Chronology of Dairy Research and Development in India

Prior to Imperial Department of Agriculture and World War I: Provincial Agricultural Departments carried out very limited work:

(i) Establishing pedigreed herds of India breeds;

(ii) Studies on composition of milk produced by indigenous cows and buffaloes,

(iii) Establishing dairy farms by defense department to supply milk to British troops;

1916 Board of Agriculture after a detailed review advised Government of India to appoint an "Imperial Dairy Expert" to supervise dairy instruction and advise on dairy development.

1919 First All India Livestock Census carried out.

1920 Mr. William Smith appointed as the first "Imperial Dairy Expert" under the Agricultural Adviser to the Government of India, with headquarters at Kasauli (H.P.). Mr. Smith proposed utilizing some of the military dairy farms as centers for education, cattle breeding and extension.

1923 Inch cape Committee supported the above proposal. Military dairy farms at Bangalore, Wellington and Karnal transferred to the Imperial Department of Agriculture and placed under the Imperial Dairy Expert and his headquarter moved to Bangalore.

Bangalore farm organised as the main educational and experimental centre under the name "Imperial Institute of Animal. Husbandry and Dairying".
Kamal farm named as "Imperial Cattle Breeding Farm" and used for raising pedigreed herds of Haryana and Tharparkar breeds.

Wellington farm named as "Civil Dairy Farm" and used for raising Fern Ayrshire cattle and teaching hill dairy farming.

Three courses of instruction started at Bangalore:

(i) 2 year diploma (I.D.L.) to train dairy managers,

(ii) 15 month post graduate diploma (Ass.L.D.I) to train research workers.

(iii) Short courses of dairying duration for field workers.

Another substation established by taking over the military creamery at Anand to impart training in creamery methods.

Physiological Chemists Section located at Bangalore to carry out research in animal feeding.

Imperial Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) established.

Poisons' modern butter making factory established at Anand.

Agricultural Advisers organisation reorganised due to economic depression in the country; Anand creamery closed down and Wellington farm reduced to the status of a milk depot.

Pedigreed herds of Sindhi and Gir cows and Murrah buffaloes established at Bangalore;

Office of the Imperial Dairy Expert together with the Bangalore Institute and the Wellington Milk Depot, separated from IARI and placed directly under the then Department of Education, Health and Lands as an, "Attached Office".

Karnal farm transferred to L.R.I.

Bangalore Institute re designated as "Imperial Dairy Institute".

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1936  Dr. N.C. Wright, Director, Hannah Dairy Research Institute, Ayr. (Scotland), invited by Government of India to review the progress of dairying in India.

Dr. Wrisht's recommendations for the establishment of a Dairy Research Institute and appointment of a Director of Dairy Research accepted by Government of India.

1939  Dr. W.L. Davis of the National Institute for Research in Dairying (NTRD), Reading, England, appointed as the first Director of Dairy Research (DDR).

1940  The first report on "Marketing of milk in India and Burma" submitted, which emphasized the lack of an organised milk industry in the country.

1941  Dr. Davis suggested a site near Delhi for the proposed Dairy Research Institute. The scheme was accepted by the Government of India, but due to the financial constraints of World War II a start was made by locating two research sections of Dairy Chemistry and Dairy Bacteriology with skeleton-staff at LARI, New Delhi.

Bangalore Institute renamed as "Imperial Dairy Research Institute".

Imperial Dairy Expert redesignated as Dairy Husbandry Officer (DHO) and placed under the Director of Dairy Research.

Dr. Zal R. Kothhwalla, the then DHO, took over as DDR on the death of Dr. Davis and head quarter of DDR and the two research sections started at LARI shifted from New Delhi to Bangalore.

1944  Dr. Kothawalla appointed as Dairy Development Adviser under "Grow More Food Campaign", and Dr. K.C. Sen, then working as Officer-in-charge of Animal Nutrition Section at IVR f, appointed as DDR.
1945  Mr. R.A. Pepperall, an officer of the Milk Marketing Board of England, appointed as Milk Marketing Adviser for three months. For the first time in India, supply of rurally produced, pasteurised and chilled milk started from Poison Dairy, Anand, to Bombay.

1946  Dr. H. D. Kay, Director, NIRD (England), invited by Government of India to advise on dairy research and education. Pending final decision on the proposal, the Government of India accorded sanction for augmenting staff and construction of temporary laboratories at Bangalore to meet the immediate demands of research and training. Training for IDL accelerated and a three-month short course started.

Kaira District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union (AMUL) established.

1947  Work on Aarey Milk Colony started.

1949  First batch of animals moved into Aarey.

1951-55  A pilot scheme to improve milk supply of Delhi run by ICAR with the help of Dairy Development staff at Centre.

1955  National Dairy Research Institute (NDRI) established at Karnal and Bangalore converted into its southern regional sanction.

1957  First batch of students admitted for the B. Sc. Dairying Course at NDRI Karnal.

Second Milk Colony at Haringhetta (Calcutta) established.

1962  Third Milk Colony at Madhavaram (Tamil Nadu) established.

1965  "National Dairy Development Board" set up by the Government of India to provide technical services to the Indian Dairy Industry.
1966 NDRI placed under the administrative control of Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

1970 "Indian Dairy Corporation" registered to oversee the Implementation of "Operation Flood" project (India-WFP Project 618) which was launched on July 1, 1970.

1976 Preliminary work on "Operation Flood II" started.