Animal husbandry of Arunachal Pradesh

Animal husbandry plays a very important role in the day to day socio-economic life of the local tribal population. Rearing of animal is very common among them. The environment also affects the food habits of the people in high cold mountains, making it necessary to have a high fat and protein rich diet. Though hunting is still practiced but it is not done on regular basis to ensure a continuous supply of meat and since meat is an important element in their diet, they rear 193 many animals like cow, pig, goat, duck, hen etc for meat. Apart from supplying meat, these domesticated animals and fowls are also used as offerings during rituals. Pigs, cows, fowls and eggs are extensively used during rituals.

Pigs

Animal husbandry, particularly of pigs, is closely integrated with the agricultural systems . In their society the domesticated pig plays a very important role. It is a domesticated animal and even treated as a pet. Pig has multiple functions for them. Pigs make a major contribution to human diet and symbolic feasts throughout Asia. Pork is extremely important in terms of both nutrition and social value. Pork is always a preferred food and it is a great source of fat and protein. Fat is critically important for proper metabolism and for adequate calories to maintain body temperatures during cold periods.

Pigs contributed the most meat per year followed by cattle and mithuns. Breeding of pig is time consuming but they are of considerable importance both economically and ritually to them. They also consume pigs which are ritually sacrificed. Apart from dietary and ritual importance pig also plays important role in festivals and social transactions.

Pigs are one of the main economic assets reserved for wedding feasts; settling disputes; paying fines for fighting or breaking the law. Because of its fertility, pig plays a prominent part in matrimonial matters. Among them it was customary for the bridegroom's family to send to the bride's family gifts of pigs or pig meat. Pigs are also considered as expensive prestige goods therefore it is also used as a medium of exchange as well as it forms an item of community feast. Pigs are also very productive because of their high reproductive rate, and they are very resistant to disease and produce a large amount of fertilizer for farming . Hence, it is quite efficient and economically reliable to have pigs for the Adi-Galos. In olden days, pig sty was attached with the main house but nowadays pig pens are made separately from the dwelling place of the people but within the same compound.

Chicken and Fowls

In addition to pigs, chicken and fowl are other domesticated animal kept by them. Similarly chickens are also bred and used as sacrificial items on numerous rituals.

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Fowls and eggs are in regular demand as every ritual needs its sacrifice. These fowls are also fed every morning and evening. For their protection small houses are made with bamboo.

Livestock

A very important animal is a rare species of livestock is the mithun (Bos frontalis). It is a semi-domesticated animal and indigenous to North-East India. The animal has got good potential for production of quality meat, milk and leather. Mithun apart from being an important subsistence source for direct consumption, represent the wealth of a person. Mithuns are used primarily as means of exchange in bride-wealth and other reciprocal transactions. In local mythology, is the first born of the union of earth and sky. Mithun is considered highly important by them for its value and its usefulness.

Mithun represents wealth and status in Adi-Galo society. It brings prestige and political power to the owner and at the same time it is in great demand for big rituals. There are major big rituals where the sacrifice of mithun is mandatory and without which the ritual is a failure. Unlike cattle and sheep, mithun cannot be herded. They are not kept in the house but left free in the dense forest. But the family can recognize their mithun by any distinguishing mark that they make on the ears or other body parts of the mithun.

All the commodities and materials in Adi-Galo society are valued in terms of mithun. Before any important ritual or marriage ceremony, groups of young men go to the forest looking for mithuns. Searching for mithun in the forest is very tiresome. The group is divided into subgroups and they spread themselves to search for the mithun. There are times when the search goes for even more than a week and the people would remain in the forest until the mithun is found. They would take food along with them as they go out of the house. They would depend on the jungle for their subsistence if required. They would take salt along with them to protect themselves from leeches, which can be very dangerous as the forest is leech infested. The skulls of the mithun sacrificed in any important ritual or marriage are hung on the walls of the house as a social display of wealth as it signifies the wealth and status of the family. Mithuns are cheap to maintain as forest resources for grazing are plentiful. Under such circumstances, the economic efficiency is high, with little maintenance costs. Also, since these animals are strongly territorial they need no special care.

Apart from mithun, they also bred cows but cows are never used for milking. The only purpose of cow is for meat. The entire process of mithun search can be of real importance to understand huntergathering societies, and draw parallels for archaeological interpretations.

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Fishing in Arunachal Pradesh

Agriculture is the predominant sector in Arunachal Pradesh, the eastern most State of India, with more than 60 per cent of workforce engaged in agricultural and allied activities. Given the hilly topography (only around five per cent land is available for cultivation) and continuing dominance of low productive shifting cultivation, diversification of agriculture that raises the earnings of those dependent on agriculture remains one of the fundamental challenges. On the other hand the State has untapped potential for fisheries in terms of many rivers, wetlands, ponds, lakes and area under rice-fish culture system. Hence, in this background fishing presents a good livelihood options for Arunachal Pradesh.

Introduction

Fish from times immemorial had been an state. Fishing is not merely a hobby or spor farmers. It is a means of living. Fish is also c the belief of the people, the success or fai and bad harvest. On the whole, people traditional fish farming.

The fisheries programme was first initiated from the year 1958 – 59 on a very modest scale and with the passage of time and expansion of the programme, pisciculture has taken a firm root in this state and the people are now seeking more and more Govt. assistance for this purpose. At present the people are more eager to take up fish farming as a means of subsidiary income. Caste or creed attributes this to the fact that the rural people are basically agricultural farmers and no "FISHREMAN" exists in the state.

So long the people had to depend on t destruction / indiscriminate killing the pop barrenness in most of the water resources. F people to culture the fish in confinement an required from their door - step (so the prove bank."). Fisheries are now regarded as one socio-economic upliftment of the rural pc generation of the employment i.e. providing process contributing to the mobilisation o activity in which the women also has the acc that in many years of the State the women h

The state of Arunachal Pradesh occupying characterized by the hilly terrain and criss-c with a good number of beels in the lower b adding to the scenic beauty of its topograp lentic and iotic water resources respectively. zone of the state. The state is also the happy 150 fish species. Out of which 20% represer 80% is contributed by the admixture of cold c

The role of the Govt. in the Fishery sector is various schemes befitting to the topography process, the objectives are (a) To provide su income to the state. (c) At least part-time / c state. Nevertheless, the Fisheries could be c burning un-employment problems particularl up people's participation programme i.e. m being covered under "Extension & Training" and also various specific training programme

Development Schemes

1.Rural Aquaculture: For development e participation with necessary Govt. subsidy as

Item	Estim
(a)Const. Of fish pond	Rs. 3.00 lo
(b)Supply of inputs	Rs. 0.30 lak

The estimated production under this scher response of the farmer is very encouraging pressure for more assistance. This programme Farmers Development Agency) u programme.

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This also a subsidy scheme against which technical guidance towards development of Paddy plots and subsidy against inputs i.e. fish seed and TPT etc. are provided. Through this programme, Common Carp variety of fish is raised alongwith the Paddy. The programme is very popular in Apatani Plateau, Ziro in Lower Subansiri District and it has become an established system with an estimated production of 150 – 250 Kgs/ha/100-120 days without application of feed/fertilizers which also enhance the Paddy production.

This programme has also been disseminatec problem of Fish Seed against this Programme Tarin near Ziro township established during 19

3.Reclamation of Beels/Lakes :

and Govt. sector for Capture and Culture Private sector scheme fish seeds are provide

4. Cold Water Fishery : This is a programr in snow-fed streams and other areas includ Govt. sector.

In view of the scope for cold water fisheries Trout Farming had come up from the yec resources which was also mostly devoid of I ranging from below freezing point to as higt Hatchery along the stream of Nuranang a District with the Brown Trout seed imported encouraging results of Trout farming co establishment of another Trout Hatchery at an elevation of 8000 ft. for culture of both from Himachal Pradesh during 1974-75.

Another big trout Hatchery Farm being esta under NEC funding and will be commissionec

The Trout farming of Arunachal Pradesh neighbouring hill States like Nagaland, Meg Trout seed on many a times from this State.

5.Fishers Extension & Training : This is infrastructure, training of fish farmers and m programme, training expenses/stipend etc. training courses between 10 to 15 days and other states for training under central assistar

6. To support the Peoples Programme for all State, the department also operates many I

along with some Pilot Projects like Running also being taken up under the Govt. sec provided by the State Govt. as well as NEC 2(two) Fish Farmers Development Agency ar

Special Features / Achievements

Composite Fish Culture of six species combi area of the State through beneficiaries par Doimukh&Kimin Circle in Papumpare Distr Dumporijo&Baririjo in Upper Subansiri Namsai&Jairampur in Changlang District etc

Hill district particularly West Kameng and Lo made tremendous impact and the Wor integrating Fish Culture with Agriculture & Paddy-cum-fish Culture is one of the most pc fish Culture in Apatani Plateau beyong 5000 at the instance of Govt. of India whicl production of a documentary film, which is Pradesh.

- **Mahaseer** – The Premier Spor resource led to the holding of ar for two years and the prospects fc
- **Cold Water fishery** – TROUT variety being cultured for stock popularity for providing recreati forward areas of West Kameng& regarded as the Pioneering State
- **Fish Breeding** through Echc (Rohu,Mrigal,Catla,Gonius) & Ex EmchiPapumare District and Lath & Rainbow) in West Kameng&Tc achievement in the field of Fisheri

SWOT ANALYSIS:

SWOT analysis provides a good framework of reviewing position and proposing strategy and direction of any development proposition.

STRENGTH:

Vast & varied unutilized and underutilized natural resources.

Altitudinal variation with distinct agro climate condition.

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Assured market for Fish.

WEAKNESS:

Low priority in planning and decision making process leading to low level of support/incentive to fisheries sector.
Inadequate development Focus.
Rudimentary extension service system.
Poor and disintegrated database on the magnitude of dynamics of exploitable and cultivable aquatic resources.
Poorly motivated staff.
Weak/ non-existent co-operative and other functional groups.
Non-availability of agro climatic zone specific aquaculture technology.
Non availability of quality Fish Feed & seed on demand and location.
Lack of backup infrastructures for Feed & seed production.
Lack of post harvest infrastructure, market research and weak linkage facilities.
Sparse distribution of resources and communication bottle neck.
Lack of professionalism and knowledge about aquaculture as its technology.
Low productivity.
Inadequate co-ordination with research institution, weak technology transfer at farmer's level.
Lack of local capacity for capital investment.
Lack of indigenous expertise/ technologies and lack of trained personnel.
Lack of comprehensive policy for fishing promotion and regulation for sustainability.

OPPORTUNITIES:

Huge untapped and underutilized resources for development of aquaculture / culture based capture fishery and other enhanced fisheries.
Immense scope for diversification, integrated farming, polyculture, monoculture etc.
Growing demand for quality fish seed and table fish.
Abundant possibilities for development of cold water and ornamental fisheries.
Huge potential for development of fish based eco tourism for sustained income and entrepreneurship development.
Expansion of paddy cum fish culture.
Cross Sectoral convergence.

THREATS:

Erratic climatic condition.
Abrupt occurrence of natural calamities.
Over exploitation of open water resources and use of destructive method of fishing.
Menace of Poaching.
Poor compliance of acts and regulation.
Illegal and forceful extraction of river bed materials, destroying breeding ground and hahitar.
Gradual siltation of ponds and tanks.
Effects of climate change.

SWOT analysis clearly indicates that positive aspects (strength and opportunities) far exceed the negative side (weakness and threats). Therefore it deserves priority in planning process. Development of the sector is also expected to help the state the achieving its core objectives, livelihood and nutritional security, reduction of rural poverty and growing rural economy.

Approaches for dealing within four object of SWAT framework will be as:-

Strength – By maintaining, Building and scaling up.

Opportunities – By prioritizing, optimizing and

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