

# Increased amount will be passed on to nearly one million milk farmers: KMF

The price hike, after nearly two years and 10 months, has come at a time when small and marginal milk producers are moving away from dairy farming owing to rise in input costs

**The Hindu Bureau**  
BENGALURU

**T**he Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF), which increased the price of Nandini milk and curd by ₹2 from Thursday, said it would pass on the hiked amount to its nearly one million member-farmers who bring milk to the village-level societies daily across the State.

The decision to increase the price was taken at a meeting here on Wednesday, which came after KMF directors and officials met Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai on November 21.

While the KMF has been demanding a price revision by ₹5 a litre from last year, it unilaterally announced a hike of ₹3 a litre of milk and curd on November 14, taking the government by surprise. It was only after Mr. Bommai intervened that the new price was put on hold.

Finally, the government on November 21 allowed



Currently, milk producers get between ₹27 and ₹31 a litre. FILE PHOTO

the hike that would also safeguard the consumer interest, sources said.

The hike — after nearly two years and 10 months — has come at a time when small and marginal milk producers are moving away from dairy farming owing to rise in input costs and an almost stagnant/lower procurement price given by district milk unions or have started supplying to dairies that offer a higher price.

Currently, milk producers get between ₹27 and ₹31 a litre, depending on the milk union and fat content in the milk besides getting ₹5 a litre as an incentive from the State government. The additional ₹2 will help reduce the burden on the milk producers, who have been hit by nearly 30% hike in the input cost over the last two years.

KMF sources said the hike could bring about re-

New price from today

Toned milk (3% fat): ₹39/litre

Homogenised toned milk (3% fat): ₹40/litre

Homogenised cow milk (3.5% fat): ₹44/litre

Special milk (4% fat): ₹45/litre

Shubham milk (4.5% fat): ₹45/litre

Samrudhi milk (6% fat): ₹50/litre

Santrupthi homogenised milk (6% fat): ₹52/litre

Curd: ₹47/kg

lief since a large number of farmers in the border districts, especially Kolar, had started supplying milk to private dairies that sell milk at a higher price. "The federation had seen a steep dip in procurement from a peak 94 lakh litres in June to about 78 lakh litres now."

The KMF has cited the price of milk marketed by private dairies in the State that range from ₹44 to ₹50 a litre.