



Role of Poultry in Nation Building

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Poultry sector in India

India's poultry business has a long history and is one of the main forces supporting the rural and semi-urban economy of the nation. The southern states of our nation are well-represented in the broiler industry, accounting for 60–70% of the country's total production. Again, the southern states, particularly Andhra Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra, which account for about 70% of the country's egg output, have a more significant layer industry. India's poultry farming has undergone a significant transformation since independence. It has changed from being a disorganized, non-scientific system to one that is more methodical, planned, scientific, organized, and commercial. It has developed into a fully developed technological-commercial industry from a backyard agricultural activity. In India, the organized or commercial poultry sector produces 25% of the nation's total meat and egg production compared to the unorganized sector's contribution of roughly 75%. According to Government India 20th Livestock census the poultry population in India is 851.81 million. Among the 851.81 million the total backyard poultry population is 317.07 million. There is an increase of 45.8% in poultry population was reported from the previous 19th livestock population.

Broiler poultry farming

India is the world's fifth-largest producer of broilers. In poultry industry, broiler production sector has highest growth rate in recent years. There are many broiler farms are all over India, which includes, small, medium and large scale farms. It is the soft, young meat of either the male or female poultry, can weigh between 40 grams and 1.5 kg and be up to six weeks old. The intervention of the corporate sector, which has started to lean toward scientific broiler rearing, is a significant contributor for the industry's explosive growth. In India lot of farmers depends on broiler production for their livelihood.

Layer poultry farming

Birds kept only for the purpose of producing eggs are referred to as layer poultry. In other words, specific poultry species, which are raised for the purpose of producing commercial eggs. At 18 weeks old, they start laying eggs, and they keep doing so until they are 72-78 weeks old. They produce one egg for every 2.25 kg of food eaten throughout this time.

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Backyard poultry farming

Rural poultry farming is a vital part of India's agricultural economy. The transition from a subsistence to a sustainable production system has been incredibly successful. Backyard or homestead chicken farming is a common practice among Indian rural and landless communities and is a profitable extra source of income. It needs minimal work, is simple for women, children, and the elderly to handle, and produces significant financial gains. Such birds, along with their meat and eggs, are an affordable and plentiful source of nutrition and energy for houses with little resources. A native night shelter structure, scavenging, natural chick hatching, low bird output, limited supplemental feed, local selling, and less medical care are characteristics of backyard chicken farming. Even though the majority of rural Indians are skilled in raising traditional livestock, including chicken, changing poultry management through a few scientific interventions can result in sustainable livelihoods from dependable revenue, food security, and nutrition. Small poultry owners can effectively make a bigger contribution to reducing poverty, unemployment, and malnutrition than larger chicken owners.

Egg and poultry meat production in India

According to The Economic Survey 2021–22, India ranks third globally in the production of eggs and eighth globally in the production of meat. The number of eggs produced in the nation increased from 78.48 billion in 2014–15 to 122.11 billion in 2020–21 (Provisional), bringing the annual supply per person to 91 eggs in 2020–21. (Provisional). According to the survey, the nation's meat production climbed from 6.69 million tonnes in 2014–15 to 8.80 million tonnes in 2020–21 (Provisional). In India Tamilnadu and Andrapradesh are leading states in egg production. Haryana and West Bengal are the leading states in poultry meat production. The Indian poultry market is reached a value of INR 1,749.9 billion in 2021.

Poultry products export from India

Over 700 billion eggs have been exported in the last ten years. Tamil Nadu produces the most eggs in India due to a significant concentration of egg farmers in Namakkal. Oman, Maldives, Kuwait, Qatar, Bahrain, Comoros, Iraq and Iran are the main egg exports destinations of India. India has exported 2,55,686.92 MT of Poultry products to the world for the worth of Rs. 435.53 Cores/ 58.70 USD Millions during the year 2020-21. Major Export Destinations (2020-21) are Oman, Maldives, Indonesia, Vietnam Soc Rep and Russia. We have progressed a lot in poultry products export.

Opportunities in poultry farming

India is currently the fifth-largest egg and eighteenth-largest broiler producer in the world. The fastest-growing segment of the world's meat demand is poultry meat. A number of variables, including rising urban population, declining real poultry prices, and per capita income all contribute to the industry's rapid expansion. Layer farm and broiler farms, hatcheries, egg processing, poultry feed manufacturing, poultry housing, frozen chicken meat production, poultry farming equipment production, organic manure production, etc. provides lot of opportunities to young farmers. It has lot of benefits also, the major benefits are it requires only less capital investment, no need of

big space requirement, it will provide high return in short time period, high maintenance cost is not required for poultry farming, It has huge global demand also.

Poultry in nation building

Despite several obstacles, poultry farming in India has advanced significantly during the past ten years. Poultry is the fastest-growing industry in the livestock sector for boosting the supply of proteins, lipids, minerals, and vitamins from Desi sources. It provides lot of job opportunities to people in country especially to rural people. Local communities benefit socioeconomically from chicken production in a number of ways, including through the provision of meat, manure, offerings, source of revenue, a source of aesthetic value (beauty), a source of school fees, and a source of employment. Birds are a good hedge against shocks like poor harvests because they are simple to sell for cash (poultry is frequently referred to as farmers' "petty currency"). As a chicken flock expands, extra birds may be traded for goats, enhancing the livelihood and food security of a poor household. Birds are a good hedge against shocks like poor harvests because they are simple to sell for cash (poultry is frequently referred to as farmers' "petty currency"). As a chicken flock expands, extra birds may be traded for goats, enhancing the livelihood and food security of a poor household. In the form of eggs, meat, and feathers, poultry offers people company, food, and fibre. Many people have work options thanks to the vast chicken sector.

Rising earnings and a fast growing middle class in India, together with the emergence of vertically integrated poultry producers that have lowered consumer prices by reducing production and marketing expenses, are all contributing to the sector's expansion. The future expansion of the poultry business in India depends on integrated production, a shift in the market from live birds to chilled and frozen goods, and regulations that guarantee supply of corn and soybeans at reasonable prices. In the nation, there are many little poultry dressing factories. Dressed chicken is produced at these facilities. There are five additional contemporary integrated poultry processing facilities that produce different chicken products, such as dressed chicken and chicken cut pieces, in addition to these two. These factories will produce frozen egg yolks and egg powder for export.

The poultry industry has considerably aided in giving people gainful employment and additional money, and it is now acknowledged as a key tool for improving the socioeconomic conditions of the rural poorer sections of society. The poultry industry in India is structured differently depending on the region. While integrated large-scale producers do account for a growing portion of output in some regions, independent and relatively small-scale producers still make up the majority of production. Agriculture and allied sectors are essential for the development of our nation, among this poultry sector is important. We still have a long way to go. Let us move forward for the development and progress of our nation.

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