

Required Report: Required - Public Distribution

Date: September 07, 2022

Report Number: IN2022-0075

Report Name: Livestock and Products Annual - 2022

Country: India

Post: New Delhi

Report Category: Livestock and Products

Prepared By: Radha Mani, Agricultural Assistant and Mariano J. Beillard, Senior Regional Agricultural Attaché

Approved By: Mariano Beillard, Senior Regional Agricultural Attaché

Report Highlights:

India's national cattle herd inventory in marketing year (MY) 2023 (January-December) is forecast marginally higher at 307.4 million head. India's MY 2023 production of carabeef (meat derived from the Asian domestic water buffalo) and beef is forecast at 4.42 million metric tons (MMT), an increase of two percent from the current year's estimate on continued restrictive policies on slaughter of bovine animals. Carabeef and beef exports for MY 2023 is forecast at 1.48 MMT, largely unchanged from previous year as demand from South Asian markets continues to be under pressure. Note: carabeef and beef production and trade are reported in carcass weight equivalent (CWE).

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

India's national herd is composed of bovine dairy cattle (*Bos taurus and Bos indicus*) and domestic water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*). FAS New Delhi (Post) in market year (MY) 2023 (January-December), henceforth denoted simply by the calendar year, forecasts India's national cattle herd marginally higher at 307.4 million head. India's 2023 production of carabeef (meat derived from water buffalo) and beef is forecast at 4.42 million metric tons (MMT), an increase of two percent from the current year's estimate due to continued restrictive policies on slaughter of bovine animals. India's 2023 carabeef and beef consumption is forecast at 2.95 MMT, an increase of three percent as beef continues to remain the most affordable animal meat protein source.

Based on Indian government trade data, Post's 2021 estimate for carabeef and beef exports is revised marginally higher than the U.S. Department of Agriculture's (USDA) official estimate to 1.4 MMT. Despite 2022 Trade data (January-May) showing slightly higher export volumes shipped to the Middle East (i.e., Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and United Arab Emirates) and South Asia (Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia), 2022 exports are projected to reach 1.48 MMT. However, forecast 2023 exports remain unchanged from the current year's estimate at 1.48 MMT as exports to Vietnam continue to remain under pressure in 2022. Due to stricter border restrictions for in-transit shipments, the drop in export volumes to Vietnam have not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. It is unlikely that new markets will open to enable significant exports in the next six-months. Any improvement in export prospects for 2023 is subject to the opening of new markets for India.

COMMODITIES:

CATTLE

Table 1: India, Commodity, Cattle, Production, Supply, and Distribution (PSD)

Animal Numbers, Cattle Market Year Begins	2021		2022		2023	
	Jan 2021		Jan 2022		Jan 2023	
India	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
Dairy Cows Beg. Stocks (1000 HEAD)	127650	127650	128650	128650	0	129300
Beef Cows Beg. Stocks (1000 HEAD)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production (Calf Crop) (1000 HEAD)	69800	69800	70000	70000	0	70100
Total Imports (1000 HEAD)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 HEAD)	375300	375300	376700	376700	0	377550
Total Exports (1000 HEAD)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Cow Slaughter (1000 HEAD)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Calf Slaughter (1000 HEAD)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Other Slaughter (1000 HEAD)	38750	38750	39400	39400	0	39925
Total Slaughter (1000 HEAD)	38750	38750	39400	39400	0	39925
Loss and Residual (1000 HEAD)	29850	29850	29750	29850	0	29725
Ending Inventories (1000 HEAD)	306700	306700	307550	307450	0	307900
Total Distribution (1000 HEAD)	375300	375300	376700	376700	0	377550

PRODUCTION

India maintains the world's largest live cattle herd, followed by those of Brazil and China in terms of absolute numbers. The national cattle herd is comprised of a combination of bovine dairy cattle (*Bos taurus* and *Bos indicus*) and the Asian domestic water buffalo (*Bubalus bubalis*). In 2023 FAS New Delhi (Post) forecasts India's national cattle herd expanding marginally to 307.4 million head. Post attributes the increase in herd numbers resulting from a healthy calf-crop, driven by dairy cattle reproductive success.

At the same time, the new outbreak of Lumpy Skin disease (LSD) in cattle in various parts of India in 2022, along with unprecedented flooding followed by drought in Indian cattle production states, have led to increased livestock mortality.¹ Post's observations of the LSD outbreak impact are accounted for in its beginning cattle stock numbers for MY 2023. The official LSD-related mortality figures, however, remain unavailable but the losses are reportedly in the thousands and spreading (see, [GAIN-INDIA | IN2022-0066 | Outbreak of Lumpy Skin Disease in Cattle Raises Alarm in Cattle-Rearing Communities](#)

¹ Lumpy skin disease is an infectious viral disease in cattle. The LSD virus is a member of the *capripoxvirus* genus of *Poxviridae*, also known as Neethling virus. It is a viral disease transmitted by insects that feed on cattle blood, such as flies, mosquitoes, and ticks. Symptoms include fever, discharge from the animal's eyes and nose, excess salivation, blisters on the body, and reduced milk production. Afflicted animals will also have trouble eating. The virus has an economic impact, since affected animals will experience permanent damage to their skin (impacting hide values), suffer from chronic debility, reduced milk production, as well as poor growth, infertility, and even death. LSD, which originated in Africa, has been sweeping Gujarat for three months since the first case was reported on April 23rd in Kaiyari village in Abdasa Taluka of Kutch district, where many depend on cattle-herding for their livelihood.

[in the State of Gujarat](#) and [GAIN-INDIA | IN2022-0070 | Update-Lumpy Skin Disease Spreads to Northern States of India.](#)



Source: Zee News, India

TRADE

Imports: None. At present no livestock is being imported. The import of live animals is subject to onerous restrictions. An importer must first obtain an import license from the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). Import licenses require the approval of the Ministry of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries/[Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying](#) (DAHD), which will review the import license request and conduct a risk analysis. India's import certification requirements and documentation for livestock imports are available on the DAHD website located at: <https://dahd.nic.in/trade>.

Exports: None. India is not an exporter of live cattle for slaughter, nor of dairy animals or of animals for breeding stock. India does not permit exports of livestock (of either dairy heifers or water buffalos).

POLICY

In the [budget for Indian Fiscal Year \(IFY\) 2022/2023](#) (April-March), the Indian government has revamped various existing centrally sponsored schemes. For dairy and animal husbandry (referred to as the White Revolution) and fisheries and aquaculture (labeled as the Blue Revolution), India has enacted the National Agriculture Development Scheme (*Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana*), Infrastructure Development Fund, and Livestock and Fishery Development Programs.

On October 7, 2021, the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying unveiled the [National Digital Livestock Mission \(NDLM\) blueprint](#), a digital platform developed jointly by the DAHD and the National Dairy Development Board. The aim of NDLM is to create a farmer-centric, technology-enabled ecosystem where farmers can realize better income through livestock activities with the right information. The base of NDLM will be the unique identification for all livestock at the state and national level programs including domestic and international trade. The system will also include robust animal breeding systems, nutrition, disease surveillance, and control programs. A traceability

mechanism for animal and animal products will be a major component of the system as India's ability to export to premium markets is limited due to lack of a traceability system.

Livestock Health: The DAHD's Livestock Health and Disease Control Scheme (LH&DC) carries out preventative measures to control and contain animal diseases. Of key importance for India is the control of foot-and-mouth disease (FMD), *peste des petits ruminants* (PPR, or sheep and goat plague), brucellosis, and anthrax. The DAHD provides financial assistance to animal health institutions under a Central Sector Scheme, which supplements the Indian states/union territories in development of animal husbandry, by providing financial assistance (i.e., central government funding) for the control and containment of economically important and zoonotic diseases of livestock.²

For trading purposes, FMD is the most critical disease for India to manage.³ India has a World Organization for Animal Health (OIE)-endorsed official program (initiated in May 2015) for controlling the disease. On May 31, 2019, India's Union Cabinet approved a new scheme in the National Animal Disease Control Program (NADCP) to eradicate foot-and-mouth disease and brucellosis outbreaks by 2030.⁴ Through this program the entire susceptible population of bovines, as well as small ruminants and pigs are vaccinated at six-month intervals. Nonetheless, counter to World Organization for Animal Health (OIE) guidance, India has not demonstrated that it can effectively control cattle movement intrastate or interstate.

Livestock Feed: On July 14, 2021, the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) extended the compliance date for guidelines issued for commercial feeds/feed materials (i.e., compound cattle feed) intended for meat and dairy producing animals. The extension applies to a relatively limited pool of industry stakeholders who encountered difficulties in obtaining [Bureau of Indian Standards](#) (BIS) certification/licensing during the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak's second wave. The new compliance date, for this group, was set for January 1, 2022 (see, [GAIN-INDIA | IN2021-0086 | India's FSSAI Authorizes a Six-Month Extension for Compliance with Commercial Feeds and Feed Materials Standards to Select Industry Stakeholders](#)).

The FSSAI is taking the lead in issuing guidelines for cattle feed because of the growing inconsistency in the food safety of Indian milk and milk products (including baby food) supply. Wet distiller's grains (WDGS) from India's ethanol production plants, often carrying fungus and molds are resulting in higher aflatoxin levels.⁵ This type of feed ingredient, known to be fed to dairy cattle, has led to the closure of several dairy processing plants due to the detection of aflatoxins in the final product (and making them unfit for human consumption).

² The operational guidelines for Livestock Health and Disease Control Scheme are available on the DAHD website located at: <https://dahd.nic.in/sites/default/files/Operational%20Guidelines%20LH%20%20DC%20scheme%202021.pdf>.

³ FMD affects cloven-hoofed animals, including domestic and wild bovine, is fatal, resulting in reduced milk production.

⁴ The NADCP aims to control and eradicate FMD and brucellosis in India's beef and carabeef herds. See, NADCP (<https://dahd.nic.in/nadcp1>).

⁵ Wet distiller's grains are the main co-product by volume that remains after fermentation of corn starch to ethanol. Nutrient-rich syrup or "solubles fraction" is separated during the fermentation process, which can be sold for feeding purposes or added back to the final product to obtain WDGS. Disadvantages of WDGS as a feed source for cattle is that sulfur levels in WDGS range from 0.35 to 1.4 percent, which can cause health concerns in cattle. Cattle have a nutrient requirement for sulfur of 0.15 percent dry matter with a maximum tolerable threshold of 0.4 percent (NRBC- 2016, National Academies of Sciences – Engineering – Medicine). Another downside is that WDGS are a challenge to store in hot climates and summers due to its high moisture content; the shelf life of WDGS is three to five days piled on the ground without molding occurring.

COMMODITIES:

MEAT, BEEF AND VEAL

Table 2: India, Commodity, Meat, Beef, and Veal, Production, Supply, and Distribution (PSD)

Meat, Veal, Beef Market Year Begins	2021		2022		2023	
	Jan 2021		Jan 2022		Jan 2023	
	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post	USDA Official	New Post
India						
Slaughter (Reference) (1000 HEAD)	38750	38600	39400	39400	0	39925
Beginning Stocks (1000 MT CWE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Production (1000 MT CWE)	4195	4195	4350	4350	0	4425
Total Imports (1000 MT CWE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Supply (1000 MT CWE)	4195	4195	4350	4350	0	4425
Total Exports (1000 MT CWE)	1397	1400	1475	1475	0	1475
Human Dom. Consumption (1000 MT CWE)	2798	2795	2875	2875	0	2950
Other Use, Losses (1000 MT CWE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Dom. Consumption (1000 MT CWE)	2798	2795	2875	2875	0	2950
Ending Stocks (1000 MT CWE)	0	0	0	0	0	0
Total Distribution (1000 MT CWE)	4195	4195	4350	4350	0	4425
Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Inventory Balance	0	0	0	0	0	0
Weights	108.3	108.3	110.4	110.4	0	110.8
Production Change	12	0	4	4	0	2
Import Change	0	0	0	0	0	0
Export Change	9	0	6	5	0	0
Consumption Change	13	0	3	3	0	3
Imports Percent Consumption	0	0	0	0	0	0
Exports Percent Production	33	33	34	34	0	33
Population (People)	1,340.4	0	1,354.6	0	0	0
Per Capita Consumption	2.09	0	2.12	0	0	0
Annual % Change Per Cap. Cons. (Percent)	11.8	0	1.4	0	0	0

PRODUCTION

FAS New Delhi forecasts India's 2023 production of Indian *carabeef* (meat derived from Indian water buffalo) and beef at 4.42 million metric tons (MMT), an increase of two percent from the current estimate figure of 4.35 million metric tons.⁶ With no change in the Indian government's present policy towards animal slaughter, the livestock meat industry's growth will remain gradual.

In 2022, the country's livestock dairy and meat industries progressed better than other economic sectors. The carcass weight equivalent (CWE) of animals' post-slaughter showed a gradual increase as compared

⁶ Indian carabeef and beef production and trade are reported in carcass weight equivalent (CWE).

to 2021 numbers, when slaughtering operations were affected by COVID-19 lockdown restrictions. However, recent growing losses from the 2022 LSD outbreak is leading to an unanticipated decrease in animal numbers.

Cattle Slaughter: Most Indian states' legislation now prohibit the slaughter of cattle (bovine) of all ages, including both female and male calves. Gujarat, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab, Rajasthan, Maharashtra, Himachal Pradesh, Jammu and Kashmir, Haryana, and Delhi (union territory) all prohibit cattle slaughter, including that of bulls and steers of all ages.

The Indian states of Assam and West Bengal do permit cattle (bovine) slaughter if the animal is at least 14-years of age and receives a 'fit-for-slaughter' certificate from the local state authorities. Kerala also allows for cattle slaughter for animals that are unfit for work, cannot breed, or are permanently injured and over 10-years old. Arunachal Pradesh, Meghalaya, Manipur, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura, and Lakshadweep (union territory) have not enacted any regulations, or laws that address or specifically prohibit cattle slaughter.

Most states that prohibit cattle (bovine) slaughter can arrest an alleged perpetrator without a warrant. Delhi, Goa, Puducherry, Punjab, and Uttar Pradesh can also deny bail (see, [GAIN-INDIA | IN5085 | India - Cattle Slaughter Legislations – July 7, 2015](#)).⁷

CONSUMPTION

India's 2023 carabeef and beef (where permissible) consumption is forecast at 2.95 MMT, an increase of three percent as this beef type continues to remain the most affordable animal meat protein source. Indian domestic consumer demand continues to recover steadily from the COVID-19 outbreaks and economic disruption caused by it. At the same time, increasing Indian consumer's income and awareness is boosting higher demand for high-protein animal meat over the course of the next few years.

Carabeef/beef is a highly affordable protein source for non-vegetarian consumers. Although most of India's Hindu-majority population forgoes carabeef and beef consumption, the country's Muslim and Christian populations do consume it in volume.⁸ Increases in consumption is now being facilitated by greater product availability through eCommerce.

Consumption Preferences: Data from the March 2022 released [National Family Health Survey \(NFHS-5\)](#) conducted in 2019-21 shows an increasing number of people are eating non-vegetarian food and that 71 percent of the Indians over the age of 15 are non-vegetarian. Since 2006, India has witnessed a major shift from vegetarian diets towards diets containing larger amounts of meat. Factors such as

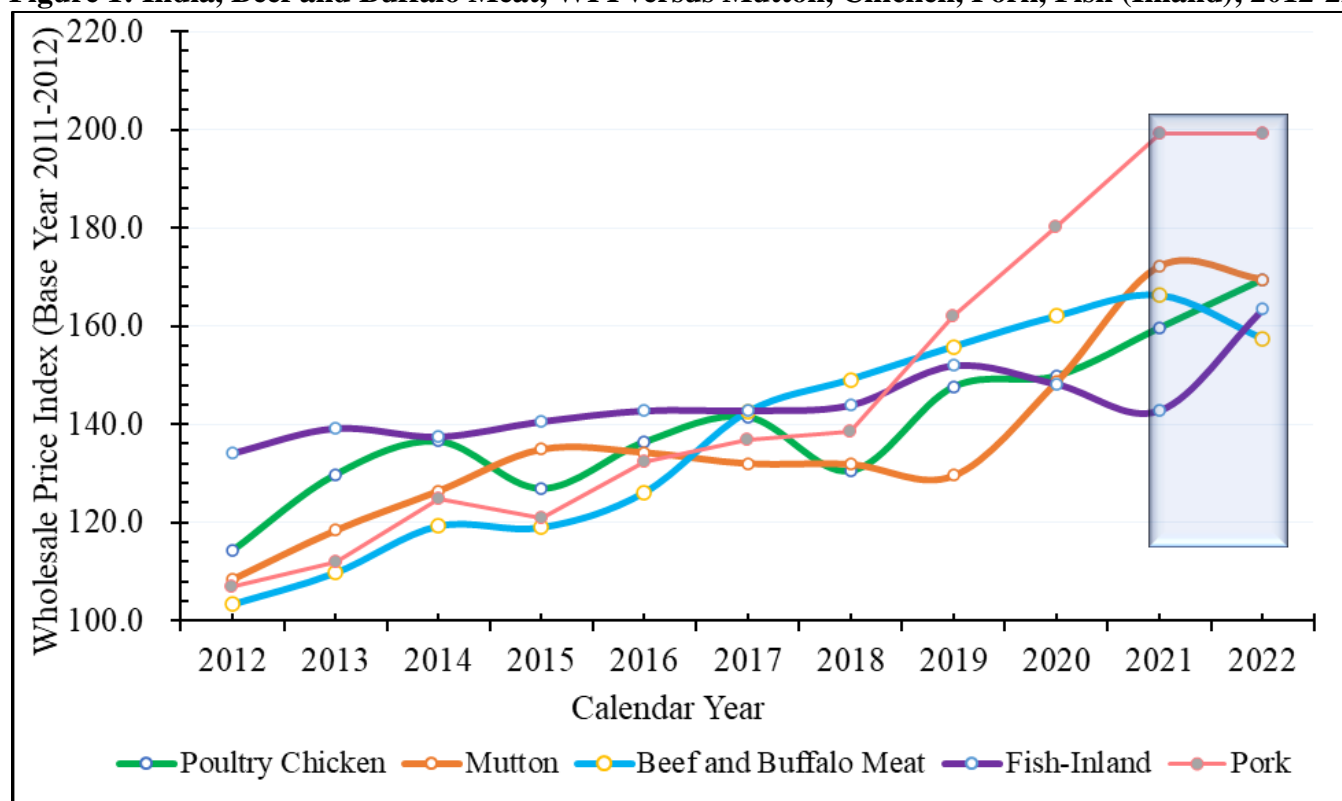
⁷ Article 48 in the Indian Constitution suggests that states should consider preventing cattle slaughter but provides no specific enforceable laws or directives on the subject. Agricultural policy, including cattle slaughter, is governed individually by each Indian state. Many Indian states and union territories address cattle slaughter and the interstate movement and trade of live cattle and animal products. However, because there are no central or federal laws for cattle slaughter, most states and union territories have developed dissimilar legislation, including creating different legal definitions for calves, bulls, and bullocks.

⁸ India's population is estimated at 1.38 billion and growing at 0.67 percent (Central Intelligence Agency, 2022 estimate). Hindus (79.8 percent) make up the bulk of the country's population; followed by Muslims (14.2 percent), Christian's (2.3 percent), Sikh (1.7 percent), other and unspecified 2 percent (2011 estimate).

urbanization, greater exposure to new, foreign cultures and increasing disposable incomes are some of the reasons for the shift. Although India’s per capita meat consumption is still low (4.4 kilograms per person), India’s total meat consumption is among the highest globally.

Prices: The wholesale price index (WPI) for buffalo meat (carabeef) and beef in 2022 (January-June) rose six percent, (figure 1), a modest increase compared to those for other meats, which make these red meats relatively more affordable and accessible to consumers. In comparison, the wholesale price index for goat meat (classified in India as mutton) has remained steady; pork meat pricing dropped six percent due to improved, greater supplies. Poultry meat’s WPI increased by 27 percent in the first quarter of 2022 as supplies started to return to normal. The WPI for freshwater or inland fish (both from wild caught and aquaculture), however, has remained relatively stable in the first quarter.⁹

Figure 1: India, Beef and Buffalo Meat, WPI versus Mutton, Chicken, Pork, Fish (Inland), 2012-22



Note: There is only a single base year for the commodities (poultry/chicken, mutton (goat), beef and buffalo meat, fish (inland), and pork). The prices referenced are wholesale index prices, not retail prices. The 2022 data in the rectangular box corresponds to January to June 2022.

Source: Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Trade Data Monitor, and FAS New Delhi office research.

⁹ Price comparison of various kinds of meat shows beef as the lowest cost animal meat at INR 200 per kilogram; chicken-INR 210/kilogram; mutton-INR 700/kilogram and pork-INR 350/kilogram (source: <https://dailypricelist.com/>, 8/24/2022).

TRADE

Imports: The import of beef and beef products is subject to severe restrictions, whose procedures effectively ban imports. An Indian importer must first obtain an import license from the Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT). Import licenses require the approval of the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying/Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, which will review the import license request and conduct a risk analysis. The import of livestock products is governed by an “open general license” (OGL). This licensing is subject to obtaining the requisite sanitary import permit (SIP), issued following a risk analysis (per internationally recognized scientific principles) and with the receipt of the exporting country’s competent authority’s veterinary certificate. The validity of SIPs varies from six-months to one-year.

Import Certification Requirements/Documentation: India’s livestock products certification requirements and documentation for livestock are accessible on the DAHD website located at: <https://dahd.nic.in/Trade>. In IFY 2022/2023 (announced in February 2022), India did lower import duties on certain frozen fishery products (i.e., frozen mussels/squids) and ingredients (i.e., select species of live shrimps/algal oils). Duties for the meat and edible offal of bovine animals remain unchanged.

Table 3. India, Tariffs for Select Livestock and Products, 2022

HS Code	Item Description	Basic	IGST	Total Duty with SWS of 10 Percent on BCD	Import Policy	Country Preference
01012100-01012990	Live Horses	30	12	48.96	Restd	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC
01013010-01019090	Live Asses, Mules & Hinnes	30	0	33	Restd	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC
01022100-01029090	Live Bovine Animals	30	0	33	Restd	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC
01031000-01039200	Live Swine	30	0	33	Restd	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC
01041010-01042000	Live Sheep & Goats	30	0	33	Restd	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC, MERC-
01051100-01059900	Live poultry, that is to say, fowls of the species gallus domesticus, ducks, geese, turkeys and guinea fowls - weighing not more than 185 gram, Grandparent stock, is however, freely importable	30	0	33	Restd	SA, Kr, LDC
01061100-01069000	Other live animals: mammals, birds, insects	30	0	33	Restd	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC \$
02011000-02013000	Meat of bovine animals, fresh OR chilled	30	0	33	R SanP	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC, Sg+
02021000-02023000	Meat of bovine animals, frozen, other cuts with/out bone	30	0/5*	33/39.65	R SanP	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC
02031100-02032900	Meat of swine, fresh, chilled or frozen	30	0/5	33/39.65	Fr SanP	SA, Sg, MERC ¹ , Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC
02041000-02045000	Meat of sheep or goats, fresh chilled or frozen	30	0/5	33/39.65	Fr SanP	SA, Kr, ASN, My, Jp, LDC
02050000	Meat of horses, asses, hennies, fresh, chilled or frozen	30	0/5	33/39.65	Fr SanP	SA, Sg, Kr, ASM, My, Jp, LDC
02062100-02069090	Edible offal of bovine animals, swine, goats, horses, asses, mules or hennies, fresh, chilled or frozen	30	0/5	33/39.65	R SanP, (#Fr SanP)	SA, Kr, MERC, CI, My, Jp, LDC, Sg
02071100-02071200	Meat, & edible offal, of the poultry of heading 0105, not cut in pieces, fresh or chilled of species gallus domesticus:	30	0/5	33/39.65	Fr SanP	SA, LDC,
02071300-02071400	Cuts & offal, fresh or chilled or frozen of species gallus domesticus:	100	0/5	110/120.5	Fr SanP	SA, Kr, LDC, CI,
02072400-02076000	Meat, & edible offal, of the poultry of heading 0105, not cut in pieces, fresh or chilled of turkeys, ducks and geese	30	0/5	33/39.65	Fr SanP	SA, Kr, LDC, CI, ASN, Jp, My

Source: Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs, GOI

Note: IGST: Integrated Goods & Services Tax; EC: Education Cess; Restd: Restricted; R SanP: Restricted Sanitary Permit; Fr SanP: Free Sanitary Permit

The basic duty is exempted Pure-bred breeding horses in heading 0101 2100 (Customs No.20/2017)

Grandparent stock is freely importable for HS Codes 01050 1100, 0105 1200, 0105 1300, 0105 1400, 0105 1900

*: '0 percent' for all goods (other than fresh or chilled) other than those put up in unit container bearing a registered brand name and actionable claim is available

^: '5 percent' for all goods (other than fresh or chilled) and put up in unit container bearing a registered brand name and actionable claim is available

Country Preference: ASN: Association of Southeast Asian Nations; Sg: Singapore; My: Malaysia; Jp: Japan; MERC: MERCOSUR; LDC: Least Developed Countries; CI: Chile; Kr: Korea (South); SA: SAPTA; Origin Requirement

for liver of sheep and goats, ^ not included for pure-bred breeding animals, ~ for sheep, \$ Japan and Korea not preferred country for Ostrich, Emus, + Singapore for other cuts with bone

" MERC excluded for carcass & half-carcass

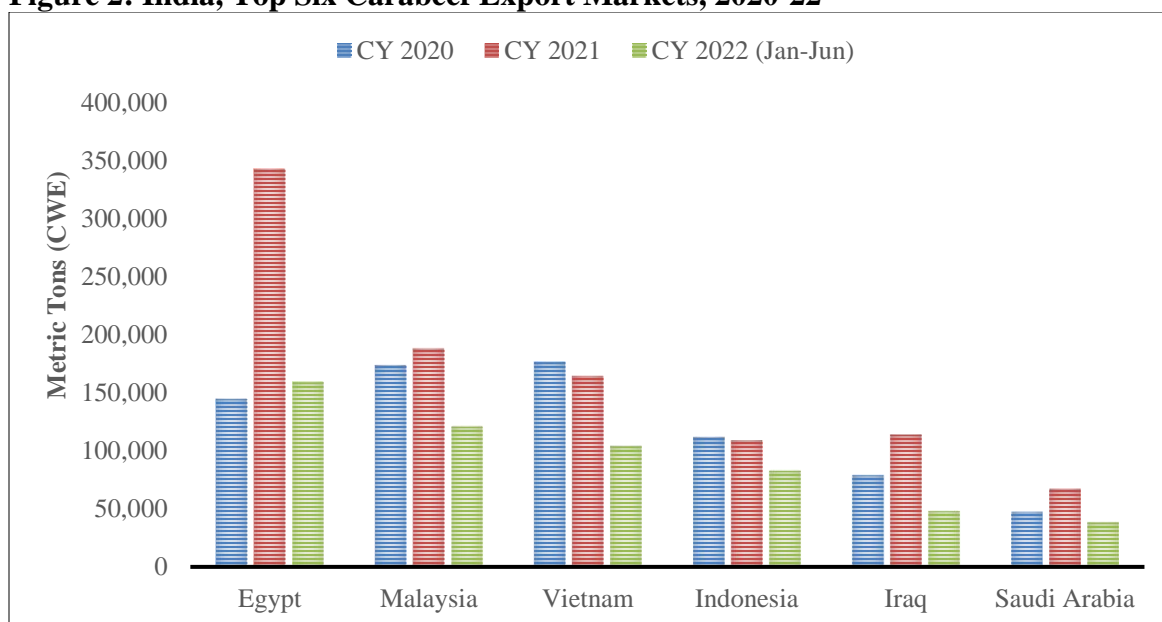
Exports: Based on Indian government trade data, Post’s 2021 estimate for carabeef and beef is revised marginally higher than the official estimate at 1.4 MMT. Despite 2022 trade data (January-May) showing slightly higher export volumes shipped to the Middle East (i.e., Egypt, Saudi Arabia, Iraq, and United Arab Emirates) and South Asia (i.e., Philippines, Indonesia, and Malaysia), carabeef and beef

exports for 2023 are forecast unchanged at 1.48 MMT as exports to Vietnam continue to remain under pressure in 2022.

Due to stricter border restrictions for in-transit shipments, the drop in export volumes to Vietnam have not recovered to pre-pandemic levels. It is unlikely that new markets will open to enable significant exports over the course of the next six months. Improvement in export prospects for 2023 is subject to the opening of new markets for India.

Indian carabeef exports in the January-June 2022 period at 552,185 MT are up 97,102 MT, an increase of 21 percent compared to the same period in 2021. Exports to major destinations including Egypt, Malaysia, Iraq, Saudi Arabia, and Indonesia are evidencing good increases in volumes.

Figure 2: India, Top Six Carabeef Export Markets, 2020-22



Source: Trade Data Monitor and FAS New Delhi office research.

All exported meat products must be processed in abattoirs and meat processing plants registered with India’s [Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority \(APEDA\)](#).¹⁰ Export shipments are subject to compulsory microbiological and other testing requirements. The registered processing establishment submits online requests for issuance of animal health certificates to the Indian (sub-national) state animal husbandry office to which their unit belongs and the certificate is issued by the Indian state veterinarian officer. India exports primarily frozen (halal) boneless carabeef, which is typically thawed, and resold in wet markets.

Halal Regulations - Exports/Imports: In India, halal is a religious attestation. The government neither mandates halal certification, nor does it provide a unifying regulatory law. The FSSAI standard certification is the requirement for edible consumer products. Halal certification, in the form of an

¹⁰ APEDA is an apex body that promotes India’s export trade in food and agricultural products (including fresh fruits and vegetables, processed food products, livestock products, and cereals). It is an agency of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.

internationally recognized certificate, is not necessary to obtain trade permission either for exports or imports.

On January 5, 2020, India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI)/Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority, the Indian authority responsible for promoting farm product exports, removed the word 'halal' from its [Indian Meat Industry - Red Meat Manual](#) stating that "the animals are slaughtered according to the requirement of the importing country." Until that point, halal had been an important pre-condition which an Indian exporter had to meet to export to countries with mandatory halal import requirements (see, [GAIN-INDIA | IN2022-0005 | India Halal Overview - 2022](#)).¹¹

POLICY

Trade Policy: India's Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MOCI) regulates the livestock and livestock products' trade. The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying regulates the import of livestock and livestock products, in accordance with Section 3 and Section 3A provisions of the [Livestock Importation Act, 1898](#), ([Livestock Importation Act, Amended 2001](#)). It aims to prevent the entry of exotic diseases through imported livestock and livestock products.¹² Beef cattle (bovine) slaughter is banned in most Indian states; India also prohibits beef (bovine) exports, as well as imports.

Carabeef Meat Production, Programs, and Policy: The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India regulates domestic slaughter and meat processing by means of the Food Safety and Standards Rules and Regulation (2011). The regulation defines standards and regulations for domestic and imported meat products.

Realignment of Schemes of Animal Husbandry: To boost growth in the livestock sector and make animal husbandry more remunerative, the Indian government has approved implementation of a special livestock sector package that includes revising and realigning various components of Indian government schemes over the next five years (2021-26).

This package envisions government support in the amount of \$1.32 billion over five years. In this package, all schemes of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying will be merged into three broad categories: (i) Development Programs that include the Rashtriya Gokul Mission, the National Program for Dairy Development, the National Livestock Mission and Livestock Census and Integrated Sample Survey as sub-schemes; (ii) Livestock Health and Disease Control that includes the present Livestock and Disease Control Scheme and the National Animal Disease Control Program; and (iii) the

¹¹ India with the number of Muslim citizens totaling 209 million (14.2 percent of the national population) has the third-largest Muslim population in the world. In India, halal is a religious attestation. The government neither mandates halal certification, nor does it provide a unifying regulatory law. The FSSAI's standard certification is the requirement for consumer edible products. Halal certification in the form of an internationally recognized certificate is not necessary to obtain trade permission either for exports or imports. There are no specific labeling requirements for imports of halal food products. For all U.S.-origin meat and non-plant-based food products shipped to India, halal certification is strictly voluntary.

¹² Livestock covers mules, asses, bulls, calves, bullocks, buffaloes, goats, swine, dogs, cats, poultry, parrots, pigeons, canaries, and finches. Beef is regarded as being separate and distinct from carabeef, or water buffalo meat.

Infrastructure Development Fund in which the animal husbandry and dairy infrastructure fund are merged (see, [PIB](#)).

Regulation of Import of Livestock Products: On July 15, 2020, the DAHD unveiled a new regulation whereby Animal Quarantine and Certification Services (AQCS) officials are required to occasionally inspect the sealed samples of goods arriving at customs for physical identification purposes. Out of the 699 Custom Tariff Head (CTH) lines presently mapped with AQCS for Risk Management, 272 CTH lines fall under the No Testing category (see, [DAHD's OM dated July 15, 2020](#) for the No Testing category list).

To facilitate trade and promote expedited clearance of imported livestock products, customs-sealed samples identified in the No Testing category will neither be required, nor collected by the AQCS for clearing imported consignments. These imported consignments will be granted the AQCS clearance through the Single Window System (SWS), based on a Veterinary Health Certificate that is uploaded in the SWS along with other relevant documents when importers file their bill-of-entry.

Attachments:

No Attachments