MLC, Shyambabu Yadav, MLA also addressed the farmers at the function.