

Animal Husbandry and Dairying

8.32 Animal Husbandry and Dairying play an important role in the national economy and in the socio-economic development of the country. Livestock sector provides regular employment to 9.8 million in principal status and 8.6 million in subsidiary status, which together constitute 5 per cent of the total work force. 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. But majority of these cattle, due to low economic status of the livestock owner, are reared under sub-optimal conditions. Despite this constraint, India has now become the largest producer of milk in the world. The milk production in 1998-99 is expected to be around 75 million tonnes. Table 8.15 shows the trend in milk production and per capita availability.

Year	Milk Production (Million Tonnes)	Per capita Availability (Grms./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
1996-97(P)	69.1	202
1997-98(P)	70.8	204
1998-99@	74.7	211
P Provisional	@ Anticipated	

8.33 Livestock contributed 74.7 million tonnes of milk, 30.2 billion eggs, 45.5 million Kgs. of wool, 4.42 million tonnes of meat and 5.26

million tonnes of fish during 1998-99. Over the years the contribution of livestock sector to agriculture GDP has increased from 17 to 25 per cent.

8.34 Export earnings from livestock sector and related products increased to Rs. 1925 crore in 1998-99 as compared to Rs. 792 crore in 1996-97 showing an annual growth of about 12 per cent. Out of the total exports, leather and leather products accounted for Rs. 1069 crore (55 per cent) and meat and meat products accounted for Rs. 693 crore (36 per cent) in value terms.

Milk Based Industries

8.35 The production of milk powder including infant milk food is estimated to have increased from 2.22 lakh tonnes in the calendar year 1998 to 2.25 lakh tonnes in the calendar year 1999. The estimated production of various milk products in the organised sector including milk powder, infant milk food, malted milk food, condensed milk and cheese, but excluding butter and ghee, is shown in Table 8.16.

Milk Based Industry	1996	1997	1998	1999
Milk Powder/ Infant Milk Food	210	215	222	225
Malted Milk Food/ Malted Food	53	55	65	66
Condensed Milk	9.3	7.8	9.0	11.0
Cheese	4.0	4.5	5.0	5.0
Total Production	276.3	282.3	301.0	307.0
Note : Total production excludes butter and ghee.				