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CONTRIBUTION OF ANIMAL HUSBANDRY TO THE RURAL LIVELIHOOD – WITH SPECIAL REFERENCE TO PERIYAPATNA TALUK OF MYSURU DISTRICT

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Keywords

*Animal Husbandry,
Livestock,
Rural Livelihood,
Gross Value Added.*

Abstract

Animal husbandry has been a cornerstone of the Indian economy, providing essential support for rural livelihoods. It offers farmers a stable income source and meets national demands for food, industrial raw materials, and rural employment. In 2022-23, animal husbandry contributed 30.23% to the Gross Value Added (GVA) of the Agricultural and Allied Sector and 5.50% to India's total GVA. India also ranks fifth globally in meat production, with a total output of 9.77 million tonnes that year. This research paper explores the role, characteristics, and future potential of animal husbandry in sustaining and enhancing rural livelihoods in study area. This paper tries to study the Importance of Animal Husbandry in Socio-economic Condition and of Rural India. And also Examine the Contributions Animal Husbandry on factors, influence the Rural Livelihood in Study Area. Finally, this study explores that Animal Husbandry dose positive impact on all above Parameters influence the Rural Livelihood. It is clear that Animal Husbandry provided livelihoods support for rural people in study area.



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1. INTRODUCTION

In rural areas, animal husbandry helps diversify income streams, making households less vulnerable to crop failures and market fluctuations in agriculture. Income generated from Animal Husbandry is frequently used to meet essential household expenses, including food, education, healthcare, and debt repayment. Additionally, the manure from Animal Husbandry supports crop farming by improving soil fertility, creating a symbiotic relationship that enhances agricultural productivity. This sector also provides employment opportunities, from direct Animal Husbandry farming to roles in processing, marketing, and veterinary services. For many rural women, animal husbandry offers a viable income source and promotes economic empowerment, as they are often key players in livestock rearing.

However, challenges such as limited access to veterinary services, lack of training in best practices, and inadequate market access still hinder the sector's full potential to uplift rural livelihoods. Addressing these challenges through targeted support, training, and infrastructure improvements could significantly enhance the contributions of animal husbandry to rural development. With India's growing population, rising food inflation, and ongoing agricultural challenges, including farmer distress, animal husbandry has become essential rather than optional. It serves as a critical avenue to improve the socio-economic status of India's rural lower-income groups, where agriculture is the primary livelihood. By linking animal husbandry with the food processing industry, agriculture, research, and patent development, India can harness its potential to become a global leader in nutrition. Effective, sustainable animal husbandry not only enhances food security but also offers resilience to rural economies, providing a viable solution to agricultural challenges in India and beyond.

2. ANIMAL HUSBANDRY

Animal husbandry is a branch of agriculture focused on the care, breeding, and management of animals to produce food, fiber, milk, and other products. This practice includes raising Animal Husbandry and selective breeding to enhance desirable genetic traits, aiming to improve productivity and profitability. Many farmers rely on animal husbandry as a primary source of income in rural area.

➤ Importance of Animal husbandry in socio-economic condition of Rural India

Animal Husbandry holds significant socio-economic importance in India, particularly for farmers who rely on a mixed farming system that integrates crops and Animal Husbandry. In this system, outputs from one activity, such as crop residues, can serve as inputs for Animal Husbandry, while Animal Husbandry by-products, like manure, enrich the soil for crops. This interdependence promotes resource efficiency and sustainability. Animal Husbandry contributes to farmers' income, enhances food security, and supports rural livelihoods, serving various roles from draft power to providing milk, meat, and other products.

➤ Employment Generation



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- **Livelihood for the Unskilled:** Many people in India, particularly those who are less literate or unskilled, rely on agriculture and Animal Husbandry for their income.
- **Seasonal Nature of Agriculture:** Since agriculture is seasonal and offers employment for only about 180 days a year, it leaves a gap in income opportunities.
- **Animal Husbandry as Supplemental Employment:** Landless individuals or those with minimal land holdings depend on Animal Husbandry to utilize their labor during the off-season in agriculture, providing a critical source of year-round employment.

➤ **Income Generation**

- **Subsidiary Income:** Animal Husbandry provides additional income for many Indian families, especially for resource-poor households that own a small number of animals.
- **Regular Income from Dairy:** Milk-producing cows and buffaloes offer consistent income through milk sales, supporting daily financial needs.
- **Emergency Funds:** Animals like sheep and goats can be sold in emergencies, helping families manage costs for significant expenses, such as weddings, medical treatments, education, or home repairs.
- **Economic Security:** Animal Husbandry acts as "moving banks," serving as assets that offer economic stability and security to their owners.

➤ **Food Security**

- **Source of Animal Protein:** Animal Husbandry products like milk, meat, and eggs are vital sources of animal protein, contributing to the nutrition of Animal Husbandry -owning families.
- **Per Capita Availability:** In India, the per capita availability of milk is approximately 355 grams per day, while eggs are available at about 69 per person per year, highlighting Animal Husbandry's role in enhancing dietary protein access.

➤ **Social Security**

- **Status Symbol:** Animal Husbandry ownership enhances social standing, especially for landless families, offering them a higher status compared to those without animals.
- **Cultural Gifts:** Gifting animals during marriage ceremonies is common across various regions, reflecting Animal Husbandry 's cultural and social value.
- **Cultural and Religious Roles:** Animal rearing is deeply ingrained in Indian culture. Animals serve in social and religious practices, with cows used in housewarming rituals, and rams, bucks, and chickens often sacrificed during festivals.
- **Religious Worship and Attachment:** Cows and bulls are worshipped in many religious ceremonies, and owners frequently form strong emotional bonds with their animals, reinforcing Animal Husbandry 's role in cultural life.

➤ **Gender Equity**



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- **Promotion of Gender Equity:** Animal husbandry supports gender equity by creating significant employment opportunities for women.
- **Women’s Contribution:** Women fulfil over 75% of the labour required in Animal Husbandry production, highlighting their critical role in the sector.
- **Regional Employment:** In regions like Punjab and Haryana, where dairy farming is prominent and animals are stall-fed, around 90% of Animal Husbandry -related employment is held by women, underscoring Animal Husbandry 's role in empowering women economically.

➤ **Draft Power**

- **Essential for Agriculture:** Bullocks remain the backbone of Indian agriculture, especially in rural areas, where they are still relied upon for essential farming tasks despite advances in mechanized tools.
- **Fuel Savings:** By using bullocks instead of tractors and other machinery, farmers save on fuel, reducing reliance on costly inputs.
- **Transportation Role:** Pack animals such as camels, horses, donkeys, ponies, and mules are widely used for transporting goods across the country, including challenging terrains where vehicles cannot operate.
- **Support in Remote Areas:** In hilly regions, mules and ponies are often the only viable transport option, and the army also depends on these animals for logistics in high-altitude zones.

➤ **Role of Dung**

- **Fuel Source:** Dung is commonly shaped into cakes and used as a fuel for cooking in rural households.
- **Natural Fertilizer:** As farmyard manure, dung enriches soil fertility, enhancing crop yields without synthetic fertilizers.
- **Construction Material:** Known as "poor man’s cement," dung is also used as a plastering material for walls and floors in rural homes, providing insulation and durability.

3. REVIEW OF LITERATURE

Anupam Sarkar (2020) “Role of Livestock Farming in Meeting Livelihood Challenges of SC Cultivators in India” in this article examines the income diversification challenges faced by Dalit households in India, specifically in adopting Animal Husbandry activities as a significant income source. Using data from the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), it highlights that although the Animal Husbandry sector, particularly dairy, has seen substantial growth, Scheduled Caste (SC) households have struggled to engage meaningfully in this sector. Key barriers include limited access to land and Animal Husbandry resources, along with insufficient marketing opportunities, which prevent SC households from effectively diversifying their income through Livestock farming.



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Junaid Alvi, Ijaz Ashraf, Khalid Mehmood Ch, Muhammad Iftikhar and Saleem Ashraf (2015) Impact of livestock in Uplifting Rural Livelihood” in this study investigates the role of the livestock sector in improving livelihoods, focusing on small-scale livestock farming in Jaranwala, District Faisalabad. Using data from interviews with 120 randomly selected livestock producers, the study found that small-scale livestock farming was a common income source, with over 22% of participants earning more than Rs.15,000. Income from livestock supported domestic needs, including family expenses, education, and healthcare. However, observations revealed that productivity was lower than potential due to limited awareness of effective dairy farming techniques. Farmers expressed a need for location-specific best practices, livestock management training, and accessible veterinary services to improve productivity.

4. RESEARCH GAP

The literature survey revealed some of the study was related to issues like Role of livestock Farming in Meeting Livelihood of rural people. Some studies are also related to Impact of livestock in Uplifting Rural Livelihood there are only few studies focused on Contribution of Animal Husbandry to the Rural Livelihood. Animal husbandry plays a crucial role in enhancing rural livelihoods by providing an additional, sustainable income source for rural households. This sector is especially important for marginalized communities and landless farmers, who often rely on Animal Husbandry as a primary or supplementary livelihood. Thus, the review of literature clearly shows that there is dearth of studies relating to Contribution of Animal Husbandry to the Rural Livelihood – With Special Reference to Periyapatna Taluk of Mysuru District. Hence the present study makes an attempt to explore Contribution of Animal Husbandry to the Rural Livelihood in study area.

5. OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

1. To study the Importance of Animal Husbandry in Socio-economic Conditions of Rural India.
2. To find out the Contributions of Animal Husbandry to Indian Economy
3. To Examine the Contributions of Animal Husbandry on factors, influence the Rural Livelihood in Study Area.

Hypothesis of the Study

The following hypothesis have been framed in the present study

- ❖ There is a positive Impact of Animal Husbandry on factor influence the Rural Livelihood in Study Area.

6. METHODOLOGY

This study is on empirical examination purely based on primary and secondary data. a stratified random sampling method has been used for survey. The primary data has collected from Rural farmers who are engaged in Animal Husbandry in Periyapatna taluk of Mysuru District. The survey has been conducted by taking 100 rural farmers in the study area and respondents are stratified randomly selected. Secondary data collected from Various Books, Newspapers, journals,



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Vlogs, websites of Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (AH&D). So, the quality of study depends upon accuracy, reliability and quality of that data. After collection of data, these are arranged in tabular format. The analysis was done by using different statistical tools and the analysed data are presented in tabulated form. The data is analysed by using the Simple tables, Charts, rank method is used to analyses the data, and **Mean Impact Score (Mean satisfaction score)** used to Hypothesis testing.

➤ **Contributions of Animal Husbandry to Indian Economy**

Animal Husbandry plays a crucial role in the Indian economy, contributing significantly to the livelihoods of millions. About 20.5 million people depend upon Animal Husbandry for their livelihood. Animal Husbandry contributed 16% to the income of small farm households as against an average of 14% for all rural households. Animal Husbandry provides livelihood to two-third of rural community. It also provides employment to about 8.8 % of the population in India. Here's a breakdown of its importance:

- **Economic Impact:** Animal Husbandry contributes around 30% of India's Agricultural and Allied Sector GVA and 5.73% of the total GVA.
- **Livelihoods:** About 20.5 million people depend on Animal Husbandry for their living, with two-thirds of the rural community being employed by the sector.
- **Employment:** Animal Husbandry provides employment to approximately 8.8% of the Indian population.
- **Global Leadership:** India is the world's largest Animal Husbandry owner, with a staggering 535.78 million animals. It holds the top spot in buffalo population and ranks second in goats and poultry production.
- **Food Security:** Animal Husbandry provides essential food items like milk, meat, and eggs, with India being the world's largest milk producer. Milk -230.58 million ton (per capita availability 459 grams / day), egg- 138.38 billion eggs (per capita availability 101 eggs per annum), Meat - 9.77 million ton (per capita availability 7.01 kg/year)
- **Non-Food Contributions:** Animal Husbandry also contributes to the production of wool, hides, and other materials like dung used for fuel and fertilizer.
- **Agricultural Support:** Bullocks are vital for Indian agriculture, providing labor for plowing and transport.
- **Social Security:** Animal Husbandry provides income, assets, and social status for many families, particularly those in rural areas.

In summary, Animal Husbandry is deeply interwoven with the Indian economy and society, providing sustenance, employment, and cultural significance. It plays a vital role in ensuring food security, supporting agriculture, and fostering rural livelihoods.



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Table 1: Production of Animal Husbandry in India 2022-23

Sl. No.	Product	Quantity	Ranking in the World Production
	MILK in Million Tonnes	230.58	First
	EGGS in Billions of Nos.	138.38	Third
	MEAT Million Tonnes	9.77	Na
	WOOL in Million Kgs.	33.61	Na
	FISH in Lakh Tonnes	175.45	Third

Source: <https://dahd.gov.in/>

India leads the world in milk production, ranks second in egg production, and is the fifth largest producer of meat. In 2022-23, the Livestock sector accounted for 30.23% of the Gross Value Added (GVA) within the Agricultural and Allied Sector and 5.50% of the total GVA. Meat production reached 9.77 million tonnes, making India fifth globally in this sector. According to the 20th Livestock Census, India has substantial Animal Husbandry resources, including 303.76 million bovines, 74.26 million sheep, 148.88 million goats, and 851.81 million poultry.

The Livestock sector experienced a compound annual growth rate of 7.38% from 2014-15 to 2022-23. Exports of animal products in 2023-24 were valued at \$4.54 billion, with buffalo meat making up 82% of this figure at \$3.74 billion. Other significant exports included dairy products, poultry, and natural honey, with India exporting to over 57 countries.

Table 2: Major Livestock Population During 2007 to 2019

Species	2007	2012	2019
Cattle	199.08	190.9	192.49
Buffaloes	105.34	108.7	109.85
Sheep	71.56	65.07	74.26
Goats	14.054	135.17	148.88
Pigs	11.13	10.29	9.06
Mithun	0.26	0.30	0.38
Yaks	0.08	0.08	0.06
Horses & ponies	0.61	0.63	0.34
Mules	0.14	0.2	0.08
Donkeys	0.44	0.32	0.12
Camels	0.52	0.4	0.25
Total Animal Husbandry	529.70	512.06	535.78

Source: 20th Livestock Census, 2019



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The 20th Livestock Census in India, conducted in 2019 with participation from all states and union territories, provides a comprehensive count of 16 domesticated animal species and various poultry types owned by households, enterprises, and institutions. This census was notable for its first-time use of tablets to digitally collect and transmit data, enhancing data accuracy and timeliness.

➤ **Key findings include:**

- India's total Livestock population reached 536.78 million in 2019, a 4.8% increase from the 2012 census.
- Rural areas accounted for 95.78% (514.11 million) of the Livestock population, while urban areas held 4.22% (22.65 million).
- The total bovine population, which includes cattle, buffalo, mithun, and yak, was 303.76 million, reflecting a 1.3% increase.
- The cattle population specifically was 192.49 million, also marking a 1.3% rise compared to the previous census. Female cattle to 145.12 million, an 18% increase, boosting dairy production.
- Bovines (cattle, buffalo, etc.): 302.79 million, a 1% increase.
- Buffalo: 109.85 million, a 1% increase.
- Sheep: 74.26 million, rising significantly by 14.1%.
- Goats: 148.88 million, up by 10.1%.
- Pigs: 9.06 million, showing a 12.03% decrease.
- Poultry: 851.81 million, a 16.8% increase.

These findings underline the rising importance of sheep and goats, moderate growth in cattle and buffalo, and significant increases in female cattle and poultry, supporting India's expanding dairy and poultry sectors.

Table 3: Major States Livestock Population in India at 2012 and 2019

Sl. No.	States	2012 (In million)	2019 (In million)	Percentage Change
	Uttar Pradesh	68.7	67.8	-1.35
	Rajasthan	87.7	56.8	-1.66
	Madhya Pradesh	36.3	40.6	11.81
	West Bengal	30.3	37.4	23.32
	Bihar	32.9	36.5	10.67
	Andhra Pradesh	29.4	34.0	15.79
	Maharashtra	32.5	33.0	1.61
	Telangana	26.7	32.6	22.21
	Karnataka	27.7	29.0	4.70
	Gujarat	27.1	26.9	-0.95

Source: 20th Livestock Census, 2019

In 2019, Uttar Pradesh led India in Livestock population, reaching around 67.8 million animals. Rajasthan followed, with Madhya Pradesh also ranking high. India's total Livestock population



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was approximately 535.8 million, with cattle, buffaloes, and goats being the most prevalent species. The top five meat-producing states were Uttar Pradesh (12.20%), West Bengal (11.93%), Maharashtra (11.50%), Andhra Pradesh (11.20%), and Telangana (11.06%). Livestock is crucial to rural India's socio-economic development, supporting livelihoods and food security through its extensive resources in Animal Husbandry and poultry

➤ Survey Based Analysis and Data Interpretation

A survey of twenty villages such as Bettadapura, Gorahalli, Chapparadahalli, Alaganahalli, Harnahalli, Mallapura, Bhuvanahalli, Seegur, Billahalli, Komalapura, Hitnehebbagilu and other villages Periyapatna taluk of Mysuru district of Karnataka state has been conducted 100 of Rural farmers who are engaged in Animal Husbandry have been interviewed through questionnaire. The research findings are as follows

Table 4: Distribution of actors influenced to Rural farmers for engaged in Animal Husbandry. (N=100)

	Characteristics	Respondents	Rank
Distribution of Gender	Male	68	01
	Female	32	02
Distribution of Age	25 to 30	06	04
	30 to 35	18	03
	35 to 40	51	01
	40 and above	25	02
Cast of respondents	SC	42	01
	ST	32	02
	OBC	26	03
Education Qualification	Illiterate	26	02
	Primary and Higher Primary	46	01
	PUC and above	24	03
	Degree and above	04	04
Occupation	Agriculture	56	01
	Agriculture and Business	22	02
	Agriculture and agricultural laborer	14	03
	Only Goat and Sheep rearing	08	04
Land Holding	Below 1 Acre	15	03
	1 to 2.5 acres	44	01
	2.5 to 5 acres	35	02
	Above 5 acres	06	04
Years of experience in Animal husbandry	Up to 5 year	16	04
	5 to 10 years	36	01
	10 to 15 years	28	02



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	Above 15year	20	03
Distribution of Household income	Less than 2lak	18	03
	2 to 4 lakhs	40	01
	4 to 6 lakhs	30	02
	6 and above	12	04
Share of Income from Animal husbandry	Less than 2 lakhs	48	01
	2 to 3 lakhs	38	02
	3 lakhs and above	14	03
Factor influence to involved in Animal husbandry	Family Profession	24	02
	For Additional Income	40	01
	Influenced by Succeed Farmers	16	04
	Guaranteed Regular Income	20	03

(Source: field survey)

Table 4 shows that all these factors influenced to Rural farmers for engaged in Animal Husbandry. Above table explained that out of the total 100 respondents 68% are male and 32% are female.

Majority of them that is 51% of them are aged between 35 to 40 years. 18 % respondents are aged between 30 to 35years, only 06% age between 25 to 30.

Majority of them that is 42% of them are belongs to SC, 32% of them belongs to ST, and 26% of the are OBC who are engaged in Animal Husbandry.in study area.

46% respondents are having Qualification up to Primary and Higher Primary, 26% of them are Illiterate and 46% of respondents are having PUC and 04% of them having degree it clear that who are illiterate and having Primary and Higher Primary are can engaged in Animal Husbandry it not requires skill and level of education.

56% of responds are depend on only in agriculture, 22% respondent are doing Agriculture and Business, 16% of them doing Agriculture and agricultural labor. only 8% of them engaged in Goat and Sheep rearing.

44 % of respondents having 1 to 2.5 acre of land, 35 % of them having 2.5 to 5 acres, 06% of them having 5 and above, 15 %of them having below 1 acre of land.

36% of respondents have 5 to 10 years of experience in animal husbandry, 28% of them have 10 to 15 years of experience, 20% of them have above 15years experience, and only 16 %of them have Up to 5years experience in animal husbandry.

18% of respondent's family income Less than 2 lakhs, 40% of them have 2 to 4lakhs, 30% of them have 4 to 6 lakhs and 12% of them have 6 lakhs and above family income per year.

58% of respondents got Less than 2 lakhs in their total income from only Livestock, 38% of them got 2 to 3 lakhs, 14% of them got 3 lakhs and above form animal husbandry to total family income.

40% of respondents engaged in animal husbandry for additional income, 24 % of them involved because it is their family profession, 20% of the because of it gives them guaranteed regular income, 16% of them says that they are influenced by succeed farmers in animal husbandry.



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7. HYPOTHESIS TESTING

Hypothesis of the Study

- ❖ There is a positive Impact of Animal Husbandry on Factor Influence the Rural Livelihood in Study Area

Table 5: Derivation of Mean Impact Score (Mean satisfaction score) of Impact of Animal Husbandry on factor influence the Rural Livelihood in Study Area.

		Degree of Impact				
		Negative Impact	No Impact	Good Impact	Substantial Impact	Total
Impact Score		-1	0	1	2	
Impact on Employment	NO of Respondents	0	14	22	64	100 (A)
	Cumulative Score	0 (0*-1)	0 (0*14)	22(1*22)	128 (2*65)	150 (B)
	Mean impact Score	B/A= 150/100 =1.5				
Impact on Income earning	NO of Respondents	0	20	34	46	100 (A)
	Cumulative Score	0 (0*-1)	0 (0*20)	34(1*34)	92 (2*45)	126 (B)
	Mean impact Score	B/A= 125/100 =1.26				
Impact on standard of living	NO of Respondents	0	12	58	30	100 (A)
	Cumulative Score	0 (0*-1)	0 (0*12)	58 (1*58)	60 (2*30)	118 (B)
	Mean impact Score	B/A= 118/100 =1.18				
Impact on Saving	NO of Respondents	0	20	60	20	100 (A)
	Cumulative Score	0 (0*-1)	0 (0*20)	60 (1*60)	50 (2*25)	110 (B)
	Mean impact Score	B/A= 110/100 = 1.10				
Food Security	NO of Respondents	0	0	83	17	100 (A)
	Cumulative Score	0 (0*-1)	0 (0*0)	83 (1*83)	34 (2*17)	117 (B)
	Mean impact Score	B/A= 125/100 = 1.05				
Gender Equity	NO of Respondents	0	20	58	22	100 (A)



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	Cumulative Score	0 (0*-1)	0 (0*20)	58 (1*58)	44 (2*22)	102(B)
	Mean impact Score	B/A= 100/100 = 1.02				

(Source: field survey)

Table 5 revealed that impact score of Animal Husbandry on Employment, Income earning, Standard of living, and saving, food security, Gender Equity of rural people in study area. Totally 4 Impact Score given, -1 for negative impact, 0 for no impact 1 for good impact, 2 for Substantial Impact. Animal Husbandry Impact on Employment is grater comparative to all other impact with 1.5 Mean impact Score. Mean impact Score of Impact on Income earning is 1.26, Mean impact Score of Impact on standard of living is 1.18, Mean impact Score of Impact on saving is 1.10. Mean impact Score of Impact on food security is 1.05, Mean impact Score of Impact on Gender equity is 1.05. All impacts are positive in nature. Finally above table shows that Animal Husbandry dose positive impact on all above Parameters influence the Rural Livelihood. It is clear that Animal Husbandry provided livelihoods support for rural people in study area.

➤ **Challenges faced by the Animal Husbandry sector in India**

The Animal Husbandry sector in India faces multiple challenges that hinder its productivity and growth:

- 1. Low Productivity:** Indian cattle have an average annual milk yield of just 1,172 kg, roughly half of the global average. Low productivity affects income potential for farmers and limits the sector's growth.
- 2. Disease Outbreaks:** Frequent diseases, including Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Black Quarter, and Influenza, significantly impact Animal Husbandry health and productivity. These outbreaks reduce the lifespan and output of animals, creating economic setbacks for farmers and requiring improved veterinary services.
- 3. Greenhouse Gas Emissions:** India's large population of ruminants contributes substantially to greenhouse gas emissions, particularly methane. Implementing mitigation strategies and improving feed efficiency is necessary but challenging for reducing the sector's environmental impact.
- 4. Loss of Indigenous Breeds:** Crossbreeding with exotic species aims to improve productivity but often diminishes indigenous genetic resources, which are vital for biodiversity and resilience. Successful crossbreeding remains limited, posing a risk to native breeds.
- 5. Limited Artificial Insemination (AI):** AI services in India face challenges such as inadequate infrastructure, quality germplasm shortages, and limited technical manpower, leading to low conception rates. Expanding AI services could significantly improve breeding outcomes.
- 6. Inadequate Financial Support:** Although the Animal Husbandry is a crucial component of agricultural GDP, it receives only about 12% of public agricultural funding. This disparity limits access to credit for infrastructure improvements, impacting overall sector development.



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- 7. Underdeveloped Meat Production and Marketing:** Inadequate slaughter facilities, with roughly half of meat production coming from unregistered slaughterhouses, affect meat quality and compliance with standards. High transaction costs (15-20% of the sale price) also hinder market efficiency, affecting farmer income and product pricing.

Addressing these challenges requires policy interventions, improved disease management, and infrastructure investments to boost productivity, sustainability, and economic viability in the sector.

8. CONCLUSION

Animal husbandry is a crucial pillar of the Indian economy, significantly enhancing rural livelihoods and meeting various national needs. By providing a stable income source, it supports approximately 20% of the rural workforce and contributes about 30% to agricultural GDP. It offers farmers a stable income source and meets national demands for food, industrial raw materials, and rural employment. Its role is essential in enhancing the economic stability and well-being of rural households across diverse agro-climatic regions. With India's growing population, rising food inflation, and ongoing agricultural challenges, including farmer distress, animal husbandry has become essential rather than optional. It serves as a critical avenue to improve the socio-economic status of India's rural lower-income groups, where agriculture is the primary livelihood. Consequently, animal husbandry plays a central role in uplifting the socio-economic status of rural communities, making it a vital area for sustainable rural development in India. Finally, this study concluded that Animal Husbandry dose positive impact on all above Parameters influence the Rural Livelihood. It is clear that Animal Husbandry provided livelihoods support for rural people in study area.

9. AUTHOR(S) CONTRIBUTION

The writers affirm that they have no connections to, or engagement with, any group or body that provides financial or non-financial assistance for the topics or resources covered in this manuscript.

10. CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

The authors declared no potential conflicts of interest with respect to the research, authorship, and/or publication of this article.

11. PLAGIARISM POLICY

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