

## Livestock, Poultry and Fisheries

### Livestock sector

8.14 In the livestock sector, the success in the area of dairying is well-known. Production

Year	Milk Production (Million tonnes)	Per capita availability (gms/day)
1950-51	17.0	124
1960-61	20.0	124
1970-71	22.0	112
1980-81	31.6	128
1990-91	53.9	176
2000-01	80.6	220
2001-02	84.4	225
2002-03	86.2	230
2003-04	88.1	231
2004-05	90.7	232

Source : Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.

of milk has gone up more than five-fold since independence, resulting in near doubling of per-capita milk availability (Table 8.8). The

entire livestock sector plays an important role in the national economy and the socio-economic development of the country by contributing significantly to not only value added in allied sectors and providing employment and incomes to millions of people in both urban and rural areas but also nutritional security to the people (Box 8.1).

### Poultry

8.15 Landless labourers often derive more than 50 per cent of their income from livestock, especially poultry. The value of output from poultry sector is nearly Rs. 15,000 crore, and the sector provides direct or indirect employment to over two million people. With output of 45 billion eggs in 2004-05, India ranks among the top six egg producing countries in the world. Furthermore, poultry today is one of the fastest growing segments in the economy.

8.16 India is among the top five chicken meat producing countries in the world (FAO Data 2004, provisional). Around 1.65 MT of chicken-meat was produced in 2004. For poverty alleviation, nutritional nourishment and gender empowerment, Government is

### Box 8.1 : Livestock Sector – Importance for Employment and Income

According to the 17th Livestock Census (reference date: Mid-October 2003) released in January 2005, India owns one of the largest livestock populations in the world. It accounts for 57 per cent of the world's buffalo population and 16 per cent of the cattle population. It ranks first in respect of cattle and buffalo population, third in sheep and second in goat population in the world. While a majority of the animals continue to be reared under sub-optimal conditions, still India is the largest producer of milk in the world.

Total export earnings from livestock, poultry and related products was Rs. 5,120 crore in 2004-05, of which leather accounted for Rs. 2,660 crore and meat and meat products for Rs. 1,720 crore. Besides, the sector also plays an important role in utilization of agricultural by-products, such as hay, which are unfit for human consumption. The livestock sector produced 90.7 MT of milk, 45.2 billion eggs, 2.12 MT of meat and 44.5 million kgs. of wool in 2004-05.

In dairying, an important source of livelihood to a large proportion of landless labourers and small and marginal farmers, milk production has risen more than five fold since 1950-51. As a result of Operation Flood, presently, more than 1.10 lakh village-level co-operative societies, functioning with about 13 million producer members, are procuring more than 200 lakh kgs of milk per day. These cooperatives form a part of the National Milk-Grid, which links the milk producers throughout India with consumers in over 700 towns and cities. The Grid not only bridges the gaps between the seasonal and regional variation in the availability of milk, but also ensures a remunerative price to the producers and a reasonable price and quality for milk and milk products to the consumers.

An Intensive Dairy Development Project (IDDP) was launched in the country in the non-operation flood, hilly and backward areas with the objectives of development of milch cattle, increased milk production by providing technical input services, procurement, processing and marketing of milk in a cost effective manner, ensuring remunerative price to the milk producers and generating additional employment opportunities in the rural areas. The programme is currently being implemented in 25 States and one Union Territory. 62 projects with an outlay of Rs. 334 crore have been approved since inception of the scheme and an expenditure of Rs. 234 crore has been incurred up to end-March 2005.

### Box 8.2 : Measures to prevent Avian Influenza

- Import of poultry and poultry products from affected countries has been banned.
- Customs authorities have been asked not to clear any baggage of livestock/livestock products without getting it cleared by the quarantine officer.
- States have already taken steps to tackle any eventuality in the event of an outbreak by activating the State Animal Disease Emergency Committees (SADEC).
- The samples from the suspected flock are collected and sent to High Security Animal Disease Laboratory (HSADL), Bhopal for testing to rule out the possibility of the disease in the country.
- An action plan has been prepared by the Ministry of Environment and circulated to the State Animal Husbandry Departments for preparedness planning in respect of bird flu.
- Surveillance has been intensified, with regular screening of samples of poultry and wild/migratory birds.
- For collection and dispatch of samples, especially from the migratory and wild birds, training has been organized by the Regional Disease Diagnostic Laboratories (RDDL).
- A strategic reserve of vaccine against H5 and H7 types of Avian Influenza virus has been built up by importing 1.5 million doses of vaccines.
- A central reserve of Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) has been set up. Five samples each of PPE have been dispatched to all the States/RDDLs with a request that they may procure further supplies of kits of PPE as per their requirements.
- The State Governments have been requested to form Rapid Response Teams (RRTs) for culling the birds and for vaccination, if required.
- Weekly update on the situation is put up on the website [www.dahd.nic.in](http://www.dahd.nic.in) and till end-January there has been no report of occurrence of bird flu in the country.

promoting the development of the poultry sector, particularly of the rural backyard variety. Under 'Assistance to State Poultry Farms', a Centrally sponsored scheme, the North Eastern States are being provided with 100 per cent financial assistance, while the other States receive 80 per cent of their funds requirement.

8.17 In view of the threat of Bird Flu, the Government has taken various steps for prevention of spread of the disease into the country (Box 8.2).

### Fisheries

8.18 India is the third largest producer of fish and second largest producer of inland fish in the world. It is a source of cheap and nutritious food besides being a major foreign exchange earner (Table 8.9). The fisheries sector is a source of livelihood of over 11 million people engaged fully, partially or in subsidiary activities pertaining to the sector. Marine Fishing Policy (2004) laid the foundation for a sustainable level of marine fish production keeping in view ecological and bio-diversity considerations.

**Table 8.9 : Production and export of marine products**

Year	Fish production (Million tonnes)			Export of marine products	
	Marine	Inland	Total	Quantity (‘000 tonnes)	Value (Rs. crore)
1950-51	0.5	0.2	0.7	20	2
1960-61	0.9	0.3	1.2	20	4
1970-71	1.1	0.7	1.8	40	35
1980-81	1.5	0.9	2.4	80	235
1990-91	2.3	1.5	3.8	140	893
2000-01	2.8	2.8	5.6	503	6296
2001-02	2.8	3.1	5.9	458	5815
2002-03	3.0	3.2	6.2	521	6793
2003-04	3.0	3.4	6.4	412	6086
2004-05	2.8	3.5	6.3	474	6188

Source : Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries.