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MAGAZINE NOTES

India's Dairy Model vs. Western Industrial Model

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ECONOMY

SOCIAL ISSUES

GS1

GS3

CURATED & WRITTEN BY

**Bharat Choudhary**

UPSC Educator & Content Creator

[in linkedin.com/in/epicbharat](https://www.linkedin.com/in/epicbharat)

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India's Dairy Model vs. Western Industrial Model

 **Down to Earth** Chapter 12 · 1 min read ·

India's Dairy Strength

- India produces nearly **25% of the world's milk** (largest producer globally)
- Livestock sector growing at **~7%** (Economic Survey 2025-26)
- Cooperative structure (Amul Model) via **Operation Flood**; NDDB institutional support
- Farmer-owned, professionally managed; households with 1-2 animals can participate
- **68% of dairy labour** performed by women
- Aligns with SDGs 2, 12, 13, 15

Western Industrial Model Critique

- Heavy mechanisation, high external inputs, routine antibiotics (causing AMR)
- EU and US state subsidies distort global trade
- High carbon footprint
- India's **silvo-agro-pastoral model** operates on low external inputs, circular nutrient economies, and massive rural women empowerment — a superior model of sustainable, inclusive growth

UPSC Angle

- **GS3:** Agriculture, food security, trade
- **GS1:** Society, women's economic empowerment

FACTS CORNER — KNOWLEDGE PEDIA

INDIA'S DAIRY SECTOR:

Global share: 25% (largest producer)

Growth rate: ~7% (Economic Survey 2025-26)

Women's share in dairy labour: 68%

Model: Operation Flood / Amul cooperative

SDG alignment: 2, 12, 13, 15



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