

The Goat Trust : An Introduction

About The Goat trust

The goat trust is an organization registered at Lucknow committed to the development of small livestock (Goat/Sheeps/Backyard bird rearing) based livelihood and the human resources for the same. The trust is primarily working with NGOs and government on appropriate technology, formation of livestock rearers association, value addition of livestock and livestock based products.



The trust is founded by the experienced development professionals from reputed institutions of the country. The trust is committed to establish itself a technical institution for the small livestock based livelihood. The trust advocates the women centered livestock development policy and livestock rearing poor. The trust is committed to achieve its goal through the network of livestock rearers, technical departments, and resource institutions.

The trust has established its Research & Technical Resource Centre on Small Livestock at Vill. Rasulpur, Bock-Bakhshi Ka Talab, Lucknow.

The works of the Goat Trust are as follow:

1. Micro finance services for small livestock rearing-Micro leasing, Micro Insurance products etc.
2. Use of Information technology for the marketing of Livestock and Livestock products.(Web Marketing, Market Information Management/system)
3. Development of community based livestock services and its operation

4. Market development of Goat milk.
5. Low cost housing development for small livestock and development of goat rearing schools.
6. Development of participatory training materials and manuals.
7. Documentation of excellent traditional livestock, medical treatment and extension.
8. Development of Management Information System for the evaluation of livestock.

Sanjeev Kumar
Managing Trustee

Goat based livelihood Promotion in dry regions: Why and How

(Based on the experience of project implementation of community based institutions)

The executive agencies and their workers are required to understand that why the initiatives should be taken on goat based livelihood and the work should be done for the same. We all development professionals would be agreed and would recognize the need of working for livelihood development. In case of livelihood of poor, it is very obvious that their livelihood is primarily based on agriculture, livestock, forest produces, and wage labourer. After wage labour, the agriculture is the second most appropriate source of livelihood (food security in other words) for rural population but across dry land this is solely based on rain that is viewed and get affected as a gamble. The decreasing size of agriculture land and changing pattern of precipitation adversely affect the livelihood of poor. Livestock is also a business, primarily based on agriculture but the dependency on small animals i.e. goat, is less than the bigger animals (cow buffalo). If we consider the social and economical condition of farmers rearing the animals, the following matrix can be seen:

Caste	Economical condition		
	Upper	Midium	Lower
SC	Cross breed cow	Hybrid Cow	Traditional cow
ST	Buffalo	Buffalo, goat	Goat, poultry, pig
OBC	Buffalo	Buffalo, goat	Traditional cow, goat, poultry
Gen	Buffalo	Hybrid Cow, Buffalo	Traditional cow, goat.

If we see the abovementioned table, this is very much clear that the people with low economic condition are engaged in the goat rearing activity (even from the Gen cattery except some exceptions). If we see it in terms of gender (men/women), we find that more women are engaged in goat rearing at small level.

In the same context if we talk about the Business Development Services (BDS), most of the facilities, markets, training and development centers; have been established and

promoted to support the cow/buffalo rearers. Most of the reputed and famous institutions of the country dealing in livestock development are conducting research and extension services for milk centered cattle like cow and buffalo while the institutions working on small animals like goats are limited in numbers in the country. Unfortunately there is a huge investment and expenditures are incurred for the development of milk centered cattle in comparison to goat and other small cattle. Thus, there is an imbalance in the mechanism of assistance towards goat and small cattle rearers.

At the time of independence, our father of nation, Mahatma Gandhi, quoted that “the Goats are the cow of the poor” but this was ignored and the small cattle’s were became the victim of ignorance. The policy makers introduced this with the mythologies like the “**destroyer of forest**” “**destroyer of environment**” and made it segregated from the mainstream of income generation activity (IGA) for Poor. But in the real sense, this activity is the primary or secondary livelihood activity for the 50 lakh poor families across the country.

The goat rearing is an useful Income Generation Activity (IGAs) due to the following reasons:

1. The goat is a small animal so goat rearing is a manageable activity and it requires comparatively smaller area.
2. It requires low level of investment. Since the requirement of capital investment is very low so the poor family can start is easily.
3. The kidding period of goat is comparatively small (about 6 months) and the produced kids grow fast.
4. During the period of drought or epidemic diseases, the risk in goat rearing activity is comparatively lower than the larger animals. Since the goats can survive on shrub during drought, their prices are generally maintained on a reasonable level. It has comparatively lower economical impact on the family than cow or buffalo rearing if the goats are died in one or two numbers.
5. Male and female kids of goats are sold at the same rate while cow/buffalos are not.
6. The goat/each part of goat body/the products prepared from goats produces etc are salable in the market and many cottage industry are based on the goat and goat rearing activity.

7. The milk of goat is used for treatment of many diseases and it has medicinal importance. This is easily digestible due to small particulars of fat content and has proved useful for the treatment of stomach problem of infants. This is also not allergic and requires only systematic market development.
8. The milk can be obtained many times from goat in a day and there is no impact of delay in milking time on the quantity of milk.
9. The goats are ready for pregnancy in nine month and give birth after 5.5 months. So scope of the breed improvement is quiet easy.

Though in the rural area, the people practices goat rearing activity traditionally yet they face many problems in this activity. Some are the major problems given below:

1. The area for grazing land is not available so the farmers face huge problem for its grazing and feed. The women cannot go to long distance for goat grazing because they have to manage the routine work of the family i.e. cooking of food, caring of children etc. Insufficient grazing of goat due to decreasing land area for grazing makes adverse impact on production.
2. The respiratical track infection diseases are spread very fast in goat and so their death rate is very high.
3. The diarrhea is very common in the goat due to warms in their stomach that leads towards low productivity and also the death of goats.
4. Due to the small size of goats, the animals are easy victim of attack of wild animals and dogs.
5. Since the cost of goat is lower than bigger animals, the banks and the insurance companies have fewer provisions for finance and insurance for goats.
6. Less development has been made in mechanization and product development systems at village level.
7. There is a dearth of the trade linkages for goat rearing business i.e. goat feed, medicines, health facilities, improved breed etc.
8. There is no standard marketing system goat trading. Lack of collective marketing becomes a barrier for the development of goat rearing.
9. There is a resistance seen in acceptance of goat milk in urban area, and many mythologies associated with goat milk.

Let us discuss the important points of goat business and its social condition-

The women and Goat:

The women contribute more than men in livestock across northern India, especially in the states like Bihar, West Bengal, MP, UP etc. Due to low capital investment, the goat rearing activity is proved blessing for backward and marginalized communities. The goats are easily manageable by women due to its calm nature and small size.

The goat milk can also be available easily to the poor families to fulfill their nutritional requirements in the family if they practice goat rearing activity. In the present scenario, it can contribute positively in reduction of anemia within women. The women can bear easily their routine expenses in the family and kids and the marital expenses of their kids through practicing goat rearing activity. Thus, goat can be proved an effective tool of poverty reduction.

The Human nutrition and Goat

As per the nutrition experts, a person requires 40-50 gm protein as their nutrition. One third this protein requirement for the people should be sourced through animal only. In an average, each person requires 240 gm milk. 32 gm protein is available in one liter of goat milk that is sufficient for the seventy percent of daily requirement of pregnant or lactating women. 1.7 gm calcium is available in one liter of goat milk that is sufficient for daily requirement of a person. In the current situation goat milk is the cheap and best source of protein that can be obtained through goat rearing. The protein available in the goat milk is almost similar of protein available in human and so this is excellent milk for human being. For many people, who have allergy problem with cow and buffalo milk and suffering from ulcer in their stomach, the goat milk is proved much beneficial for them.

Non vegetarian populations of our country like goat meat in comparison to meat of other animals because the protein and fat is available in the goat meat in larger percentage. Less quantity of fat in the goat meat is good for balanced meal. The goat give one to two liters milk in a day that is sufficient for the milk requirement of one family. The additional milk available in the family can be sold to get economical benefits. The goat does not require more cattle feed to produce such small quantity of milk. The greenery available around the home is sufficient for goat rearing and the requirements of the family can be fulfill through giving supplementary feed to the goat. The goat milk has been recognized as the

second best for infants after mother's milk since the ancient era. Even, the goat milk is accepted as the most suitable, digestible, and nutritious for old age people. So, the goats are known as the “**step mother**” of humane.

Cottage industry and Goat:

There are multiple uses of goat; and milk, meat, skin, hair, stool etc are obtained from goat. Many products i.e. Paneer, Khoya, chhena, curd etc can be prepared from the goat milk. These products can be sold in the market on a good price. The goats are reared for meat also. In India, the people like the goat meat in comparison to other meat. Each year, 4.7 lakh metric tons meat are obtained from goat. Many products can be prepared from the meat of goat and profits can be generated from the same. All type of the products can be prepared from the meat of goat whichever is prepared from the meat of other animals. Except from milk and meat, the profits can be generated from the skin of goats through preparing and selling of Jackets, coat, wallet, globes, bag, and the interior decorators of home. The goat skin is better than the other animals. Each year, eleven thousand metric ton skin is obtained from the goat. Excellent quality of hair and **Pashmina** are obtained from goat and many type of woolen clothes are prepared through using this. Two quintal fertilizers are received from each goat in a year. Considering the above-mentioned facts about the uses of goats, the small scale industries i.e. milk processing unit, Meat and Skin processing unit and clothe industry etc. can be setup. It will increase the employment opportunities; and the goat rearing activity can be promoted and scaled up on the expected level.

Considering the characteristics of the goat, the following phrases are famous about this

- ❖ The cow for poor
- ❖ ATM for poor (cash available immediately)
- ❖ Moving crop
- ❖ Moving freeze (the milk can be obtained from goat more than twice in a day)
- ❖ Bank on nail
- ❖ Insurance for poor
- ❖ Wealth of women

As this clear by discussions above, the goat rearing activity has comprises many characteristics of livelihood and IGAs.

As per the discussion made above, this is very certain that success is possible only if clear strategy and proper systems are developed. It is also important to understand that the goat rears are normally poor, illiterate, marginalized, comparatively slow learners and unorganized. So the work is challenging.

Now, this is a question, why your organization/ institutions should work on this activity whether it is a good IGAs or beneficial activity for community?

The benefits to the organization

- ❖ Recognition as an institution working for the promotion and development of goat rearing
- ❖ Effective accessibility to the poor families
- ❖ Visual impact within a year
- ❖ Clear impact i.e. improved kidding, accessibility to maintain good health of animals, reduction in animal mortality
- ❖ Technical capacity building of staff
- ❖ Stable livelihood of SHGs

The benefits to workers in the organization

- ❖ Technical capacity building that can be used for self development and area development
- ❖ Large scale opportunity in small animal projects
- ❖ Recognition as an specialist under organization
- ❖ Capability of employment

The abovementioned benefits are elaborated based on the experience and thoughts of partner institutions. We will advise you to take decision on your own consciousness and thoughts. This is clear that the stepping few miles is dangerous always. Stepping on a new way is always challenging and risky. Forecasting budget is also difficult in this type of work and the organizations have to make investment from their own resources also.

The goat rearing Project: Strategy and plan

There are so many models of goat rearing based livelihood. We will discuss here about the pilot project jointly implemented by **The Goat Trust** and 26 other government and Non government organizations (NNGOs). The present model suggests the followings steps as the project implementation strategy:

Stage I- Identification of available resources and the problems of the area, is the key for the implementation of the project and the base to take decision by organization to initiate goat based livelihood.

In the first step, identify those clusters where goat rearing activity is adopted by more families than other areas. Prepare a list of 15 -20 villages of thick dense population of goat rears on the same route surrounding the existing or proposed office. Do the survey of these villages at two stages:

A) Village level survey (format P1)

B) Sample Survey of goat rears – 10 sample per village (Format P2)

If possible, put the datas received from these survey in the excel sheet and analyze it or send it across technical support organization for analysis and report writing. Please analyse the following factors and draw the inferences:

S.N.	Indicator	Project Measurement	Conclusion
1	Village wise number of goat rears	25 or more than 25 families	Those villages, where 25 or more than 25 families practices goat rearing activity, are suitable for the project. So, identify those villages. It is difficult to form the groups in those villages where less than 15 families practices goat rearing activity.
2	The number of goats with goat rears	The families having 3-10 goats	The project targets the families having 3-10 goats. So select those villages where numbers of families have 3-10 goats (at least 15 families).

3	Drinking water availability for goats	Please, do not select the villages facing deep crises of drinking water. (the water source available on a distance of more than 500 meters)	The drudgery increase on the women in the villages facing drinking water crises. So, please either do not promote goat rearing activity in those villages or make optional arrangements for drinking water.
4	Mortality rate of goat and kids	More than 10 percent	Prefer those villages where the mortality rate of the goats is found more than 10 percent. Present the evidences there that Pashu Sakhi or Nurse can make more impact and raise participation and interest of the community in those villages.
5	Grazing land and the situation of trees in the village	At least eight months efforts	If fodder and trees are not available in the village, please do not select those villages.
6	Main problem in goat rearing	Feed and markets are not available	The first phase of the project is not focused towards market development. Market development and feed promotion requires sufficient and longer time. So in the first phase, those villages should be avoided where market and feed crises exists. These types of problem existing villages are not proposed to cover in the first phase of the project.

Based on the current situation, you can identify those villages where the project has more potential for success.

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To get complete Goat Trust Model – Process Manual Document, Please contact below E-Mail Id.

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