

STATUS OF LIVESTOCK POPULATION IN MAHARASHTRA (INDIA)

Dr. Dattatray Dadaso Shinde, Associate Professor, Adarsh College, Mayani Road, Vita Dist.-
Sangli (Maharashtra)

ABSTRACT:

In India, livestock is an integral part of agriculture. Cattle are used to plough fields and transport crops, while other animals are used for manure and as a source of fuel. Livestock provides livelihoods to millions of people in India, especially in rural areas. Many farmers depend on livestock for income, as well as for food and other resources. Farmers consider cows sacred and often seen them as a symbol of wealth and prosperity. Other animals such as buffaloes, sheep and goats are also important from an economic point of view. This research paper reviews the temporal change in the number of various livestock in Maharashtra from 1961 to 2019 over time. The entire study is based on secondary source of data. The growth in total livestock from 1961 to 2019 is very low. The number of livestock is decreasing due to frequent droughts and the resulting problems of fodder and water scarcity. Also, the slaughter rate of various livestock has increased due to the large increase in the non-vegetarian population.

Key words: Livestock, Temporal change, Growth rate

INTRODUCTION:

Livestock farming plays a major role in growth of the agricultural sector. India has the largest livestock population globally and it plays a vital role in the country's economy and livelihoods. Livestock production has been the backbone of Indian agriculture for centuries and is a source of employment in rural areas, with the entire rural economy revolving around it. Thus, the inseparable relationship between livestock and Indian agriculture is recorded in ancient Indian scriptures such as the Atharvaveda, Ayurvada, and Rigveda as well as in archaeological remains dating back to Harappan period in of the Indus valley civilization, around 2000 B.C. This is evident from the depiction of bulls on coins from that period and terracotta bullock carts.

OBJECTIVES:

- 1) To study the temporal changes in livestock populations in Maharashtra.
- 2) To study the number of livestock per lakh population.

DATA COLLECTION AND METHODOLOGY:

Required data for present research paper has been collected through secondary sources. The related information is collected from the economic survey of Maharashtra, 2021-22 also reference books. The collected data has been processed, tabulated and interpreted.

Used this formula for calculate growth rate -

$$\text{Growth rate} = \frac{\text{Current year value} - \text{Base year value}}{\text{Base year value}} \times 100$$

STUDY AREA:

The state of Maharashtra has been selected for the present research paper. The geographical location Maharashtra state is in the western part of India. Maharashtra is seen as a vast land connecting North and South India. Maharashtra state is lies between 15⁰50' north to 22⁰12' north latitude and 72⁰35' east to 80⁰53' east longitude. It is surrounded by Gujarat to the North West, Madhya Pradesh to the north, Chhattisgarh to the east, Telangana to the south east, Karnataka to the south, Goa to the south west and Arabian Sea to the west. Administratively the Maharashtra state has six division, 36 districts and 357 tehsils, Comprising of 3,07,713 sq. km. area. Most important occupation of the rural people is agriculture. The annual temperature of the state is minimum 16⁰c and maximum 32⁰c. Annual rainfall is 400 to 600 mm. with enjoys tropical monsoon climate.

STATUS OF LIVESTOCK POPULATION IN MAHARASHTRA:

The table no. 1 reveals that the livestock and poultry in the Maharashtra state. According to the livestock census of 1961, the total number of cattle's in Maharashtra was 1,53,28,000 and it was reduced to 1,47,29,000 in 1966. Compared to 1961, the number of cattle's has decreased by 5,99,000 in 1966. However, according to every livestock census from 1972 to 1997, the number of cattle's slightly increased. In 36 years from 1961 to 1997, the number of cattle's increased from 1,53,28,000 to 1,80,71,000 with 17.90 percent. Compared to 1961, the number of cattle's has decreased by 13,35,000 in 2019 with -8.71 percent.

In Maharashtra, the number of buffaloes in 1961 was 30,87,000. From 1961 to 2003, the number of buffaloes has been continuously increased. Compared to 2003, the number of buffaloes has decreased in the 2012 and 2019 livestock census. From 1961 to 2003, the number of buffaloes increased from 30,87,000 to 60,84,000 with 97.08 percent. Compared to 1961, the number of buffaloes has increased by 25,17,000 in 2019 with 81.54 percent.

Table No. 01
Livestock and Poultry in the Maharashtra State ('000)

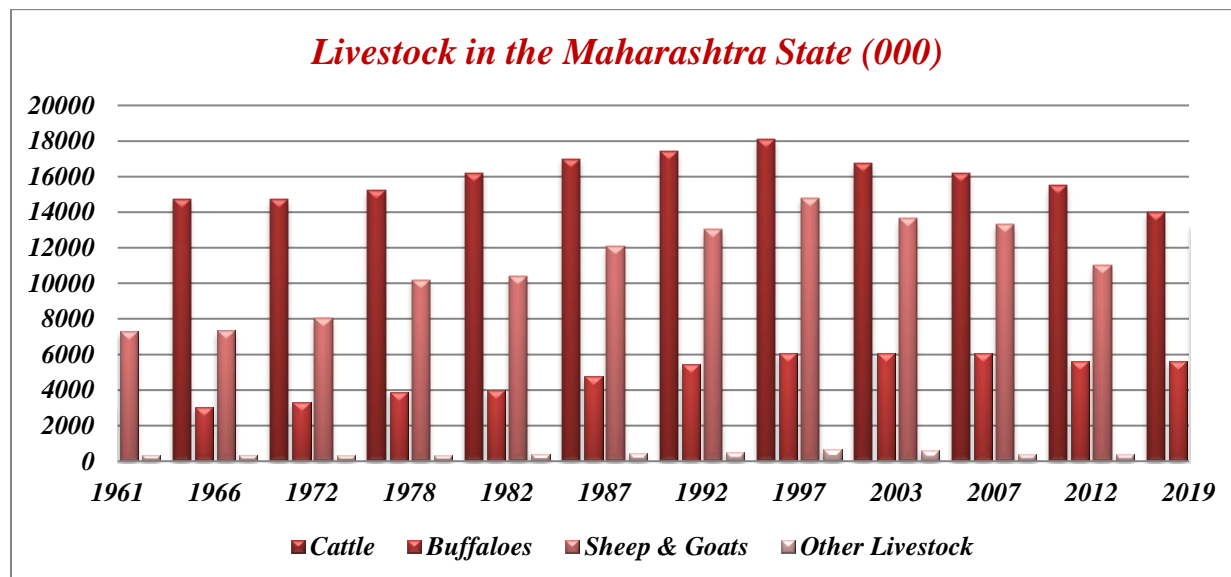
Livestock Census Year	Cattle	Buffaloes	Sheep and goats	Other livestock	Total Livestock	Livestock per lakh of population	Total poultry's
1961	15328	3087	7273	360	26048	66	10578
1966	14729	3042	7326	352	25449	57	9902
1972	14705	3301	8038	317	26361	52	12217
1978	15218	3899	10199	326	29642	51	18751
1982	16162	3972	10376	409	30919	48	19845
1987	16983	4755	12068	449	34255	48	24830
1992	17441	5447	13016	489	36393	46	32187

1997	18071	6073	14802	692	39638	50	35392
2003	16738	6084	13624	612	37058	36	34596
2007	16184	6073	13301	397	35955	37	64756
2012	15484	5595	11016	394	32489	29	77795
2019	13993	5604	13285	198	33080	26	74298
Change over base year							
1982	5.44	28.67	42.66	13.61	18.70	-27.27	87.61
1997	17.90	96.73	103.52	92.22	52.17	-24.24	234.58
2003	9.20	97.08	87.32	70	42.27	-45.45	227.06
2019	-8.71	81.54	82.66	-45	27.00	-60.61	602.38

Source: Computed by researcher based on Economic Survey of Maharashtra, 2021-22

In 1961, the number of sheep and goats was 72,73,000. It is seen that the number of sheep and goats has almost doubled during the entire period from 1961 to 2019. According to 1997 livestock census, the number of sheep and goats was the highest with 1,48,02,000 numbers. In 36 years from 1961 to 1997, the number of sheep and goats increased from 72,73,000 to 1,48,02,000 with 103.52 percent. Compared to 1961, the number of sheep and goats has increased by 63,51,000 in 2003 and 60,12,000 in 2019 with 87.32 and 82.66 percent respectively.

Apart from cattle, buffaloes, sheep and goats, a group of other livestock has been formed. Other livestock includes horses, donkeys, mules and pigs. A study of other livestock in Maharashtra shows that the number of other livestock in Maharashtra was 3,60,000 and it has been continuously decreasing till 1978. According to 1997 livestock census, the number of other livestock was the highest with 6,92,000 numbers. From 1961 to 1997, the number of other livestock increased from 3,60,000 to 6,12,000 with 92.22 percent. Compared to 1961, the number of other livestock has increased by 2,52,000 in 2003 with 70 percent and it was decreased by 1,62,000 in 2019 with -45 percent.

**Fig. 01**

Considering the total livestock, according to the 1961 livestock census, the total livestock was 2,60,48,000. With the exception of 1966, there was a continuous increase in livestock till 1977. The total livestock number was highest in 1997 and it was 3,96,38,000. After 1997, there was a gradual decrease in the number of livestock. From 1961 to 1997, the number of total livestock increased from 2,60,48,000 to 3,96,38,000 with 52.17 percent. Compared to 1961, the number of total livestock has increased by 70,32,000 in 2019 with 27.00 percent.

In Maharashtra, the number of livestock per lakh population was 66,000 in 1961, but it is only 26,000 in 2019 which is decreased with -60.61 percent. Drought and the resulting water scarcity, fodder shortage, lack of modern machinery for agricultural work, and the slaughter of various animals due to increasing meat consumption are the reasons behind the decline in the total livestock population.

There were 1,05,78,000 total poultry's in Maharashtra in 1961. With the exception of 1966, the total number of poultry's has increased steadily till 2019.

CONCLUSION:

In Maharashtra, compared to 1961, the number of cattle's has decreased in 1966. However, according to every livestock census from 1972 to 1997, the number of cattle's slightly increased. The number of cattle's has decreased in 2019 with -8.71 percent as compared to 1961. The number of buffaloes has been continuously increased from 1961 to 2003. Compared to 1961, the number of buffaloes has increased in 2019 with 81.54 percent. The number of sheep and goats has almost doubled during the entire period from 1961 to 2019. As compared to 1961, the number of sheep and goats has increased in 2003 and 2019 with 87.32 and 82.66 percent respectively. Other livestock in Maharashtra has been continuously decreasing till 1978. As compared to 1961, the number of other livestock has increased in 2003 with 70 percent and it

was decreased in 2019 with -45 percent. With the exception of 1966, the total number of poultry's has increased steadily till 2019.

The total number of livestock is decreasing because of constant droughts, resulting in shortage of fodder and water, and the increase in the number of non-vegetarians, which is why large number of animals are slaughtered for meat production. The number of animal deaths is also high due to neglect of animal health. To increase the number of livestock, farmer and farm laborers should be given incentive subsidies for animal husbandry. It is necessary to tell the general public about the benefits of animal husbandry and the use of animal husbandry to improve the economic situation.

REFERENCES:

- 1) Birthal, P. S. 2012. Assessment of Research Priorities for the Livestock Sector in India, Policy Research (ICAR) New Delhi, India.
- 2) Das, A. 2020. Present Scenario and Role of Livestock Sector in Rural Economy of India: A Review, International Journal of Livestock Research, Vol. 10 (11), E-ISSN: 2277-1964.
- 3) Das, S. K. (2022). Status of Animal Husbandry in Maharashtra, Acta Scientific Veterinary Science, ISSN: 2582-3183, Vol. 4, Issue I.
- 4) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Government of India, Annual Report, 2021-22.
- 5) Economic Survey of Maharashtra, 2021-22
- 6) Gade, D. A., and Gavit, R. H. 2023. Assessment of Livestock Population Dynamics in Sangli District, Journal of Research and Development, A Multidisciplinary International Level Referred and Peer Reviewed Journal, Impact Factor 7.265, ISSN: 2230-9578, Vol. 15, Issue 7, March 2023, pp.183-188.
- 7) Waghmare, N. Chauhan, 2016. Temporal Analysis of Livestock in Maharashtra, Peer Reviewed International Journal of Geography, Maharashtra Bhugolshastra Sanshodhan Patrika, ISSN (Print) 0971 - 6785, Vol. 33, No. 2, Jul. - Dec., 2016, Pp. 109 – 113.
- 8) Yasmeen et. al. 2019. Growth Performance of Livestock Population in India, Karnataka and North-Eastern Region of Karnataka, Economic Affairs, Vol. 64, No. 4, pp. 783-787.