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## DAIRY COOPERATIVES IN INDIA AND TAMIL NADU: A STATISTICAL PERSPECTIVE

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### ABSTRACT

*Dairying is one of the rural industries and has been providing continuous employment and thereby regular income to the people, especially in rural India. It has been offering a base for ensuring better socio-economic status and standard of living for millions of rural masses. Traditionally landless and women in rural areas have involved in the process of dairying for their livelihood. As a result, milk production takes place hugely in the villages. At the same time, its potential market exists in urban areas. In order to provide reasonable price for milk and to link rural milk producers with urban consumers, dairy cooperatives have been formed in the country. Dairy cooperatives are milk producers owned and controlled socio-economic organizations to provide constant employment and income to millions of dairy farmers at the grassroots level. Thus, it provides a base for long-term rural development.*

**Keywords:** Women, Dairy Cooperatives, Dairying and Development

### INTRODUCTION

The growth and development of rural India depends on various sectors and departments. Both Central and State Governments in the country have been implementing a number of welfare schemes and programmes for the long-term growth and development of people. To achieve this, Governments have been providing financial and non-financial assistances to different sectors and departments based on availability of data in the respective sectors and departments. It seems that accurate data are required for the development of people and rural industries. Dairying is one of the rural industries in the country to improve the socio-economic status of the people, particularly in rural areas. Further, Governments in India have been offering numerous assistances for the development of dairy sector through cooperatives. Dairy cooperative, is one of the important types of the cooperatives, movement in India is the largest dairy sector in the world. Dairy cooperatives are members (dairy farmers) owned, controlled and managed organizations and play a pivotal in role in the socio-economic upliftment of its members. They have been implementing number of welfare schemes for its members and milch



animals. In order to achieve long-term development of dairy cooperatives in India, we need to have accurate data on them.

## OBJECTIVES

1. To learn the progress of dairy cooperatives in India and Tamil Nadu
2. To know the milk production and per capital availability of milk in India
3. To discover the problems (if any) of dairy cooperatives in India and Tamil Nadu, and
4. To suggest measures to overcome problems faced dairy cooperatives in India and Tamil Nadu

## METHODOLOGY

The study is based on secondary sources of data and information. A schedule was drafted and finalized for the secondary data collection. Secondary data were collected from the official website of Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India from 1991-1992 to 2014-2015 and Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries Department, Government of Tamil Nadu, from 2000-2001 to 2015-2016. Tabular analysis and percentage were used for analysis of the collected secondary data.

## DATA ANALYSIS AND DISCUSSION

### Progress of Dairy Cooperatives in India

There are 170 Dairy Cooperative Milk Producers Unions and 15 State Cooperative Milk Marketing Federations are functioning in the country. These cooperatives have been serving the people across the country by providing adequate quantity and quality of milk and milk products.

**Table – 1: Progress of Dairy Cooperative Societies in India**

Year	Number of Dairy Cooperative Societies in Region-wise (in Number)				Total
	North	East	West	South	
1990 – 1991	12,126	4,364	18,345	63,415	98,250
2000 – 2001	31,977	7,113	24,670	96,206	1,59,966
2012 – 2013	54,802	21,834	34,028	1,55,634	2,66,298
2013 – 2014 *	55,745	25,925	34,061	1,62,791	2,78,522

\* Provisional

Source: www.dairyknowledge.in

This table exhibits that progress of dairy cooperative societies (North, East, West and South) in India in 1990-1991, 2000-2001, 2012-2013 and 2013-2014. The number of dairy cooperative societies in India have increased two fold times from 98,250 in 1990-1991 to 2, 78,522 in 2013- 2014. Like-wise, the number of dairy cooperative societies have increased nearly four and half-times from 12,126 in 1990-1991 to 55,745 in 2013- 2014 in North region, five times from 4,364 in 1990-1991 to 25,925 in 2013- 2014, nearly one time from 18,345 in 1990-1991 to 34,061 in 2013- 2014 in West region and one and half times from 63,415 in 1990-1991 to 1, 62,791 in 2013- 2014 in South region.

### Milk Production in India

Milk is part of life for both human beings (from children to aged persons) and animal beings (from small to big). It has multiple usages and provides nutrition and energy to all beings. Milk production provides regular employment and constant income to people who have involved in the same process. Thereby, it increases the standard of living of those people. The level income depends on the quality and quantity of milk production. The Economic Survey of India (2015-2016) ranks India in number one in milk production in the world with 18.5 percent of world production.

**Table – 2: Milk Production and Per Capital Availability of Milk in India**

Year	Milk Production (in Million Tonnes)	Per Capita Availability (gms/day)
1991 - 1992	55.7 (----)	178 (----)
1992 - 1993	58.0 (3.97)	182 (2.20)
1993 - 1994	60.6 (4.29)	187 (2.67)
1994 - 1995	63.8 (5.02)	194 (3.61)
1995 - 1996	66.2 (3.63)	197 (1.52)
1996 - 1997	69.1 (4.20)	202 (2.48)
1997- 1998	72.1 (4.16)	207 (2.42)
1998 - 1999	75.4 (4.38)	213 (2.82)
1999 - 2000	78.3 (3.70)	217 (1.84)
2000 - 2001	80.6 (2.85)	220 (1.36)
2001 - 2002	84.4 (4.50)	225 (2.22)
2002 - 2003	86.2 (2.09)	230 (2.17)
2003 - 2004	88.1 (2.16)	231 (0.43)
2004 - 2005	92.5 (4.76)	233 (0.85)
2005 - 2006	97.1 (4.74)	241 (3.32)

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2006- 2007	102.6 (5.36)	251 (3.98)
2007- 2008	107.9 (4.91)	260 (3.46)
2008- 2009	112.2 (3.83)	266 (2.26)
2009- 2010	116.4 (3.44)	273 (2.56)
2010- 2011	121.8 (4.43)	281 (2.85)
2011- 2012	127.9 (4.77)	290 (3.10)
2012- 2013	132.4 (3.40)	299 (3.01)
2013- 2014	137.7 (3.85)	294 (1.70)
2014-2015	146.3 (5.88)	322 (8.70)

Figures in the parentheses indicate the percentage of growth over previous year

**Source:** Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying & Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India.

The table 2 indicates the milk production (in million tones) and per capita availability (in gms/day) from 1991-1992 to 2014-2015. The reason behind the selection of starting year (1991) is that the new economic liberalization policies were introduced by the Central Government since 1991. Milk production has increased (nearly one time) from 3.97 percent in 1992-1993 to 5.88 percent in 2014-2015. Simultaneously, the per capita availability of milk has increased (three fold times) from 2.20 percent in 1992-1993 to 8.70 percent in 2014-2015. This table further shows that there were fluctuations in progress during the study periods both milk production and per capita availability of milk. It seems that introduction of liberalization and privatization policies have hardly affected both milk production and per capita availability of milk in the country. It also reveals that the continuous efforts taken by the concern departments, authorities and employees to ensure the long-term progress of both milk production and per capita availability of milk in India.

### Dairy Cooperatives in Tamil Nadu State

Dairy cooperatives in Tamil Nadu State have been formed / organized on the basis of a successful ‘Anand’ model in Gujarat State. The uniqueness of the ‘Anand’ model are three tier structure of dairy cooperatives, providing adequate inputs to dairy farmers at their door steps, milk payment on the basis of fat content, transfer of rural milk and milk products to urban areas for its successful marketing and thereby getting fair price for milk and milk products of dairy farmers, and active inclusion of women in the dairy cooperative sector. The Tamil Nadu Cooperative Milk Producers Federation (TCMPF), which is the apex level dairy cooperative structure in the State, has been providing financial and non-financial assistances to district level cooperative milk producers unions and village level primary milk producers’ cooperative societies in the State. At present, 17 District Cooperative Milk Producers’ Unions (DCMPUs) across the State are functioning and

providing all technical and pecuniary assistances to Primary Milk Producers' Cooperative Societies (PMPCSs) in their respective district. Further, office of 25 Deputy Registrar of Cooperatives (dairying) across State are providing various technical guidance and monetary assistances to both DCMPIUs and PMPCSs for its effective functioning and further improvement of working performance.

**Primary Milk Producers Cooperative Societies (PMPCSs) in Tamil Nadu State**

PMPCSs are base of dairy cooperative structure in the country and have direct contact with dairy farmers (milk producers) in rural areas. They link rural milk producers with urban consumers and supply quality milk with reasonable price to the people. On behalf of the members, PMPCSs are being managed by the democratically elected Board of Directors (BoDs). The Board of Directors are being elected through cooperative election and enable the process to lend adequate financial assistances to members to purchase additional milch animals to increase the milk production. PMPCSs have common milk collection point in their areas and have milching persons to collect milk directly from the houses of its members. This practice attracts new members towards PMPCSs and thereby increases the overall milk production in the State as well in the country. They also provide fodder inputs for milch animals to increase the milk production and veterinary services to milch animals of its members through primary veterinary hospitals in their areas. Both general PMPCSs and exclusive women PMPCSs are being formed voluntarily by milk producers irrespective of caste, creed, community and colour for their socio-economic development. PMPCSs are grassroots level democratic and socio-economic organizations functioning on the basis of principles of cooperation. The Government of Tamil Nadu provides financial and non-financial assistances to both general and all women PMPCSs for their successful functioning.

**Table – 3: Primary Milk Producers Cooperative Societies in Tamil Nadu State**

Year	No. of PMPCSs	Members in PMPCSs (In lakhs)	No. of functional PMPCSs
2000 - 2001	9,977 (----)	22.74 (----)	8,607 (----)
2001 - 2002	7,626 (-30.82)	22.75 (0.04)	7,426 (-15.90)
2002 – 2003	8,486 (10.13)	22.21 (-2.43)	6,980 (-6.39)
2003 – 2004	8,684 (2.28)	22.57 (1.60)	7,117 (1.92)

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2004 – 2005	8,684 (0.00)	22.57 (0.00)	7,431 (4.22)
2005 – 2006	8,949 (2.96)	22.60 (0.13)	7,701 (3.51)
2006 – 2007	8,949 (0.00)	21.93 (-3.05)	7,662 (-0.51)
2007 – 2008	9,201(2.82)	22.10 (0.77)	7,833 (2.18)
2008 – 2009	7,833 (-14.87)	22.10 (0.00)	7,833 (0.00)
2009 – 2010	8,012 (2.29)	22.09 (-0.05)	8,012 (2.29)
2010 – 2011	8,246 (2.92)	22.29 (0.91)	8,246 (2.92)
2011 – 2012	8,770 (6.35)	22.22 (-0.03)	8,770 (6.35)
2012 – 2013	9,231 (5.26)	22.26 (0.18)	9,231 (5.26)
2013 – 2014	11,397 (23.46)	22.86 (2.70)	11,397 (23.46)
2014 – 2015	11,503 (0.93)	22.94 (0.35)	11,503 (0.93)

Figures in the parentheses indicate the percentage of growth over previous year

**Source:** Tamil Nadu State Government, Dairy Policy Note, Compiled from 2000-2001 to 2014-2015

This table exhibits that the number of PMPCSs and number of working/functional PMPCSs with the total members in PMPCSs in Tamil Nadu. With regard to the number of PMPCSs, the total number has increased from 9,977 in 2000-2001 to 11,503 in 2014-2015. At the same time, there were fluctuations in the number of PMPCSs during the periods under the study and continuous progress from 2008-2009 to end of the study period. The growth rate has increased from -30.82 percent in 2001-2002 to 0.93 percent in 2014-2015. There were ups and down in the growth rate during the study periods. Even though, there was negative growth rate (-14.87 percent) in 2008-2009, there was a notable peak in growth rate 23.46 percent in 2013-2014. Concurrently, the number of functional PMPCSs has increased from 8,607 in 2000-2001 to 11,503 in 2014-2015. There has been continuous progress in the number of functional PMPCSs from 2006-2007 to till the study period. The growth rate has increased from -15.90 percent in 2001-2002 to 0.93 percent in 2014-2015. There were ups and down in the growth rate of functional PMPCSs over the periods under study. There was a significant 23.46 percent growth in functional PMPCSs in 2013-2014 and negative (-0.51 percent) growth in 2006-2007. It is important to note that both number of PMPCSs and functional PMPCSs were same from 2008-2009 to till the study period. The total number of members in PMPCSs has increased from 22.74 lakhs in 2000-2001 to 22.94 lakhs in 2014-2015. The growth rate has also increased from 0.04 percent in 2001-2002 to 0.35 percent in 2014-2015. There



were ups and down, and even negative growth rate in the number of members in PMPCSs during the study periods.

**Table – 4: Progress of Primary Women Milk Producers Cooperative Societies (PVMPCSs) in Tamil Nadu State**

S. No.	Year	No. of PVMPCSs
1.	2000 - 2001	1,173 (--- )
2.	2001 - 2002	1,173 (--- )
3.	2002 – 2003	1,128 (- 3.84)
4.	2003 – 2004	1,404 (24.47)
5.	2004 – 2005	1,451 (3.35)
6.	2005 – 2006	1,462 (0.76)
7.	2006 – 2007	1,285 (-12.11)
8.	2007 – 2008	1,210 (-5.84)
9.	2008 – 2009	1,309 (1.87)
10.	2009 – 2010	1,408 (7.56)
11.	2010 – 2011	1,474 (4.69)
12.	2011 – 2012	1,483 (0.61)
13.	2012 – 2013	1,491 (0.54)
14.	2013 – 2014	1,722 (15.49)
15.	2014 – 2015	1,793 (4.12)

Figures in the parenthesis indicate the percentage of growth over previous year  
**Source:** Tamil Nadu State Government, Dairy Development Policy Note, compiled from 2000-2001 to 2014-2015

This table shows that the progress of PVMPCSs from 2000-2001 to 2014-2015. The number of PVMPCSs has increased from 1,173 in 2000-2001 to 1,793 in 2014-2015. Although, there were fluctuations during the study periods, there has been continuous progress from 2008-2009 onwards. Further, the growth rate has increased

from -3.84 percent in 2002-2003 to 4.12 percent in 2014-2015. There were ups and down and even negative growth rate over the study periods.

### District Cooperative Milk Producers' Unions (DCMPUs)

DCMPUs have direct business contact with the State Cooperative Milk Producers' Federation (SCMPF) at the State level. They get necessary financial and technical assistances from SCMPF. They, in turn, provide adequate pecuniary and non-financial assistances to PMPCSs in their areas. They collect milk directly from PMPCSs functioning in their District, and sell milk and milk products through their own milk parlour in their areas.

**Table – 5: Average Procurement and Sale of Milk by DCMPUs in Tamil Nadu State**

S. No.	Year	Lakh Liters Per Day (LLPD)	
		Procurement	Sale
1.	2000 - 2001	16.94	NA
2.	2001 - 2002	17.51(3.36)	NA
3.	2002 – 2003	17.49 (-0.11)	NA
4.	2003 – 2004	15.79 (-9.72)	NA
5.	2004 – 2005	17.26 (9.31)	NA
6.	2005 – 2006	20.53 (18.95)	NA
7.	2006 – 2007	22.10 (7.65)	19.29
8.	2007 – 2008	21.64 (-2.08)	20.21 (4.77)
9.	2008 – 2009	22.00 (1.66)	20.17 (-0.20)
10.	2009 – 2010	22.37 (1.68)	20.15 (-0.10)
11.	2010 – 2011	24.32 (8.72)	19.36 (-3.92)
12.	2011 – 2012	21.40 (-12.01)	9.78 (-49.48)
13.	2012 – 2013	24.36 (13.83)	9.54 (-2.45)
14.	2013 – 2014	23.22 (-4.68)	9.92 (3.98)
15.	2014 – 2015	23.68 (1.94)	9.91 (-0.10)
16.	2015 – 2016*	29.38 (24.07)	NA

Figures in the parenthesis indicate the percentage of growth over previous year

**Source:** Tamil Nadu State Government, Dairy Development Policy Note, Compiled from 2000-2001 to 2015-2016 - \* upto 31.7.2015

This table reveals that average procurement and sale of milk by DCMPUs from 2000-2001 to 2015-2016. Though, the average milk procurement of DCMPUs has increased from 16.94 LLPD in 2000-2001 to 29.38 LLPD in 2015-2016, there were fluctuations in the average milk procurement during the study periods. It also

witnessed negative growth rate in few years. At the same time, the growth rate of milk procurement has increased from 3.36 percent in 2001-2002 to 24.07 percent in 2015-2016. It shows the seven folds increase and positive growth in average milk procurement by DCMPUs during periods under the study. On the other hand, the sale of milk by DCMPUs has decreased from 20.21 LLPD in 2007-2008 to 9.91 LLPD in 2014-2015. Similarly, the growth rate has decreased from 4.77 percent in 2007-2008 to -0.10 percent in 2014-2015. Further, there were ups and down and even negative growth rate over the study periods in the sale of milk by DCMPUs.

**Table – 6: Average Procurement and Sale of Milk by Dindigul DCMPU**

S. No.	Year	Liters Per Day (LPD)	
		Procurement	Sale
1.	2006 – 2007	41,000	22,000
2.	2007 – 2008	40,000 (-2.44)	20,000 (-9.09)
3.	2008 – 2009	42,000 (5.00)	13,000 (-35.00)
4.	2009 – 2010	45,000 (7.14)	13,000 (-----)
5.	2010 – 2011	63,000 (40.00)	17,000 (30.77)
6.	2011 – 2012	40,000 (-36.51)	15,155 (-10.85)
7.	2012 – 2013	46,000 (15.00)	13,668 (-9.81)
8.	2013 – 2014	41,000 (10.87)	14,756 (7.96)
9.	2014 – 2015	46,091 (12.42)	13,707 (-7.11)
10.	2015 – 2016	62,425 (35.44)	NA

Figures in the parenthesis indicate the percentage of growth over previous year

**Source:** Tamil Nadu State Government, Dairy Development Policy Note, compiled from 2006-2007 to 2015-2016

The above table shows that average procurement and sale of milk from 2006-2007 to 2015-2016 by the Dindigul District Cooperative Milk Producers’ Unions (DDCMPU). The average milk procurement of DDCMPU has increased from 41,000 LPD in 2006-2007 to 65,425 LPD in 2005-2006. Similarly, the growth rate has also increased from -2.44 percent in 2007-2008 to 35.44 percent in 2015-2016. There were ups and down and

even negative growth in average milk procurement by DDCMPU in the entire study periods. On the other side, the sale of milk by DDCMPU has decreased from 22,000 LPD in 2006-2007 to 13,707 LPD in 2014-2015. Likewise, the growth rate has decreased from -9.09 percent in 2007-2008 to -7.11 percent in 2015-2016. The growth rate of sale of milk has witnessed negative growth and ups and down in the study periods.

## MAJOR FINDINGS

- It is apparent that the number of dairy cooperative societies in India have increased two fold times from 98,250 in 1990-1991 to 2, 78,522 in 2013- 2014. Similarly, number of dairy cooperatives have increased from 12,126 in 1990-1991 to 55,745 in 2013- 2014 in North region, from 4,364 in 1990-1991 to 25,925 in 2013- 2014, from 18,345 in 1990-1991 to 34,061 in 2013- 2014 in West region and from 63,415 in 1990-1991 to 1, 62,791 in 2013- 2014 in South region. Also, it shows the constant steps taken on the growth of dairy cooperatives by the Governments and the respective department in the country.
- It is clear that milk production in India has increased from 3.97 percent in 1992-1993 to 5.88 percent in 2014-2015. Concurrently, the per capita availability of milk in India has also increased from 2.20 percent in 1992-1993 to 8.70 percent in 2014-2015. Further, it indicates that the efforts taken on the milk production by the Governments in the country.
- It is found that the total number of PMPCSs in Tamil Nadu has increased from 9,977 in 2000-2001 to 11,503 in 2014-2015. The growth rate has just increased from -30.82 percent in 2001-2002 to 0.93 percent in 2014-2015. Concomitantly, the number of functional PMPCSs in Tamil Nadu has increased from 8,607 in 2000-2001 to 11,503 in 2014-2015. The growth rate has increased from -15.90 percent in 2001-2002 to 0.93 percent in 2014-2015. The total number of members in PMPCSs in Tamil nadu has increased from 22.74 lakhs in 2000-2001 to 22.94 lakhs in 2014-2015. The growth rate has increased from 0.04 percent in 2001-2002 to 0.35 percent in 2014-2015.
- It is evident that the number of PWMPCSs in Tamil Nadu has increased from 1,173 in 2000-2001 to 1,793 in 2014-2015. The growth rate has also increased from -3.84 percent in 2002-2003 to 4.12 percent in 2014-2015.
- It is manifest that the average milk procurement of DCMPUs in Tamil Nadu has increased from 16.94 LLPD in 2000-2001 to 29.38 LLPD in 2015-2016. Likewise, the growth rate has also increased from 3.36 percent in 2001-2002 to 24.07 percent in 2015-2016. Alternatively, the sale of milk by DCMPUs in Tamil

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Nadu has decreased from 20.21 LLPD in 2007-2008 to 9.91 LLPD in 2014-2015. Likewise, the growth rate has decreased from 4.77 percent in 2007-2008 to -0.10 percent in 2014-2015 and

- It is observed that the average milk procurement of DDCMPU in Tamil Nadu has increased from 41,000 LPD in 2006-2007 to 65,425 LPD in 2005-2006. Correspondingly, the growth rate has also increased from -2.44 percent in 2007-2008 to 35.44 percent in 2015-2016. On the other side, the sale of milk by DDCMPU has decreased from 22,000 LPD in 2006-2007 to 13,707 LPD in 2014-2015. Similarly, the growth rate has also decreased from -9.09 percent in 2007-2008 to -7.11 percent in 2015-2016.

## SUGGESTIONS

- The Government of India and State Governments in East and West regions of India have to take appropriate measures to ensure the constant and further progress of dairy cooperative societies in their regions
- The Government of India through its national level cooperative organizations and research institutes has to take proper measures to further increase the milk production and per capita availability of milk in the country
- The Government of Tamil Nadu and responsible persons in respective department have to take suitable measures for further constant and workable functioning of PMPCSs. Also, employees in PMPCSs have to increase their productivity and take more efforts to increase the milk production which in turn enhance the financial transactions and business turnover of PMPCSs.
- Government of Tamil Nadu has to take appropriate steps to ensure continuous and constant development of PWMPCSs by providing adequate monetary and non-financial assistances.
- The Government of Tamil Nadu and all DCMPUs in the State have to take appropriate steps to enhance procurement and sale of milk in their respective areas. On the other side, it will increase the income of dairy farmers and thereby caters the emerging needs for milk and milk products in the urban areas, and
- In order to increase the collection of milk from Primary Milk Producers Cooperative Societies by DCMPUs, the State Government may provide sufficient financial and technical assistances to DCMPUs in the State

## CONCLUSION

Dairy cooperatives in India and Tamil Nadu have not only been improving the standard of living of rural women, but they have also been providing socio-economic identity and status to millions of women in their villages. They have been providing adequate financial and non-financial assistances to dairy farmers in the country for their overall growth and development. It promotes long-term rural prosperity.

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