INTRODUCTION

Livelihood security
Livelihood security has been interpreted in different ways by various scholars, and it has been defined as an adequate flow of resources (both cash and kind) to meet the basic needs of the people, access to social institutions relating to kinship, family and neighbourhood, village and gender bias free property rights required to support and sustain a given standard living. Livelihood security has been understood to encompass ownership of assets to offset risks, ease out shocks and meet contingencies. More precisely, livelihood security is about sustainable socio-economic-cultural and political systems along with their constraints, vulnerabilities, marginalization and risks (Chamber and Convey, 1992).

A critical review of literature further reveals that while studies are available on the livelihood security assessment for different countries and regions, not much attention has been paid to examine the livelihood security of stakeholders residing in cosmopolitan environment of big cities which are developing fast due to technological development which are under pressure of population growth. It is against this background that present study has been proposed to understand different dimensions the livelihood security of stakeholders involved in milk and poultry meat sector activities and also assess the livelihood security of stakeholders. There is felt need to suggest appropriate policy measures to ensure and enhance a secured livelihood in fast changing environment of market driven economic development of milk and poultry meat sectors in highly populated Bengaluru region of the Karnataka state.

Livestock and the national economy
Livestock sector accounts for 28-30 per cent of GDP of agriculture as per the 12th Five Year plan. It is an integral part of the Indian agriculture scenario. It is more equitably distributed than land among the different strata of the rural households. It provides sustenance to poorer families especially during the drought periods. It provides employment to rural women folk, easily en cashable when money is required, also it can be integrated with any farming system, provides income with a shorter gestation period and basic knowledge of livestock maintenance is available with the rural population throughout the country. (12th five year plan GOI)
Livestock and the Karnataka state economy

The ruminant sector provides a significant proportion of self-employment opportunities and supplements the income of most sections of India's agrarian society. Livestock are more significant for people living in drought-prone, hilly, tribal and other less favored areas where crop production may not be certain. Animal rising is a means of supporting the earning capacity of landless, marginal and small farmers. Livestock rearing is strongly integrated with various farming systems. Besides providing drought power and transportation, it is a major source of income supplementation. Since crop residues form the major portion of animal feed, the integration of livestock rearing in farming systems is common. Moreover, the dairy sector progress in some districts of the state viz. Tumkur, Hassan, Belgaum, Mysore and Kolar are in the process of redefining the concept of dairying as a commercial activity rather than an allied agriculture activity. The share of animal husbandry sector is around 26% in state agriculture and allied GDP as per 19th livestock census Karnataka-2012. There is steady improvement in milk, meat and egg production during the last decade in the State. (Anonymous 2013)

Dairy

The state ranks eleventh among Indian states in milk production, which was 612 million MT during 2014-15 showing marginal increase of 2.10% over previous year's production. 47% of milk was contributed by crossbred cows, 28% by buffaloes and 23% by indigenous cows. The per capita daily availability of milk during 2014-15 was 271 gm as against 266 gm during 2013-14 in the state. There is a gap of 150 lakh MT of green fodder while dry fodder is in excess. There are 13082 functioning dairy co-operative societies in 14 milk unions with a total membership of 23.20 lakh as on 30 Nov. 2015. (Anonymous 2013)

Poultry

The estimated egg production during 2014-15 was 43948 lakh eggs indicating an increase of 6.61% over the previous year's production. About 87% of the egg production was from improved birds. The per capita availability of eggs in the state during 2014-15 was 72, up from 66 during the year 2013-14, which is still very low compared to the ICMR's recommended consumption of 180 eggs per person per annum. Marketing of eggs are through private channels and it is based on the declared rates of NECC. Broiler marketing is through contract route. The broiler meat production during 2014-15 was 82615 tonnes as against 81828 tonnes produced during the year 2013-14 indicating a marginal increase of 0.96% over previous year. Broiler meat comprises 45
% of total meat produced in the State. The total installed capacity as on 31.03.2015 for production of poultry and livestock feed in the state by 76 licensed feed manufacturers is 25.88 Lakh metric tons which is marketed by 29 licensed feed dealers. (Anonymous-2013)

**Bengaluru Region:**

The Bengaluru region comprise of Bengaluru urban and (undivided rural districts) has combined geographical area of (2174 Sq.Km + 2259 Sq.Km) 4433 Sq.km. It has population of 84.18 lakh as per population census 2011. The density of population is very high at 2960 per km mainly due to Begaluru city. Besides it is reported that floating population of Bengaluru city is arround 20 lakhs per day. The major livelihood avenues in Bengaluru region are industry, business and services, besides sizable population also depends on agriculture and related activities. Food security is guaranteed from, agriculture, horticulture, animal husbandry and fishery resources through a host of primary, secondary producers, suppliers, traders, retailers from both organized as well as unorganized sectors. (Anonymous2011)

**Need of the study:**

A. **Genesis:** National Rural Livelihood Project (NRLP). World Bank funded project implemented through MORD GOI in 13 high poverty states of India. Karnataka is one of the states implemented under NRLP.

B. **National Livestock Mission** implemented by department 0f animal husbandry dairying and fisheries, GOI during 12th Five year plan period.

C. There is no specific past reference of research works on livelihood in the livestock development particularly in milk and poultry development sectors in Bengaluru region and a big gap was found due to ever growing and vibrant dynamic market of the Bengaluru region particularly Bengaluru city. There was felt need for the research work on the subject.

D. Besides livelihoods, Milk and Poultry meat sectors and other food avenues are under great stress\ strain and pressure due to the factors of rising demand, public health, nutrition, producer supplier, infrastructure, market competition, scale of economies, climate change, employment generation, socio-economic change etc. There is a wide and big gap of research work to identify constraints, and suggest and also recommend possible solution of policy frame work for stakeholders and narrow the gap for future development of the sectors in Bengaluru region.