



Animal husbandry: Livelihood security of small and marginal farmers in India

KULADIP PRAKASH SHINDE AND SHAILESH KUMAR GUPTA

KEY WORDS : Livelihood security, Small, Marginal farmers

HOW TO CITE THIS PAPER : Shinde, Kuladip, Prakash and Gupta, Shailesh Kumar (2016). Animal husbandry: Livelihood security of small and marginal farmers in India. *Res. J. Animal Hus. & Dairy Sci.*, 7(1) : 47-50 : DOI: 10.15740/HAS/RJAHDS/7.1/47-50.

Animal husbandry playing very important role in poverty alleviation in rural area. It also important for rural economy as supplementing family incomes and generating gainful employment particularly among the landless, labourers, small and marginal farmers and women's. India supports approximately 18 per cent of the livestock population on 2.5 per cent of its geographical area (Forest survey of India, 2000). The livestock sector contribute national economy in terms of gross domestic product is 4.1 per cent (BAHS, 2014). As many as 75 million women are engaged in the livestock sector as against 15 million men. In India about 72 per cent of the rural population, 57 per cent of the householders keep livestock as important source of income. In rural area of country 73 per cent peoples have their own livestock (Chawla *et al.*, 2002). Indian people get about 20 per cent of their total income from livestock (Vandana, 1996). Over the last two decades, livestock sector has grown at an annual rate of 5.6 per cent, which is higher than the growth of agricultural sector (3.3%). Delgado *et al.* (1999) reported

that global milk and meat production will rise from 568 to 700 million tones and 233 million tonnes (2000) to 300 million tonnes (2020). Livestock sector not only provides essential protein and nutritious human diet through milk, eggs, meat etc but also plays an important role in utilization of non-edible agricultural by-products. Livestock also provides raw material/by products such as hides and skins, blood, bone, fat etc. Livestock in mixed farming plays a vital role in the economic development and life of farmers in India. In our country livestock provides major additional contribution to agriculture through draft power, fuel, manure and as fertilizer. Besides, animal products such as meat, milk and eggs provide the much required nutrition to rural population and are also a source of supplementary cash income.

Importance of livestock for people :

Livestock sector provides milk, meat, egg and wool for human. Hides, hair, wool and leather etc. are the main source of income. Bullocks are mainly used for the drought purpose in rural area. Mostly the cattle is used as the drought purpose about 70 per cent othe animals like buffalo, camel, donkey, mule contribute about 29 per cent, 054 per cent, 0.51 per cent and 0.10 per cent in total drought power (Singh, 2013). Along with the agriculture operation livestock are very helpful for transportation purpose in the plane as well hilly area.

MEMBERS OF RESEARCH FORUM

Address for correspondence :

Kuladip Prakash Shinde, Division of Livestock Production and Management, ICAR- National Dairy Research Institute, KARNAL, (HARYANA) INDIA
Email : kuls164@gmail.com

Associated Authors' :

Shailesh Kumar Gupta, Division of Livestock Production and Management, ICAR- National Dairy Research Institute, KARNAL, (HARYANA) INDIA
Email : sgshailesh786@gmail.com