



## MAJOR CONSTRAINS OF LIVESTOCK REARING IN NILAKOTTAI TALUK OF DINDIGUL DISTRICT IN TAMIL NADU

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**ABSTRACT** The present study was carried out to analyse the socio-economic conditions and constraints of livestock rearing in Nilakottai taluk of Dindigul district in Tamil Nadu state. The major findings of this study demographic status of respondents revealed that the majority of respondents 65.7 % are male, 58.9 % of the respondents belongs 30 to 60 years of age, 162 respondents are illiterate, 67.6 % of the respondent's annual income was Rs.40000 to Rs.80000 and 43.5 % of the respondent yearly family expenditure Rs.20000 to Rs.40000. In this Nilakottai taluk 52.69 per cent of the farmers opinion that strongly agreed to face by the problems of Failure of monsoon in this area.

**KEYWORDS :** Livestock, Respondents, Rearing, Income, Problems, Monsoon.

### INTRODUCTION

Livestock sector plays a significant role in the Indian economy, particularly for the welfare of the rural population of India. It has become a crucial element in improving the life standard of rural people by means of providing cash income, employment, asset value and maintaining health status of people through supply of animal protein even during crop failure due to adverse climatic condition. Among livestock sector, cow, buffalo, sheep, goat and poultry rearing on commercial basis has almost become a viable industry due to the multiplicity of factors involved. On the contrary, other areas like cow, buffalo, sheep, goat and poultry rearing are largely practiced as rural activity. Hence, livestock farming is to be boosted up to get maximum gain for the development of the country.

Livestock rearing is critical for many of the poor in the developing world, often contributing to multiple livelihood objectives and offering pathways to come out of poverty. Livestock rearing also acts as an indispensable asset to the poor, their human capital, through its impact on their own nutrition and health. Livestock also serves as the key risk mitigation tool especially for the poorest cultivators in rain-fed regions as they face uncertain and erratic weather conditions. With this background, the present study was conducted to explore various impediments in livestock rearing in rural Tamil Nadu.

### Review of Literature

**Sarita (2017)** the present study was carried out to analyse the constraints perceived by the dairy farmers in Murrah tract of Haryana state. In the area of breeding belief that conception rate of artificial insemination in buffaloes is poor (79 per cent), lack of knowledge about right time of insemination (78.67 per cent) and belief that PD is harmful for pregnant animals (75 per cent) were the most serious constraints perceived by dairy farmers.

**Senthil Kumar (2017)** the present study was undertaken in rural Tamil Nadu to explore various constraints in livestock rearing in rural Tamil Nadu using randomly selected 100 dairy farmers and 113 sheep and goat farmers from six sample districts. The result of this study most of the poor livestock farmers expressed fodder shortage (more than 60 respondents), water scarcity (around 60 for buffalo and sheep) and labour problems (55.71 to 62.08 per cent) as their major constraints. However, priority of the constraints varied with respect to the livestock species reared.

**Deepak et al (2018)** the present study showed that bloat is most common disease affecting goats and respiratory disease was common disease affecting sheep. The major constraints to small ruminants production was lack of grazing area. Majority 95.6% of the goat farmers and 92.6% of the sheep farmers reported that lack of grazing land followed by lack of awareness, high cost medicine, poor management system, inadequate capital, high cost of feed, disease problem and poor marketing.

### OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To examine the Socio-Economic Conditions of Livestock Rearing

Farmers in Nilakottai Taluk and to identify the major constrains of the livestock rearing farmers.

### METHODOLOGY

A simple random sampling technique was adopted in this study. Dindigul district is one of the important districts in Tamil Nadu and in Dindigul district Nilakottai taluk was where more in livestock rearing activities.

### Sources of Data

This study intends to use both primary and secondary source of information. Primary data was collected through interview schedules from the respondents the interview schedule. Dindigul district consists of 8 Taluk and 408 panchayat villages. Nilakottai taluk consists of 23 Village Panchayat, with majority of the farmers engaged in Jasmine cultivation. The Nilakottai taluk of Dindigul District had been purposively selected for the present study because majority of farmers are engaged in livestock rearing. From the total 3150 livestock rearing involved in the activity. Only 10 per cent of the farmers i.e., 315 respondents were randomly selected.

### Profile of the Study Area

Nilakottai is located the southern parts of the Dindigul district of Tamil Nadu. Nilakottai is 25.5 km far from its District Main City of Dindigul. Nilakottai town is famous for gold ornaments, flowers and brass vessels. Agriculture is the main occupation of this people in this area crops cultivated were flower like Jasmine, Crossandra, Tuberosa, Kolzikondai, Marigold, Nerium, Vadamalli, Marikolunthu, thulasi, Gundumalli, Mullai, Kakatan and Pichi. The other major crops were Onoin, Avarai and Tomato in Taluk. Wells (farm wells) serve as the main source of irrigation besides the river Vaigai.

### Analysis and Discussion

#### TABLE 1: Socio Economic Conditions of Respondents

It is important to find out from the respondents their gender, age, educational level, family size, Community, Family income and Family expenditure. The socio economic characteristic of livestock rearing people was given in **Table – 1**.

Sl.No	Factors	Respondents	Percentage
1	<b>Gender</b>		
	Male	207	65.7
	Female	108	34.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>100.00</b>
2	<b>Age of the Respondents</b>		
	Below 30 Years	47	14.9
	30-60	183	58.9
	Above 60 Years	85	26.92
	<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>100.00</b>
3	<b>Educational Qualification</b>		
	Illiterate	162	51.4
	Primary	54	17.1
	High School	31	9.8

	Degree	30	9.5
	Diploma	38	12.1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>4</b>	<b>Family Size</b>		
	Less than 4 members	28	8.9
	4-6 members	164	52.1
	More than 6 members	123	39.0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>5</b>	<b>Community</b>		
	SC/ST	194	61.6
	BC	81	25.7
	MBC	40	12.7
	<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>6</b>	<b>Annual Income of the Respondents</b>		
	Less than 40000	28	8.9
	40000 – 80000	213	67.6
	More than 80000	74	23.4
	<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>100.00</b>
<b>7</b>	<b>Family Expenditure of the Respondents</b>		
	Less than 20000	73	23.2
	20000 – 40000	137	43.5
	More than 40000	105	33.3
	<b>Total</b>	<b>315</b>	<b>100.00</b>

Source: Primary Data

From the above Table 1 the analysis of demographic status of respondents revealed that the majority of 65.7 per cent were male, 58.9 per cent of the farmers were 30 years to 60 years of age, 162 respondents were found to be illiterate, 52.1 per cent of the farmers had four to six members in their family and 61.6 per cent of the farmers were SC/ST. It was surprise to note that 67.6 per cent of the respondent's annual income was Rs.40000 to Rs.80000 followed by 43.5 per cent of the respondent yearly family expenditure to a tune of Rs.20000 to Rs.40000.

**TABLE 2: Livestock Population in India (2015-16 Livestock census)**

Sl.No	Species	Number (in Millions)	Ranking in the world Population
1	Cattle	190.9	Second
2	Buffaloes	108.7	First
	Total (including Mithun and Yak)	299.6	First
3	Sheep	65.0	Third
4	Goats	135.2	Second
5	Pigs	10.3	Twelfth
6	Others	1.7	
	<b>Total Livestock</b>	<b>512.3</b>	
7	Total Poultry	729.2	Seventh

Source: Annual Report 2016-17, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture Welfare, Government of India.

Table 2 revealed that livestock population in India. It is observed from this table world number one position for buffalo population was 108.7 millions, world second rank was 190.9 million cattle, 135.2 million goats population, followed by world third rank was sheep population. As against world seventh rank was poultry population.

**TABLE 3: Production of Livestock in India 2015-16**

Sl.No	Product	Quantity	Ranking in the world Production
1	Milk in Million tonnes	155.50	First
2	EGGS in Billions (nos)	82.93	Third
3	MEAT million tonnes	7.02	Third
4	WOOL in million kgs	47.9	Third
5	FISH in lakh tonnes	107.90	Second

Source: Annual Report 2016-17, Department of Animal Husbandry, Dairying and Fisheries, Ministry of Agriculture Welfare, Government of India.

Table 3 presented the table production of livestock in India. It is clear that table world number one position for milk production in 155.50 tonnes, as against world second position for fish production in 107.90 lakh tones, followed by world third position for eggs production was 82.93 billion, meat production was 7.02 million tonnes and wool production was 47.9 million kg.

**TABLE 4: Livestock Population among the Selected Farmers in Nilakottai Taluk**

Sl.No	Livestock	Number of Livestock
1	Draft Animal	8
2	Cow	533
3	Buffalo	155
4	Sheep	1531
5	Goat	1608
6	Poultry	2088
	<b>Total Livestock Population</b>	<b>5915</b>

Source: Computed from Primary Data

Livestock population among the selected farmers of Nilakottai Taluk was registered in Table 4. The table showed that the type of livestock reared by the selected respondents was draft animal, cow, buffalo, sheep, goat and poultry. Among these livestock, the total number of the livestock rearing in Nilakottai taluk was 2088 poultry rearing, as against 1608 was goat rearing, 1531sheep, 533 cow, 155 buffalo and only 8 draft animals.

**TABLE 5: Scaling Techniques used for the Problems Encountered by Livestock Rearing Farmers of Nilakottai Taluk**

Particulars	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neutral	Disagree	Strongly Disagree
(i) Monsoon failure	166 (52.69)	123 (39.05)	6 (1.90)	11 (3.49)	9 (2.86)
(ii) Diseases	17 (5.39)	56 (17.78)	197 (62.54)	11 (3.49)	34 (10.79)
(iii) Middleman	51 (16.19)	106 (33.65)	94 (29.84)	40 (12.69)	24 (7.61)
(iv) Labour Shortage	5 (1.59)	8 (2.54)	38 (12.06)	186 (59.05)	78 (24.76)
(v) Fodder Shortage	102 (32.38)	114 (36.19)	63 (20.00)	20 (6.35)	16 (5.08)
(vi) High cost of Maintained	42 (13.33)	54 (17.14)	91 (28.89)	68 (21.59)	60 (19.05)
(vii) Disgrace of Livestock Rearing	4 (1.27)	15 (4.76)	142 (45.08)	83 (26.35)	71 (22.54)
(viii) Problems due to insects, reptile and other animals	11 (3.49)	39 (12.38)	98 (31.11)	118 (37.46)	49 (15.55)
(ix) Housing Problems	66 (20.95)	89 (28.25)	51 (16.19)	50 (15.87)	59 (18.73)
(x) Theft Problems	17 (5.39)	38 (12.06)	129 (40.95)	33 (10.48)	98 (31.11)

Source: Computed from the Primary Data

Table 5 showed the problems encountered among the livestock rearing farmers of Nilakottai Taluk. This taluk was covered by small hill ranges with thorny, bushes and the farmers are mainly depended on rainfall and groundwater for irrigation purpose. In this taluk 52.69 per cent of the farmers strongly agreed to face by the problems of Failure of monsoon. Nearly 63 per cent of the farmers stayed neutral for diseases problems. A majority of the farmers (106 farmers) agreed that middle man problems. Labour shortage problems among the selected respondents were disagreed by 59.05 per cent of the farmers. Followed by fodder shortage problems among the selected farmers were agreed by 36.19 per cent of the farmers. The 28.89 per cent of the farmers stayed neutral for high cost of maintained for face the problems. Nearly 46 per cent of the farmers opinion that neutral for problems of disgrace of livestock rearing, further 37.46 per cent of the farmers disagreed that they faced by problems of due to insects, reptile and other animals. Nearly 89 farmers (28.25 per cent) stated that agreed for the housing problems. Theft problems were stayed that neutral by 40.95 per cent of

the farmers in this taluk. It was evident from the table that majority of the farmers opined that faced by some problems in the study area.

## CONCLUSION

Concluded that the study was most of the poor livestock farmers expressed monsoon failure and housing problems as their major constraints in livestock rearing and they depend largely on common property resources. Hence, necessary steps have to be taken for Government and local bodies Government to given some support like subsidy or incentives amount. Further, various livestock development programmes should be framed and implemented by giving appropriate attention to the species specific constraints.

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