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## A STUDY ON THE CONTEMPORARY CHALLENGES OF AGRICULTURAL ALLIED ACTIVITY LABOURERS IN KARNATAKA

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### ABSTRACT:

**A**griculture is the primary occupation of the Indian Economy and has provided employment to maximum number of people in India. Agriculture includes various allied activities like animal husbandry, poultry, forestry, fishery etc. These agricultural allied activities have contributed 17.0 percent to our National Income according to the annual report 2016-17 of Department of Agriculture, India. Many changes and improvements are happening in the agriculture and agricultural allied activities sector of our economy which has posed challenge to the labourers working in the sector. Hence, the present study is done to know the various challenges faced by the labourers in the animal husbandry sector in general and goat and sheep farming in particular. The data is collected through questionnaire and the relevant secondary sources, which are analyzed using T-test and ANOVA test. Based on the study it has been found that the effective adoption of technology is very essential in the goat and sheep farming sector for which financial, marketing, training and technological assistance is required. These assistances and improvements will help in the development of the sector leading to an increase in its contribution to the National Income.

**KEYWORDS:** Labour, Goat and Sheep farming, Challenges, Animal husbandry.

### INTRODUCTION:

India being an agro-based country, around 58 percent (2011 census) of the population is dependent on agriculture. Majority of the families engaged in agriculture are either small farmers, marginal farmers or agricultural labours and they are bound to depend on additional income generating animal husbandry activities due to lack of sustainable continuous income from agriculture alone. In this context, animal husbandry sector plays an important role as preferred income to the farmers and thereby it helps in economic upliftment and financial security of the rural population. Animal husbandry sector has undergone a lot of transformation in the last two decades and has been contributing enormously in providing animal-based food to the people. As per the recommendations of the World Health Organization, the annual average requirement of meat per individual in India is 11Kgs, whereas the percept availability of meat in India is only 5Kgs. There is a gap of 6Kgs per person per year. That means to say the availability of animal protein per person in India is only 1.7grams.

Sheep and Goat Farming plays an important role in improving the social and economic status of the farmers in the country. Capital investment for Goats and Sheep sector is relatively low and it does not require special technical expertise, therefore day by day this sector is gaining utmost importance and the farmers are inclined towards the improved varieties of Goats and Sheep that produce more meat and other products.

There are many advantages of Goats and Sheep farming business. One can raise Goats and Sheep along

with other livestock animals. Goats and Sheep have been considered as poor man's cow (mini cow) for the poor people because of its immense contribution in rural economy and national income. Goats and Sheep products like milk and meat is not only nutritious and easily digestible food but also a great source of regular income for the poor, landless and marginal farmers. Goats and Sheep are small sized animals, so they can be easily maintained. Even they are easily maintained and cared by women and children. For successful Goats and Sheep farming business, one needs do some common tasks such as feeding, milking and caring. These simple tasks do not require much equipment, capital, labour or hard work.

Goats and Sheep are the common and mostly raised domestic or farm animals. They are also awesome as pets. There are numerous domestic Goats and Sheep breeds available around the world. On an average, domestic Goats and Sheep can weight around 15 kg to 130 kg depending on the breeds. Coat colours vary depending on the breeds. Usually most common colours in domestic Goats and Sheep include black, brown, and red, tan and white (Modern Farming Methods, 2015). Some Goats and Sheep also have several different colours in their body. Most of the domestic Goats and Sheep have horns and beards. Usually male Goats and Sheep tend to be larger than the female.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY:

The present study is based on the following objectives:

- 1.To study the present scenario of Goats and Sheep farming in Karnataka.
- 2.To evaluate the socio-economic conditions of Goats and Sheep farming farmers

### METHODOLOGY:

The data required for the present study is collected through both primary and secondary sources; the primary data will be collected through questionnaire and telephonic interview methods. The secondary data will be collected through published reports of central and state animal husbandry departments, books, journals and magazines etc. A sample of 50 Goats and Sheep farmers are selected for the present study through random sampling technique and the collected data is analysed with appropriate statistical methods.

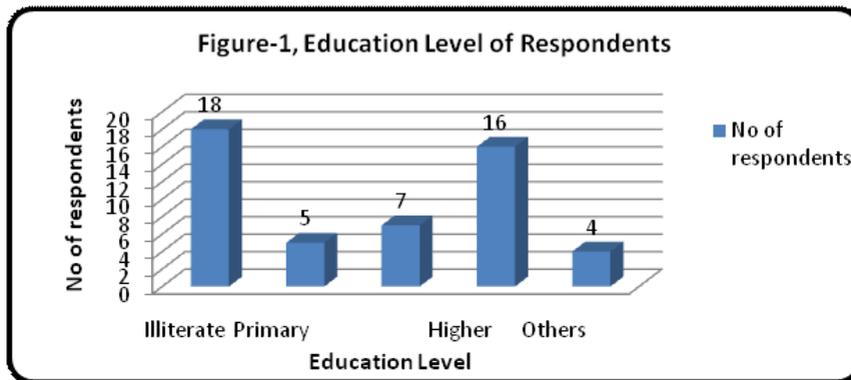
Goats and Sheep are among the main meat-producing animals in India, whose meat (chevon) is one of the choicest meats and has huge domestic demand. Due to its good economic prospects, Goats and Sheep rearing under intensive and semi-intensive system for commercial production has been gaining momentum for the past couple of years. High demand for Goats and Sheep and its products with potential of good economic returns have been deriving many progressive farmers, businesspersons, professionals, ex-servicemen and educated youths to take up the Goats and Sheep enterprise on a commercial scale.

### DATA ANALYSIS AND INTERPRETATION

The table-1 which shows the land holdings of the respondents and it clearly tells us, there are only 12 percentage of the respondents have three acre and above land, the highest population means 42 percentage are have less than one acre of land and they are depending of other sources for fodder.

Table-1: The Land Holdings of the Respondents

Land	No of respondents	percentage
Below 1 acre	21	42
1 acre - 2 acre	12	24
2 acre - 3 acre	11	22
3 acre and above	6	12
<b>total</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>



The above Figure-1 shows the education level of respondents. It cleared that, there are 36 percentage of the respondents are illiterate and 32 percentage of them are had their higher education. Only 10 percentage of respondents are had primary and 14 percentage are secondary education, the remaining 8 percentage of the respondents have other education levels.

Table-2, the Monthly Income of the Respondents

Monthly Income	No of respondents	percentage
below 10000	7	14
10000 - 20000	9	18
20000 - 30000	13	26
30000 - 40000	11	22
40000 - 50000	6	12
50000 and above	4	8
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>50</b>	<b>100</b>

The above Table-2 shows that monthly income of the Goats and Sheep farmers, the majority of the respondents are having 20 thousand to 30 thousand of monthly income, which indicate that Goats and Sheep farming is helping in sustaining of their life, but at the same time 20 percentage of the respondents are having 40 thousand to 50 thousand and above of it, shows very less population is having more monthly income and it is conforming from that, there are 32 percentage of population getting less than 20 thousand per month. It indicate Goats and Sheep farmers facing the challenges like less land holdings, low capital investment capacity, unskilled, and facing training facility problems.

The following analysis made on the basis of primary data and inferences are generalized. The two way ANOVA table is used to analyse the challenges which are faced by the Goats and Sheep farming labourers. There are ten problems are identified and take into the consideration in an account to analyse, there are fodder problem, Credit/finance, Health facilities, Intermediary problem, marketing problem, Availability of new technology, machinery, Training, Insurance and Irrigation.

Between-Subjects Factors

		Value Label	N
Problems	1	fodder problem	3
	2	Credit/finance	3
	3	Health facilities	3
	4	Intermediary problem	3
	5	marketing problem	3
	6	Availability of new technology, machinery	3
	7	Training	3
	8	Insurance	3
	9	power	3
	10	Irrigation	3
Problem level	1	low level	10
	2	Average	10
	3	High	10

Each and every problem of the farmers are considered on the basis of different rates which are pooled by the respondents each problem rates are classified like low level, average and high level accordingly. In the descriptive statistical table it clears that, the mean low level fodder problem percent is 13 and 26 percent mean average level is recorded and 11 percent in fodder problem is recoded as high. With respect to the credit/finance problem faced by the farmers there are 19 percent of the respondents are rated high level which shows most of the population facing credit problem in the study area. The ratings in the health facilities regarding Goats and Sheep farming shows most of them did not having basic health facilities in the study area and there is a need to provide and enhance the health facilities.

Descriptive Statistics

Dependent Variable: Data

Problems	Problem level	Mean	Std. Deviation	N
fodder problem	low level	13.00	.	1
	Average	26.00	.	1
	High	11.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	8.145	3
Credit/finance	low level	8.00	.	1
	Average	23.00	.	1
	High	19.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	7.767	3
Health facilities	low level	9.00	.	1
	Average	14.00	.	1
	High	27.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	9.292	3
Intermediary problem	low level	6.00	.	1
	Average	16.00	.	1
	High	28.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	11.015	3
marketing problem	low level	11.00	.	1
	Average	24.00	.	1
	High	15.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	6.658	3

Availability of new technology, machinery	low level	13.00	.	1
	Average	23.00	.	1
	High	14.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	5.508	3
Training	low level	4.00	.	1
	Average	16.00	.	1
	High	30.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	13.013	3
Insurance	low level	8.00	.	1
	Average	26.00	.	1
	High	16.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	9.018	3
power	low level	9.00	.	1
	Average	28.00	.	1
	High	13.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	10.017	3
Irrigation	low level	7.00	.	1
	Average	29.00	.	1
	High	14.00	.	1
	Total	16.67	11.240	3
Total	low level	8.80	2.898	10
	Average	22.50	5.339	10
	High	18.70	6.993	10
	Total	16.67	7.818	30

The table also reveals that the profit rate is gradually low because of the intermediary problem and the Goats and Sheep farmers facing the marketing problem and also the farmers facing lack of training in this regard in the study area. The farmers are also having the problem in the usage of the technology in the Goats and Sheep farming in the study area. The rating relates to insurance, power and irrigation shows these are also having greater impact on the Goats and Sheep farmers.

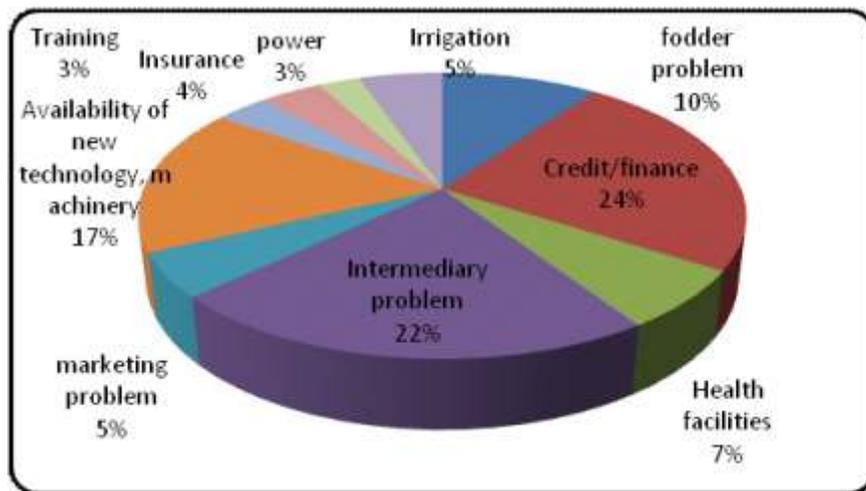
**Tests of Between-Subjects Effects**  
**Dependent Variable: Data**

Source		Type III Sum of Squares	df	Mean Square	F	Sig.
Intercept	Hypothesis	8333.333	1	8333.333	16.659	.055
	Error	1000.467	2	500.233(a)		
problems	Hypothesis	.000	9	.000	.000	1.000
	Error	772.200	18	42.900(b)		
Level	Hypothesis	1000.467	2	500.233	11.660	.001
	Error	772.200	18	42.900(b)		
problems * Level	Hypothesis	772.200	18	42.900	.	.
	Error	.000	0	.(c)		

- A MS (Level)
- B MS (problems \* Level)
- C MS (Error)

The F value -16.659 indicates that there is a high significant impact on the farmers. Which regards to this the government needs to take proper measures to overcome from these problems and to promote the sustainable development in Goats and Sheep farming.

Figure – 2: Problems of the Goats and Sheep farmers (in percent).



The above figure-2 shows that problems of the farmers in the study area. It also showing percentage of the impact on the Goat and Sheep farmers is showing comparatively. The major problems of the Goats and Sheep farmers are lack of credit and intermediaries as well as lack of availability of technology in the study area.

#### CONCLUSION:

Goats and Sheep farming are becoming very popular day by day. In addition, many producers are thinking about establishing a commercial Goats and Sheep farming business. Because Goats and Sheep are among the main meat and milk producing animals. Goats and Sheep's milk and meat have a huge domestic demand and Goats and Sheep are one of the choicest meat and milk source. Due to its high demand and good economic prospects, commercial Goats and Sheep farming under intensive or semi-intensive system has been gaining momentum for the past few years. Commercial Goats and Sheep farming has been deriving many modern farmers, professionals, ex-servicemen, unemployed educated youths and famous businessmen to take up the Goats and Sheep enterprise on a commercial scale. High demand of Goats and Sheep and all Goats and Sheep products with potential of good economic returns of their total initial investment. The producers are being interested more by emerging favourable market conditions and easy accessibility of improved Goats and Sheep farming technologies. As a result, numerous Goats and Sheep farms have been established in almost all countries throughout the world (especially in the developing countries of Asia and Africa).

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