

2.2 Animal Husbandry, Dairy Development and Fisheries

2.2.1 Livestock and livelihood are closely interconnected in rural households since time immemorial. The livestock sector contributes significantly in generating employment opportunities especially self-employment and increasing the income of small and marginal farmers and landless labourers besides providing food security. With a total population of 249.42 lakh livestock and 365.91 lakh poultry, Government, through the Animal Husbandry Department is required to play a major role in providing veterinary health care and in improving the genetic potential of livestock and poultry reared in the State.

Strategies for Animal husbandry Sector

2.2.2 It is estimated that only 20-25% of the cattle are in the category of cross bred/graded stock. Therefore, measures for increasing coverage of artificial insemination to increase crossbred population along with reduction of unproductive local stock becomes necessary. Hence the future policy has to aim at:

- Evolving high yielding animals by utilizing the latest technology.
- Reducing the number of unproductive animals.
- Increasing feed and fodder resources.
- Since cross-breeding has resulted in exotic blood levels in excess of recommended levels, back-proposing is advocated with recognized breeds like *Tharparkar* or *Gir*.

2.2.3 The strategy will be prevention of further encroachments in grazing lands, development of drought resistant / salt resistant fodder crops, establishment of legume pastures/ silivipastures, rotational grazing, pastures management, establishment of Village level seed and Fodder Banks, Forage Grid, liberal / low interest credit facilities, effective utilisation of crops residues such as urea enrichment, treatment of sugarcane bagasse, jowar, paddy straw, village level mixing units etc and utilisation of tree fodder, agro-forestry

on private land and motivating farmers on establishment and management of pasture.

2.2.4 Veterinary Health Service and breeding facilities are provided within the reach and at the doorstep of the farmers in the villages under the Livestock Protection Scheme. A National Programme for Cattle and Buffalo breeding which aims at providing the quality of livestock and conservation and indigenous breeds is being implemented with GOI funding. The Tamil Nadu Livestock Development Agency has been set up to spearhead the implementation of this project.

2.2.5 With the sustained efforts of Government in implementing various programmes with judicious utilization of animal and natural resources in an eco-balanced way, the estimated milk production which was 35.24 lakh metric tones during 1993-1994, has increased to 54.74 lakh metric tones during 2003-2004. During the same period, the estimated egg production has increased from 2919 million numbers to 6223 million numbers. The meat production in registered Slaughter Houses has increased from 41.82 million kgs. to 46.67 million kgs (119 million kgs of meat and broilers produced during 2005-06). This has led to a per capita availability of 234 grams of milk per day and 97 number eggs per annum. With increased thrust to this sector, it will not only be capable of meeting basic demands of the rapidly growing population but it will also help in comprehensive socio-economic transformation of rural people.

2.2.6 The agreed outlay for 2006-07 is Rs. 2149.15 lakh for the Animal Husbandry sector. Of this, the outlays for Scheduled Caste Sub Plan is Rs.55.45 lakh.

Dairy Development

2.2.7 Milk trade has become a cottage industry providing employment opportunity in rural areas, particularly to the women folk thereby supplementing the family income. There are 17 District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union (DCMPU) functioning in the State of Tamil Nadu covering 30 Districts with an installed processing capacity of 19.46 lpd. There are 39 Chilling Centres in District Co-operative Milk Producers' Union with installed

chilling capacity of 13.23 lpd respectively. The Tamil Nadu Co-operative Milk Producers' Federation Limited is an apex body of 17 District Cooperative Milk Producers' Union. The Federation has four dairy plants in Chennai, one at Ambattur with a capacity of 4.00 lakh litres per day, another at Madhavaram with a capacity of 2.00 lakh litres per day and the third dairy at Sholinganallur with a capacity of 4.00 lakh litres per day. The fourth at Ambattur is the dairy producing with products like Buttermilk, Icecream, Mysorepa, Yoghurt, Khova, Gulabjamun, Curd and Lassi.

2.2.8 About 14.54 lakh cows and 1.95 lakh buffaloes are under the Co-operative fold and they are provided with a breeding cover through artificial insemination by using frozen semen. The producer members are supplied with cattle feed and fodder for their animals. Health cover through mobile veterinary units and vaccination against Foot and Mouth Disease and Filariasis diseases are also provided. The Artificial Insemination facilities are made available in 2355 A.I centres, 4579 Dairy Cooperative Societies are covered under Animal Health Programme.

2.2.9 The average milk procurement in the DCMPUs is 17.26 lpd (as on 31.03.2004). The District Union, local and Chennai market consumes 17-18 lakh litres of milk daily. Government has recently increased the procurement price of milk by a rupee per litre without affecting a corresponding increase in the sale price.

2.2.10 As against the outlay of Rs. 59.50 lakh for Dairy Development sector for 2005-06, an amount of Rs.59.50 lakh is expected to be spent. The agreed outlay for 2006-07 is Rs. 322.94 lakh.

Fisheries

2.2.11 Fisheries has been recognised as a powerful income and employment generator as it stimulates growth of a number of subsidiary industries and is a source of cheap animal protein. It is an instrument of livelihood for a large section of economically backward population of the country.

2.2.12 With a 1076 km long coastline (13% of country's coastline), 0.19 million sq km of EEZ (9.4% of India's EEZ) and a continental shelf of about

41,412 sq km, Tamil Nadu is a leading State both in culture and capture fisheries. As against the total fishery potential of 0.965 million tonnes from both inland and marine resources of Tamil Nadu, the present level of fish production is 0.475 million tonnes, which is about 49.5 % of the total potential. The marine fisheries potential of the State is estimated at 0.719 million tonnes (0.369 million tonnes from less than 50 m. depth and 0.35 million tonnes beyond 50 m. depth) as against the all India potential of 3.934 million tonnes. Of the East Coast States, Tamil Nadu handles the maximum catch, followed by West Bengal. The export of marine products from the State during 2001-02 amounted to 58483 MT valued at Rs.20164 million. Of the total brackish water aquaculture area of about 55,907 ha. only about 8000 ha is actually under aquaculture production. The inland fisheries sector has about 3.71 lakh ha of water spread comprising of reservoirs (52,000 ha), short seasonal irrigation tank (1,58,100 ha), tanks (72,690 ha) and ponds (32,000 ha). The inland fishermen population is about 1.97 lakh of which 0.60 lakh are active fishermen.

2.2.13 The marine fish production has increased from 0.57 lakh tonnes in 1955-56 to 3.08 lakh tonnes during 2004-05. Similarly, Inland fish production has increased from 0.36 lakh tonnes in 1955-56 to 0.87 lakh tonnes in 2004-05. At present there are 8 fish seed production centers and 29 fish seed rearing centers located in various places with a capacity to produce 2750 lakhs of early fry.

2.2.14 The State has a fishermen population of about 7.37 lakhs of which 2.80 lakhs fishermen are actively engaged in fishing from 591 fishing villages. There are 1244 primary fishermen cooperative societies which includes 329 inland fishermen / fisher women cooperatives. Presently, there are 13,064 mechanised fishing boats (upto 31.1.2006) and about 50,700 traditional crafts of which 20,000 crafts have been motorized.

2.2.15 "Fisheries Development Mission" has been constituted in the State to enhance the production of fish and sustain the productivity of fishermen, fish farmers and fishing industry, sustain livelihoods and generate further employment for coastal and rural poor, improve the socio-economic condition of the traditional fishermen and fish farmers, protect the interest of the

traditional fishing communities and improve the technology and asset-base of the traditional fisher folk and augment fish production for both domestic and export markets. The following are the strategies adopted for marine and inland fisheries:

Marine

- Provision of assistance for the purchase of suitable non-trawlers.
- Augmenting marine fish production in the inshore areas by stock enhancement (sea ranching) and establishing artificial reefs along the coast.
- Uplifting the socio-economic conditions of fisher folk by implementing welfare programmes.
- Promoting sustainable eco friendly coastal farming.
- Creation of infrastructure facilities, shore facilities for hygienic handling of fishes.
- Creating awareness about code of conduct responsible for Fisheries.
- Dissemination of information on potential fishing zones for exploitation by coastal fishermen.

Inland

- To generate income and employment opportunities to fishermen, fish farmers etc.
- Diversifying the present culture system in the aquaculture scenario by introducing technically feasible, economically viable, eco friendly and socially acceptable culture systems such as cage culture, fresh water prawn culture, sewage fed fish culture, integrated fish farming etc.
- Encouraging and transferring the technology of sewage fed fisheries for productive purposes.
- Popularizing integrated aquaculture for rational utilization of land and water.

- Introducing measures to protect the bio-diversity.
- Developing recreational fisheries in upland water bodies to boost tourism and employment opportunities.

2.2.16 The agreed outlay for 2006-07 is Rs.4113.53 lakh for Fisheries sector. Of this, an amount of Rs. 429.00 lakh is earmarked Scheduled Caste Sub Plan.