

Kadaknath Farming for Farmers' Livelihood and Empowerment

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Abstract

Kadaknath is an important indigenous breed of poultry inhabiting vast areas of Western Madhya Pradesh mainly the Jhabua and Dhar Districts. Since a long time, Kadaknath breed of poultry was reared by tribes and therefore through many generations of selection and fixation of genes some of the important breed characteristics had been established. The specialty of the breed is the flesh and internal organs of this chicken are black in colour. It is also to be noted that it is the only black meat chicken breed of India. The meat and eggs are also reckoned to be a rich source of protein. Uniqueness of Kadaknath Poultry The peculiarity of this breed is that most of the internal organs show the characteristic black pigmentation which is more pronounced in trachea, thoracic and abdominal air sacs, gonads, elastic arteries, at the base of the heart and mesentery. Kadaknath is the only animal breed to get GI tag for the protein-rich and black coloured meat of Kadaknath variety of chicken, which is native to Jhabua. Comparative value of the Kadaknath breed both in terms of economics as well as nutritive values makes this breed more important among the poultry. Kadaknath changing lives of farmers in tribal region in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh. Kadaknath has now outreached to 117 districts in 20 states across India and also exported to Asian countries.

Origin and habitat of Kadaknath

The original name of Kadaknath is "Kalamasi" meaning the fowl having black flesh. However this name is not as popular as the present name Kadaknath. It is an important indigenous breed of poultry inhabiting vast areas of Western Madhya Pradesh mainly the Jhabua and Dhar Districts and adjoining areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Kadaknath breed has evolved through natural selection in indigenous agro-ecological conditions and is well adapted to the local environment. The Kadaknath birds reveals appreciable degree of resistance to diseases compared with other exotic breeds of fowl in its natural habitat in free range. Kadaknath birds are also resistant to extreme climatic conditions like summer heat and cold winter stress and can thrive very well under adverse environments like poor housing, poor management and poor feeding. Since a long time, Kadaknath breed of poultry was reared by tribes (Bhils, Bhillalas and others) and therefore through many generations of selection and fixation of genes some of the important breed characteristics had been established.

Breed Description

In India there are 19 registered breeds of native chickens as per ICAR- National Bureau of Animal Genetic Resources; kadaknath is one among them (Accession No.

INDIA_CHICKEN_1000_KADAKNATH_12009). Kadaknath native to the state of Madhya Pradesh and the tribes of Bhil and Bhilala communities reared them for centuries. The specialty of the breed is the flesh and internal organs of this chicken are black in colour. So it is also called as Black Meat Chicken (BMC). It is also to be noted that it is the only black meat chicken breed of India. The black colour of muscles and tissues is due to the deposition of melanin pigment, a genetic condition called "Fibromelanosis" (Saxena 2019). Though the meat is black in colour kadaknath breed comes in three differently coloured feathers viz. Jet black, Pencilled and Golden Kadaknath.



The Jet black adult males and females are black in colour, the Golden adult male and females were basically black in colour with Golden feathers on head and neck, whereas in Pencilled variety adult male and female plumage was black with white feathers on neck. In all the three varieties, skin, beak, shanks, toes and soles of males as well as females were dark gray colour, whereas tongue was dark gray or light black colour. Comb, Wattles and earlobes were light gray to dark gray coloured. However, in comb, Wattles and earlobes purple hue coloured was also observed. In all the three varieties of Kadaknath breed most of the internal organs exhibit intense black colouration which is due to the deposition of melanin pigment in the connective tissue of organs and in the dermis. (Rao and Thomas 1984).

Kadaknath is a hardy breed and can thrive very well under adverse environments like poor housing, poor management and poor feeding. Kadaknath breed contains a high percentage of protein and believed to have aphrodisiac properties. (Rao and Thomas 1984). Kadaknath

breed is poor in egg production potential, but their black flesh is very delicious and popular. Meat quality is highly appreciated for its distinctive taste, texture and flavour. Its flesh is of higher value and is being used for the treatment of many diseases in human beings by tribals living in Jhabua district of Madhya Pradesh. However, this needs proper scientific validation. In the whole region, Kadaknath birds are in great demand and are fetching good market price. The meat and eggs are also reckoned to be a rich source of protein (Rao and Thomas, 1984).

Uniqueness of Kadaknath Poultry

The peculiarity of this breed is that most of the internal organs show the characteristic black pigmentation which is more pronounced in trachea, thoracic and abdominal air sacs, gonads, elastic arteries, at the base of the heart and mesentery. The shining blue tinge of the earlobes adds to its unique features. Kadaknath possesses a distinctive taste. The meat of a Kadaknath bird is softer than that of a Desi bird, a characteristic preferred by local consumers. The GraminVikas Trust of Krishak Bharati Cooperative (KRIBHCO) had sought GI tag for the protein-rich and black coloured meat of Kadaknath variety of chicken, which is native to Jhabua. Geographical Indication Registry and Intellectual Property India has awarded Geographical Indication (GI) Tag to Madhya Pradesh's Kadaknath chicken on 30 July 2018. ***It is the only animal to have a GI Tag in India.***

Although the Kadaknath breed has many unique characteristics, it has been neglected because of its poor production potential. Of late, there is renewed interest among consumers and farmers in native germplasm because of the unique hardiness of the breeds, their ability to thrive under adverse climatic conditions, and the desirable taste and flavor of eggs and meat. Hence, a significant demand exists for the Kadaknath native chicken (Valavan et al 2016).

Characteristics of Kadaknath Poultry Breed:

Parameter	Details
Meat:	Black colour
Plumage:	Blue-black
Internal organs:	Black-hued
Body weight at 20 weeks:	920 gm
Body weight of adult cockerel:	1.5–2 kg
Body weight of adult hen:	1–1.5 kg
Sexual maturity:	At 180 days
Average annual egg production:	105 Egg
Weight at 40 weeks:	49 gm
Fertility (%):	55 %
Hatchability FES (%):	52 %

(Source : GI Journal No. 104 March 2018)

Production potential of Kadaknath birds

Kadaknath hens start laying eggs from 6 months onwards. Eggs are laid in two to three clutches in a year, with 25 to 30 eggs per clutch; thus, 80 to 90 eggs are produced annually. Hens of this breed show poor brooding ability and the eggs are, therefore, kept under Desi hens for hatching a traditional practice followed by tribal in this area.

A bamboo basket is lined with crop residue of paddy/wheat or dried grass to provide a cushion for the eggs to be hatched. Eggs of both Desi and Kadaknath birds are placed on this cushion to be hatched by a broody Desi hen. This traditional technique is being encouraged by the PFT to propagate Kadaknath through natural means and ensure availability of Kadaknath chicks in the villages.

Reproductive and Productive Performance

The reproductive and productive performance traits includes broodiness, hatchability percent on total egg basis, age at first egg and egg production during first, second, third and fourth laying cycles. Under natural setup, after the attainment of sexual maturity, a hen starts laying eggs which continues for a period of 15 to 20 days. This period may be termed as a "laying period", after this the bird becomes broody and incubates the eggs for 21 to 26 days. This period may be termed as "incubation period". After the hatching of chicks hen broods them for 35 to 70 days, this period may be termed as "brooding period". This completes one laying cycle and then the birds enter next laying cycle. Each laying cycle comprise of 3 to 4 months duration, which results in 3 or 4 laying cycles per year. Although the birds lay eggs throughout the year but the frequency is extremely low during summer, particularly in the month of May and June. Even if eggs are laid, the hatchability was very poor.

Feed consumption and feed efficiency in Kadaknath birds

Weeks	Body weight (g)	Feed consumption (g)	Feed efficiency (FE)
0	29.97	-	-
1	41.55	27.58	2.38
2	61.12	49.57	2.53
3	85.80	68.15	2.76
4	105.92	69.25	3.44
5	126.90	76.30	3.64
6	146.38	76.92	3.95
7	174.39	90.83	3.24
8	239.95	133.63	2.04
9	280.25	153.92	3.82
10	360.85	175.50	2.18
11	458.75	278.63	2.85
12	500.50	290.50	6.96
13	571.73	295.62	4.15

14	666.73	301.50	3.17
15	735.78	365.75	5.30
16	802.30	366.87	5.52
17	850.75	368.63	7.61
18	915.25	397.53	6.16
19	985.85	440.17	6.23
20	1048.47	458.68	7.32

Overall = 4.26 ±0.40

(Source: Parmar S.N.S., 2003)

Nutritional qualities of Kadaknath chicken

Kadaknath Chicken, as mentioned earlier offers abundantly rich levels of nutrition to humans. Kadaknath black meat has an intense and distinctive taste, and it contains more protein (approx 25%) than white chicken meat (approx 18%). Rich in vitamins B1, B2, B6, B12, C and E, niacin, calcium, phosphorus and iron, the inky fowl has a lower fat content of only 0.73-1.03% as opposed to the approx 25% in other chicken breeds. Kadaknath meat contains 18 amino acids of which, eight are essential for the human body. Black meat is also considered healthier as it contains 24% linoleic acid, as opposed to the 21% in white chicken. Furthermore, the cholesterol content in Kadaknath is only 184.75 mg/100 gm as opposed to the 218.12 mg/100 gm level present in other chicken varieties. These attributes make Kadaknath meat and eggs highly desirable to the health conscious.

Comparing Kadaknath with other poultry breeds

In following table, comparative value of the Kadaknath breed both in terms of economics as well as nutritive values makes this breed more important among the poultry. The nutritional quality of Kadaknath Chicken was tested at ICAR-NRC Meat Hyderabad the report is enclosed in Fig. 1.

Particulars	Other breeds of poultry	Kadaknath
Meat	170-200Rs/kg	500-600 Rs/kg
Egg	04-05 Rs/egg	08-10Rs/egg
Chicks	30-40 Rs/chick	80 Rs/chick
Protein	18-20%	24-25%
Fat	13-25%	0.73-1.03%
Cholesterol	218.12mg/100g of mea	184.75mg/10 0g of meat
Lenoleic acid	21%	21%

(Source: Kumar *et al.*, 2018)

KVK Jhabua : in a motive of conserving Kadaknath pride of Jhabua

Kadaknath is an important indigenous breed of poultry, native to district Jhabua of Madhya Pradesh and has been reared at KVK, Jhabua since 1990. But, this breed was slowly becoming extinct. So, to recognize the importance and value of this bird KVK Jhabua, in 2010 under National Agricultural Innovation) Project (NAIP, started work not only to conserve this bird but also link with livelihood security of farmers. A hatching unit at a cost of Rs 40 Lakhs was established the same year to increase the availability of this breed to needy farmers/institution/KVKs and NGO's.

The NAIP initially started a pilot project with only 10 poultry houses each with 100 birds and named it as '**Kadaknath Murgi Palan Samooh, Jhayda**' of Jhabua district . KVK scientists trained them for Kadaknath rearing and advocated on technologies for scientific poultry production, balance feeding, handling of feeder and drinkers, health management and marketing. From just mere 5 hatchery units at initial stage, now KVK Jhabua has established more than 500 units in 16 villages of the district. Also, the training and awareness program started by KVK Jhabua resulted into reduced mortality upto 12%, assured income of Rs 90 to 105 thousands /beneficiary/ year and generation of additional employment of 95 man days/year/family.

Kvk Jhabua is also motivating farmers for using solar poultry incubator , with the aim to conserving resources. As a result, a total of 40 Kadaknath growers are using solar poultry incubator for hatching the eggs.

With the continuous efforts of KVK, Jhabua, Kadaknath has become famous in 13 States of India and now there is high demand of chicks from adjoining districts and states. A new hatchery unit of 10000 capacity has also been established at the KVK, under NAIP Project and they have started supply of chicks to needy farmers, different KVK of the state and country. Till today kvk, Jhabua has supplied about 2 lakhs (appx) chicks to KVKs of 15 districts of 14 states (Madhya Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Rajasthan, Gujarat, Kerala, Maharashtra , Delhi, Haryana, Bihar, Jharkhand, Telangana and West Bengal).

The intervention of KVK, Jhabua has led to conservation of Kadaknath breed, increased employment generation and reduced migration of youth.

Recognition of the Work

- For its work in recognizing the importance and value of Kadaknath at global level, KVK Jhabua has been felicitated with many awards viz. Best KVK Award, Breed Savior Award, 2012 (NBGAR, Karnal), Mahindra Samridhi Award, etc.
- Recently Kvk, Jhabua has been awarded with Best Poultry extension Award, 2020 by agriculture Today group for excellent work on Kadaknath rearing



Horizontal spread of Kadakhnath

Poultry development in India has made impressive progress during the last three decades evolving from backyard ventures to a full-fledged commercial agro industrial business mainly due to comprehensive research and development initiated by the Government and subsequently taken up by the organized private sector. Backyard poultry requiring hardly any infrastructure set-up is a potent tool for upliftment of the poorest of the poor. It has also been noticed that the demand for rural backyard poultry is quite high in tribal areas. Among the poor villagers, backyard poultry farming is an age-old practice where they keep mostly desi / indigenous birds which scavenge in the backyard and nearby field with very little health care and management. KVKs in tribal dominated areas in Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh established Kadakhnath hatcheries for promoting scientific rearing of Kadakhnath in the region

KVK Kanker popularizing Kadaknath in Chhattisgarh

The black fowl crossed over from Madhya Pradesh in 2014, when the Kanker KVK procured 300 Kadaknath chicks. Hatching unit of 500 eggs capacity was established at Kanker. In convergence with district administration under MNREGA Scheme 300 farmers were provided Kadaknath chicks to start kadaknath farming. KVK Kanker supplied more than 1.5 lakh chicks in different districts in Chhattisgarh and Chhattisgarh and other states like Maharashtra, Jammu & Kashmir, Odisha, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh etc. Farmers are earning additional income of Rs 90,000-1,00,000 per year by rearing of 100 birds generating employment of 460 man days/unit/year. It reduced migration from rural areas in off season and Kadaknath is working as Bank ATM for rural people. Due to rich source of nutrients, it helps in reduction of malnutrition problem in tribal area. Presence of melanin pigment in the body it is beneficial for heart patients.

Innovation - Low cost hatchery machine

- KVK, Kanker designed low cost hatching machine costing Rs 30000 while in market same capacity machine available in one lakh Rs
- 👤 Capacity 600 eggs
 - 👤 Fully Automatic
 - 👤 Hatchability 70-75 %
 - 👤 Low power use



Kadaknath Hatchery Unit at KVK Kanker (CG)

तीन साल में ही बढ़ा कड़कनाथ मुर्गों का पालन, अब दूसरे राज्यों में भी निर्यात

आदिवासी उद्यमिता सम्मेलन में कड़कनाथ की मार्केटिंग के लिए आज होगा अनुबंध

रायपुर (समय) विश्वविद्यालय के प्राध्यापक डॉ. अशोक कुमार शर्मा ने बताया कि वे अब कर्नाट आसानी से प्रजनन कर रहे हैं और इनमें रोज़ नया प्रजनन शुरू हो रहा है। कर्नाट गांधी कृषि विधिक कृषि विज्ञान केंद्रों में मुर्गों के उत्पादन के लिए एक नया प्रयोगशाला स्थापित की गई है। इसका उद्देश्य कर्नाट के किसानों को 1.4 करोड़ डॉ. अशोक कुमार शर्मा ने बताया कि वे अब कर्नाट आसानी से प्रजनन कर रहे हैं और इनमें रोज़ नया प्रजनन शुरू हो रहा है। कर्नाट गांधी कृषि विधिक कृषि विज्ञान केंद्रों में मुर्गों के उत्पादन के लिए एक नया प्रयोगशाला स्थापित की गई है। इसका उद्देश्य कर्नाट के किसानों को 1.4 करोड़ डॉ. अशोक कुमार शर्मा ने बताया कि वे अब कर्नाट आसानी से प्रजनन कर रहे हैं और इनमें रोज़ नया प्रजनन शुरू हो रहा है।

उत्पादन बढ़ाने के लिए कर्नाट गांधी कृषि विधिक कृषि विज्ञान केंद्रों में मुर्गों के उत्पादन के लिए एक नया प्रयोगशाला स्थापित की गई है। इसका उद्देश्य कर्नाट के किसानों को 1.4 करोड़ डॉ. अशोक कुमार शर्मा ने बताया कि वे अब कर्नाट आसानी से प्रजनन कर रहे हैं और इनमें रोज़ नया प्रजनन शुरू हो रहा है।



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500 अंडों से 70 हजार चूने

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Kadaknath changing lives of Tribal's in Dantewada

Kadaknath reached Krishi Vigyan Kendra Dantewada in 2015. KVK distributed 21 day old Kadaknath chicks provided to framers and women SHG in collaboration with district administration.

Each batch of 500 chicks needs a 450-sq-ft shed. They are fed three times a day, timely vaccinated and checked regularly for any signs of illness. In three months, the chicks generally reach the target weight of 1.5 kg and are sold either to local traders or supplying firms who have tied up with the KVK and district administration to buy chickens in bulk for supply in Andhra Pradesh, Telengana and Maharashtra. The chicken sold for Rs 400-900 a piece, at the farm level against Rs 150-300 for a regular chicken.

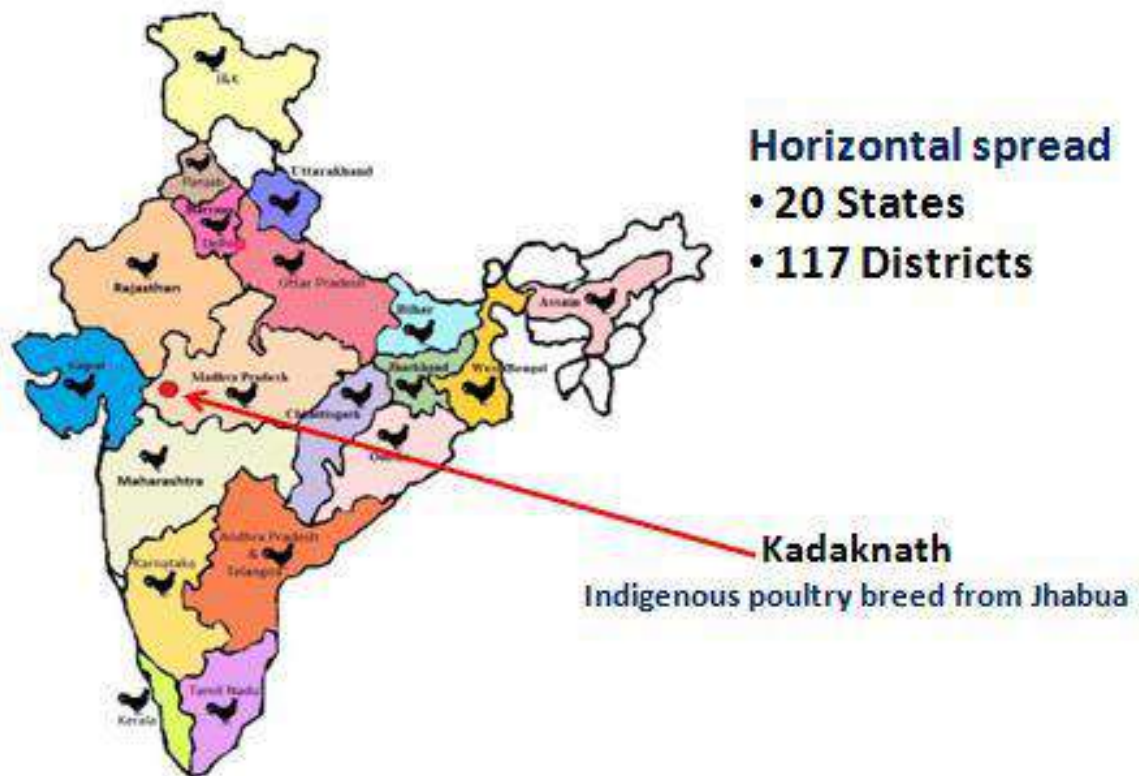
Now there are nearly 1500 women raising Kadaknath in Dantewada, either individually or as part of the district's 160 self-help groups. These women aged 18-45 are mostly school dropouts, farm labourers and widows. The district subsidises 90% of cost for the first batch of chicks, and 75% for the second batch. KVK helps with training and basic infrastructure like construction of the sheds and chicken feed along with marketing support.

Kadaknath enhancing Women Livelihood in Dantewada

- 🐔 Kadaknath chicken (1.5-2 kg) fetches Rs 500-700 even in local markets in region; thrice that of broiler chicken
- 🐔 Outside state market sold at about 800-900 Rs/bird (450 Rs/kg)
- 🐔 In unit of 1,000 birds women group earns Rs 3.5-5 lakh/year



Reaching to Outreach Kadaknath : A potential of indigenous poultry breed across the country



Kadaknath Hatchery unit at KVK:

State	KVK	Kadaknath Hatchery (Capacity : No/year)
Madhya Pradesh	Jhabua	20000
	Chhindwara	5000
	Burhanpur	1000
	Dhar	1200
	Gwalior	1200
Chhattisgarh	Dantewada	100000
	Kanker	36000
	Balrampur	3000
	Rajnandgaon	4000

Kadaknath traders in India:

S. No	State	District*	No. of Kadaknath Traders *
1	Madhya Pradesh	20	32
2	Chhattisgarh	10	20
3	Andhra Pradesh	8	8
4	Assam	2	2
5	Bihar	2	2
6	Gujarat	2	2
7	Himachal Pradesh	2	1
8	Haryana	3	3
9	J&K	3	3
10	Jharkhand	3	3
11	Karnataka	6	5
12	Kerala	2	2
13	Maharashtra	25	37
14	Odisha	3	3
15	Punjab	2	2
16	Rajasthan	3	3
17	Telangana	4	4
18	Tamil Nadu	4	3
19	Uttar Pradesh	4	4
20	Uttarakhand	2	2
21	West Bengal	7	6

*Note: No. of Districts and traders listed online on marketing platform like **Indiamart**, JustDial app, Social Networking groups /in contact with KVK

Making Kadaknath farming : A successful Venture

Pravesh Paradkar is an owner of Kadaknath poultry firm named PARADKAR AGRO FARM, which was established in the year 2016, located at village Semda, block Sausar, of district Chhindwara (M.P.) . After completing MBA, with the proper guidance of KVK Chhindwara, he started his successful venture of Kadaknath poultry in his 2 acres of land. From this small size of land, his business makes annual turnover of approximately Rs 31,08,000/ year by practicing free range & organic based poultry farming. Also, his firm meat and birds of Kadaknath are exported to China, Bangladesh and Nepal .

In his farm, for raising Kadaknath, he practices various innovative technologies, like solar system poultry hatchery machine, Hydroponics fodder, use of cow urine as medicine with drinking water, timely vaccination (F1, Gamboro, Lasota)

Free range rearing to produce healthy and good birds, natural system of laying eggs for ideal quality of eggs, use of naturally grown vegetables, etc. He practices organic poultry farming, where birds are given farm made poultry feed (Maize, Groundnut DOC, Oil, Rice bran, Concentrate) and Green fodder (Hydroponics and azolla), without use of any chemical supplements in feed, inspite of which Garlic , Onion and Cow urine is given to birds as supplements

In addition to this he has low cost Self made solar system poultry hatchery machine, with hatching capacity of 4000 eggs and average egg production of 200 eggs/day. Buy using his innovative ideas of reducing the cost for kadaknath production, total expenses incurred in production is Rs 223800/-, while total net return obtained is Rs 461800 making B:C Ratio to be 2.06.

For market and sale of his produce, he uses print media, advertisement, KVK Kisan Mobile Advisory, whatsapp, other social media and other promotional way, through which ,

on an average a total of 55000 eggs, 26000 chicks and 8600 birds are sold every year in district Chhindwara , in Madhya Pradesh and others states of India. Along, with this, 3200 chicks and 150 birds are exported to China, Bangladesh and Nepal every year, making a total turnover of Rs 5,85,000 from export only.

With the establishment of his poultry for rearing kadaknath breed, he has set an example for many of the other farmers in his locality and surrounding, to reopen their poultry farms, which were shut down earlier. Also, he has directly or indirectly has generating employment for many.

Firms Innovations & achievement

- ☛ Self made solar system poultry hatchery machine.
- ☛ Supply chicks to Tribal farmers through NABARD.
- ☛ Use Hydroponics fodder to reduce cost of feed.
- ☛ Practices organic poultry farming.
- ☛ Horizontal spread of the technology : 15 farmers farmers in the district Chhindwara, 25 out of district and more than 100 farmers out of state MP have adopted this technology.
- ☛ Export of kadaknath for meat and rearing purpose to China, Bangladesh and Nepal.



Taking knowledge of Brooding technique from KVK Scientists



Free range Kadaknath poultry



Solar Hatchery



Training to tribal farmers of backyard kadaknath poultry at Paradkar Agrofarm, Sausar

मप्र के कड़कनाथ की मांग विदेश में

सौसर के युवक ने कुक्कुट पालन को बनाया स्वरोजगार, देशी व आर्गेनिक तरीके से तैयार होते हैं मुर्गे

चित्तवाड़ा मुर्गे | छिटकवाड़ा

सौसर तहसील के सोमड़ा गांव में पल के कड़कनाथ प्रजाति के मुर्गे की मांग न केवल महाराष्ट्र के महानगरीयों में है बल्कि ये मुर्गे एक्सपोर्ट कंपनियों के माध्यम से विदेश भी भेजे जा रहे हैं। पुराने-देशी पद्धति से पल रहे ये मुर्गे आर्गेनिक भी हैं। इन मुर्गों के आहार में किसी भी तरह के रसायनिक खाद्य पदार्थ का उपयोग नहीं किया जाता है। यहाँ एक युवक ने कम लागत में कुक्कुट पालन से बेहतर आमदनी के संकल्प को साकार कर लिया है। छिटकवाड़ा जिले के सौसर तहसील के सोमड़ा गांव के युवक प्रवेश पराडकर ने एमबीए डिग्री के बाद नौकरी के बजाए कुक्कुट पालन का संकल्प लिया। शुरुआत में कुछ दिक्कतें आई लेकिन हार नहीं मानी। प्रवेश की धीम है, राजा नीकरी की तलाश की बनाए स्वरोजगार खड़ा करे व अपने को भी बेजगह है। 29 वर्षीय प्रवेश लघु कुक्कुट है। प्रवेश ने बताया कि कि एमबीए की डिग्री प्राप्त करने के बाद इच्छाशुक्ल जाब नहीं मिला। लघु कुक्कुट होने से कृषि विज्ञान केंद्र छिटकवाड़ा के संपर्क में आया। यहाँ कड़कनाथ कुक्कुट पालन की जानकारी हासिल की। वर्तमान में सोमड़ा के पोल्ट्रीफार्म में एक हजार तो सारवाबाद, नरसिंघपुर, मुल्हानी, नागपुर, स्वामी व पांडुरा में सारवाबाद हो रहे पोल्ट्रीफार्म में 6 हजार कड़कनाथ पल रहे हैं।



बंद पोल्ट्रीफार्म को मिला जीवनदान : प्रवेश ने खुद के खेत में पोल्ट्री फार्म स्थापित करने के साथ छिटकवाड़ा और जमीरपुर जिले में बंद पड़े पोल्ट्री फार्म संभालने में सफल कर कड़कनाथ कुक्कुट पालन के लिए अनुभव किया है। इन फार्मों में घूले व आहार की आपूर्ति कर वे मुर्गों व अंडों की सफाई की व्यवस्था भी खुद करते हैं। इससे न केवल उन्हें बल्कि पोल्ट्री व्यवसाय में असफल हो चुके युवकों को आर्थिक संकलन मिला है।

विदेश से आ रही मांग
पूर्वज-देशी पद्धति से पालन होने और आर्गेनिक होने से कड़कनाथ में 00.75 प्रतिशत कोलेस्ट्रॉल, 25 प्रतिशत प्रोटीन व 00.07 प्रतिशत फैट होने से इस की मांग विदेश में हो रही है। प्रवेश ने बताया कि बांग्लादेश व नेपाल कड़कनाथ का रहा है अन्य देशों से भी मांग आ रही है। पोल्ट्रीफार्म में देशी अंडों का भी उत्पादन हो रहा है। मांग के अनुसार में भारत में 50 फिल्लों अंडों का उत्पादन हो रहा है साथ अंडा विदेश से आ रहा है। इस बात को ध्यान में रख कर देशी अंडों का उत्पादन भी किया जा रहा है।

पहले किया गहन अध्ययन

प्रवेश ने बताया कि कि कुक्कुट पालन शुरू करने के पहले डेढ़ वर्ष तक इस पर गहन अध्ययन किया। क्षेत्र के उन किसानों से मांग जहाँ देशी पद्धति से घर-घर कड़कनाथ पाला जाता है। पोल्ट्री, फार्मासूट, वेटरन, मराठवाड़ा, कोरगा में कड़कनाथ पालन की हरे लकीरों को करीब से देखा। इसके बाद सन 2016 में आधा एकड़ जगह में कम लागत में देशी पद्धति से पोल्ट्रीफार्म तैयार किया।

जुगाड़ से बनाई मशीन

घूले खरीब कर कुक्कुट पालन करने लागत अधिक आती है। अपने ही पोल्ट्री में घूले तैयार करने की सोची-सोचाइ इसके लिए अखत्यक्त हेतु देशी मशीन की लकड़ी की कोमल में ही पट्टी से बांध दी। एक महाराष्ट्र के फसत घाटी परमेशों में मशीन देखी और इसे जुगाड़ से बनाने का निर्णय लिया तोल से घार लकर यहाँ मशीन को मात्र 80 हजार रूपय की लागत में तैयार किया। इस मशीन में अंडों से घूले तैयार किया जाते हैं।

देशी पद्धति का उपयोग

सोमड़ा गांव में कुक्कुट पालन पुराने-देशी पद्धति से हो रहा है। प्रवेश ने बताया कि कड़कनाथ प्रजाति के मुर्गे मुर्गी मात्र सत्रह में बंड में रहते हैं किन भर खुले में विचारण करते हैं। खुले में विचारण के दौरान कड़कनाथ पाल, बर्सीन, डेंचा खाते हैं, बीमारियों से बचाने के लिए लंड में लहसुन व नीमों में पकाया रिक्वाई जाती है। घारे के लिए उपयोग में लाय जाने वाला काज भी विकसित होता है।

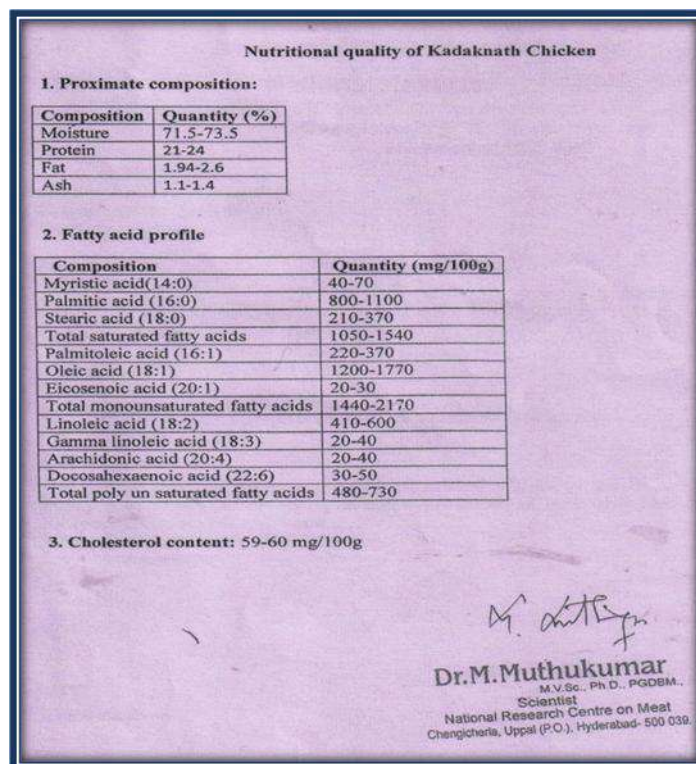


Fig. 1: Nutritional quality of kadaknath meat by ICAR-NRC on Meat, Hyderabad

Conclusion

Kadaknath is an important indigenous breed of poultry and inhabitants of Western Madhya Pradesh mainly the Jhabua and Dhar Districts and adjoining areas of Gujarat and Rajasthan. Being unique in meat colour and hardy breed, has greater market demand and costlier than other indigenous poultry breeds. Farmers are able to grow in the free-range as well as semi-litter system and are getting annual return of Rs. 3.5 -5.0 lakh/year with an unt of 1000 birds rearing. Hence, further promotion with planned marketing channel would help farmers to get additional income and employment through kadaknath farming in India.

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