

MODERN DAIRIES

An Instrument for

- * **Extinction of best breeds of Indian Cattle**
- * **Imposition of Economic Slavery**
- * **Spreading malnutrition related diseases and poverty amongst rural population**

WRITTEN BY

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PREFACE

It was symbolically said that once upon a time rivers of fresh milk and pure ghee flowed in this country. This showed the abundance of availability of milk and ghee in the country. In contrast, we witness today that both these have become scarce commodities and almost out of reach for more than 70% of the population of the country. Why this happened? After independence and with growing urbanisation, the concept of dairies grew at a fast pace in the country. 'Operation White Flood' was undertaken, which is very aptly described by Shri Claude Alvares, an eminent environmentalist and an author on socially relevant subjects as "White lie".

The concept and propagation of dairies is perhaps the most scandalous event in post independence era. Late Shri Venishankar M. Vasu, a great freedom-fighter, expert on Indian economic systems, sociologist and thinker has analysed this issue thread bare and exposed the true character of modern dairies. If the same scenario continues, the number of people having access to milk and pure ghee will shrink in years to come to such an extent that these commodities will become almost extinct from the life of Indians.

There is need to immediately dismantle the present format of dairies and restore our milch cattle to their original position as a member of each household in the rural areas and to make arrangements for supply of milk to urban centres in a non-exploitative structure. In the present era of liberalisation and globalisation, India is seen as the largest market to be appropriated by sellers, and milk and milk products constitute one of the largest market. Unless we awake in time, thousands of Indian cattle breeders will be ruined and the entire country will be at the mercy of the European countries, who will loot away the prosperity of the country in exchange of tins of milk power, cheese and butter.

It is worthwhile to note that the India Committee of Netherlands has urged its Government to stop the 'dairy aid' (of course a camouflaged description of the process of sucking India dry) to India in its campaign manifesto titled "EEC Milk Out of India". A copy is available with the publishers, if the readers are interested.

—Publishers

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SLAVERY EVEN TODAY ?

The beginning of trade of cows and milk:

As a result of destruction of grazing lands and such other anti-cattle steps taken by the British, the cows remained only in few houses more as an exception rather than in normal course. Milk is a daily necessity for each household. The feeling or the concept that it is a sin to sell milk was also destroyed. The need for milk had created a vast market for milk. However, this market was limited to large cities only because the people in small villages did not have money to buy milk. Further, in lakhs of small villages with population of just 100 to 200 persons, nobody can earn the livelihood out of the trade of milk. More than 3 lakh villages in India are such which have population of less than 500. In such villages the trade in milk is not viable.

As a result of the anti Indian policies of the British, only the affluent farmers or affluent traders in villages had cows with them. Besides such farmers or traders, cows had remained with the tribe of herdsmen. When dairies were started in large cities, cows and buffaloes were required for these dairies and thus along with the trade in milk, the trade in cows also started.

The owners of dairies bought the best available breeds of cows and buffaloes from the herdsmen and started the trade of milk in cities. On the other hand in large cities like Bombay and Calcutta, the Government started legally authorised abattoirs and to ensure the availability of cattle to these abattoirs, the Government established certain administrative procedures.

Ensuring availability of cattle for abattoirs by administrative action:

In a dairy when a cow or a buffalo becomes dry, the dairy needs another milch cow or buffalo. But then what is to be done with the cow or buffalo which has gone dry? Four months may pass before such a cow or buffalo becomes pregnant and delivers a calf and again starts yielding milk. Should the cow or buffalo be fed for these 4 months without any return from it?

Only limited quantum of fodder was permitted to be brought into the cities, not by law but by controlling the allocation of wagons for transportation of fodder. A licence was necessary from the local authorities of the city for keeping a cow or buffalo in the dairy. As a result of this procedure, the administrators knew how many cows or buffaloes are there in the city and thus wagons for transportation of fodder were allocated only to bring fodder sufficient only for such number of animals. Following the normal cycle of eight months of milch period and 4 months of dry period, when about 30% of cows or buffaloes become dry, further licence for bringing

equal number of milch animals are issued. The wagons also are allocated. However, these additional 30% animals which are brought to the city for replacing the dry animals, naturally increase the need for fodder. However, the additional wagons needed for the additional fodder were not allocated. Thus it was a problem for the dairy owners as to how to feed the new/additional animals. Naturally the new animals which have come as replacement are milk yielding animals and so the available fodder is also fed to them only. In such a situation, instead of keeping the dry animal hungry, the dairy owners prefer to sell them to slaughter houses and make some money out of them so that it can partially meet the capital requirement for purchase of new animals.

Thus every year new cows and buffaloes keep on coming from villages or rural areas to the city dairies. They yield milk for 6 to 8 months and when they become dry they are sent to the slaughter houses. If a dairy has 100 animals, it provides 200 animals to the slaughter houses every year. When a cow or a buffalo comes from the village to the dairy it is accompanied by its calf. Once the animal reaches the dairy, the dairy owner sells the calf to a butcher. This is so because the dairy has to operate on commercial basis. If the dairy owner has 100 animals (whether cows or buffaloes), and if we consider that the calf consumes 1 ltr. of the milk every day, the dairy owner losses 100 litres of milk per day.

In those days the price of milk was 25 paise per ltr. Thus the calves would consume 100 litres of milk valued at Rs. 25/- per day. If the milching period of a cow or a buffalo is 200 days then calves would have consumed milk worth Rs. 5000/-. How can the dairy owner bear such a loss? It is not surprising if the dairy owner decides to sell the calves to the butchers for about Rs. 200 to 500 and also save Rs.5000/- by way of cost of milk which would otherwise be consumed by the calves.

Once the cow and cow's milk is accepted as commercial commodity, what else can be expected except this course of action? And hence as soon as the cows or buffaloes reaches the dairy the dairy owner encashes part of the money by selling the calves and also saves milk. The young calves also fetch good price because their meat is soft and hence more tasty as also their leather too is soft and fetches good price. Within 200 to 250 days the cow or the buffalo also becomes dry and hence instead of feeding it for another 3 to 4 months before it starts giving milk once again, the dairy owner prefers to sell the cow or buffalo to the slaughter house. Thus every year for every 100 cows or buffaloes 200 animals are sent to the slaughter house.

Series of loss inflicted by dairies:

However, the loss does not stop here. All the cows or buffaloes coming to the city dairies are usually such which have become milch either for the first or second time. On reaching the dairy, first the calf and then the cow itself goes to the slaughter house and thus the family of that particular animal comes to an end for ever without leaving any progeny.

If this cow is allowed to live even after becoming dry, it can bear and give birth to approximately 10 calves in its entire life span on an average. Of these 10 calves,, on an average 5 are male calves and other 5 are female. By putting an end to the cow, these 5 males and 5 female calves are not born and thus for each cow we loose 11 animals. Besides this the nation also losses the farmyard manure of 50 tons which a cow would yield if it was allowed to live its full life span. Thus the loss keeps on getting multiplied.

As long as we did not have dairies and as long as it was considered to be a sin to sell milk or cow, the herdsmen never sold cows. The reared the male calves as sturdy bullocks, trained these bullocks and sold them to the farmers. The herdsmen used to sell pure ghee made out of milk, or they used to sell 'mawa' made out of milk and also the dung cakes made out of dung of animals with them.

However, with growing inflation and price rise and with destruction of grazing lands which resulted in scarcity of fodder, the herdsmen were compelled to sell their cows. On the other hand the cattle wealth of the nation was slaughtered at a very fast pace. Dairy had become the link between villages and the slaughter houses in cities. The animals started going from villages to dairies and from dairies to slaughter houses. This unfettered slaughter of animals affected the availability of fresh milk, pure ghee, farmyard manure, fuel and bullocks. It also affected employment and the prices of all essential commodities as well as the prices in the industrial sector.

The dairy owners prefer the best breed of cows to ensure maximum yield of milk and with eventual destruction of such cows the availability of best breed of bullocks and bulls also was stopped. More and more land was being brought under cultivation. The cottage industries and the village industries were being destroyed by a definite economic policy. The people who became unemployed due to destruction of their crafts and cottage industries were diverted towards farming. Thus on one hand the requirement of bullocks and farmyard manure was increasing, whereas on the other hand their availability was severely curtailed. Now a pair of bullock which used to plough 10 acres of land, had to plough 30 acres. As a result, the need or demand for good male calves was increasing. The farmers were ready to pay whatever price demanded by the herdsmen for such good male calf. This resulted in curtailment of availability of good bulls.

Each male calf is not suitable for becoming a good bull. However, the male calf which was capable of becoming a good bull was purchased by the farmers even by paying high prices for it. The herdsmen were realising that this situation is resulting in deterioration of quality of our cattle wealth. However, crushed in the clutches of inflation they were helpless and used to sell the male calves to farmers instead of rearing good bulls out

of such calves. As a result, the male calves rejected by the farmers which were weak as also unsuitable for becoming bull, were reared by the herdsmen and used by them for reproduction. This adversely affected the entire cattle wealth of the nation.

The weakening of the cattle wealth:

The female calves born as progenies of weak and unsuitable bulls were yielding lesser and lesser milk with each passing generation, compared to their predecessors. The male calves growing up as bullocks were not as efficient as their predecessors in the area of ploughing, pulling water out of wells or pulling bullock carts.

Colossal export of animal feed:

Dairies exist in Europe and America also. However, the animals in their dairies get sufficient open space for moving about. They are able to get sufficient fodder in their grazing lands. To maintain their milk yielding capacity they are fed atleast 3 kg. of animal feed every day. Such animals' feed is made of powder of pulses, powder of wheat, the extract of oil seeds, cotton seeds, 'gowar' etc.

These animals feeds are imported in European countries from India by paying India in foreign currency and India exports such animal feed despite its scarcity and even at the cost of keeping its own animals hungry. And then the Government spokesmen, the Ministers,, The Indian experts who have the interest of the foreigners at their hearts and the newspaper columnists praise milk yielding capacity of these foreign cows and condemn our cows, our herdsmen and the religious feelings of Hindus about cows and other animals.

A few figures of export of cattle feed are given below which show that how much quantum of cattle feed is exported by our government ignoring the interest of our own animals and thereby ignoring the interest of the entire nation. The feed made for our animals is exported for feeding animals in other countries and when the animals in such foreign countries yield more milk by eating feed provided by us, the government praises those animals.

A few figures of export of cattle feed

Year	Export in ton
1953-54	6,883
1954-55	64,523
1955-56	2,31,427

In just 3 years the export of cattle feed was increased by 33 times.!

If we were to give here figures of yearly export of cattle feed from India, it will consume a volume. However, the speed with which the export was increased, and its volume was increased as also the names of the countries to whom such exports were made are given below for a period of

just 10 months between June 1966 to March 1967. The total export during this period was 54551 tons of broken rice and broken wheat and 6,69,159 tons of animal feed.

The details of above exports during this period of 10 months are as under: -

(Figures in tons)			
Name of country	Powder of rice	Powder of wheat	T o t a l
Hungary	199	--	199
Bahrin	--	245	245
Irish Repulic	306	--	306
Japan	2,663	--	2,663
Malaysia	59	424	483
Muscat	--	15	15
Other Arab Countries	--	64	64
Singapore	245	5,611	5,856
U.K.	4,720	--	44,720

(Source: Monthly statistics of the Foreign Trade, March 1967 Issue Volume I Page 65)

The figures of export of cattle feed during 10 months between June 1966 and March 1967 are as under:-

Name of the Country	Export in tons	Name of the Country	Export in tons
Belgium	10,047	Japan	59,681
Bulgaria	9,824	Kuwait	322
Canada	208	Liberia	306
Ceylon	1,147	Malaysia	131
Cyprus	502	Nepal	6
Czechoslovakia	68,152	Netherland	14,007
Denmark	6,390	Sycelles	3
France	3,597	Singapore	2,440
E. Germany	44,699	Sweden	897
W. Germany	21,326	U.K.	2,48,060
Honkong	49	U.S.A.	10
Hungary	66,801	Russia	11,669
Irish Republic	1,225	Yugoslavia	9,583
		Total	6,69,159

(Source: Monthly statistics of Foreign Trade of India, March 1967 issue, Part I Page 66 and 67)

The result of this unscientific and uneconomic export policy was that a buffalo which used to give 1105 pounds of milk in one milching period during 1950, and a cow which was yielding 413 pounds of milk, started giving 970 pounds and 361 pounds respectively, by 1956. These animals almost lost their capacity of yielding reasonable quantum of milk.

Decline in milk yielding capacity:

As a result of this foolish export policy of cattle feed, the milk yielding capacity of cows and buffaloes declined at a frightful rate. This is an undisputed fact. However, the statistics relating to the milk production appear to be very controversial and are fraught with the intention of disgracing our animals and to justify their slaughter. This is so because if a cow gives only 361 to 413 pounds of milk and if the buffalo gives 970 to 1100 pounds of milk in a year, maintaining of such cow or buffalo will become absolutely uneconomical. This leads us to believe that these statistics are intentionally shown at lower levels or may be these figures relate to cows which are not primarily milk yielding cows. There are certain cow breeds whose primary function is not to yield milk, but to produce good quality bulls and bullocks. They are reared with the main object of obtaining male calves and for their dung for fertiliser and fuel. Such cows yield only 1/2 a litre of milk per day and possibly the above figures are the figures of milk yielded by such cows.

(These figures have been taken from 'Indian Live Stock Statistics', 1956 Page 22).

The better breeds of cows which specialise in yielding good amount of milk are the Gir, Kankarage, Shahiwal etc. These cows yield about 7 to 15 litres milk per day.

The cows of these same breeds used to give 20 to 40 litres of milk per day in the last century. Thus this goes to prove that even if the statistics of milk yield may be controversial, nobody can deny the fact that the capacity of our live stock to yield milk has considerably declined.

Declined to the statistics published by the Government in the publication titled "Agriculture in Brief", *1955 issue, page 40) the milk production in India in 1951 was 52 croremonds as under:-

Cows' Milk	24.30	croremonds
Buffaloes' Milk	26.60	" "
Goats' Milk	1.10	" "
Total	52.00	croremonds

In 5 years this milk production reduced from 52 crore monds to 47.77 crore monds as under:-

Cows' Milk	20.71	crore monds
Buffaloes' Milk	25.41	" "
Goats' Milk	1.65	" "
Total	47.77	crore monds

In just 5 years the milk production got reduced by a hefty 8% whereas during this period the increase in population was by 11%.

In Britain and other Western countries the Govt. takes care to ensure that its population gets atleast 1.5 ltr. of milk per head everyday, so that their health as well as the stamina for hard work is maintained. At one time people in India used to get more than this quantity of milk.

The wrong guidance of the Government experts:

In order to divert the attention of the people from the serious loss which was being inflicted on the people by slaughter of live stock and cattle, the government experts made the government and the people believe that only 283 gms. of milk per day per head is sufficient. The developed countries need 1500 gm. of milk per day per head whereas in our country the figure is fixed at even less than 1/5 of this quantum!

During 1950 the per capita milk availability per day in our country was 180 gms. as against 283 gms. considered necessary by the so-called Government experts. 5 years later, on in 1955 the per capita availability got reduced to just 90 gms. Thus the people got only about 1/3rd of the quantum which was decided for the India people by the foreign experts and their disciples in India, who had nothing else but bad motives in their minds.

No one felt concerned about this state of affairs!

Despite this situation, it is surprising that nobody felt concerned about the same. Our country made several milk schemes spending billions of rupees only to go backward and achieved reduced availability of milk per head. The Ministers in the Govt. the Ministers of Agriculture and Animal Husbandry, the Secretaries, the Chief Directors of various departments and Corporations, the bureaucrats, the economists, the industrialists, the members of parliament or legislative assemblies, the politicians or the journalists - nobody felt concerned about this serious matter. Nobody expressed even slightest of worry for this backward marching or for the wasted billions of rupees. All the above people would create a havoc if there is even 1% shortfall in the targetted production in industrial section, and create an atmosphere as though the country is facing a catastrophe!

The care and concern of foreigners for their own cattle wealth!

The cows in foreign countries which are fed on the cattle feed imported from our country yield so much of milk that it can be spared for us. This is so because not only the cattle feed is given to them in enough, quantity they are also given enough fodder and they are able to move about in open space. Cattle, whether they belong to some dairy or some herdsmen or to some private individuals, need to roam around for at least 2 to 3 miles everyday. Only if this is done, their health and milk yielding capacity can be maintained. As long as there were cows in each and every family in our country each village had its grazing land also. The cows and buffaloes could roam about for 6 to 8 miles everyday in these grazing lands and thus their health and milk yielding capacity was maintained.

In the Western countries the Government takes care to ensure that enough moving space and grazing lands are available to their cows. Whereas our Government snatches away such facilities from the cattle and by certain administrative measures it creates obstacles in this area.

Even at the cost of importing foodgrains for its human population, England takes care to reserve enough land to extend the facility of moving about and grazing for its cattle. They have allocated 3.5 acres of land on an average per cow for grazing and moving around. Japan has reserved 6.7 acres land, New Zealand 8 acres and USA 12 acres of land for grazing and moving about of their animals. As against this, the grazing land available in our country is just 1.10 acre on an average per cattle. Even on such small area of land, the facility of grazing is hardly available because for the greater part of the year, on this small area of land also there is nothing but dust and stones instead of grass.

Dairy means a prison for the cattle:

In India, an animal whether it is a cow or a buffalo, on reaching the dairy, starts serving the prison sentence for 6 to 8 months and after completion of this period, it is sentenced to death in slaughter houses. Its condition in dairy also is very pitiable. For a period of 8 months it remains tied up at one place in a narrow and dirty place and in such a cramped way that it keeps rubbing its body with animals around it. It has to keep standing all the 24 hours with animals around it. It has to keep standing all the 24 hours a day because there is hardly any place or cleanliness to sit down or sleep. After 6 to 8 months when the milk yielding reduces or gets stopped, it has to face merciless death.

The critical condition of the herdsmen:

The main occupation of the herdsmen in villages were to rear male calves, train them as bullocks and sell them to the farmers for use in agriculture, rear good bulls for reproduction of future progeny of animals,

producing pure ghee and its sale, making 'mava' out of milk and supply it to the sweet-meat manufacturers for making sweets and to make dung cakes and sell them for fuel. Cow and cows's milk was never sold by them. If their cows gave birth to a female calf, such calf was reared with care so that it grow up as good breed of milk yielding cow.

However, now in the changed circumstances they have given up all the above occupations and have become traders of cows. The number of animals owned by them started getting reduced because every year, the cows or buffaloes which give birth to a calf find their way to the city dairy and from their to the slaughter house.

To make the matters worse, the vegetable ghee i.e. 'Dalda' came in to compete with pure ghee, as a result of the policies of appeasing the foreign Governments. The British government, and more than the British, the Congress Govt. of Nehru indulged in fraudulent policy making so that the vegetable ghee could remove the pure ghee from market and capture its place. This resulted in a severe death blow to the production, trade and use of pure ghee. As a result, the production of pure ghee got reduced. The herdsmen were put in a very severe critical economic crisis.

The production of pure ghee in the year 1937 was 8,29,431 tons. It got reduced to 3,96,429 tons by the year 1947. During the period of just one decade only, the production of pure ghee reduced by 51%. Despite this, not a single expert of the animal husbandry department or economist or any businessman uttered a single word of protest or warning.

In the whole process the business of the herdsmen in villages was suffering a death blow. Besides, this, such a situation was adversely affecting the food production as well as the economy of the country. However, for some unknown reasons, the British Government as well as the Indian Govt. after independence continued and are still continuing policies which are anti cow family, anti village industry and anti Hindu population of this country.

For some unknown reasons the government has given strong support and shown a favourable and partial inclination to a useless product like vanaspati ghee. By doing this, they have thrown lakhs of herdsmen in the dungeon of unemployment. By doing this, they have created unprecedented scarcity of edible oil. The living expenses of people have increased tremendously. Under the guise of providing relief to the weaker sections of the Society, the Government imports all sorts of inferior and unpalatable quality of edible oil (which are hated by the people) and thus colossal foreign exchange is squandered away for import of such edible oil.

The import of various commodities which are necessitated due to unnecessary, unjustified, uneconomic and unpracticable policies of the government, seems to be only to take care of the vested interests of the

ministers and bureaucrats, industrialists and businessmen who are hand in gloves with such people.

Two objects can be imagined to be behind all these steps: (1) to make the rearing of cows impossible by an indirect action and direct them towards the slaughter houses and (2) to collect huge funds for elections in return of creating conditions beneficial for some definite persons and also to make personal profits.

By providing encouragement to the Vanaspati industry, the Government started diverting the cattle wealth of the herdsmen from villages to the city dairies and from the city dairies to the slaughter houses. Villages cannot have abattoirs for slaughter of cows in large numbers. Further, if the cows are slaughtered before the eyes of the people in villages, it will arouse anger of the people. There are no cattles in cities while milk is required in cities also and on this pretext, the cattles from villages are brought to the cities and then sent to slaughter houses. This is a well laid out fraud by calculated administrative measures.

If adequate facilities are provided to people in villages to keep cattles, the cattles will not come to the city dairies and then the supply of animals to the slaughter house would stop.

Dairy means a brothel for the cattle:

The city dairies can be compared with the brothels in the city. One would never see an ugly or aged women in a brothel. The anti-social elements lure beautiful and young girls and bring them to the brothels. In a period of 4 to 5 years, when these young girls loose their beauty as well as youth, they are thrown in some dark corner of the Society for spending rest of their life in misery.

Similarly, the best breed of milk yielding cows which are young in age and have born a calf for the first time at the age of around 4 years and who look good as well as yield good amount of milk are selected from villages and brought to dairies. They are exploited for milk for 6 to 8 months in dairies and when they become dry they are sold to the slaughter house for being killed. In their place other young cows giving good quantum of milk are brought from villages. A person visiting a dairy feels happy to see good quality young cows in the dairy. But alas, the same faces are not visible in the following year.

Similar is the fate of buffaloes also. This cruel, uneconomical, treacherous, anti-religious and anti-cultural system has succeeded in horribly reducing the number of good quality cattles as well as their milk yielding capacity.

Shri Thakurdas Bhargav, a prominent lawyer and Loksabha Member from Haryana, in 1958 that as a result of this faulty and fradulant policy

of the government, cows and buffaloes of good breed which yielded 15 to 20 litres of milk per day have become totally extinct in Haryana. Now only mediocre cows and buffaloes exist which yield only 5 to 7 litres of milk per day, and even this breed also would be destroyed in near future.

Similarly, good breed of bullocks which were capable of pulling weight from 1200 kg. to 1600 kg. in bullock-carts are also destroyed and now we have bullocks who can hardly pull weight of 600 to 800 Kg.

Thus only within 10 to 15 years of achieving independence the milk yielding capacity of the cows and labour capacity of the bullocks have been reduced by a hefty 50%. This has horribly affected the economy of our nation, the health of our people and the quantum and quality of our farm products.

Confusing Arguments:

The Government as also the vested interest groups enjoying the patronage of government offer one stock argument to continue the slaughter of animals and that argument is that due to scarcity of animal feed it is only proper to slaughter cows and buffaloes who are either dry or give very less milk and are therefore uneconomical and to use this cattle feed for feeding other good animals so that their milk yielding capacity and thereby the production of milk can be increased.

However, the fact is that the government has adopted an agricultural policy to take care of the interest of Vanaspati ghee, industry, whereby production of groundnut and wheat is increased and shortage of fodder is created. The cattle feed saved by slaughter of cattle is not diverted for consumption of other cattle but is exported to foreign countries for consumption of their animals. Thus an acute shortage of cattle feed is created, which makes even the viable animals unviable. This is done so that even these viable animals can be stamped as unviable and their slaughter can be justified!

Why then this export of cattle feed?

If the government claims that there is shortage of cattle feed in the country, it has no moral right to go on increasing the export of cattle feed. Any Government in a foreign country would have been charged with treachery if it had done such a thing and would have been ousted from power as also would have been sued in a Court of Law.

The figures of export of cattle feed have been given earlier. As a result of such export, the production of milk and pure ghee reduced substantially. Despite this, export of cattle feed continued on a large scale as the following figures show;

During a period of just 10 months of the year 1966-67, 6,69,159 tons of cattle feed was exported and this figure kept on increasing year after year.

During 1976-77, 10,89,670 tons and in 1977 17,28,397 tons of cattle feed was exported.

During one decade between 1966 to 1976, the export of cattle feed increased by 158%, whereas in just one year i.e. in 1977 the export of cattle feed increased by 58% compared to the previous year. With these figures what face the government has to argue that there is shortage of cattle feed in the country?

There can be only two reasons behind such export policy, which cannot stand on the economic test and which is totally unpracticable and immoral. These reasons could be:

- 1) to provide encouragement to the Vanaspati industry by creating scarcity of fresh milk and pure ghee and
- 2) to provide encouragement to the industrial lobby of very affluent and influential people who have set up factories for manufacture of artificial cattle feed.

It is easy to imagine whose selfish interest must be working behind both these reasons. However, it is the job of the government to investigate into this. But if the government itself is a partner in such scandals, who can bring them to light?

Bombay - the gallows for buffaloes:

During the British regime, the dairies belonged to private individuals. It was not honoured with the status of an 'industry'. Due to the unrealistic policies of the government, the dairies were able to meet the requirement of slaughter houses. However, they were unable to meet the demand for milk, and hence mixing of water in milk had become a daily routine. The number of milch cows and their capacity of yielding milk was depleting very fast. On the other hand, the demand for milk, not for drinking milk but for making tea, was increasing day by day.

Better quality tea can be made with a buffalo's milk rather than with the milk of a cow. Even a small quantity of buffalo's milk is enough for making good tea and hence on economical ground as well as the ground of tastes, people used to prefer buffalo's milk. The dairy owners prefer to maintain a buffalo giving 4 liters. of milk instead of a cow giving 5 ltrs. of milk, because there was demand for buffalo's milk and by mixing about 2 to 2.1/2 ltrs. of water in 4 liters. of buffalo's milk, the production cost of milk also could be reduced.

Hence both cows and buffaloes (with their calves of course!) used to come to the dairies and quality for slaughter in due course of time. Bombay had become the gallows for buffaloes and Calcutta for cows. This is so because ~Rasgolla' and other Bengali sweets can be made out of cows'

milk only and hence larger number of cows were going to the Calcutta dairies. The Bombay dairies are predominantly for buffaloes only.

Conversion of activity of dairy from 'business' to 'industry'

When India became independent, the dairy experts dragged the government in the business of dairy on the ostensible ground of providing pure and fresh milk to the people, and thus the business of dairies became an 'industry'. Once a business acquires the status of an industry, it qualifies for all sorts of assistance and support from the government. However, once the dairy became an industry, it got converted into a colossal scandal or fraud. The Indian friends of the dairy industry abroad took care of the interest of such dairies abroad. On one hand they opened up the world's second largest market for milk and ghee to such foreign dairies and on the other hand, the noose of foreign debt in the name of foreign assistance for development of dairies was thrown around India's neck. The dairy industry in India became like selling agency of the foreign dairies in India.

It is our common experience that the Ministers are not made ministers due to their efficiency or loyalty or moral commitments. Even the portfolios to the Ministers are not assigned based on their expertise or knowledge about a particular department. The basic qualification for obtaining a ministerial berth is either belonging to a certain caste or community or certain region or being a favoured person of an influential industrialist or to be a friend of some foreign government or foreign industrialist. In such a situation, when the Minister does not have knowledge of their particular department under his charge, the experts and bureaucrats of such department often mislead the Minister and thus help in promoting the interest of some industrialists or some friend abroad.

By according the status of 'Industry' to the business of milk and by giving control of this industry in the hands of the Government certain bureaucrats or experts have played a very important role in spreading the interest of the foreigners, in crushing the country under mountains of foreign debts, in creating diseases related to malnutrition on the country, in making crores of children blind for want of milk and in flooding the country with milk powder produced in foreign dairies.

Whenever a new industry is to be set up, proper care is taken and arrangements are made to ensure the availability of raw-material, provision for water, electricity, fuel, labour and residential arrangement for the workers, transportation as well as market etc. Only after these things are ensured the industry is started.

However, no such care seems to have been taken or arrangements made before pushing the government into dairy industry.

Whether you call it a business or an industry; before starting a dairy, the basic need is availability of good breeds of milk yielding cows and buffaloes. Before the government was trapped into this industry the good breeds of cows and buffaloes which were yielding 15 to 20 ltr. of milk a day were already destroyed. Naturally this factor could not have been beyond the knowledge of the dairy experts. May be the policy which had resulted in destruction of such good breeds was formed by these dairy experts only!

Now the cows and buffaloes which were giving 5 to 7 litres of milk every day were also losing their milk yielding capacity as a result of faulty government policies and the progeny of such cows and buffaloes were also getting destroyed. It is impossible to believe that the so called dairy experts and cattle experts were unaware of this situation also.

There were no grazing lands for the dairy animals. Even if as an exception some grazing land existed, it had no grass!

As per the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) which is a government institution, there was shortage of six crore tons of stalk (the plants of jowar and bajra) 17.80 crore tons of green grass and 2.6 crore tons of cattle feed.

(Source: A Hand Book of Agriculture, published by ICAR, page 302)

To keep up the availability of dairy cows and buffaloes, the best breed of bulls and male buffaloes are required for reproduction. These also were not available.

The agricultural department of Government of India had written a letter (No. D.O. 1-5-72/CPC dated 10-1-73) to Swami Videhi Hari, who was a member of the Cow Protection Committee. This letter reveals the poor condition in which our country is in the area of live stock and milk.

Some of the information and figures contained in this letter are as under: -

Our country has 2.09 crore milk yielding cows whereas 2.58 crore cows are dry. The number of calves below the age of 3 years is 4.80 crores. The male calves above 3 years of age are 22.55 lakhs and these are used both as, bulls and bullocks. This situation itself shows that in the area of transportation as well as availability of bulls, the country was in a very poor situation.

The ratio of milk yielding cows and buffaloes should be 60% of total cows and buffaloes. As against this, only 45% cows were milk and 55% were dry cows. This is a very discouraging scenario.

Slaughter of 4 crore calves every year:

The number of calves below 3 years of age should be 3 times the number of cows. However, according to above figures the number of cows

and calves is equal which shows that under the guise of slaughtering uneconomical cows, in fact the calves below 3 years of age are cruelly slaughtered. As a result, their number is just 1/3rd of what it should be. These figures show that at least 4 crores calves are either slaughtered or allowed to die unnatural death every year.

Even for the dwindled number of cows and female calves which exist in our country, we need atleast 10 lakh young and healthy bulls of the famous top breeds. Further, we should have about 300 to 32 breeds of such bulls because there are 30 to 32 breeds of cows.

There was no need for the government to plunge into the dairy sector. However, even if it was decided to take this unnecessary and wrong plunge, proper steps should have been taken right from the beginning for success in the area. Dairies cannot be run with the help of cows starving in the absence of proper cattle feed and fodder, the dwindling milk yielding capacity and the reproduction of cows being done with the help of bullocks and not bulls. Similar was the situation of buffaloes also.

This was the right way:

If the government had to enter the dairy sector, it should have first declared a total ban on slaughter of cows and its progeny and thus clear the way for achieving increase in their numbers. It was necessary to increase the grazing land area and to ensure growing of fodder on this land. To ensure sufficient availability of 'Kadab' (the plant of jowar and bajra), restriction should have been imposed on cultivation of groundnut and the cultivation of jowar, bajra and maize should have been increased. This would have converted the scarcity of 'kadab' into abundance of 'kadab' and also increased foodgrain production.

It was necessary to impose restrictions on the production of vanaspati and to throw open the market for pure ghee. The rabi crop should have consisted of jowar, bajra, maize, rice and ragi and the Kharif season should have reserved for growing of fodder for animals and for growing various pulses by reducing the cultivation of wheat. By increasing the production of pulses their prices would have been kept in control so that the powder of such pulses for making cattle feed as well as green and dry fodder would have been available at cheap rates for the cattle.

It was also necessary to put a total ban on export of cattle-feed hay, deoiled cakes and jowar as also on crushing of cotton seeds so as to make them available for the dairy animals.

Only after taking these steps, the government should have thought of entering the dairy sector. However, the fact is that if all these steps would have been taken, the situation in the milk and ghee sector and the situation of the cattle would have been so good that it would not have been necessary for the government to come in the dairy sector!

The dairy experts who were hand in gloves with the foreign interests, dragged the ministers who were ignorant about all these aspects, into the dairy industry. None of the above stated steps were taken and instead billions of rupees were spent on the modern dairy buildings, the gigantic plants for pasturing milk, for milk bottles, for the staff of the so called animals experts, for producing crowds of graduates coming out of the veterinary colleges, large army of clerks and peons and so on. In one state the number of officers in the dairy department was more than the number of even cabinet ministers.

Exploitation of villages:

But these so called experts knew that with a few dairy animals and that too animals which have reached a very low level of milk yielding capacity, it was impossible to run the dairies on viable footing. It was impossible to meet the entire demand for milk by such dairies, and hence under the guise of providing good remuneration to the villagers they started purchasing milk from villages and bringing the same to the city dairies for processing.

However, all the dairies or milk schemes were and still are for providing milk in large cities only. It was uneconomical and unviable to keep sufficient number of animals in the city dairies and hence under the guise of providing supplementary income to the villages, their milk production was snatched away and they were exploited.

The animals or cattle in villages are not reared for the purpose of business of milk. If the cow gave birth to a male calf such calf would grow into a good bullock and the dung of the cow would be useful for fuel as well as fertiliser. The cows and buffaloes are reared in villages with this aim. Whatever little milk was yielded by these animals, it was used to provide nutrition to the children in villages. Nobody thought of selling milk in villages because there is so much of poverty in villages that nobody can afford to buy milk.

Under the guise of providing some income to the poor people in villages, this little quantity of milk also was purchased - rather snatched away by taking advantage of their poverty by the dairy owners in cities. The villagers who were crushed under severe poverty, who were living under tremendous mental tension due to high prices of essential commodities, snatched away milk which was so essential for their children and started selling it to the dairies in cities, to make whatever little money they could.

The reasons for increase in incidence of blindness:

As a result of the above situation there is growing increase of malnutrition related diseases and blindness in villages. There were 3 crore blind children in the country during 1968-69. By snatching away milk from villages under the guise of developing the dairy industry and providing

income to the villagers, another 1.1/2 crore children became blind by 1978-79 making the total of blind children at 4.5 crores. Thus in 1978-79 there were 7 blind children for every 100 persons. If the number of blind children keeps on increasing at this pace, will the burden of maintaining these blind persons not be more than the burden of maintaining the so called uneconomical cattle who have been rendered fit for slaughter by certain administrative steps?

These cattle who have been made uneconomical can once again be made healthy and economical. However, will it be possible to give back the vision to the crores of children who have become blind? Will such blind children be able to contribute their share in the national product? There are 4 crore unemployed persons in the country. However, if these 4.5 crore blind persons are added to the unemployed, the number of unemployed will rise to 8.5 crore, because ultimately the blind will also remain unemployed.

The ostensible reason for dragging the government in the dairy industry was to provide fresh pure and unadulterated milk to the people. If this plan was to provide milk to the entire population of 70 crore of this country there could be no objection to this plan. However, instead of providing milk to the entire population, this scheme snatches away whatever small quantity of 40 to 50 gm. milk available to 80% of the population of 56 crore people living in village! And this deprivation was under the guise of creating avenues of income for the villages! The milk so snatched away from the villagers is being brought by motor transport for supply to cities miles away from villages and to meet the requirement of just 20% of the population. Such milk schemes could not increase production of milk and on the contrary damaged the welfare of villages. The villages lost their milk and the real beneficiaries were the Arab countries, the demand for whose diesel to run the milk transport sector increased.

Further, the milk collected from villages was so insufficient that it could not meet the requirement of the 20% urban population also.

Even if we consider a place which has a population of 10 thousand or more as a city, there are only 1788 cities whose population is more than 10 thousand. Cities with population of more than 1 lakh are only 148.

(Source: India 1977-78 Page 13)

The dairy milk does not reach cities which have population of less than 2 lakhs. Thus the milk schemes which have been implemented with investment of billions of rupees and which have imposed additional annual expenses of crores of rupees, are unable to meet milk requirement of even 100 cities. Even in cities where it reaches, it is not available to entire population of that city. The distribution arrangement results in waste of crores of man hours per year.

Import of milk powder:

When the milk schemes failed to meet the requirement of even a small number of cities and were unable to provide sufficient milk to them, instead of taking steps for increase of milk production, the government continued with policies which resulted in further reduction of milk production and started import of milk powder from foreign dairies. This opened up the gates of the second largest market in the world for the foreign dairies and larger frauds for exploitation of this market started.

In return for purchase of milk powder produced by the foreign dairies, such dairies gifted the machinery for processing of such powder and transport wagons in the name of aid! It is needless to say that the cost of such so called 'gift' must have been added in the price of the milk powder sold by these dairies to us. It is impossible to know as to whose shares or commissions would also have been added to the price in such import of milk powder.

The so called animals and dairy experts formulated plans involving thousands of crores of rupees for animal rearing and increasing in milk production. All these plans were on paper only and were only to mislead the people and the government. All these schemes were either unpracticable or were not implemented at all, or instead of increasing the production of milk, they helped in increasing production of eggs and meat.

Foreign countries were benefitted in the name of rearing of bulls:

We import exotic (foreign) bulls for the purpose of reproduction of cows and bullocks in our country paying exorbitant prices for such bulls. For the cost of one bull paid by us, we could have reared 32 bulls in our country. However, when certain persons or certain interested groups are involved in import of such bulls and when such persons are in position of power or are hand in gloves with the people in power, what else can be expected except such fraud?

Besides, the personal economical interest of the vested interest groups, possibly another intention behind such import of bulls could be to prevent the enactment of laws banning slaughter of cows and if such enactments are passed, the purpose could be to make them ineffective.

The calves born by cross-breeding with the imported bulls do not have a hump. When a calf does not have a hump, it cannot be used in the bullock cart or in the plough. Such calf is also unable to adjust to change in climatic conditions. It is not sturdy enough for hard labour. By nature also it is very aggressive and violent. Due to these characteristics such cross-breed calf is of no use. It can be used only for one purpose and that is to slaughter it for meat.

Even the female cross-breed calves also fail as regards yielding of milk. It is said that about 60% of cross breed female calves do not yield milk. The remaining 40% also do not yield milk in good quantity. Now if an enactment prohibiting cow slaughter is implemented, who will feed these 100 useless male calves for their entire life? And 1,000 bulls can help produce about 1 lakh male and female calves in a year. Hence persons owning such cross breed calves and cows will themselves oppose the law imposing total ban on slaughter of cows. If such a law exists, they will agitate for its repeal.

The Muslims are unable to understand that they are equally adversely affected - rather they are affected more than the Hindus by the policy of slaughter of cows. Nobody has made efforts to make them understand this. Earlier the British were instigating them in the name of religion and in the name of their right to eat beef (though there is no such right under any religion, nor can there be any such right) to oppose the demand of Hindus for ban on cow slaughter. After the British, now the secular brand of Hindus are instigating them with more vengeance and thus collecting their votes in elections.

It appears that the real intention behind producing the cross breed male and female calves with the help of imported bulls is to create a large section of Hindus who will oppose the ban on slaughter of cows. That is why crores of rupees are spent by the government, semi-government and other so called 'secular' persons for promoting the rearing of cross breed cattle in villages under the guise of creating avenues of income for farmers and villages from milk trade. It is believed that the management of Goshalas are bribed with lakhs of rupees to induce them to keep the cross breed cows.

Besides, the unnecessary import of foreign bulls, decisions were taken to establish 'Intensive Cattle Development Blocks' in various states. It was declared that the purpose of establishing such blocks was to increase the production of milk by 30% within 5 years. During 1965-72, 55 Blocks were created with the target of keeping one lakh cows or buffaloes in each Blocks.

Besides these 55 'Intensive Cattle Development Blocks', Key Village Blocks were established in 579 centres with the intention of rearing and improving the breeds of cows and buffaloes.

Whose interests are involved in creating colossal incomes for dairies under the guise of increasing milk production.

It would have been possible to repose faith in the milk schemes and the persons who formulated such schemes, if after a period of 5 years of implementation of the scheme, the import of milk powder would have been reduced by even 3% if not by 30% as against the declared target of a 30% increase in milk production. However, during 5 years after this scheme (of increasing milk production by 30%) the import of milk powder which was Rs.

6.64 crores in 1965, increased to Rs. 30.99 crores in 1975. After a period of 10 years, if the scheme of Intensive Cattle Development Block could have succeeded, in place of 55 lakh cows or buffaloes in those 55 blocks, the number of cows, or buffaloes should have increased by at least 6 times. Instead, the import of milk powder from foreign dairies increased by 466% in those 10 years. The milk powder imported from these foreign dairies was processed in Indian dairies and the promoters of the scheme started claiming at top of their voice that we are manufacturing so many lakhs litres of milk every day!

(Source: India 1977-78 Page 236)

Why do the economists keep mum against such frauds?

No economists, no leader of any political party or no member of any legislative assembly or parliament has raised a voice of protest against such frauds.

After the entry of the government in dairy industry, the import of milk powder has kept on increasing year after year. Milk is becoming costlier and more and more adulterated. There is increased corruption and waste of crores of manhours of the common man in standing in queues before the milk booths. Crores of manhours are being lost which could have otherwise been gainfully used in the cultural or economic progress of the nation.

With the policy of crushing of cotton seeds, the percentage of ghee in the milk of our cattle is also decreasing because the formation of ghee in milk is possible only by feeding cotton seeds to the cattle. Feeding of cotton seeds to cattle increases ghee content of the milk, makes it tasty and increases the shelf life of milk. If the cattle is fed with dry fodder, the milk becomes tastier and if it is fed with cattle-feed, the milk yield increases.

Depending on different varieties or breeds of buffaloes in different regions of India and depending on the feed given to them, the ghee content in the buffaloes, milk should be between 7.5% to 12.5%. However, ever since the policy of crushing cotton seeds is implemented, the ratio of ghee in buffaloes' and cows' milk is steadily declining and now this ratio is only 2.5% on an average.

The content of ghee milk is described as 'fat percentage'. However, this description is wrong. There is a malicious intention behind this misnomer. By describing ghee as fat, the idea is to reduce the dislike of the people for fat and then divert them towards eating of fat and thereby towards meat eating.

Misuse of words to induce people to eat 'fat' instead of ghee:

The correct word is 'ghee' and so its content in milk should be described as 'ghee-percent' instead of 'fat-percent'. The correct word in Hindi is 'Ghritansh' i.e. 'ansh' or content of ghee.

'Ghee' and 'fat' are not one and the same thing. The taste and quality of both are different. Fat gets formed in the body of an animal 10 days after consuming food by the animal. Ghee gets formed in the milk of a cattle within 24 hours after feeding it with cotton seeds. Fat is indigestible. After consuming it with food, it gets out of the body with stool. The intestines get tired in throwing out such fat with stool as they do not get any nutrition from fat. Thus a person consuming fat develops gas, suffers from constipation or dysentery and also loses appetite.

Fat induces ulcers in blood veins. If a grain of calcium which is consumed in the form of some medicine gets stuck in such an ulcer, it blocks the flow in the vein. If such an ulcer is in the main arteries carrying blood to heart and if a grain of calcium gets stuck in such an ulcer, it weakens the flow of blood to the heart and thus induces heart attack. This disease is called Angina. If immediate medical treatment is not available to the patient, the patient may die also. If a similar thing happens in some other parts of the body, a lump gets formed in the veins and some times it needs surgery.

On the other hand, pure ghee is fully digestible and increases strength of the body. It also increases 'Virya'. It reduces fatigue and its conversion in 'Virya' is very fast. It provides strength to the heart also. It cures constipation and makes the stool clear. It increases appetite. If pure ghee is of a cow, it destroys the ill-effects of all three basic causes of sickness i.e., 'Vat', 'Pitt' & 'Cough'. It throws out poisonous substances of the body and cleans up the system. It improves vision. It contains vitamin A. If pure ghee of a cow is massaged everyday in the feet it helps in removal of spots.

There are different words in Sanskrit, for, ghee and fat. Ghee is called 'Ghrith' and fat is called 'Med'. Thus ghee and fat are totally opposite substances as regards their ingredients and characteristics. Fat is very damaging whereas pure ghee is like a blessing. Still we are taught that pure ghee and fat are one and the same thing.

The Western science of animal rearing and our animal experts trained by the West have succeeded in destroying the qualities of our milk and ghee. Not only this, they have invited the famine of fresh milk and pure ghee in the country. Despite this, the officers of the dairy industry do not hesitate in making tall claims about the success of the 'White Revolution' has only succeeded in making the face of our people white (anemic). And the 'Operation Flood' has brought in the flood of milk of the foreign dairies and the flood of foreign debt. This flood is sweeping away with it the cattle wealth of our nation, our nation's prosperity, the moral values and the health of our people.

The dairy industry has made us slaves of the foreigners.

During the British regime dairy was the link to consign the best of our cattle wealth to the slaughter house. In independent India dairy has become the canal to open out the flow of milk and butter oil of the foreign dairies. Like an enemy which enters a fort by underground secret tunnel and takes possession of the fort, the foreign dairies have captured the largest market of the world for milk and ghee by entering through the Indian dairies.

It would have been difficult to oppose the plan and scheme of dairies if the purpose behind such schemes was to provide wholesome cheap and fresh milk as also pure ghee to the entire population - both urban and rural. However, not a single input which are necessary for running of a dairy industry; as vast grazing land sufficient fodder, the best and famous breeds of cows and bulls also of the same breed, sufficient cattle feed and arrangement to reach milk to each household without involving much expenses, are arranged for. Instead, our dairies are run with foreign aid, foreign loan, foreign milk powder and foreign butter oil and thus we have surrendered the vast market for milk and ghee in our country at the feet of foreign dairies. A gang of exploiters - both Indians and foreigners, is indulging in economic and cultural destruction of the nation in the name of dairy industry.

Even after spending billions of rupees on construction of dairy buildings, installation of machineries, purchase of motor vehicles and railway wagons, payment of huge sums of salaries to large number of employees and also colossal expenses after hundreds of dairy officers and bureaucrats and after incurring large foreign debts or getting foreign aid, our milk schemes are able to provide milk to hardly 50 cities and even such milk is stale adulterated and stinking and on top of it very costly.

This entire dairy scheme has totally failed. There is need to institute a Judicial probe into the working of the dairy department of the State Governments and the Central Government and the Animal Husbandry Departments. Such probe should be assisted by the traditional herdsmen of India who are well-versed with the subject of animal rearing and the trade of milk and ghee. If such a probe is not instituted, these dairy schemes will crush India under the burden of foreign debt., and the resultant corruption as also wide spread diseases. They will eventually convert India into an economic colony of the foreign dairies. If such a probe committee is not appointed by the Government, it should be appointed by the people and the culprits and the frauds must be exposed.

During the British regime when Government had refused to appoint a committee to investigate the Jalianwalabaug massacre; at the suggestion of Mahatma Gandhi, the Indian National Congress had established such a committee and this committee had exposed before the people the black deeds of General Dier and Governor Odwire.

Dairy is not an industry, it is a business. In the Indian context it is not practicable as business also. Dairy as business can never become economically viable. Milk and cow is a necessity for each family and an arrangement whereby the cow remains as part of the family, is the only practical and useful arrangement for our country. This arrangement is necessary from the economic angle, from the cultural angle, from the religious angle, from the angle of protection against diseases and poisonous pollution resulting from giant machinery based industries and atomic industries.

According to the Hindu religion, cow and milk were never items of merchandise for trade. Once milk is made an item of merchandise it can be snatched away from the hands of the poor and the middle class people and the cow can be stamped as uneconomical and consigned to the slaughter houses. This is a proved situation now.

The economic and cultural derogation of the country at the hands of dairies.

The Hindu religion has not given the first position to the milk of a cow,. That position is given to the male calf of a cow. For 'Godan' i.e. gifting away of a cow, it is not sufficient that the cow should be a milch cow, it should be a cow with the male calf (a cow with female calf is not fit for gifting away). Thus more importance is given to the male calf of a cow than its milk. This is so because there can not be foodgrain without the male calf. Without foodgrains there cannot be any life and if there is no life who will use the milk? However, under the dairy scheme the male calf is the first to go to the slaughter house. The cow follows after 6 to 8 months when it becomes dry.

After making cows and milk as items of merchandise, the value and importance of milk has increased. The male calf has been devalued. As a result, the entire agricultural sector, transportation sector and village industries have suffered a severe blow in their root itself. A bullock which was available for only Rs. 10/-, is now not available even for Rs. 5000/- to Rs. 7000/-.

There is a big capitalist fraud behind creating such a situation. One tractor's performance is equal to the performance of 3 pairs of bullocks. In those days, 3 pairs of bullocks would cost Rs. 60/- whereas a tractor was costing Rs. 10,000/-. Now for 3 pairs of bullocks one has to pay Rs. 30,000/- to Rs. 45,000/- whereas a tractor costs Rs. 1 lakh. However, government loan is easily and immediately available for the purchase of tractor. Loan for purchase of bullocks is not easily available and even if it is available by virtue of some influence, it is very meagre.

On one hand more and more land is being brought under cultivation and thereby the need for more bullocks for ploughing and the need for more fertilisers is being created. On the other hand, by increasing the slaughter of bullocks and young male calves as well as by increasing the production of useless male calves by cross breeding of cows and thereby creating obstacles

in the way of production of useful male calves, as also by creating scarcity of dung manures, the prices of bullocks have been so much increased that the farmers are tempted to go for tractors for which loan is easily available.

By indulging in such anti-cattle, anti-agricultural and uneconomic policies, the prices of bullocks increased from Rs. 10 to Rs. 5/7000 i.e. by 500 to 700 times. The price of tractor increased only 10 folds from Rs. 10,000/- to Rs. 1 lakh. As a result of this policy, the producers of steel and tractors as also the Arab countries selling diesel earned billions of rupees. However, as a result of increase in the production cost in the agricultural sector, the foodgrain expenses of the common man increased by 400%.

The question is not only of a tractor. To obtain diesel for running these tractors, we have to export more and more meat. The Janata Government which had taken vow to move on the Gandhian path, increased the export of meat by 190% in one year. To obtain diesel for a single tractor, number of animals have to be slaughtered and the people are compelled to do without fresh milk, pure ghee, fuel woollen clothes.

Billions of rupees are spent on machinery and buildings for dairies, whereas there is total neglect of the housing and employment need of crores of people !

Like a bullock, a tractor does not yield any manure and hence our country has to spend billions of rupees for import of fertilisers. And now we are spending much more capital for setting up fertiliser plants in our country. When crores of people have no roof on their head on our country, is it not

a crime against humanity to spend billions of rupees in setting up fertiliser plants? If we had not gone for the dairy industry and if we had re-established the Indian system centered around cows and other cattle, not a single family in India, would have become houseless. It is difficult to find out as to whose interests are involved behind these schemes of dairies and fertilisers. It is for the Government to investigate this aspect and put the true picture before the people.

When our country did not have dairies, when farming was done with the help of bullocks and when cows and bullocks were not slaughtered, the price of a bullock was Rs. 3.1/2 to Rs. 6. The farmyard manure was available free. As a result, depending on the variety, 57 to 80 pounds i.e. 20.5 to 36 kg. wheat was available for one rupee. The best quality and village industry produced sugar of Kashi was available at the rate of 3 kg. for a rupee and 63 kg. of rice were available for 1 rupee.

(Source: Economic History of India by R.C. Dutt, Information regarding rice is taken from page 159 in Part I and the information regarding wheat and sugar from Part II page 24 to 27 and page 76)

With increase in slaughter of cattle and with growth of the modern dairies, the prices of bullock increased leaps and bounds from Rs. 10, to Rs. 20, 50, 100, 150, 200, 500, 750, 1000, 1200, 1500, 2000, 3000 & 5000. The prices of foodgrain also increased by leaps and bounds. A rupee which could purchase 20 kgs. of wheat and 10 kg. of rice, can now purchase only 170 gm. of wheat and 70 gm of rice!

A farmer who was able to sell 25 to 31 kg. of wheat and 63 kg. of rice for a rupee, now complains that he is unable to sell even 500 gm of wheat and 250 gm. of rice for a rupee.

The dairies have played a major role in destruction of the cattle wealth of this nation and thereby have created crushing inflation. The command of our 'Shastras' was that cow and cow's milk can never be traded. We have defied this command, and as a result, like the water of all the rivers flowing to the ocean, the best of the cattle wealth of village is diverted to the city dairies and from there to the slaughter houses. In the vacuum so created, milk powder and butter oil manufactured in the foreign dairies enters the dairies in India and from there in all the cities and thus the foreign dairies loot the wealth of our Nation. As a repercussion of this policy, crores of children become blind and crores of aged and ill people are unable to get their milk requirements. As a result of the inflation arising out of such situation, 50% of our population is unable to have full meals twice a day.

Thus dairies are the canals which not only drive the milch cows, buffaloes and calves at the door steps of death, the death rays emanating from these dairies pervade the entire agricultural sector. And this weak and yet very costly agriculture is now crushing the entire population under heavy burden of poverty, hunger and diseases.

The skimmed milk powder which is imported from foreign dairies is made out of milk from which cream is already removed. As a result, the ghee content in such milk is very less. Our own dairy experts had laid down a standard that milk must have 7.5% ghee content. If anybody sold milk with less than 7.5% of ghee content, he was penalised. And hence the following steps were taken so that the milk produced out of imported skimmed milk powder meets the standard set for milk.

The milk collected from villages is processed in dairies so that its natural butter is taken out. Then the imported milk powder and water is mixed in such milk and the imported butter oil also mixed by some scientific process so that such milk can meet the test of 7.5% ghee content!

Whose interests are involved in gaining entry for the imported butter oil in our country?

We are not aware what this butter oil is. We only know that it is some unknown oily, yellow and stinking substance. Once it is mixed with

milk, there is a bad odour in the milk as well as in the tea prepared with such milk.

It appears that the foreign dairies are either unable to meet our entire requirement of this substance called butter oil, or it may be that they are demanding higher prices taking advantage of our need, or it may be that the sale of such milk which stinks because of mixture of 7.5% of such butter oil has decreased. Whatever may be the reason, the dairy experts made the government to change the rules regarding the composition of dairy milk and got the percentage of Ghee content reduced from 7.5% to 4%.

Today, the entire population of this country is thrown at the mercy of a few so called dairy experts. If these dairy experts declare that milk with only 1% of ghee content is standard milk, or if they say that only 10 gms. of milk for tea is just enough for the people and more than this quantity of milk is not necessary, or if they say that there is more nutrition in eggs and fish than milk, the people will have to accept these things and the government will also have to dance to the tune of these so called dairy experts and formulate policies accordingly.

83 Crore Indians are living at the mercy of a handful of selfish people

Consider this situation. Milk is drawn in front of your own eyes by a herdsman in your own vessel from a cow or a buffalo. A sample of such milk is taken by a Government official to the laboratory and even if the herdsman has not mixed water or anything else with the milk, if the ghee content is less than 4%, he might be imprisoned even if he sells pure and fresh milk. However, when milk is produced in the dairies out of stale milk powder wherein stinking butter oil is mixed by a scientific process, such milk is not considered adulterated and on the contrary it is considered of standard quality. What a contrast and irony!

The modern dairies set up under the guise of creating more income for the villagers have snatched away milk from villagers and thus whatever nominal nutrition which was available to the villagers is also snatched away. The dairies have resulted in creating unlimited income for the foreign dairies and for the Indian people involved in the import of milk powder from such dairies.

We could increase the import of milk powder by 742% in 26 years only when the exporting countries of such milk powder increased their export. These countries could increase their exports only by increase in their cattle wealth and increase in the capacity of their cattle to yield milk. This increased capacity could be attained by them by snatching away the cattle feed and cotton seeds from the mouths of our cattle. These foreign countries extended the bait of foreign exchange to us and tempted us to export our scarce cattle feed. On the other hand this foreign exchange was snatched away by them with interest by exporting milk powder and butter oil to us.

One of the basic principles of Indian economic science is that the production of things or goods should be at a place where they are needed.

Milk is one of the most essential item in day to day life. Therefore we had an arrangement whereby it was produced in each household and was available freely in its purest form. We disturbed this arrangement and made milk a commercial commodity. This opened ways for exploitation of people and cattle. It gave birth to the present day dairies and eventually, instead of becoming producers of milk, our dairies became selling agents for the foreign dairies.

The Western ways of thinking has bestowed glory to deeds which were once considered shameful.

It appears that the Government takes pride when milk from North Gujarat is supplied to Delhi and Milk from South Gujarat is supplied to Calcutta. However, nobody enquires whether the milk from dairies of North or South Gujarat is of local cows and buffaloes or made from imported milk powder.

Milk is produced in the dairies of South Gujarat out of imported milk powder and then it is sent to Calcutta. What more can be more shameful than such a thing?

Delhi was once a major centre of milk production. It used to provide buffaloes to Bombay. Haryana used to provide cows to Calcutta. Now if Delhi and Calcutta have to import powder milk from Gujarat, it means that the cows of Haryana and the Buffaloes of Delhi have become totally extinct. The cattle census published by the Government cannot be considered as true and unbelievable.

It is said that during 1976-77 our country's import of milk powder was Rs. 30.99 crores, which increased to Rs. 100 crores in 1978-79. If these figures are correct, it is a matter of grave concern. An increase of 220% in import of milk powder in two years only indicates the fast rate at which our cattle wealth is being destroyed.

It was published in newspapers in 1978 that the World Bank was pressurising India to enter into a Five Year contract for import of milk powder worth Rs. 250 crores and butter oil worth Rs. 50 crore annually from the Western Countries.

It is possible if we do not enter into such agreements, the World Bank may decline to grant us loan for the so called development (which in reality is for our destruction) and thereby compel us to import milk powder and butter oil.

During the battle of Troy, the enemy army had entered the city by hiding itself in the hollow stomach of wooden horses. In the battle of Junagadh, the Army of Sidhraj Jaisingh had entered Junagadh by hiding

itself in the packages of trading consignments. Similarly , the latent slavery of the Western countries has entered our country and reached the kitchens of each and every household through the milk wagons gifted by New Zealand to our country!

There is a saying in the Hindu moral science that a person who has lost 'Vivek' or discretion i.e. the sense of right and wrong meets his downfall in a hundred ways. We have proved this saying correct.

The meaning of 'vivek' in the above saying does not mean the 'vivek' of language or tongue. It means the 'vivek' of deeds. To flout the limits imposed by our religious scriptures is to indulge in 'Avivek'. The Hindu religion has forbidden to treat cows and cows' milk as merchandise. We flouted this command and made them commercial commodities. The results have been explained above. If we do not accept such limitation or command once again, it is possible that unbreakable chains of slavery will once again be around our necks and the Hindu religion and the Hindu culture will be totally wiped out from the face of this world and from its history too.

Today, your children get few drops of milk as a result of the mercy of foreign dairies. You are able to cook your food in your kitchen only with the help of kerosene obtained as a result of the mercy of Gulf countries and Russia. All your lorries, motor cars, railways and mechanised agricultural implements also function only as a result of the mercy of the oil producing nations. Are these hard facts not the signs of the latent slavery in which we are already trapped?