

5. Poultry in Livestock: Special Reference to Maharashtra

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Abstract

Even after 75 years of independence, although the sectoral pattern of the economy is changing, the role of the agricultural sector in the Indian economy is still significant. Agriculture, with its allied sectors, is the largest source of livelihood in India. It support the agriculture sector, such as raising livestock, growing crops, and conserving soil and water etc. It directly and indirectly provides employment opportunities. The proposed research paper analyses the significance of Livestock in general and poultry rearing in particular. Description is made with reference to Maharashtra

Keywords: livestock, Backyard poultry, commercial poultry

A. Introduction

Poultry sector is one of the significant sections of allied activity of agriculture sector. In some area of Maharashtra poultry farming is lead source of rural economy. While in general farmers looking toward the poultry as an additional source of income. In last two decades apart from its connectivity with agriculture and allied activity, investment in the poultry sector has significantly increased and now a days it is known as poultry industry. It provides opportunity to the agricultural dependents for to sustain and to progress.

B. Objectives

- To understand significance of poultry sector in Maharashtra's Economy
- To analyse poultry rearing potential of Maharashtra

C. Research Methodology

The study is based on Indias Livestock production in general and poultry production in particular. It is secondary data-based analysis. State wise livestock and poultry production is considered for comparative analysis of Maharashtra. While Veterinary Region has taken in to

consideration for analysis of Maharashtra's poultry production analysis. The data is taken from livestock census 2019. While to know the current situation the available data of different sources has taken in to account. The focus has made on commercial poultry farming. The data sorted for the analysis based on the high to low production in quantity. Statistical tools are used as per the need of analysis.

D. Concepts

Livestock

The domestic animals which are basically raised in the agriculture sector in order to provide labour and to produce diversified products from them like milk, eggs, meat, leather, wool etc.

Poultry

Poultry is any domesticated bird used for food. Varieties include chicken, turkey, goose, duck etc

Backyard poultry

Backyard poultry farming is a small-scale system where a rural household keeps poultry birds primarily for family use and consumption. In general, number of birds are considered as 5 to 25.

Commercial poultry

Commercial Poultry means poultry wholly owned by a corporate enterprise that controls the entire growing cycle of the birds, from the breeder flock to the processing plant. These units are again sub classified as contract poultry farming and non-contract poultry farming.

Livestock rearing

It is the process where raising, feeding, breeding, and taking care of domestic animals takes place.

E. Livestock in India

Livestock plays significant role in socio economic development of agriculturally based Indian society. As per the FAOSTAT report 2024, India ranks first in milk production, second in eggs production and 5th in meat production. Livestock provides livelihood to two-third of rural community. It has estimated that near about 20.5 million people depend upon livestock for their livelihood. Combined livestock contributed sixteen percent to the income of small farm households as against an average of fourteen percent for all rural households. This dependency

indicates the role of livestock sector in absorbing working age population. It also provides employment to about 8.8 % of the population in India. India has vast livestock resources.

The poultry farming involves the rearing of birds for the eggs and meat whereas the cattle/buffalos/sheep and goats farming is done for meat, milk and manure. The life cycle of poultry birds is comparatively very short than the remaining column of livestock. Poultry is a part of livestock but the poultry data is always mentioned separately.

The table no. 1 indicates the status of Maharashtra's livestock in the total livestock of India. It also shows the relative stage with the selected states which are border states of Maharashtra. The percentage of Maharashtra's livestock (excluding poultry) is 6.16% in total livestock of India. This indicates the importance of Maharashtra livestock in aggregate of India. The gross value added from livestock sector across Maharashtra amounted to over 537 billion Indian rupees in fiscal year 2020. The south-western state contributed over seven percent to the economic value in India from this sector. Livestock products contributed over seven trillion rupees that year to the country's economy.

In side of poultry rearing which includes backyard farming and commercial poultry, the share of Maharashtra state in total poultry of nation is calculated as 9.76 percent. It is more than three percent of livestock share. Backyard poultry rearing contributes 29.76 percent in total poultry birds of Maharashtra state while remaining significant portion that is 70.24 percent is managed by commercial units.

Table 1: Livestock and poultry birds in selected states* ('000)

State	State Livestock					Poultry birds		
	Cattle	Buffaloes	Sheep & Goats	Other @	Total	Backyard	Commercial	Total
Andra Pradesh	4,601	6,219	23,149	99	34,068 (6.35)	22,267	85,595	1,07,862 (16.01)
Gujarat	9,634	10,543	6,655	61	26,893 (5.01)	4,219	17,553	21,772 (3.28)
Karnataka	8,469	2,985	17,220	339	29,013 (5.41)	11,045	48,448	59,493 (9.06)
Madhya Pradesh	18,751	10,307	11,389	190	40,637 (7.57)	9,435	7,224	16,659 (1.35)
Maharashtra	13,993	5,604	13,285	198	33,080 (6.16)	22,113 [29.76]	52,184 [70.24]	74,297 (9.76)
All India	1,93,463	1,09,852	2,23,146	10,300	5,36,761 (100)	3,17,073	5,34,736	8,51,809 (100)

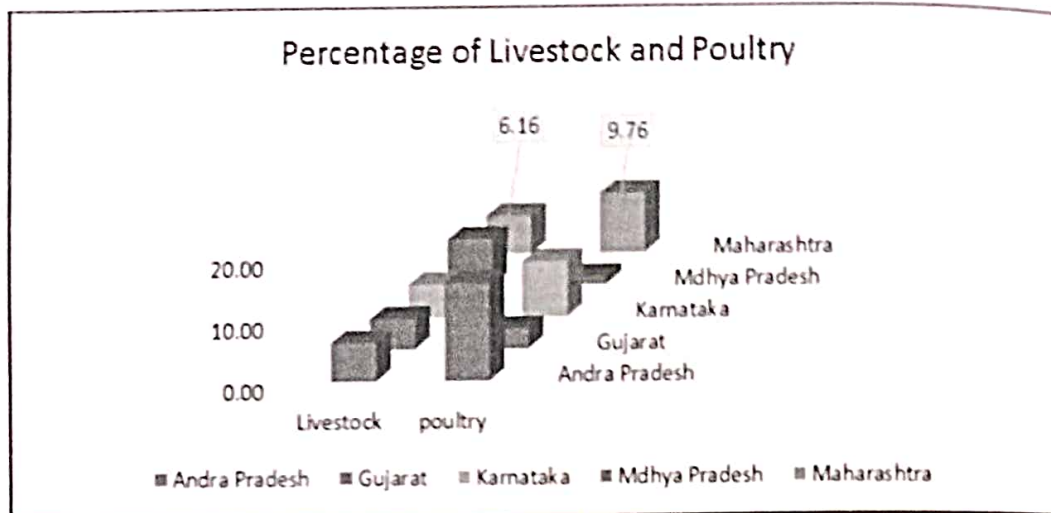
as per Livestock Census 2019

@ includes pigs, horses & ponies, mules, camels and donkeys

() Figures indicates percentage in column

[] figures indicate percentage in row

Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra 2023-24



There are some poultry development schemes implemented by government in support of poultry rearing. The Central Government has introduced the Poultry Farm Yojana 2024 to provide financial assistance for poultry farming. This yojana offers loans up to Rs 9 lakh and subsidies ranging from 25% to 33%. Besides this National Livestock Mission (NLM), Animal Husbandry Infrastructure Development Fund (AHIDF), National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) and many more schemes extend financial support to the sector.

Total egg production for 2023-24 is estimated at 142.77 billion numbers, a 3.18% increase from 2022-23. Total meat production for 2023-24 is estimated at 10.25 million tonnes, reflecting a 4.95% growth over 2022-23.

F. Livestock in Maharashtra

As per the Economic survey of Maharashtra 2023-24, Nashik region contributes max share in state livestock with figure of 25.63 percent, followed by Pune region with 24.46 percent. Table 2 shows the region wise analysis of livestock and poultry birds in Maharashtra state. In part of poultry birds share of Nashik and Pune region combinedly holds nearby 70 percent of state poultry.

Table 2: Region wise livestock and poultry birds* ('000)

Veterinary Region	Livestock					Poultry birds		
	Cattle	Buffaloes	Sheep & Goats	Other @	Total	Backyard	Commercial	Total
Mumbai	839	342	348	7	1,536 (4.64)	4,264 [39.50]	6,530 [60.50]	10,794 (14.53)
Nashik	3,510	883	4,038	47	84,78 (25.63)	3,539 [16.86]	17,455 [83.14]	20,994 (28.26)
Pune	2,553	2,184	3,316	38	8,091 (24.46)	7,730 [25.24]	22,896 [74.76]	30,626 (41.22)
Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar	1,757	534	1,591	28	3,910 (11.82)	1,642 [62.91]	968 [37.09]	2,610 (3.51)
Latur	1,355	756	990	22	3,123 (9.44)	1,097 [55.04]	896 [44.96]	1,993 (2.68)
Amravati	1,924	456	1,584	26	3,990 (12.06)	1,197 [40.01]	1,795 [59.99]	2,992 (4.03)
Nagpur	2,055	449	1,418	30	3,952 (11.95)	2,644 [61.66]	1,644 [38.34]	4,288 (5.77)
State	13,993	5,604	13,285	198	33,080 (100)	22,113 [29.76]	52,184 [70.24]	74,297 (100)

as per Livestock Census 2019

@ includes pigs, horses & ponies, mules, camels and donkeys

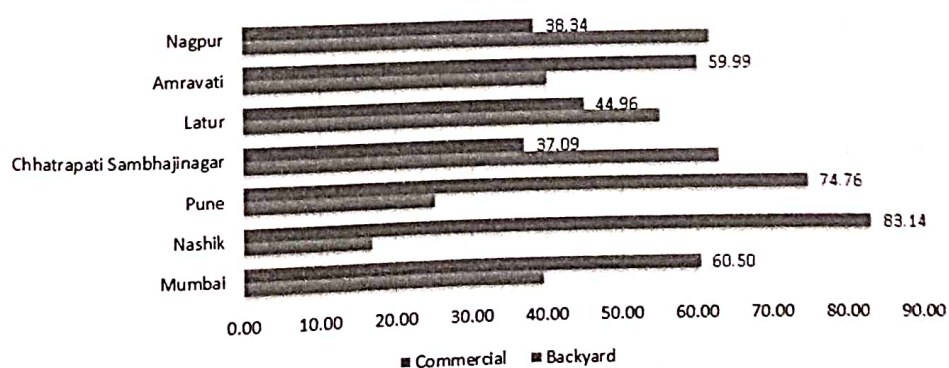
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Source: Economic Survey of Maharashtra 2023-24

The remarkable production of commercial poultry is appearing in the Pune region. The share of this region in total commercial poultry farming of state is 43.87 percent followed by Nashik region with 33.44 percent. This highlights the poultry status and progression prospect of southern Maharashtra.

Region wise % of poultry



In case of backyard poultry farming which is known for micro financial supporter for marginal section of society at rural level, contributes 29.76 percent in the state poultry. Remarkable thing is that in the Nagpur and Chhatrapati Sambhajinagar region its contribution is more than 60 % of that particular. Which indicates that the commercial poultry farming related efforts has been less taken in this area.

Problems of Poultry farming

The medium and large-scale commercial poultry farming is proportionally more beneficial form of commercial poultry production. The sector is facing various problems like lack of awareness, lack of technical knowledge. Problem of required capital, natural and market related risk, high cost of inputs, quality feed etc.

G. Conclusion

In Indian economy, size and composition of livestock sector indicates its importance in livelihood. It directly and indirectly provides various opportunities to grow. Poultry rearing is having very significant share in overall. Commercial poultry farming in Maharashtra shows remarkable share. There is need of training and awareness for the inclusion of maximum farmers. Proper application of poultry development schemes and optimum utilization of resources will helps to faster growth of this sector.

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