

A CASE STUDY

Livestock sector in India : Agenda for the future

A.V. TAK AND V.B. TAK

Accepted : May, 2010

White revolution is associated with a sharp increase in milk production. During 1964-65, Intensive Cattle Development programme (ICDP) was introduced in the country in which a package of improved animal husbandry was given to cattle owners for promoting white revolution in the country. Later on, to accelerate the pace of white revolution, a new programme named 'Operation Flood' was introduced in the country. The Operation Flood programme, which is the world's largest integrated dairy development programme has made considerable progress in achieving its outlined objectives. During 2006-07, 100.9 million tones of milk was produced in the country. India stands first in the world in milk production. USA stands second in the world.

Dr. Varghese Kurien is the pioneer of operation flood in India. All credit for its implementation and successful operation goes to him only. Operation flood programme was started in 1970 by National Dairy Development Board (NDDB). The programme has completed its III phase in April 1996.

Role and important first:

- Animal husbandry and dairying play an important role in national economy and in socio-economic development of the country.
- Animal husbandry output constitutes about 30% of the country's agricultural output.
- Animal Husbandry sector contributes 5.3% to the total GDP and about of quarter of the GDP from agriculture and allied activities.
- Livestock sector provides regular employment to 11 million in principal

status and 9 million in subsidiary status.

- Women constitute 69% of the labour force in livestock sector as against 35% in crop farming.

- According to the All India Summary Reports of 17th Livestock Census (released in July 2006), India possesses the largest livestock population in the world after Brazil. It accounts for 14% of the cattle population and 57% of buffalo population.

- The 18th livestock census has been conducted throughout the country with reference date of October 15, 2007, results of which are awaited.

- India has become the largest producer of milk in the world.

- Livestock contributed 104.8 million tones of milk, 53.5 billion eggs, 44 million kgs. of wool, 2.6 million tones of meat and 7.3 mullion tones of fish during 2007-08.

- Livestock Insurance Scheme was approved in February 2006 for its implementation during the remaining part of 2005-06, and in 2006-07 on a pilot basis in 100 selected districts across the country with a total outlay of Rs. 120 crore. The scheme aims at protecting the farmers against losses due to untimely death of animals. The Central Government is providing subsidy to the tune of 50 per cent of the premium under the scheme.

- About 6 million people are employed in the fisheries sector.

- Poultry development in India has made impressive progress during the last three decades. At present India ranks among the top 5 nations in egg production in the world.

- India has become the largest global producer of milk.

India is the sixth largest producer of

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

A.V. TAK

Department of Agricultural Economics and Statistics, Marathawa Agricultural University, PARBHANI (M.S.) INDIA

Key words : Livestock, Agenda