CHAPTER VII

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSIONS
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This present chapter focuses on the major findings which have emerged out from the discussions and analysis of production, operational efficiency of poultry farms, marketing of eggs and gains and constraints in poultry keeping. The present study is confined to one cycle of egg production. The analysis of data and interpretations have lead to the following:

Growth of Poultry Production in India

1. Poultry products such as eggs and meat have witnessed manifold increase both qualitatively and quantitatively over the last four decades.

2. The production of eggs has increased to 32,000 millions in 1997 from 2340 millions in 1961, indicating a similar increase in growth trend at a rate of 7.33 per cent per annum.

3. During the period (1961-97) production of poultry meat has increased by 969 lakhs tonnes and is expected to touch 1475 lakhs tonnes in 2000 AD.

4. The Broiler sector has also shown rapid growth during the last 37 years. The average annual growth rate is worked out to 20.61 per cent, which is greater than the growth rate of the layer (4.36 percent).

5. The value of poultry products has increased from Rs.650 million in 1961 to Rs.98,500 million in 1997, indicating 18.23 per cent annual growth rate during this period.
6. The per capita egg and meat in India is quite low when compared with other countries. The per capita eggs was 5 eggs in 1961 which has increased to 33 in 1997. As regards meat, during the same period the per capita meat has increased from 11 grams to 1,100 grains.

Production of Eggs

7. The research study has found that the variable cost accounted for 90.30 per cent and the fixed cost constituted 9.70 per cent in the study area.

8. The study reveals that among the variable cost, the single most important item was feed which accounted for 80 per cent and among the fixed cost the single most important item was interest for fixed capita! which showed 89.80 per cent in the study area.

9. The average Fixed Cost per farm and per bird is worked out to Rs.72,897/- and Rs.31.50 in the study area. But the figures are different in Puduchatram and Mohanur blocks. The average fixed cost per farm is Rs.90,993 and Rs.80,297, and the average fixed cost per bird is Rs.39.61 and Rs.35.77 in Puduchatram and Mohanur blocks respectively.

10. The average production of eggs per farm is worked out to 5,12,093, but the figures are different in Erumpatti block. The average production of eggs per farm is maximal (9,66,427 eggs) in Sendamangalam block while the average production of eggs per farm is minimal (4,57,516 eggs) in Mohanur Block.
11. The average production of eggs per bird is worked out to 221. But the figures in Erumpatti block shows 252 eggs the maximum limit.

12. The average production of eggs per bird at the minimum is 204 eggs and these figures are found in Mohanur block.

13. The total cost for the entire poultry farms is worked out to Rs.27,06,39,488. The average cost per farm is Rs.6,78,879 while the average cost per bird is Rs.293.

14. The total revenue of the poultry farm is worked out to Rs.21,63,24,984. The average revenue per farm is Rs.6,00,903 while average revenue per bird is Rs.260. The average revenue per farm and per bird is lower in Mohanur and Sendamangalam blocks. When compared with the other blocks.

15. The major share of revenue accrued through sale of eggs is around 85 per cent.

16. Out of 360, poultry farmers 277 (76.95 per cent) are incurring loss in poultry keeping whereas the remaining 83 poultry farmers (23.05 per cent) have gained from poultry farming.

17. The total revenue is worked out to Rs.21,63,24,981; while the total cost stands at Rs.27,06,39,488. Hence the loss for the entire sample is Rs.5,43,14,307.
Operational Efficiency of Poultry Farms

18. The sample poultry farm's efficiency has been studied and computed for the entire sample of live blocks under six groups (sizewise).

19. The sizewise cost of production per egg is worked out to Rs.1.47 for the entire sample.

20. The cost of production per egg is Rs.1.84 at the maximum in the case of 0-100 group while the cost of production per egg is Rs. 1.38 at the minimum in the case of groups having above 5001 birds.

21. The cost of production per egg is equal to the average cost of production per egg in the 1001-2000 sized farms, which is Rs. 1.47.

22. Blockwise, Mohanur block has the maximum cost of production which is Rs.1.54 per egg. Erumpatti block has the minimum the minimum cost of production which is Rs.1.32 per egg.

23. The average production of egg per bird is 221 for the entire sample, and the average production of eggs per bird is 239 at the maximum in the case of 1001-2000 sized groups. The production of eggs per bird is 197 at the minimum, that is 197 eggs in the case of 3001-4000 sized farms.

24. The percentage of feed cost to total cost constitutes 72.06 per cent for the entire sample of the study area.

25. In farms having above 5001 birds, the percentage of feed cost is at the minimum (66.13 per cent) while for 4001-5000 sized farms the percentage feed cost is at the maximum (78.45 per cent).
26. Blockwise, the percentage of feed cost to total cost is at the minimum (70.21 per cent) in Mohanur block while in Erumpatti block it is at the maximum (80.47 per cent).

27. The percentage of dead birds is worked out to 21.88 percent for the entire sample. For 3001-4000 sized farms, the percentage of mortality rate is at the maximum (27.41 per cent) while it is at, namely the minimum 19.47 per cent in the case 1001-2000 size farms. Blockwise, the Mohanur block has the maximum mortality (25.55 per cent) whereas the minimum is (18.10 per cent) in Puduchatram block.

Marketing of Eggs

28. Out of 360 poultry farmers, for 191 (53.06 per cent) awareness regarding egg price was created through newspapers while for 118 poultry farmers information regarding egg price came through telephone. For 29 poultry farmers information reached them through egg traders and for the remaining 22 of them through their fellow poultry farmers news about egg prices reached them.

29. The majority of the poultry farmers (73.06 per cent) are marketing their eggs to feed manufacturers cum egg traders; 17.50 per cent farmers sell their eggs to the local egg traders and while the remaining 9.44 per cent of the poultry farmers undertake to sell the eggs themselves.
30. As regards the receiving of payments, 300 poultry farmers (83 per cent) have receive their payments once a week; 26 poultry farmers (7 per cent) once a fortnight; 28 poultry farmers (8 per cent) and the remaining 6 poultry farmers (2 per cent) ask for payment whenever they need it.

31. The majority of the poultry farmers (81 per cent) have pointed out that the price of eggs fixed by the NECC is not adequate while (1.9 per cent) of them have stated that the price fixed by the NECC is adequate.

Gains and Constraints of Poultry Farming

32. The gains from poultry farming as pointed out by the poultry fanners are: it is a source of family income (164); it helps them meet their family marriage expenses (163); it gives them a social status (164); it takes care of their children’s education (131); it helps in employment creation (148); it helps in poultry farm expansion and it helps them in vehicle purchase (102). The figures in parenthesis refer to the number of fanners who have expressed such opinion.

33. The hurdles poultry farmers face in poultry farming are: the non availability quality chicks (33 per cent); the non availability of feed supply (41 per cent); the high cost of the feed (79 per cent); low yielding of egg production (31 per cent); difficulties in the disposal of culled hens (47 percent) and problems relating to hens affiliated by diseases (71 per cent). The figures in parenthesis refer to the per cent age of farmers who have expressed such views.
Suggestions

1. The poultry sector must be treated as Agriculture sector. At present, the poultry sector in Tamil Nadu is treated neither as agriculture nor as industry, though the Central Government has advised various State Governments to accord agriculture status to poultry farming. If the poultry sector is treated as agriculture sector, it would give a boost to poultry farmers by way of concessional power tariffs and other benefits given to agriculturists.

2. The poultry sector needs to be given more attention and should be treated on a different footing considering the fact that it provides mass rural employment, particularly to rural women, so as to prevent migration of rural people to urban centers.

3. Poultry droppings have substantial organic bio-degradable materials and methane-rich bio-gas can easily be produced out of them, therefore poultry farming should be given special care and attention.

4. The Government can include eggs in the midday meals provided in the schools in North India.

5. The Government should announce supportive price for this rural-based industry to save the poultry farmers from losses and the ultimate closure of the poultry farms.

6. The Government should give wide publicity through Television, Radio, Pamphlets and other channels on the nutritional value of eggs.
7. The Government should provide cold storage facilities, as the present facilities are woefully inadequate even for a day's egg production.

8. Marketing of eggs and meat, supply of balanced feed, health care facilities for the hens and other infrastructural facilities should be improved in this regard.

9. The urgent need of the hour is the production of maize and the cutting down of its prices.

10. In remote areas where demand for eggs is quite high, transportation network should be improved for the efficient distribution of eggs.

11. At present, quality poultry vaccines are not available in adequate quantity as per the requirements. Hence the Government should take necessary steps to solve this problems.

12. Steps should be taken to conduct surveys for exploring the possibility of increasing consumption of eggs in rural areas.

13. The provision of cash credit facilities and the setting up of an apex agency at the National Level for the overall monitoring and development of the poultry sector are quite essential.

14. The National Institute of Nutrition has recommended that the per capita annual availability of eggs should be increased from 33 to 180 eggs as an increase of one egg per capita would help generate 25,000 additional jobs.
15. The international price per egg is around Rs.2.50 as against Rs. 1.00 in the Indian market. The glut in the egg market can be overcome by exporting shell eggs. Therefore, the Government should advise containers to transport eggs from production centers to ports for export purpose. There is a lot of scope for establishing viable markets in the Gulf countries, Kazakhastan and Turkmenistan.

16. Agricultural/Veterinary Universities should be directed to take up research for the construction of low cost housing suitable for different geographical/agro-climatic conditions in order to reduce die cost of shed construction.

17. There is a good demand in the Western Countries for organic manure. Hence provision of financial support for DPM (Dried Poultry Manure) should be located into.

18. Extending financial support/assistance for feed testing labs and testing labs for sick birds are essential. Expecting the process of "lab to land" will avoid economic losses occur which due to delayed results.

19. The mushroom growth of poultry farms has resulted in uncontrollable diseases such as Gumboro, Ranikliet, Marek’s, and IBD which increase die mortality rate in the farms.

20. The farmers who have been affected by natural calamities should be allowed to repay their loans in easy installments.
21. The Government should provide training facilities for those who are already engaged in poultry farming and for the entrepreneurs so that they can gain knowledge about newly available technology, while giving training for poultry farmers training should be given in their own villages.

22. The Government should set up an autonomous board like National Poultry Development Board (NPDB) which would help in the creation of infrastructure facilities essential for the growth of this industry.

23. The Government should allow free import of maize till the domestic production increases and meets the required level.

24. At present, 25,000 billion eggs are produced every day and by the turn of the century it is expected to reach 58,000 billions at an annual growth rate of 16 per cent. Therefore, starting up Egg Powder Plants at the earliest is suggested.

25. Proper marketing facilities should be provided for the sale of culled birds, since the unproductive, unhealthy and weaklings in a flock consume the feed without any benefit to the farmers.

26. Provision of rail transport facilities in this district will boost both production and marketing of poultry products. Hence the Government should give serious attention to this.

27. The Government can arrange for the introduction of Poultry Science as a course in all the Veterinary Universities in our country which will help poultry development.
CONCLUSIONS

Poultry Fanning is a viable business activity and has got immense scope for its growth in India. In the rural sector too, poultry farming is gaining as it provides some of the cheapest sources of Protein rich food. Thus, whatever has been achieved in the Indian Poultry Industry is because of private initiative. Which has a lot of potential in terms of making money and creating jobs.

The development of poultry with the help of GATT and LPG modern science and Technology will greatly contribute for improving the socio economic conditions of the poor farmers by making poultry farming more productive and remunerative. The introduction of better stock and efficient husbandry practices with an efficiently organised marketing system would make poultry successful enterprise to Indian farmers. All these will go a long way in promoting rural people and pave the way for rural development.

Scope for Further Research

The researcher makes an appeal to the academicians, students and research scholars to look into the following important issues. They are:

- Environment impact on poultry fanning
- Training in poultry activities
- Women in poultry farming
- Economic loss due to poultry diseases
- Loan repayment from poultry farming