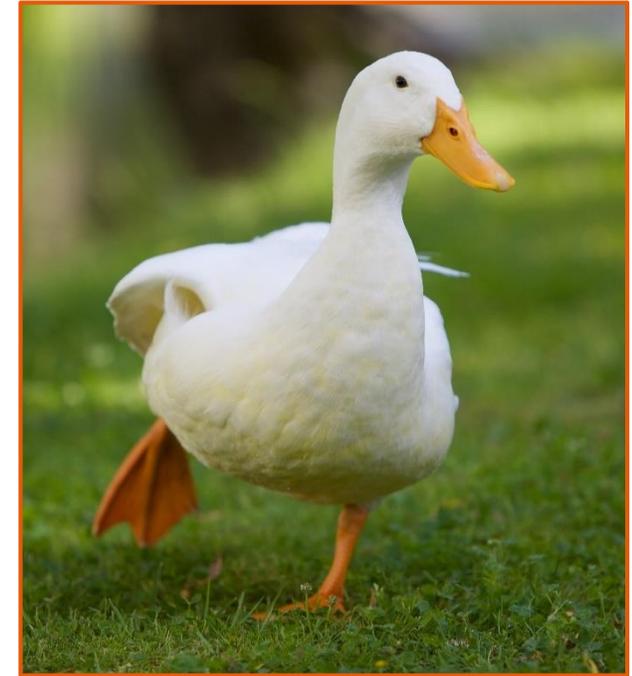


LEARNING TOUR ON POULTRY VALUE CHAIN



Poultry is one of the fastest growing segments of the agricultural sector in India today. While the production of agriculture crops has been rising at the rate of 1.5 to 2 % per annum, that of eggs and broiler has been rising at a rate of 8 to 10 % per annum. India is now the world's 5th largest egg producer and 18th largest broiler producer and employs around 1.6 million people in the sector.



A learning tour in poultry was recently conducted by ALC India for farmers from Afghanistan in partnership with Comprehensive Agriculture and Rural Development - Facility (CARD-F). The delegates visited poultry farms in Hyderabad and Bhopal and learnt about the technicalities of managing poultry, the complexities of the sector and the poultry value chain. The learning tour was focused around understanding the management and governance systems of a commercial integrated poultry model and a small holder community poultry model.





The tour started with a visit to Suguna foods, one of India's leading poultry production chains. It has a commercial integration model and has total quality process control throughout the production process.





The eggs from breeder flocks are transferred to egg setter trays in the hatchery immediately after arriving.



The eggs are transferred to incubators for the full incubation period.



The next destination of the learning tour was Suguna's feed mill, which has single line capacity of 60 tons, for the manufacture of pellet feed for poultry, the 2nd largest in asia.



Control room of the feed mill from where every thing is monitored.



Suguna's high grade poultry farm in Shabhaspally near Hyderabad is a state of the art poultry facility.

Environment controlled broiler farms that are useful in reducing mortality.



The broiler is used exclusively for meat and raised in a scientific way for producing more meat in a short time.





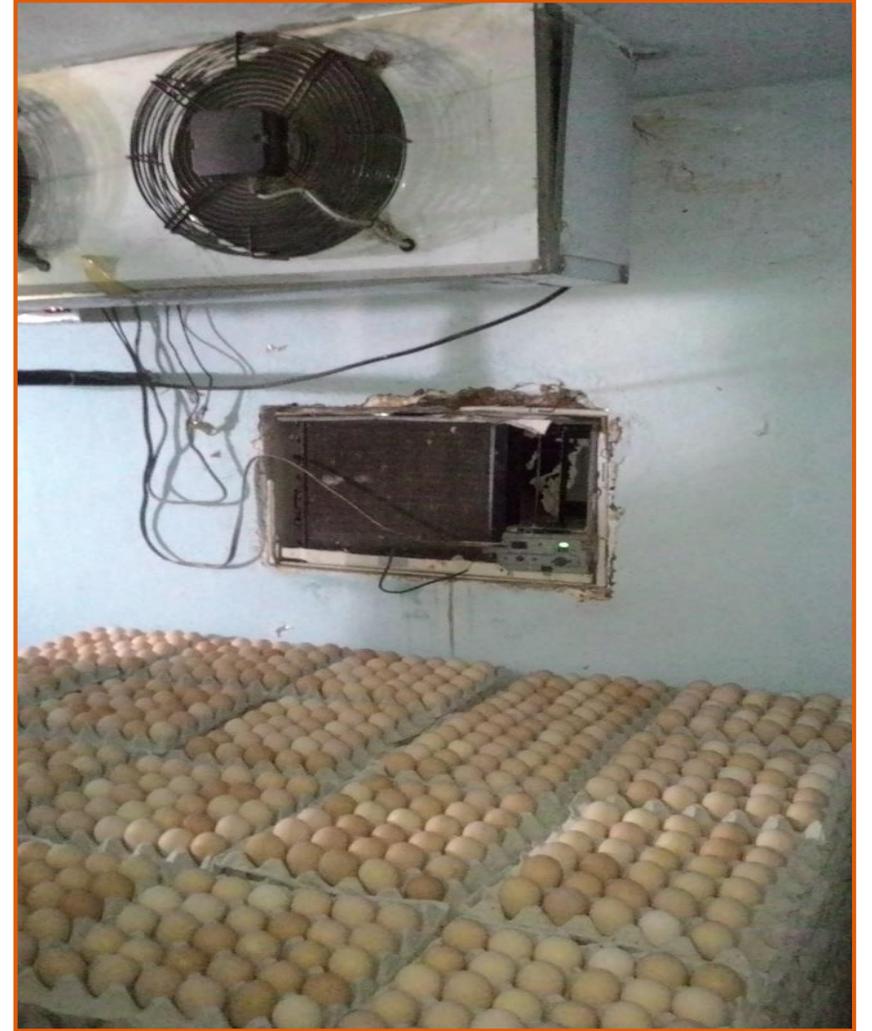
Open shed broiler farms





The facility also has a layer farm which is used for raising egg laying poultry birds for the purpose of commercial egg production.





The poultry breeder farm in Ghatkesar, near Hyderabad is designed to produce fertile eggs needed for the hatchery. Artificial insemination is practiced to produce eggs.





During the second part of the tour, participants visited Bhopal where they visited National Small-holder poultry Development Trust (NSPDT) which is a community model that enables poor women in rural India to start and run successful poultry enterprises.

The Madhya Pradesh Women's Poultry Producers Company Pvt Ltd. (MPWPCL) is a community owned enterprise promoted by NSPDT.





Delegates were taken to a concentrate plant belonging to MPWPCL, Bhopal where the functioning of a mash machine was explained. It is a steel structured plant that can produce premix, starter and finisher feed.





The next destination was MPWPCL's hatchery and layer farm in Itarsi where the overall functioning of hatchery and layer farm was explained.





Grading of eggs after quality check



Eggs inside automatic incubators for full incubation period



Automatic vaccination machine to vaccinate 50 chicks at a time





Automatic vaccination machine which can biospray 600 chicks in one go.



Manual bio spray of day-old chicks





MPWPCL's layer farm in Itarsi. A single layer farm consists of 5000 female hens and 500 male cocks. A ratio of 1:10 for Male to female is standard for a layer farm.





During the final phase, the delegates visited small and marginal poultry producers affiliated to the MPWPCL in Itarsi. The participants from Afghanistan could relate more to these producers, when compared to the giant production houses.





The delegates also met the women cooperative members of MPWPCL. The communities exchanged ideas, experiences and issues related to their livelihoods and their attempts to find solutions. The delegates gained insights into India's first completely backward & forward integrated poultry producer company fully owned by women.





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