

CHAPTER-VI

SUMMARY, CONCLUSIONS
AND SUGGESTIONS

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In this final chapter a brief summary of the present study has been presented, searching conclusions have been drawn, and useful suggestions have been offered which will be useful to the future researchers on dairy industry.

The following are some of the chief points to ponder over in this connection.

I) Social Background :

It is observed that generally the middle aged people between 36 and 50 have taken to the dairy farming, i.e. the young and the oldest people seem to be not interested in this profession, the reason being their inability to look after the cattle and all the entailing responsibilities pertaining to it.

It is observed that the advanced castes such as Jains, Lingayats and Brahmins seem to be dominating this particular industry. In Herle the majority of the people are by caste Jains and moreover they are affluent. Next to them are Marathas and Muslims. Lastly come the backward classes. The predominance of the advanced castes in the

dairy industry is due to their being well-off and their capacity to provide and make available what the industry requires.

It was found that the overall caste groups did not manifest any sizable number of the highly educated individuals. The advanced and intermediary caste groups showed a good number of educated members, whereas the lower caste groups showed none. But this does not mean that all the members pertaining to these different caste groups were completely illiterate; moreover, they were all literate. But those caste groups that contained highly educated members seemed to conduct this dairy industry quite efficiently and systematically and earned good gains for that matter.

The earning members were found in all the caste groups. But some of the earning members had devoted themselves to this industry in addition to their own special profession. From this it can be well concluded that the keen interest of the earning members in this industry is solely due to the profits that this industry yields.

ii) Economic Background :

In general it appears that the households in the income group of Rs. 5000/- to 20000/- dominate the dairy farming in the village Herle.

About the milk sale it can be concluded that a majority of the households earn Rs. 10 to 50 per day.

Quite a few of the households engage themselves in the sale and purchase of high yielding varieties of cows and buffaloes, and earn more than what they do in the dairy farming itself.

As far as the capital investment made by the different caste groups in this industry is concerned, it is observed that this investment is approximately from Rs. 1000/- to 20000/- on an average. Advanced Caste groups can afford more investment and naturally derive more profits.

iii) General Observations :

The survey that was conducted in the village Herle has brought to the notice the following important matters about the cattle breed. The households interviewed possessed Jersey, Holstein, Crossed Country Cows, Buffaloes and Calves. Ofcourse the strength of the cows is certainly more than that of the buffaloes. The village Herle can be called a thriving centre of different kinds of cows and has accordingly managed to sell these cows in the neighbouring districts namely Sangli, Satara, Solapur and Kolhapur.

The total milkyield of the cows and buffaloes of the sampled households in village Herle is 933 litres per day. One-third of the milk is used for personal consumption whereas the remaining two-third is dispatched to dairy co-operative societies.

It is very interesting to note that the families from all the types and caste groups sell quite a good quantity of milk every day.

Suggestions :

Either the average rate of the milk must be raised or the present rate at which the cattle-feed is purchased must be lowered.

The dairy industry is looked upon as a subsidiary industry and a full-timer farmer has no time enough at his disposal to attend to this industry. Consequently less milk is produced. If due attention is paid to the cattle and its well-being, more and more milk can be procured.

The financial assistance accorded to the farmers for the purchase of cows and buffaloes must be raised.

The bio-gas subsidy which is accorded at the rate of 50% must be revised and every farmer must be alerted to take the due advantage of the scheme.

In view of the further promotion of the dairy industry in the rural areas, the chilling plants are a must. Generally the chilling centres are set-up in urban areas and they are not of much use to the rural folk. The Government must take an initiative in this respect.

It is recommended that more milk should be accepted in rural milk centres.

The dairy industry development programme and its chief objectives must reach each and every farmer.

The farmers should be alerted about the use of the cattle-feed, they must be made aware of the fresh feed readily available in the farms.

The attention must be paid to the production of the cross-breeds of excellent kinds.

The introduction of the processing firms (milk products) is essential at this level. In rural area such firms should be set-up.

The veterinarian facilities of the advanced kinds should be made available in large quantities in rural areas.

The Scheduled Caste's people should be imparted the necessary training and instructions to, with regard to dairy industry, so that they will be able to derive more profits and raise their financial standing. The Government should take the initiative in this respect and sanction the grants accordingly.

It is observed that there are 8,458 dairy Cooperative Societies in the State and they transact with 4,242 crores litres of milk per year. But in view of the total out-put of milk in the State, it is necessary that more Societies, more Units are organized and the dairy industry is given a good push.