

## Animal Husbandry in Himachal Pradesh

1. The livestock census data for the last 5 livestock census is given below which indicates that the total livestock population has declined by about 1 lakh heads between 1987 & 2008. It is a pointer to two trends. One is that the pastoral and livestock based livelihood is declining in number and the other that the stock is improving in quality as the output is increasing:-

### Category wise Cattle as per Livestock Census

(In lakh)						
Sr. No.	Category	1987	1992	1997	2003	2008
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.
1.	Cattle	22.45	21.65	21.74	21.96	22.79
2.	Buffaloes	7.95	7.04	7.48	7.73	7.62
3.	Sheep	11.14	10.79	10.80	9.06	9.01
4.	Goats	11.20	11.18	11.68	11.16	12.41
5.	Horses and Ponies	0.20	0.14	0.13	0.17	0.13
6.	Mules and Donkeys	0.31	0.24	0.26	0.33	0.26
7.	Pigs	0.18	0.07	0.07	0.03	0.02
8.	Other Livestock	0.02	0.06	0.08	0.02	0.02
	<b>Total</b>	<b>53.45</b>	<b>51.17</b>	<b>52.24</b>	<b>50.46</b>	<b>52.26</b>

2. The Animal Husbandry infrastructure created since Sixth Plan onwards is depicted in the table given below: -

### Veterinary Institutions

Sr. No.	Institutions	6 <sup>th</sup> Plan 1980-85	7 <sup>th</sup> Plan 1985-90	8 <sup>th</sup> Plan 1992-97	9 <sup>th</sup> Plan 1997-02	10 <sup>th</sup> Plan 2002-07	As on 31 <sup>st</sup> March 2009
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.
1.	Hospitals	197	230	303	303	306	283
2.	Dispensaries	395	514	1585	1585	1787	1753
3.	Central Vety. Dispensaries	-	-	25	25	25	30
4.	Mobile Dispensaries	14	14	14	14	14	14
5.	Polyclinics	-	-	-	7	7	7
6.	State Vety. Hospitals	-	-	-	-	-	1
7.	Sub – Divisional Veterinary Hospitals	-	-	-	-	-	45

3. As would be noticed from table 18 above, Veterinary Institutions network has spread at a quite brisk rate. At the end of Sixth Five Year Plan 1980-85, there were only 197 Veterinary Hospitals in the State. This number has risen to 283 by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009 showing an increase of 43.65%. As a result of the Govt. policy to open atleast one dispensary for every two panchayats, an un- precedented increase of 343.80 percent has been registered in the opening of Vety. dispensaries by the end of 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2009.

### (A) Livestock Production

1. The production figures are depicted in the following table: -

#### Livestock Production

Sr. No.	Product	Unit	1997 - 98	1999 - 2000	2001- 02	2002- 03	2004- 05	2005- 06	2006- 07	2007- 08	2008- 09
1.	2.	3.	4.	5.	6.	7.	8.	9.	10.	11.	12.
1.	Milk	000' Tonnes	713.96	741.26	762.86	772.49	869.51	869.01	872.40	873.47	884.000
2.	Eggs	Lakh Number	750.38	800.53	822.41	827.74	811.38	752.67	771.98	842.84	977.300
3.	Wool	Lakh Kg.	15.65	15.76	15.86	15.94	16.00	16.03	16.05	16.07	16.18

2. The above table shows that milk production has increased at a steady pace. During the last 7 years 2001-02 to 2008-09, it has shown an increase of 15.88 percent which shows that animal health care services have paid dividend. The table also shows that egg production also increased at a considerable pace upto 2002-03 but thereafter it declined slightly but again picked up in the year 2007-08 & 2008-09. The critical feature of this table is that wool production has remained almost static. This strengthens the belief that younger generation of the migrating gaddis has not come forward to adopt sheep rearing as their main occupation.