Economic Analysis of Sheep Farming in India

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Abstract— Sheep is an important livestock species of India as they contribute greatly to the farmers' economy, especially in rural areas. They play an important role in the livelihood of small and marginal farmers and landless laborer's as they provide regular and sustainable income. Sheep in India are maintained mainly on common grazing lands, crop residues and tree leaves. Livestock contributes manure and draught power to the agriculture while crop residues form the major source of feed to the livestock and this system of interdependence has sustained for centuries.

Keywords— Sheep, economy, Livestock, agriculture.

INTRODUCTION

In the sustainable contribution to State rural production, the livestock sector plays a crucial role. Increase food and nutritional safety of farming households and socio-economic standing in society using both agricultural waste, by-products and shared ownership capital, it is tightly integrated with an established farming scheme on a mutually exclusive basis and interdependently. It is the only protection for the wildlife due to drought, starvation and other natural disasters. The processing of milk and meat makes a contribution to livestock. Their manure and urine increase soil fertility and crop production. It also offers more economic commodities for trading and trade, such as skin, hides wool, etc. In addition, they provide services in the form of animal power in croplands, the transport of farm products and human transport. Moreover, they have income during the year and reduce the risks equally and considerably, thus minimizing farmers' suicidal mentality.

India has received 190,90 million cattle, 108,70 buffaloes, 65,06 million ovine and 135,17 million goats according to the Animal Husbandry, Dairy and Fisheries Department of the Agriculture Minister (2012).

Most Indians live in rural areas and thus the presence of pressures on the land is likely to increase, since almost everyone else in the village relies on agriculture and this leads to an unfavorable land man ratio.

Due to the population boom and rising land pressure, agriculture cannot provide all rural populations with profitable jobs alone. Activities such as animal husbandry must, however, be used as an important tool to augment incomes and provide jobs for poorer areas of rural areas.

The domestication of animals and the production of cereals was observed during the Neolithic times. Man used to husbandry sheep and goats, since they supplied him with ready food and cleaning sources.

Sheep have since time immemorial an inseparable identity with farmers in India. They are an important component of farming and economics in India and, in particular, those of the poorer segments of farmers.

Sheep farming is one of the most significant and lucrative industries in any state of India. Because the investment is made there, income is produced in four ways: fiber, milk, meat and manure.

The sheep-farming industry, particularly in the mountainous areas of the country, is one of the key components of the rural economy. Although on small flocks the sheep may be raised. We have to care for cattle a little longer than most cattle and they still require a lot less comfort and services. The cattle just need accommodation to be secured.

India is one of the most important in sheep production, and both the sheep and the bad shepherds will improve economically. India, with more than 48 million cattle, is the sixth largest nation in the world.

About 45,000 crore rupees, 10 per cent of the NGP, make up the annual contribution of livestock for the national economy. Sheep are an important component of the rural economy, particularly in the arid semiarid region of the country, thanks to its many facts on wool, meat, skins and manure.

It provides shepherds with a reliable source of revenue by selling wool and livestock. In the livestock population, India has made phenomenal progress in the world. Livestock are important sources of income and employment in rural sector.

Sheep Production – The Indian Scenario
India, with more than 48 million cattle, is the sixth largest nation in the world. There is scope for further development, as ovine feed is low-cost.

It is well suited to the arid climate and is suitable as another source of revenue and mutton for domestic use for small family farms with little resources.

Production Efficiency in India

Sheep production in India is much less effective. Flock care, breeding and pest management strategies fall well behind. Sheep industry in India has to confront these challenges.

In Aviknagar, Rajasthan and its regional stations were established in 1962 by the Government of India as part of a UNDP and a GOI project to undertake fundamental and applied research in the development and utilization of laurel and sheep, as well as to provide postgraduate training on sheep and wool.

In cooperation with the Australian government during the Fourth Plan, a large Sheep Breeding Farm was built by Hissar.

This farm distributes Corriedale stud rams to different states for cross breeding for improving wool and mutton production.

About 7 large sheep breeding farms were established in Jammu and Kashmir, UP, MP, Bihar, AP and Karnataka for producing exotic pure-bred or cross-bred rams.

Indian Council of Agricultural Research started two All India Coordinated Research Projects on Sheep for Fine Wool with Centers at Sheep Breeding Gram, Tal Hemirpur (HP), Sheep Breeding Research Station Sandynallah (TN), Gujarat CSWRI Aviknagar (Rajasthan) and for mutton with centres at Livestock Research Station, AP All Palamner National Goat Research Institute Makhdoom, Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth Rahuri and CSWRI Aviknagar. These projects aim at;

(i) Evolving new fine wool breeds for different agro-climatic regions capable of producing 2.5 kg of greasy wool annually of 58-645 count.

(ii) New mutton breeds capable of attaining 30 kg live weight at 6 months under intensive feeding conditions.

A large number of breeding farms were established in the subsequent period in the central and state sectors for producing genetically superior breeding stock.

A centrally sponsored scheme for conservation of threatened breeds was started during Tenth Five Year Plan which included Bannur and Bonpala breeds of sheep.

Scope and importance of sheep faming:

The national economy is greatly contributed by sheep farming. We get 8% of the sheep farming business' export contrition and we also get the contributions from sheep farming manufactured goods and they are by products.
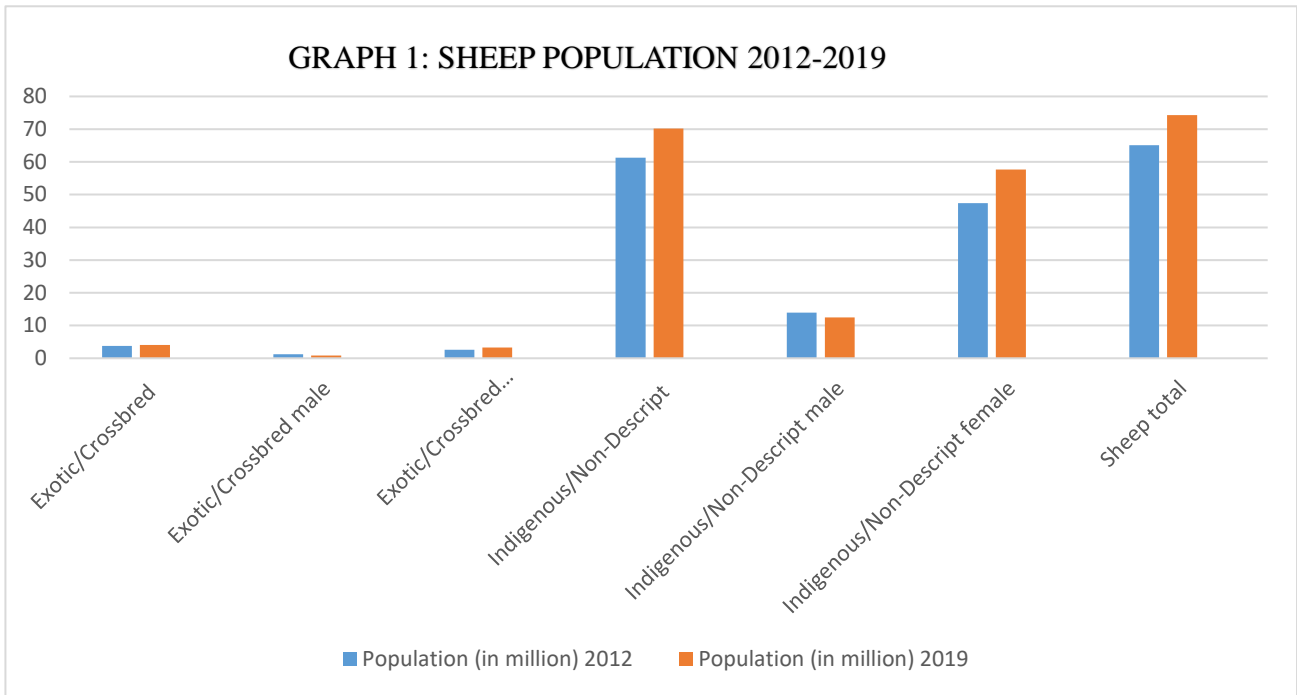
In the State of Karnataka, the gross number of the sheep is 21 million, an estimated population. In India, sheep have a population of 71.6 million.

- The sheep can be reared by the women, landless, people, and also by children.
- The milk is one of the most useful for curing many diseases.
- The skin of the sheep is used for preparing the leather jackets and also many other products like belts, caps and wallets etc.
- The sheep manure is used in agricultural farms as the plant or tree manure.
- The wool of the sheep is used in making the winter clothes like shawls, sweaters etc.

Table 1: Sheep Population in India 2012 and 2019:

Category	Population (in million) 2012	Population (in million) 2019	% change
Exotic/Crossbred	3.78	4.09	8.12
Exotic/Crossbred male	1.21	0.83	-31.32
Exotic/Crossbred Female	2.57	3.26	26.85
Indigenous/Non-Descript	61.29	70.17	14.50
Indigenous/Non-Descript male	13.92	12.53	-9.94
Indigenous/Non-Descript female	47.37	57.64	21.67
Sheep total	65.07	74.26	14.13

Source: Livestock census 2012 and 2019

GRAPH 1: SHEEP POPULATION 2012-2019

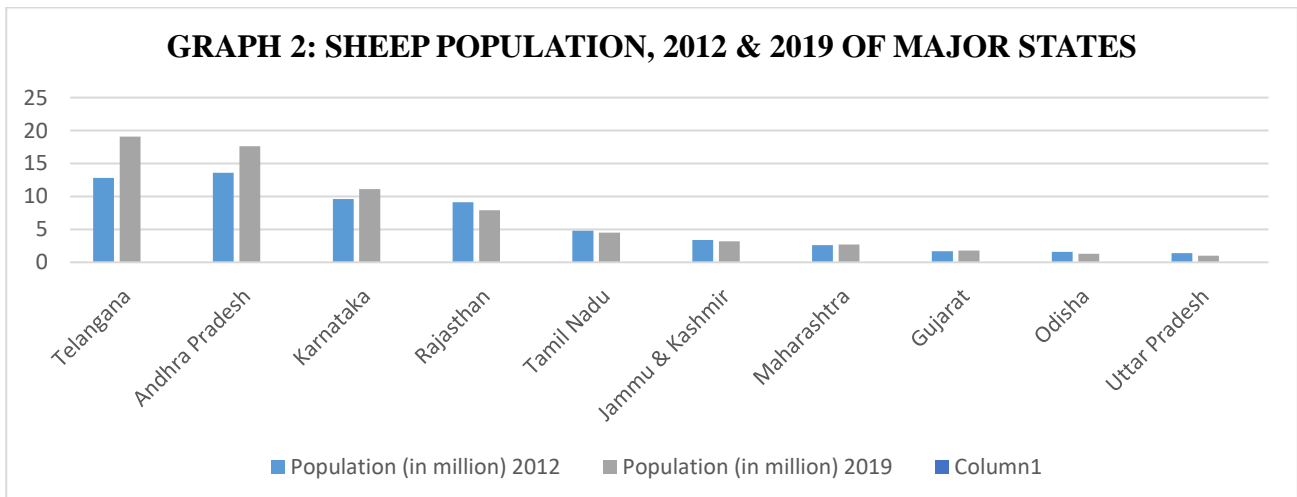Population (in million) 2012   Population (in million) 2019

The table below shows the sheep population census between 2012 and 2019. In 2012, the population of exotic and crossbred ovaries amounted to 3.78 million and in 2019 to 4.09 million. In 2012, and 2019 the population of indigenous/non-defined sheep is 61.29, respectively, and 70.17. In 2012, the estimated number of sheep is 65.07 million and in 2019, 74.26 million. Over the previous Livestock Census, total sheep grew 14.13%. (2012).

Table 2: Sheep Population - Major States

States/UTs	Population (in million) 2012	Population (in million) 2019	% change
Telangana	12.8	19.1	48.51
Andhra Pradesh	13.6	17.6	30.00
Karnataka	9.6	11.1	15.31
Rajasthan	9.1	7.9	-12.95
Tamil Nadu	4.8	4.5	-5.98
Jammu & Kashmir	3.4	3.2	-4.19
Maharashtra	2.6	2.7	3.87
Gujarat	1.7	1.8	4.66
Odisha	1.6	1.3	-19.10

GRAPH 2: SHEEP POPULATION, 2012 & 2019 OF MAJOR STATES

Population (in million) 2012   Population (in million) 2019   Column1

During the census between 2012 and 2019, the table shows the main ovine states. Sheep population 12,8 and 19,1 in 2012, 13,6 and 17,6 respectively in 2019 is highest among Telangana and Andhra Pradesh in 2012. In 2012 the state of Uttar Pradesh registered low sheep population of 1,4 million and 2019 low sheep population of 1,0 million.

CONCLUSION

In certain fields, the management of the sheep farmers in question has been found to be inadequate. Sheep farmers make little attempt to develop the breed of sheep. The standard local cattle race is held and attempts have not been made to develop the race, such as Marino, etc. In better places there is no desire to improve sheep's pasture. Veterinary physicians do not provide proper hygiene inspections for sheep flocks. Local traders and wholesalers are verified in the marketing of sheep fur. Sheep wool in APMC premises has little effort to sell, and can get the best price for sheep farmers. They do not use other APMC installations to assemble, grade sheep fur, to allow them to improve and make fair prices. Sheep farmers have been pressured to sell local sheep wool in the study region by financial problems and credit burden. A few sheep farmers market wool in their localities to wool cooperative societies. This is attributed to lack of awareness about the participation of their commodity in cooperative marketing. Sheep wool marketing is conventional and weak. The sheep farmers must be properly educated in this context.

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