

Animal Husbandry, Dairying And Fisheries

8.19 Livestock production is an integral part of crop farming and contributes substantially to household nutritional security and poverty alleviation through increased household income. The returns from livestock, especially dairying and mixed farming in small and medium holdings, are larger and highly sustainable. The progress in this sector results in more balanced development of the rural economy, and improvement in economic status of poor people associated with livestock.

8.20 India has nearly 57 per cent of the world's buffalo population and 16 per cent of the cattle population. India has now become the largest producer of milk in the world. Table 8.12 shows the progress achieved in milk production and per capita availability.

8.21 During 2000-01, besides 81 million tonnes of milk, the livestock sector contributed 32.4 billion eggs, 47.6 million kgs of wool, and 4.7 million tonnes of meat. An important feature of meat production in the country is that, in recent years, poultry production ranging between 5.8 to 7.0 million tonnes, has exceeded goat meat production ranging between 4.7 to 6.0 million tonnes. It is estimated that about 18 million people are employed in the livestock

TABLE 8.12 Production and Per Capita Availability of Milk		
Year	Milk Production (Million Tonnes)	Per Capita Availability (Gms/per day)
1950-51	17	124
1960-61	20	124
1970-71	22	112
1980-81	32	128
1990-91	54	176
1996-97	69	202
1997-98	72	203
1998-99	75	211
1999-00*	78	214
2000-01*	81	217
* Provisional		

sector in principal or subsidiary status. Export earnings from livestock sector and related products are progressively rising. Finished leather accounted for as high as 50 per cent (Rs 1,745 crore) and meat and meat products accounted for 42 per cent (Rs 1,457 crore) of the total export from the livestock sector during 2000-01.

8.22 Fisheries sector plays an important role in the socio-economic development of the country since it is an important source of livelihood for a large section of the economically backward population of the country, particularly in the coastal areas. It is not only an important source of direct employment but generates employment in downstream industries. It is estimated that about 6 million people are employed in the fisheries sector. Fish production and exports are shown in Table 8.13.

8.23 The contribution of livestock and fishery sector to total GDP was 6.9 per cent (5.9 per cent from Livestock and 1 percent from Fisheries) in 2000-2001 at current prices. The value of output of livestock and fisheries sectors was estimated to be Rs 1,70,205 crore during 2000-2001 which is about 30.3 per cent of the total value of output of about Rs 5,61,717 crore from the agricultural and allied sectors. The contribution of the milk group alone (Rs 101,990 crore) was higher than wheat (Rs 47,091 crore) and sugarcane (Rs 27,647 crore).

TABLE 8.13 Production and Export of Fish and Marine Products					
Year	Fish Production			Export of Marine Products	
	Marine	Inland	Total	Qty	Value
	(Million Tonnes)			(’000 Tonnes)	(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	873
1996-97	3.0	2.4	5.4	380	4,121
1997-98	3.0	2.4	5.4	390	4,697
1998-99	2.7	2.6	5.3	300	4,627
1999-00*	2.9	2.8	5.7	300	5,116
2000-01*	2.8	2.8	5.6	430	6,318
* Provisional.					