

Livestock and fisheries

8.12 Livestock sector plays an important role in the national economy and in the socio-economic development of the country. Livestock sector produced 86.4 million tonnes of milk, 41.7 billion eggs, 52.1 million kgs of wool, 4.94 million tonnes of meat and 6.2 million tonnes of fish in 2002-03. The sector provides regular employment to 11 million in principal status and 9 million in subsidiary status. Women constitute 69 per cent of the labour force in livestock sector as against 35 per cent in crop farming. The livestock and fishery sector contributed 6.5 per cent to total GDP (5.4 per cent from live stock and 1.1 per cent from fisheries) in 2002-03.

8.13 India owns one of the largest livestock population in the world and has now become the largest global producer of milk. The production and per capita availability of milk in the country are given in Table 8.10.

8.14 India is the sixth largest producer of fish and second largest producer of inland fish in the world. Fisheries sector is recognized as a powerful generator of income and employment. It is also a source of cheap and nutritious food besides being a major foreign exchange earner. The trends of fish production and export are presented in Table 8.11.

8.15 The major thrust of the policies and programmes of the Government of India relating to livestock and fisheries is in the areas of rapid genetic upgradation of milch animals, improvement in the delivery mechanism of breeding inputs, control of animal diseases, creation of disease free zones, increased availability of nutritious feed and fodder, development of dairy activities and backyard poultry, development of processing and

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	80.8	215
2001-02	84.3	221
2002-03*	86.4	226

* Provisional
Source : Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

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	873
2000-01	2.8	2.8	5.6	503	6,296
2001-02	2.9	3.1	5.9	468	5,898
2002-03	3.0	3.2	6.2	502	6,683

Source : Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying.

marketing facilities and enhancement of production and profitability of livestock and fisheries enterprises.