INTRODUCTION
INTRODUCTION

In the recent past, India has made rapid strides in milk production and presently it ranks first in the world, with production level of 84.5 million tonnes (Economic Survey of India 2002) and 90.70 million tonnes in year 2004-05. Milk production is increasing at 1 per cent per annum in the world. While in India, it is increasing at more than 4 per cent. Dairying is one of the fastest growing enterprises in the country, achieving 7.4 per cent growth rate during 9th five year plan (All India Dairy Business Directory, 2001). Since demand for milk and milk product is income elastic, consumption can improve only when the income of producer increases along with increase in production.

In India about 46 per cent of milk produced is consumed in liquid form. India's dairy market is multi-layered, shaped like a pyramid with base made up of vast market for low cost milk. The narrow tip at the top is small market for western type of milk products. It is estimated that 20 per cent of the total milk produced in the country is consumed at the producer level and remaining is marketed through various co-operatives and private dairies and vendors, while for the co-operatives, of the total milk procured, 60 per cent is consumed in the fluid form and rest is used for manufacturing processed value added products; for private dairies, 45 per cent is marketed in fluid form and rest is processed in to different products.
Milk is a complete food for human being. Growth rate of 4.5 per cent has been achieved by the dairy sector during the past decade as compared to 2.00 per cent growth rate by the agricultural sector. Target of doubling milk production by 2015 is possible if organized farming in dairying is introduced on a large scale. In fact an annual production of 120 million tonnes of milk by 2010 can be achieved only if the growth rate is kept at a rate of not less than 5.5 per cent. India stand at first position in milk production in the world after stagnation of 20 million tonnes of milk production during 20 years, i.e., between 1950 – 1970, the milk production in India crossed 30 million tonnes in 1980, 50 million tonnes in 1989 and 90.70 million tonnes in year 2004-2005, Uttar Pradesh is the first milk producing state in India. The milk production in U.P. was recorded 5,728 tonnes in 1980, 12,087 tonnes in 1995 and 19,769 tonns in 2004-05. The milk collection of Parag cooperative society Sultanpur was recorded 847.55 tonnes in the year 2004-05. In Sultanpur district, majority of small, medium farms and large are benefited by this enterprise but no any scientific and systematic study so for has been conducted on production and marketing of milk, keeping in view the above mentioned facts, the present study has been under taken with the following objectives :-

1. To study the socio-economic profile of the different categories of sample milk producers.
2. To work out the present statues of milk production in Sultanpur district of Uttar Pradesh.
3. To work out the economics of milk production of cow and buffalos.
4. To study the price spread and efficiency of milk marketing through cooperatives and private agencies.
5. To identify the problems and constraints of production and marketing of milk and to suggest the suitable remedies for it.