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## Economic characteristic of Sojat goat rearers in Rajasthan

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### Abstract

This survey experiment was conducted in Pali and Jalore districts selected purposely keeping in view the fact that the district has highest goat population in Rajasthan. The study revealed that on the basis of their age, the respondents were classified into three categories i.e., young age (<43 years), Middle age (43-52 years) and Old (>52 years). The greater part (67.50 per cent) of the Sojat goat owners belonged to OBC followed by SC12.50 per cent, ST11.25 percent and General castes 8.75 per cent. The overall result indicated that the majority (62.50%) of respondents were illiterate followed by 22.50 per cent educated up to primary, 10 per cent educated up to Secondary and only 5.00 per cent educated up to Sr. Secondary and above. The majority (60.00%) of respondents had Animal Husbandry alone and 40% of respondents had Agriculture + Animal Husbandry as their occupation for their livelihood. Majority (55.00%) of the respondents had medium level of income (Rs60000-120000), whereas 26.25 per cent had low level of income (<Rs 60000), while, 18.75 per cent respondents had high level of income (>Rs120000). Majority (58.13%) of the respondents had medium level of income (Rs40000-80000), whereas 23.75 per cent had high level of income (>Rs80000), while, 18.12 per cent respondents had low level of income (<Rs40000) from Sojat goats keeping.

**Keywords:** goat owners, age, caste, education, income, socio economic profile

### 1. Introduction

The goat is versatile animal. It is known as poor man's cow. Goats can be kept with little expense in the marginal and undulating lands. Goat rearing is an enterprise that has been practice by a large section of population in rural areas. Goats have served the humankind in earning its livelihood by selling live animals or its products and byproducts. They contribute to livestock industry in terms of milk, meat, skin, hair offal, and dung. In difficult situations, goats may thrive on accessible shrubs and trees.

In India, the total numbers of goat breeds that have been recognized till date is 34 and most other still remain unexplored (ICARNBAGR). According to 20th livestock census, the goat population has increased by 10.14 per cent from the previous census (2012). But in Rajasthan state a decline in goat population 3.81 per cent- suggesting the need of sustainable management for preserving goat breeds and population. Livestock in developing countries like India have a considerable role in its rural area population as it provides labour for land cultivation and employment to huge number of people. India is contributing 11.6 per cent of total livestock in world and 27.8 per cent of which is contributed by goats. The maximum goat milk producing state in India is Uttar Pradesh followed by Rajasthan, (Basic Animal Husbandry and Fisheries Statistics, 2014). Good quality milk is produced by Indian goat breeds such as Jamunapari, Barbari, Beetle, Surti and Jakhrana. As per 20th Livestock census, and BAHS (2014) India's livestock sector is one of the largest in the world having huge livestock population of 535.78 million. According to recent census by Govt. of India in 2012 the Goat population is 148.88 million in India.

In Rajasthan the total population is 20.84 million. Total meat production including goat meat was 5.9 million Tone in 2012-13 as compared to 1.9 million tons in 2001-02. <sup>[1]</sup> In Rajasthan state goat farming has become an income generating activity for every class of society whether they are landless or land holder, resource poor or progressive farmer and irrespective of their occupation. Hence, with this background the present study was conducted to know the Economic Characteristic of Sojat Goat Rearers in Rajasthan.

### 2. Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Pali and Jalore districts selected purposely keeping in

view the fact that the district has highest goat population in Rajasthan.

**2.1 Selection of Tehsil:** Two tehsils from each identified district were selected for present study on the basis of maximum number of Sojat goats. Thus, in all four tehsils were taken for the study. The name of selected tehsils from identified districts has been given in Table 1

**2.2 Selection of Villages:** A complete list of all the villages from the selected tehsils where the Sojat goat is reared by the farmers will be prepared with the help of personnel of department of Animal Husbandry. From the list so prepared,

four villages were selected from each selected tehsilon the basis of maximum number of Sojat goats reared by the farmers. Thus, total sixteen villages were identified for the present investigation.

**2.3 Selection of respondents:** For selection of respondents a list of Sojat goat owners were collected from the agriculture supervisor, gram sevak of respective village. From the obtained list, 10 farmers were selected randomly from each identified village. Thus, the total sample were of 160 Sojat goat farmers. The details of village wise selected respondents are given in following table

Village-wise selected respondents

Selected Districts	Selected Tehsils	Selected Villages	Selected respondents	Total			
A. Pali	Sojat	Siyat	10	40			
		Bilawas	10				
		Bagawas	10				
		Surayta	10				
	Marwar	Bali	10	40			
		Halawat	10				
		Ilsal	10				
		Jaitpura	10				
B. Jalore	Ahore	Ajitpura	10	40			
		Bala	10				
		Bhooti	10				
		Chandrai	10				
	Jalor	Balwara	10	40			
		Kolar	10				
		Nagni	10				
		Raniwara	10				
		Total				160	

**2.4 Construction of Schedule for Data Collection:** To gather the required information from the respondents, the interview schedule was developed keeping in view the objectives of the study. The interview schedule was pre-tested in the field before actually conducting survey.

**3. Results and Discussion**

The results of data regarding personal characteristics viz., age,

sex, education, size of family and type of family of the respondents presented in following subsequent tables.

**3.1 Personal characteristics of the goat owners**

**3.1.1 Age of respondents**

On the basis of their age, the respondents were classified into three categories i.e., Young age (<43 years), Middle age (43-52 years) and Old (>52 years).

**Table 1:** Distribution of respondents according to their age (n=160)

Sr. No.	Category	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Young age (<43 years)	23	28.75	21	26.25	44	27.50
2.	Middle age(43 to 52 years)	40	50.00	37	46.25	77	48.12
3.	Old (>52 years)	17	21.25	22	27.50	39	24.38
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The data presented in Table 1 that out of total 160 respondents, majority (48.12%) of the respondents fall in middle age group followed by young age 27.50 per cent and old age group 24.38 per cent. The findings are in agreement with [3, 5, 4, 2].

**3.2 Caste of respondents**

Caste is a vital nature, which concern the entrepreneurial manners of the respondents. The information concerning their caste was divided into four categories.

**Table 2:** Distribution of respondents according to their caste (n=160)

S. No	Category	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	SC	12	15.00	8	10.00	20	12.50
2.	ST	5	6.25	13	16.25	18	11.25
3.	OBC	60	75.00	48	60.00	108	67.50
4.	GEN.	3	3.75	11	13.75	14	8.75
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

It is apparent from data presented in Table 2 that greater part (67.50 per cent) of the Sojat goat owners belonged to OBC followed by SC12.50 per cent, ST11.25 per cent and General castes 8.75 per cent.

### 3.3 Education status of respondents

The status of education of selected respondents, were

classified into four categories, viz, Illiterate, Primary, Secondary and Sr. Secondary and above. Their frequencies were counted and converted into percentage for all the categories of respondents.

**Table 3:** Distribution of respondents according to their education status (n=160)

S. No	Education category	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Illiterate	48	60.00	52	65.00	100	62.50
2.	Primary	16	20.00	20	25.00	36	22.50
3.	Secondary	12	15.00	4	5.00	16	10.00
4.	Sr. Secondary and above	4	5.00	4	5.00	8	5.00
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The overall result indicated that the majority (62.50%) of respondents were illiterate followed by 22.50 per cent educated up to primary, 10 per cent educated up to Secondary and only 5.00 per cent educated up to Sr. Secondary and above. 60 per cent goat rearers were found to be illiterate in Pali district whereas, 65% goat rearers illiterate in jalore district. (Table 3). These results are in agreement with the findings of <sup>[4]</sup> and <sup>[2]</sup>.

### 3.4 Occupation of respondents

Information collected on main occupation of goat rearers were classified into two categories viz., Animal husbandry alone and Agriculture+ Animal husbandry. Their frequencies were counted and converted into percentage for all the categories of respondents. The results are presented in Table 4.

**Table 4:** Distribution of respondents according to their occupation (n=160)

S. No	Occupation	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Animal Husbandry alone	50	62.50	46	57.50	96	60.00
2.	Agriculture + Animal Husbandry	30	37.50	34	42.50	64	40.00
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

It was observed that majority (60.00%) of respondents had Animal Husbandry alone and 40% of respondents had Agriculture + Animal Husbandry as their occupation for their livelihood. These results are close to the findings of <sup>[5]</sup>, <sup>[1]</sup>.

classified into three categories i.e., low income (<Rs60000), medium income (Rs60000-120000) and high income (>Rs120000). Their frequencies were counted and converted into percentage for all the categories of respondents.

### 3.5 Annual income of respondents

On the basis of annual income, the respondents were

**Table 5:** Distribution of respondents according to their annual income (n=160)

S. No	Category	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Low income (<Rs 60000)	20	25.00	22	27.50	42	26.25
2.	Medium income (60000-120000)	46	57.50	42	52.50	88	55.00
3.	High income (>Rs120000)	14	17.50	16	20.00	30	18.75
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The data recorded in Table 5 showed that majority (55.00%) of the respondents had medium level of income (Rs60000-120000), whereas. 26.25 per cent had low level of income (<Rs 60000), while, 18.75 per cent respondents had high level of income (>Rs120000). These findings were similar to <sup>[4]</sup> and <sup>[2]</sup>.

### 3.6 Income from goat keeping

On the basis of income from goat keeping, the respondents were classified into three categories i.e., low income (<Rs40000), medium income (Rs40000-80000) and high income (>Rs80000). Their frequencies were counted and converted into percentage for all the categories of respondents.

**Table 6:** Distribution of respondents on the basis of goat income (n=160)

S. No	Category	Pali		Jalore		Total	
		F	%	F	%	F	%
1.	Low income (<Rs40000)	12	15.00	17	21.25	29	18.12
2.	Medium income (40000-80000)	48	60.00	45	56.25	93	58.13
3.	High income (> Rs80000)	20	25.00	18	22.50	38	23.75
Total		80	100.00	80	100.00	160	100.00

F=Frequency, %=Per cent

The data recorded in Table 6 showed that majority (58.13%) of the respondents had medium level of income (Rs40000-80000), whereas 23.75 per cent had high level of income (>Rs80000), while, 18.12 per cent respondents had low level of income (<Rs40000) from Sojat goats keeping.

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#### 4. Conclusion

It was observed that majority (48.12%) of the respondents fall in middle age group followed by young age 27.50 per cent and old age group 24.38 per cent. It was found that greater part (67.50 per cent) of the Sojat goat owners belonged to OBC followed by SC (12.50%), ST (11.25%) and general castes (8.75%). It was concluded that majority (62.50%) of respondents were illiterate followed by educated up to primary (22.50%), educated up to secondary (10.00%) and educated up to Sr. secondary and above (5.00%). It was observed that majority (60.00%) of respondents had animal husbandry alone and 40% of respondents had agriculture + animal husbandry as their occupation. It was revealed that majority (55.00%) of the respondents had medium level of annual income followed by low level of income (26.25%) and high level of income (18.75%). Majority of the respondents had medium level of income (58.13%) followed by high level of income (23.75%) and low level of income (18.12%) from Sojat goats keeping.

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