FOREWORD

In this compilation of the statistical profiles of the dairy sector in various States, the main landmarks or highlights are: Trends in human demographics, animal population and production; Inputs for enhancement of productivity such as breeding, health and nutrition; and Government expenditure, along with supporting resources.

This review includes statistical tables on selected parameters for each State taken as a whole, along with timeseries data for districts wherever available. Since spatial presentation of data can yield insights not immediately comprehensible from tables, thematic maps for selected parameters (with data both at a point of time as well as changes over a period of time) have also been included.

The objective of this publication is to provide a detailed presentation of various parameters, underlying factors, and their inter-linkages so as to enable effective planning and implementation of development interventions. We also hope that a wide range of readers, students, researchers, veterinarians, planners, scientists, administrators, policy makers and academics, as well as other development practitioners and professionals in government and non-governmental organisations, will find this publication useful for their studies and projects.

Although a wealth of information is available on many aspects of dairying from different sources, it is not only scattered but also there are inconsistencies on the same aspect in data maintained by different agencies. While limited data could mean being less informed, extensive information could mean an overload and defeat the very purpose of organising it. This review therefore aims at balancing the most comprehensive information with the most relevant. We sincerely thank government and non-government agencies for providing information. While extreme care has been taken in juxtaposing data, some errors cannot be ruled out.

This publication "Dairying in Gujarat – A Statistical Profile 2013" is the first in a series of similar publications for other states which will follow shortly.

Dilip Rath

Managing Director

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