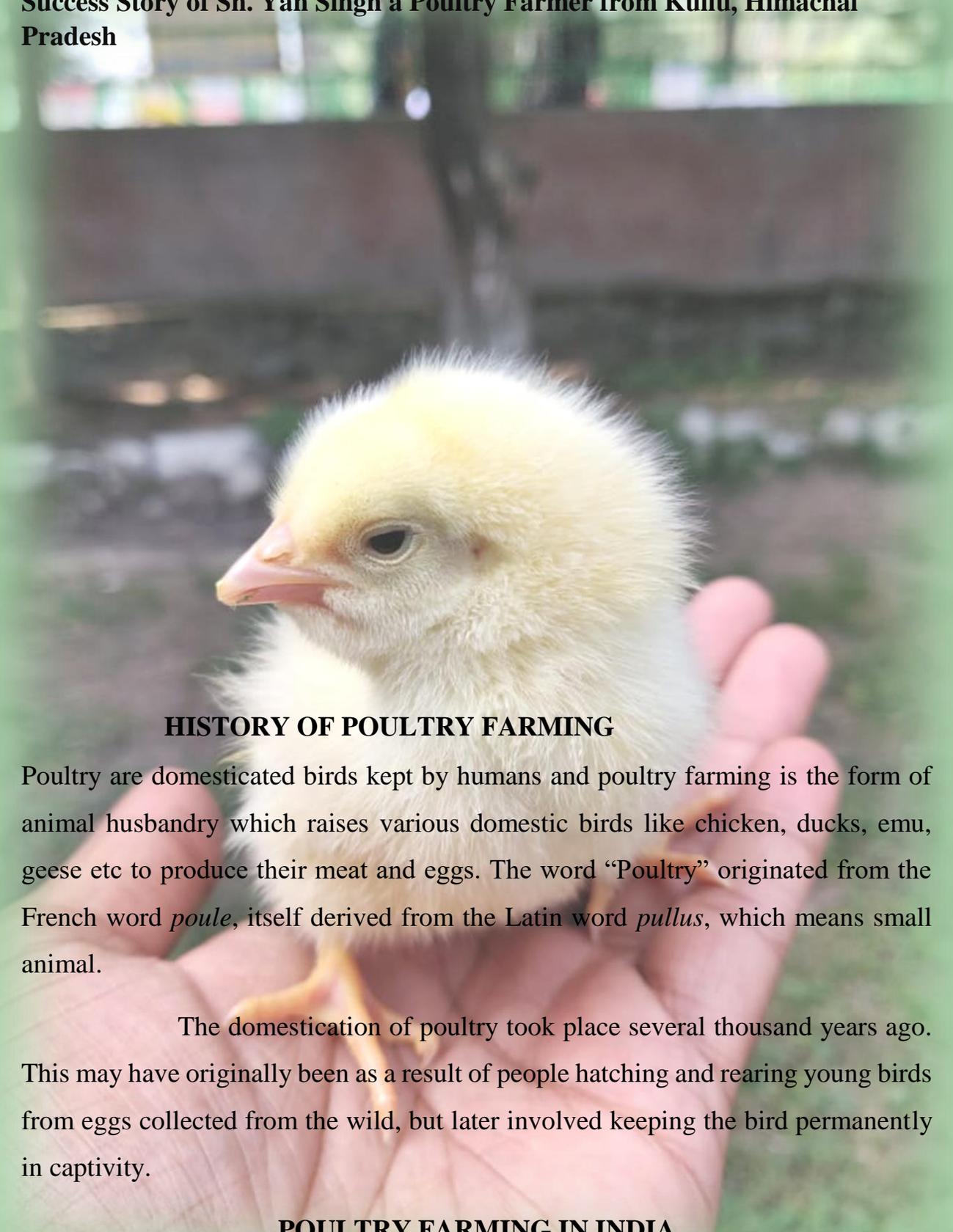


Success Story of Sh. Yan Singh a Poultry Farmer from Kullu, Himachal Pradesh



HISTORY OF POULTRY FARMING

Poultry are domesticated birds kept by humans and poultry farming is the form of animal husbandry which raises various domestic birds like chicken, ducks, emu, geese etc to produce their meat and eggs. The word “Poultry” originated from the French word *poule*, itself derived from the Latin word *pullus*, which means small animal.

The domestication of poultry took place several thousand years ago. This may have originally been as a result of people hatching and rearing young birds from eggs collected from the wild, but later involved keeping the bird permanently in captivity.

POULTRY FARMING IN INDIA

This has been practiced in India for such a long time that it has become an indispensable part of farming and agriculture system. Since the 1950s poultry farming in India has changed tremendously.

Poultry is one of the fastest growing segments of agriculture sector in India today. Poultry farming is very profitable business. While the production of agricultural crops has been rising at a rate of 1.5 to 2 percent per annum that of eggs and broilers has been rising at a rate of 8 to 10 percent per annum. As per a result, India is now the world's fifth largest egg producer and eighteenth largest producer of broilers. Poultry business requires proper planning and management. The small scale poultry farming is the widespread animal production system in India. Poultry farming has tremendous potential and is ideal to augment the income and nutrition of small and marginal farmers.

POULTRY FARMING IN HIMACHAL PRADESH

Poultry farming has the potential to alleviate rural poverty, eradicate malnutrition and create employment opportunities too. In Himachal Pradesh, the poultry production output corresponds to the backyard poultry production because people prefer poultry units of small size i.e. 100 to 200 birds each rather than bigger units. The topography and the climatic condition of state are such that here small sized

poultry farms are more successful than the large sized ones.



With the little external support (Scheme of Animal Husbandry HP), by initiating small farm enterprises, the beneficiaries specially the Schedule Caste communities of Himachal Pradesh have shown that it is possible to improve health and livelihoods.

600 Chick Scheme of Animal Husbandry

In this context, the Department of Animal Husbandry of Himachal Pradesh designed 600 Chick Scheme “SCA to SCSP” with the objective of improving the income and nutrition of poor schedule caste households. Under this scheme benefit had been provided to the BPL families belonging to schedule caste categories. Subsidy has been given to the beneficiaries for providing 600 no. day old chicks, feeders, drinkers and feed for initial feeding. Chicks in the clutch of 150 (no), starter and finisher feed had been provided to beneficiaries in 4 shifts in the gap of every 3 months.

Success Story of Yan Singh

Sh. Yan Singh resident of village Barmaadi (Sainj Distt Kullu) was one of them. The family was facing hardship as Yan Singh had met a horrific accident and was

completely unable to work as wage labour for his livelihood. Our Team screened him and encouraged him to be a part of scheme. He showed a keen interest in the scheme and attended 7 days training on poultry farming at Poultry Farm Sundernagar (Mandi). He constructed a pukka (permanent) well ventilated (good cross ventilation facility) shed (200 square feet) with adequate lighting facilities with the initial financial help given by the Department before arrival of hatch. On 4th February 2020 a hatch of 150 No. day old chicks including 10 feederers, 10 waterers and 10 bags (45 kg each) of starter and finisher feed had been provided to the beneficiary.





Day Old chick



10 Days old chicks



45 days old birds



50 Days old birds

Our team visited his shed and had a conversation to know about his experience. He told us that 600 chick scheme has provided a great financial support to his family. Out of 150 chicks only 10 birds had died. So mortality rate was only 6.6%. All the birds were broilers and immunity + growth rate was also good. According to him, at

the age of 3 months average body weight of birds was about 2.5 to 3 Kgs. These birds were sold locally at price of 100/ kg i.e. 200-250 Rs per bird by him.

So the net income from selling the birds is as follow:

- Total Birds provided: 150 birds
 - Mortality: 10 birds
Total birds left= 140
 - Total no of birds sold= 140
 - At the age of approximately 3 months, price of one bird (approx 2.5 kg) = Rs 200
 - Price of 140 birds= $140 \times 200 = \text{Rs } 28,000/-$
- Approximate expenditure in feed and electricity= $\text{Rs } 5,000+500=$
 $\text{Rs. } 5,500/-$
- Net profit= $\text{Rs } 28,000-5,500=22,500$ in one shift.
 - Total Profit in four shift = $\text{Rs } 90,000/-$

The income from poultry has encouraged Yan Singh to adopt poultry rearing as profession in future. He wants to re-invest the profits and expand the farm operations. The successful execution of scheme by Yan Singh has drawn the attention of other resident families that were previously unaware of this low input farming.

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