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Gujarat: Shamalbhai Patel unanimously elected new chairman of GCMMF

After his election to the top post, Patel said his priority will be to ensure better procurement prices for milk producers

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The election was necessitated as the two-and-a-half- year term of the outgoing chairman Ramsinh Parmar and vice chairman Jetha Bharwad ended this month

Shamalbhai Patel, chairman of the Sabarkantha District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union, was on Thursday unanimously elected as chairman of the [Gujarat](#) Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited, the marketing body of the 'Amul' brand of milk and other dairy products.

Valamji Humbal, chairman of the Kutch District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union, also known as Sarhad Dairy, was elected as vice chairman of the [Gujarat](#) Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited (GCMMF), which has its headquarters in Anand.

Elections to the two posts were held here on Thursday in the presence of chairmen of the state's 18 dairy co-operatives who are also members of the [GCMMF](#) board.

BJP leader I K Jadeja, who was appointed as the election observer by the state government, announced that the federation members unanimously accepted the proposal to appoint Patel as GCMMF's chairman and Humbal as vice chairman.

The election was necessitated as the two-and-a-half- year term of the outgoing chairman Ramsinh Parmar and vice chairman Jetha Bharwad ended this month.

After his election to the top post, Patel said his priority will be to ensure better procurement prices for milk producers.

"I will also try to work as per the [Amul](#) pattern to develop the dairy and animal husbandry sector," said Patel, who heads the Sabarkantha District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union, also known as Sabar Dairy.

[GCMMF](#) Vice Chairman Humbal said the need was to ensure consumers get milk and its products at reasonable prices.

"The Sarhad Dairy was set up when (Prime Minister) Narendra Modi was the chief minister of [Gujarat](#). I believe we should not neglect milk consumers. We need to ensure that people get good quality milk and its products at an affordable price," Humbal said.

Shamalbhai Patel elected new chairman of GCMMF

Ahmedabad Mirror / Updated: Jul 24, 2020, 06:00 IST



Shamal Patel, chairman, with Valamji Humbal, the vice chairman after election on Thursday

BJP leader I K Jadeja was appointed election observer by Gujarat govt. GCMMF members unanimously elected Patel as chairman

Shamalbhai Patel, chairman of the Sabarkantha District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union, was on Thursday unanimously elected as chairman of the Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing Federation Limited, the marketing body of the Amul

brand of milk and other dairy products.

His nomination was proposed by Ramsinhbhai P Parmar, chairman of Kaira milk union and supported by Shankarbhai Chaudhary, chairman of Banas milk union. Valamji Humbal, chairman of the Kutch District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union, also known as Sarhad Dairy, was elected as vice chairman. BJP leader I K Jadeja, who was appointed as the election observer by the state government, announced that the federation members unanimously accepted the proposal to appoint Patel as GCMMF's chairman and Humbal as vice chairman.

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In the past 10 years, BJP has gained virtual control of all the major milk unions of Gujarat. Ramsinh Parmar was the last non-BJP chairman of GCMMF but he too left the Congress and joined the BJP in 2017. Within a year, Parmar got unanimously elected the chairman of GCMMF which has virtually become a 'Congress-mukt' federation.

Since the late Dr Verghese Kurien stepped down as the chairman in 2006, party politics has been the decisive factor in choosing a chairman. Commenting on the politicisation of the milk federation, Chairman of Gujarat State Cooperative Union Ghanshyam Amin told Mirror, "About 10 years ago, there were many unions headed by the Congressmen including the milk unions in the State. However, over the period of time BJP's gained hold on GCMMF."

Citing the example of Anand milk union, Amin said, "When Congress had hold over the union, they never brought politics into their decisions. They thought about the benefits to milk producers and I believe most members would be following the same practice." Currently, the member unions of GCMMF procure an average 240 lakhs litre of milk every day from 36 lakh milk producers in 18,562 villages. This, according to the experts, gives them access to these households whom they can influence during polls.

Dairy veteran Shamalji Patel elected as GCMMF chairman

[Rutam Vora](#) Ahmedabad | Updated on July 23, 2020 Published on July 23, 2020



Kutch cooperative leader Valamji Humbal becomes vice-chairman

Cooperative leader from North Gujarat, Shamalji Patel has been unanimously elected as the chairman of ₹52,000-crore dairy giant Gujarat Cooperative Milk Marketing

Federation (GCMMF) replacing the incumbent Ramsinh Parmar after the election at the 'Amul' marketer.

Patel heads the Sabarkantha District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union Ltd — known as Sabar Dairy — one of the 18 member unions of GCMMF.

Dairy leader from Kutch, Valamji Humbal, Chairman of the Kutch District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union, known as Sarhad Dairy, has been elected as vice-chairman.

Both leaders were elected unanimously at an election for the top posts of the dairy federation held on Thursday at Anand.

The group turnover of GCMMF, combining the turnover of all the constituent member unions and products sold under the Amul brand, has exceeded ₹52,000 crore or \$7 billion for 2019-20.