

CHAPTER-VI

LIVESTOCK AND DAIRY DEVELOPMENT

LIVESTOCK POPULATION:

6.1.0. As per the provisional report of the Livestock Census, 2003, the total Livestock Population in Assam was 140.23 lakh as against the population of 134.67 lakh in 1997 as per Livestock Census, 1997. According to the provisional Report of the Livestock Census, 2003, Cattle Population in the State constituted the largest group numbering 86.40 lakh followed by Goat Population 27.82 lakh, Pig 12.62 lakh and Buffalo 6.59 lakh. The Livestock Census, 2003, has shown a positive growth in the population of species like cattle (7.6 per cent), Goat (3.9 per cent), and pig (16.6 per cent) over the population of previous census whereas the population of Buffalo (9.5 per cent), Sheep (10.7 per cent) and Horses & Ponies (8.3 per cent) have shown a negative growth over the same period. The Table-6.1 provides the species-wise livestock population in Assam as per Livestock Censuses 1994, 1997 and 2003.

TABLE-6.1				
LIVESTOCK POPULATION IN ASSAM				
(In thousand heads)				
Livestock Species		Livestock Census		
		1994	1997	2003
1		2	3	4
1.	Cattle	7777	8030	8640
2.	Buffaloes	652	728	659
3.	Goats	2645	2677	2782
4.	Pigs	828	1082	1262
5.	Sheep	77	84	75
6.	Horses and Ponies	14	12	11
7.	Other Livestock	930	854	594
Total		12923	13467	14023

Source: Directorate of Animal Husbandry & Veterinary Department, Assam.

POULTRY POPULATION

6.1.1. The Poultry population of the State, as revealed by the Livestock Census, 2003 (Provisional), has registered a slight decline by 1.3 per cent over the previous Census, 1997. The category wise population of these species during 2003 were Fowls 124.13 lakh and Duck 53.35 lakh.

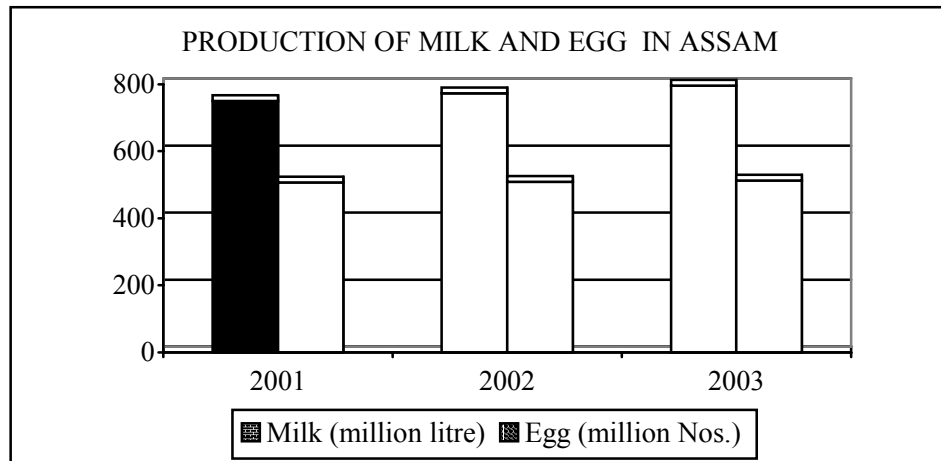
LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

6.2.0. The Livestock population of Assam mainly belong to the indigenous non-descript type for which the average production of Livestock in the Stat is poor in comparison to the position in other States of India. As per data made available by the state Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary the estimated volume of production of milk during the year 2003-3004 is 796 million litres as against 773 million litres in 2002-2003. Again, the production of egg during 2003-2004 has been estimated at 513 million numbers as against 509 million nos. during 2002-2003.

TABLE-6.2				
PRODUCTION OF MILK, EGG				
AND MEAT IN ASSAM				
Item		2001	2002	2003
1		2	3	4
1.	Milk (million Litres)	750	773	796
2.	Egg (million nos.)	507	509	513
3.	Meat (thousand tones)	19.50	20.90	22.35

Source : Directorate of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary Department, Assam.

In case of meat, the production during 2002-2003 was 20.94 thousand tonnes, while the estimated production of the same during 2003-2004 has been reported at 22.35 thousand tonnes. The table 6.2 shows the trend of livestock production in the State during the year 2001-2002, 2002-2003 and 2003-2004.



It has however, been observed from the production data that the quantum of per capita availability of milk, egg and meat per month in Assam is very negligible, as the same has been worked out at 2.5 liters of milk, 1.6 nos. of eggs and 7.0 gm meat only.

Development Programmes :

6.3.0. The State Government has undertaken some scheme for development of Livestock, Poultry, Piggery etc. The main objectives of the schemes are rapid socio economic development, creation of gainful employment in rural areas etc. The leading schemes continued to be implemented by the Department are as follows –

(i) Intensive Cattle Development Project (ICDP) :

It is a Livestock development scheme in the field of Artificial Insemination of Cattle. There are 11 No. of ICDP Centre in the State and at present, the activities of most of the centres are entrusted to the Assam Rural Infrastructure and Agricultural Services Project (ARIASP).

(ii) Coordinated Cattle Breeding Project :

The main objective of this scheme is to identify crossbreed bulls of high genetic merit and transmitting ability of milk for future breeding programme of the State.

(iii) Bovine Contagious Pneumonia Scheme (BCPP) :

It is a centrally sponsored scheme mean to strengthen the working ability of bullocks and milk productivity of cows.

(iv) National Project on Rinderpest Eradication (NPRE):

It is centrally sponsored scheme for eradication of Rinderpest which is a contagious viral disease of four footed animal and eradication of contagious Bovine Pleure Pneumonia, a bacterial disease of Cattle.

(v) Piggery Development :

The Government has taken steps for upgradation of local Pig through Pig Breeding Farms for Piggery development. There are 8 nos. of Pig Farms in the State.

(vi) Poultry Development :

The scheme is meant for Development of Poultry Sector. There are 23 Nos. of Poultry Farms in the State with a good Nos. of Marketing Centres.

Apart from the above schemes there were some other Livestock and development programmes, which include Frozen Semen Bank, Stockman Centre, Key Village Centre, Livestock Farm, Veterinary Hospital and Dispensaries. As per information available till 2001-02, there are 26 (Twenty Six) numbers of Regional Artificial Insemination Centres (RAI), 7 (Seven), numbers of Frozen Semen Banks, 3 (Three) numbers of Frozen Semen storage Depot, 11 (Eleven) numbers of Liquid Nitrogen Plant, 10 (Ten) numbers of key village Centres and 1 (One) number of Coordinated Cattle Breeding Project.

Further, a wide network of Veterinary Hospitals and dispensaries exist in the State for providing animal health care. The numbers of such institution are 20 Hospitals, 298 Dispensaries, 24 Mobile Dispensaries, 136 Block Dispensaries, 750 nos. of A. I. Centres, 10 Livestock farms, 23 Poultry Farms, 8 Pig Farms, 4 Fodder Farms and 3 nos. of Sheep and Goat Farms.

The State has vast potential to generate income and employment to rural population through growth in livestock sector. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Veterinary has established training institutions to provide job oriented training to the unemployed youth of the State. There are 4 (Four) numbers of such training institutions in the State.

DAIRY DEVELOPMENT IN ASSAM

6.4.O. The Dairy Development in Assam was initiated in the fag end of the Second Five Year Plan period with the basic concept of procurement, processing and distribution of milk aiming at Economic upliftment of Rural Milk producers and to help urban consumers to get quality milk at a reasonable price. It is also an excellent tool to provide employment opportunities as well as income source to the Farming Communities in the rural area. The Dairy Development Department, Assam has continued to take up various steps for milk production in the State by organising Dairy Cooperative Societies (DCS).

At present, there are 7 (Seven) numbers of Town Milk Supply Schemes (TMSS) in operation viz. Guwahati (Central Dairy), Jorhat (Central Dairy), Dibrugarh, Tezpur, Silchar, North Lakhimpur and Manja (Hill District) and one Creamery Scheme at Garampani (Hill District). There are also 18 numbers of Chilling Plants under the above Town Milk Supply Scheme. The procurement and distribution of milk under Dairy Development during 2002-2003 and 2003-2004 are shown below.

Year	Name of TNSS	Procurement (In litre)	Distribution (In Litre)
1	2		4
2002-03	Guwahati	938522.5	911242.0
	Jorhat	552196.5	280235.0
	Dibrugarh	31534.0	16346.0
	Silchar	33868.3	23742.5
	N. Lakhimpur	27099.0 (for 10 months)	22314.0 (for 10 months)
2003-04	Guwahati	914714.0	889179.0
	Jorhat	70684.0	45463.0
	Silchar	60351.3	51873.8

Source: Directorate of Dairy Development, Assam.

The Department has also produced and sold various types of milk products like – Yoghurt, Paneer, Flavoured Milk, Curd, Cream etc. during the year. Further, to develop the Dairy Industry in the State, the Department has also taken some other schemes/projects as follows-

A) MILK VILLAGE SCHEME

For enhancement of milk production and creation of self-employment amongst the SC/ST people and economically backward classes, the Department has taken up the milk village scheme by providing 2 (two) Milch Cows with Calf. This Milk Village Scheme also includes the provision of some other inputs like Training allowances to beneficiaries, Insurance Premium for cattle insurance, cost of cow shed construction, feed and fodder etc. The beneficiaries under the scheme are selected through FMC and Panchayats of the respective areas.

B) OPERATION FLOOD II PROJECT (OF II)

At the request of the Government of Assam, the National Dairy Development Board prepared a Dairy Development Project for the State, in the light of Operation Flood II Project of Government of India, and formed a Milk Union namely West Assam Milk Producer's Co-operative Union Limited (WAMUL) in 1979-80. The Project envisaged milk marketing in Guwahati and other urban areas (Under the Project area) and developed ANAND pattern co-operative infrastructure in the milk-shed areas of the project to initiate production. There is a 60,000 litre/daily capacity plant in Guwahati and a cattle-feed plant commissioned at Changsari to meet the requirement of feed for the dairy animals.

C) SPECIAL DAIRY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

The Special Dairy Development Programme was initiated by the Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India as Centrally sponsored Project. The project in Jorhat covered 300 economically viable Primary Milk Producers' Co-operative Societies in three Districts viz. Sivasagar, Dibrugarh and Darrang while this project in the District of Cachar covered entire Cachar District envisaged formation of a pilot town Milk Supply Scheme at Silchar. The total outlay envisaged for the Project in Jorhat and Cachar was Rs.336.30 lakh and Rs.95.00 lakh respectively.

D) INTEGRATED DAIRY DEVELOPMENT PROJECT (IDDP)

For providing employment opportunities and generating additional income in the rural areas, the Government of India has accorded approval to the State Government for formulating an Integrated Dairy Development Project for Hill Areas and Backward Areas at a total cost of Rs.1260.76 lakh. Accordingly, State Government has implemented the Integrated Dairy Development Project covering ten districts of the State. This project is Centrally Sponsored and Central Grant is hundred percent and it is being implemented under the State Directorate of Dairy Development. At present, 330 Nos. Dairy Co-operative Societies (DCS) have been formed at village level within the Project area and 182 Nos. DCS have been provided with inputs.

E) RURAL DAIRY CENTRE

There are two Rural Dairy Centres located at Nalbari and Hojai. The main function of these centers to collect raw milk from the nearby Co-operative Societies and bring the milk to centers for distribution in the urban areas.

F) SCHEME UNDER NEC

A scheme for capacity utilization & up-gradation of Central Dairy under Town Milk Supply Scheme, Khanapara, has been sanctioned during 2003-2004 under NEC and an amount of Rs.30.00 lakh has already been released and necessary works is going on.

G) ARIASP-PHASE II

To cover dairy development activities under ARIASP Phase-II Programme of World Bank, Project proposal amounting to Rs.14.52 crore has been submitted to the project Director, ARIASP Society.