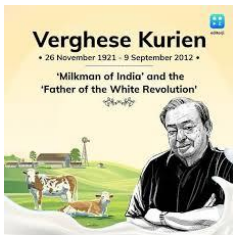




INDIAN SCHOOL AL WADI AL KABIR

Class: VIII	Department: ENGLISH	Date of submission: AUGUST -2026
Worksheet No:14	Topic: VERGHESE KURIEN_I TOO HAD A DREAM (ANSWER KEY)	Note: TO BE DONE IN NOTEBOOK



I Too Had a Dream is the deeply inspiring autobiography of **Dr. Verghese Kurien**, widely celebrated as the "**Father of the White Revolution**" in India. As told to Gauri Salvi, the memoir chronicles how a mechanical engineer who didn't even like milk ended up transforming India from a milk-deficient nation into the world's largest milk producer.

Beyond business, it is a story of empowering millions of rural, marginalized farmers through the creation of the **Amul** cooperative brand.

What We Learn From His Life

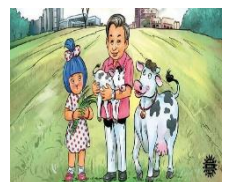
- **Helping People is True Progress:** Kurien believed that true progress is not just about building fancy factories; it is about giving poor people the power to earn a good living
- **Power to Women:** In Indian villages, women do most of the dairy work. Because Amul paid the farmers directly, village women finally got their own money, giving them a voice and respect in their homes.
- **A Happy Life:** At the end of the book, Kurien writes that he did not make himself a billionaire, but he died a happy man because he used his life to make millions of poor families wealthy and independent.

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I. Answer the following questions.

Q.1. What event does Dr. Kurien refer to when he mentions receiving the Padma Vibhushan?

Ans. Dr. Kurien refers to the occasion when he was honored with the Padma Vibhushan, India's second-highest civilian award, in recognition of his significant contributions to the White Revolution and to the development of India's dairy industry. It symbolizes the national acknowledgment of his dedication to rural upliftment and cooperative development.



Q.2. How did Dr. Kurien's decision to join the cooperative in Anand affect his life?

Ans. Dr. Kurien's decision to join the cooperative in Anand transformed his life completely. Though initially reluctant, he chose to stay and support the dairy farmers. This decision led him to pioneer the cooperative dairy movement, establish Amul, and spearhead the White Revolution. His life became a mission to empower rural India, and he became a national icon for selfless service and innovation in agriculture.



Q. 3. Dr. Kurien's decision to work in Anand reveals his values and sense of duty. Explain.

Ans. Dr. Kurien's choice to stay in Anand, rather than pursue a more lucrative or comfortable career, reveals his deep sense of responsibility, commitment to social justice, and empathy for farmers. Despite being a government employee posted elsewhere, he decided to serve the rural community, reflecting his selflessness, patriotism, and belief in grassroots development.

Q.4. Why did Dr. Kurien write the letter to his grandson?

Ans. Dr. Kurien wrote the letter to his grandson to share the wisdom of his life experiences and to inspire the younger generation. He wanted to convey important lessons about purpose, service, and the importance of making meaningful choices. The letter is a heartfelt attempt to pass on values such as hard work, integrity, and compassion.

Q.5. According to Dr. Kurien "life is a privilege and it is wrong to waste it". What is your opinion on this?

Ans. I agree with Dr. Kurien. Life offers each of us a chance to make a difference, however small. It is a gift filled with opportunities to grow, serve, and leave a positive mark. Wasting it on selfish pursuits or indifference not only limits our own potential but also denies society the benefits of our contributions. Living purposefully, like Dr. Kurien did, brings fulfilment and uplifts others.

Q. 6. What message does Dr. Kurien want to convey about selfless service and its long-term impact on the society?

Ans. Dr. Kurien emphasizes that selfless service has the power to bring about lasting transformation. By dedicating his life to rural India, he demonstrated that helping others can create stronger communities, economic empowerment, and social justice. His work proved that when individuals act with integrity and vision, the impact can resonate for generations.



II. Reference to Context (RTC) Questions

Q.1. "Upon returning to independent India in 1949, he was legally bound by his scholarship to serve a government stint. He was sent to a small, dusty government creamery in Anand, Gujarat—a place he initially detested and couldn't wait to leave."

a. Who is "he" in the above lines, and why was he legally bound to work for the government?

Ans. "He" refers to Dr. Verghese Kurien. He was legally bound because he had completed his higher studies in America on a government-funded scholarship, which required him to serve the government for a set period upon his return.



b. Why did he initially detest his placement in Anand?

Ans. Anand was a small, dusty, and isolated town at the time. As a highly qualified city-bred mechanical engineer, Kurien felt his talents were being wasted in an old government creamery, and he lacked interest in the dairy sector.

Q.2. "A massive turning point occurred when Kurien and his brilliant engineer friend, H.M. Dalaya, figured out how to make milk powder and condensed milk from buffalo milk. Up until then, the Western world insisted it could only be done with cow milk."

a. Why was this technical breakthrough considered as "massive turning point" for Amul?

Ans. During the winter "flush season," buffaloes produced a massive surplus of milk. Because milk spoils quickly, middlemen exploited farmers by buying it at dirt-cheap rates. Converting the surplus into powder allowed Amul to store it safely and sell it later, protecting the farmers' income.

b. How did this invention help India compete globally?

Ans. Western multinational corporations (like Nestlé) held a monopoly on milk powder, claiming it was impossible to make from buffalo milk. By breaking this myth, Kurien and Dalaya stopped India's reliance on expensive foreign imports and established domestic self-reliance.

Ex. III Assertion & Reasoning Questions

Directions: In the questions below, there are two statements labelled Assertion (A) and Reason (R). Choose the correct option:

- *Option 1: Both (A) and (R) are true, and (R) is the correct explanation of (A).*
- *Option 2: Both (A) and (R) are true, but (R) is NOT the correct explanation of (A).*
- *Option 3: (A) is true, but (R) is false.*
- *Option 4: (A) is false, but (R) is true.*

Question A

- **Assertion (A):** Dr. Verghese Kurien famously stated that he was not an employee of the government, but an employee of the farmers.
- **Reason (R):** Kurien constantly had to battle rigid government bureaucrats and red tape to protect the autonomy of the dairy cooperatives.
- **Answer: Option 1.** Both statements are true. Kurien viewed himself solely as the custodian of the farmers' interests, which is why he fiercely resisted bureaucratic interference that threatened the farmers' control over their own livelihoods.

Question B

- **Assertion (A):** Operation Flood is regarded as the largest dairy development program in human history.
- **Reason (R):** It completely transformed India from a milk-deficient nation into the world's largest milk producer.
- **Answer: Option 1.** Both statements are true, and (R) directly explains why (A) is correct. The unprecedented scale of turning a nation reliant on imports into the global leader in milk production is what earned Operation Flood its historic status.

Ex. IV. Competency / Value-Based Question

"True development is not about building roads or factories, but building people."

In light of Dr. Kurien's philosophy, analyze how the "Anand Model" (Amul) served as a tool for social empowerment rather than just a commercial business. Focus on its impact on marginalized groups like rural women and the caste system.

Model Answer / Rubric

Dr. Verghese Kurien's life work proves that economics cannot be separated from human dignity. The Anand Model was designed fundamentally to empower people, passing the ultimate control directly to the primary producers—the farmers.



- **Breaking Caste Barriers:** In village cooperative societies, every farmer stood in the same queue to deliver milk, regardless of their caste or social standing. This daily economic interaction quietly dismantled deep-rooted rural prejudices, fostering social equality.
- **Gender Empowerment:** In rural India, women carry out the majority of livestock care. By ensuring that milk payments were handed directly to the women who did the work, the cooperative provided them with independent financial stability. This altered household power dynamics, giving women a vital voice in family and village matters.
- **Self-Reliance Over Charity:** Instead of giving rural populations hand-outs or charity, Kurien provided them with infrastructure, veterinary knowledge, and marketing power.

Value Takeaway: True leadership leaves behind an ecosystem where people are capable of sustaining themselves. Kurien's legacy shows that a successful business model can—and should—be built on the foundation of social justice and human upliftment.

