



RESEARCH ARTICLE.....

# Socio-economic profile of gaushalas (Cow-shelter) in Karnataka state

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**ABSTRACT.....** This paper describes socio-economic profile of 40 gaushalas selected randomly out of 80 registered gaushalas in Karnataka state. The 40 selected gaushalas were further categorized into small (12), medium (18) and large size (10) gaushalas based on the herd size. In majority (60.00%) of the large sized gaushalas the milk production was more than 150 lit/ day. The feeding pattern indicated that, the average daily intake of dry fodder, green fodder, concentrate and mineral mixture was found to be 5-8 kg, 2.5-4 kg, 0.2-0.5 kg and 50 g, respectively. The major income source in large sized gaushalas were government funds (45.00%) and sale of milk (20.00%), in case of medium sized gaushalas government funds (25.00%) and sale of FYM (20.00%), while small sized gaushalas earned from individual donations (50.00%). The major expenditure in all the gaushalas was incurred on feeding (40.00%) followed by labour wages (30.00%) and animal shed/infrastructure (12.00%). Cattle herd dynamics in gaushalas indicated regular inflow and outflow of cattle herd in gaushalas.

**KEY WORDS.....** Gaushalas, Cattle, Herd, Conservation

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