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Participation of rural women in animal husbandry activity

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Abstract

A survey based study was carried out to ascertain a study on participation of rural women in animal husbandry activity in Korba district of Chhattisgarh, The socio-personal study revealed that Majority (57.50%) of them had higher level of annual income indicated that the men alone i.e. 88.89, 55.56 and 50.00 % were dominant in marketing, milk production and breeding activities, respectively. The other men dominated activities were feeding with 40.00 % participation, milk production and processing with 33.34 % participation. 1/3rd of men were also reported in the fodder cultivation and management, however the other work were performed by men with only 16.67 % participation. In this way the overall participation of men alone in the animal husbandry was found 38.47 %, was quite higher than the overall participation of only women which was only 33.33 %. The major activities which were found with higher women participation was other work having 66.66 % followed by health care 55.56% and milk production and processing 44.44%. Men and women were actively participated in fodder cultivation and management activities with participation of 66.67% and 40.00%, respectively. Breeding activities, animal feeding and milk production and processing was the other activity jointly participated with 33.33, 26.67 and 22.22 %, respectively. The overall joint participation of men and women was found to be 28.20%.

Keywords: Participation

Introduction

In order to waken the people, it is the women who have to be awakened. Once they are on the move, the household moves, the country moves. You can tell condition of the nation by looking at the status of its women. India's livestock sector is one of the largest in the world. In the world, India ranks first in cattle and buffalo population, second in goat, third in sheep and seventh in poultry. Women in India now participate in all activities such as education politics, media, art, culture, service sectors, science, technology and rural women to be participation livestock management activities. Traditionally, women are responsible for the activities such as giving feed and water to the animals, cleaning and bathing of animals, maintenance and cleaning of cattle shed, fodder collection, collection of cow dung and preparation cow dung cakes, and preparation of milk products. They also participate frequently in talking care of sick animals, care of pregnant animals, care of newborn calves. The level of involvement of women was quite low in breeding activities, milking and grazing of the animals, sale or purchase of livestock and feed items.

Research Methodology

The present study was carried out during 2012-13 in the Korba district of Chhattisgarh state. This study aims to assess a study on participation of rural women in animal husbandry activity. This study was conducted in randomly selected 8 villages [Aayodhapuri, Tulsinagar, Nagoyeekhar, Fertilizer, Kharmora, Gokulnagar, Duggupara and Dahyanpara] of two purposively selected blocks (Korba and Katghora) located in Korba district. The sample size was comprised of 120 respondents. The data collection was done by the use of interview schedule through personal interview. Data were analyzed with help of suitable statistical methods.

Results and Discussion

Socio-personal characteristics of the respondents indicated that the majority (69.20%) belonged to middle age group (31 to 45 years) Bellukar *et al.* (2003), Rathod *et al.* (2011), Chand *et al.* (2011) [3], Hai *et al.* (2011), and Lad *et al.* (2012) [4, 9] also noted almost similar findings. Maximum respondents had illiterate Bellukar *et al.* (2003), Khin (2005) [6], Kavitha and Reddy (2007) [5] also observed similar findings in their study. Majority of the respondents (42.50%) belonged other backward caste who were engaged in animal husbandry practices.

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Maximum respondents had nuclear type of family Savitha (2004), Chand *et al.* (2011), Lad *et al.* (2012) and Koundal (2012) ^[12, 3, 9, 7] also noted almost similar findings and had

medium size of family (6 to 10 members). Kavitha and Reddy (2007) ^[5] and Lad *et al.* (2012) ^[9] also found almost similar findings.

Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their socio-personal characteristics (n = 120)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Age		
Young (up to 30 years)	21	17.50
Middle (31 to 45 years)	83	69.20
Old (above 45 years)	16	13.30
Education		
Illiterate	51	42.50
Only signature	09	07.50
Primary school (1 st to 5 th)	26	21.70
Middle school (6 th to 8 th)	18	15.00
High School (9 th to 10 th)	09	07.50
Higher Secondary School (11 th to 12 th)	05	04.13
Graduate and above	02	01.67
Caste		
Scheduled caste	00	00.00
Scheduled tribes	00	00.00
Other backward class	82	68.30
General	38	31.70
Type of family		
Nuclear	96	80.00
Joint	24	20.00
Size of Family		
Small (up to 5 members)	47	39.17
Medium (6 to 10 members)	65	54.17
Large (above 10 members)	08	06.66

Table 2: Distribution of the respondents according to their socio-economic characteristics (n=120)

Characteristics	Frequency	Percentage
Land holding		
Landless farmer	75	62.50
Marginal (up to 1 ha)	45	37.50
Small (1.1 to 2 ha)	00	00.00
Medium (2.01 to 4 ha)	00	00.00
Big (above 4 ha)	00	00.00
Annual income		
Low (up to Rs. 32,500)	07	05.83
Medium (Rs.32,501 to Rs.65,000)	44	36.67
High (above Rs.65,000)	69	57.50

Table 2 Show that Socio-economic characteristics of the respondents indicated that the maximum number of respondents belonged to landless category. Kumari (1999) ^[8] and Bala subramanian (1995) ^[1] also observed almost similar

findings. Majority of the respondents belonged to above Rs.65,000 annual income group. Pushpa (2006) ^[11] also noted similar findings in her study.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their participation in various animal husbandry activity (n=120)

Name of the activity	Only men		Only women		Joint	
	f	(%)	f	(%)	f	(%)
A. Breeding						
Taking the animal for pregnancy diagnosis	38	31.67	01	0.83	81	67.50
Selection of animal breed	104	86.67	00	00.00	16	13.33
Taking the animal for breeding	90	75.00	00	00.00	01	00.83
Taking the animal for AI	75	62.50	00	00.00	04	03.33
B. Feeding						
Taking the animal for grazing	90	75.00	05	04.17	04	03.33
Food making for animal at home	10	08.30	86	71.66	24	20.00
Giving water to the animal	07	05.83	82	68.33	31	25.83
Giving fodder to the animal	05	04.17	86	71.66	29	24.16
Collecting fodder	60	50.00	44	36.66	16	13.33
C. Fodder						
Storage of fodder and seeds	34	28.33	45	37.50	41	34.17
D. Health care						
Taking the animal for treatment	33	27.50	01	00.83	86	71.67

	Care the sick animal	30	25.00	24	20.00	60	50.00
	Taking the animal for vaccination	118	98.33	02	01.67	00	00.00
E.	Management						
	Cleaning of animal sheds	25	20.84	60	50.00	35	29.16
	Washing of animals	42	35.00	04	03.33	74	61.67
	Care the pregnant animal	17	14.17	11	9.17	92	76.67
	Care the new born calf	20	16.68	50	41.66	50	41.66
	Attended the animals during grazing	93	77.50	00	00.00	09	07.50
F.	Milk production and processing						
	Milking	87	72.50	01	00.83	32	26.67
	Selling of milk	110	91.67	00	00.00	10	8.333
	Processing of livestock products	02	01.66	104	86.67	14	11.67
G.	Marketing						
	Selling and purchasing of animal	119	99.17	00	00.00	01	00.83
	Purchase of fodder	119	99.17	00	00.00	01	00.83
	Selling of FYM	90	75.00	00	00.00	30	25.00
H.	Other work						
	Collection of cow dung	23	19.17	79	65.83	18	15.00
	Making cow dung cake	01	00.83	117	97.50	02	01.66

Participation of rural women in animal husbandry activity

The data regarding participation of rural women in animal husbandry activity are presented in Table 3 the study focused mainly on eight major animal husbandry activities.

Breeding: It can be concluded that majority (67.50%) of the respondents belonged to joint participation for taking the animal for pregnancy diagnosis and 86.67, 75.00 and 62.50 per cent men participation for selection of animal breed, taking the animal for breeding and taking the animal for AI, respectively.

Feeding: It can be concluded that majority (75.00%) of only men participation was noted for taking the animal for grazing, while 71.66, 68.33 and 71.66 per cent only women participation was found for food making for animal at home, giving water to the animal and giving fodder to the animal, respectively. However, men participation for collecting fodder was quite high.

Fodder: Rural women participation in fodder related activities was found to be 37.50 per cent as compared to 34.17 per cent joint participation and 28.33 per cent participation of men.

Health care: Rural women participation in health care activities was found to be least among all the selected activities. The study reveal that 71.67 per cent joint participation for taking the animal for treatment, followed by 27.50 per cent men participation and 00.83 per cent women participation was recorded. Also 50.00 per cent joint participation, 25.00 per cent men participation and 20.00 per cent women participation was found for caring the sick animals. The study reveal that 98.33 per cent participation of only men was noted for taking the animal for vaccination, whereas in case of only men, the participation for taking the animal for vaccination was noted to be 1.67 per cent.

Management: Rural women participation in animal management activities was found to be average among all the selected activities. The study reveals that 50.00 per cent women participation for cleaning of animal sheds, followed by 29.16 per cent joint participation and 20.84 per cent women participation. The study reveal that 61.67 per cent

joint participation for washing of animal, followed by 35.00 per cent men participation and 03.33 per cent women participation. The study reveal that 76.67 per cent joint participation for care the pregnant animals, followed by 14.17 per cent men participation and 09.17 per cent women participation. It was found that joint and women participation for caring the new born calf was recorded to 41.66 per cent in each case, as compared to 16.68 per cent men participation. The study revealed that 77.50 men participation for attended the animal during grazing, followed by 7.50 per cent women participation and none in case of joint participation.

Milk production and processing: Rural women participation in milk production and processing activities was found to be least among some of the selected activities. The study reveal that 72.50 per cent men participation, 26.67 per cent joint participation and 0.83 per cent women participation, was found for milking activity. The study reveal that 91.67 men participation for selling of milk, followed by 0.83 per cent joint participation and none in case of women participation was found for selling to milk about 87.00 per cent women participation was found for processing of livestock products as against 11.67 per cent joint participation and 01.67 per cent men participation.

Marketing: Rural women participation in marketing activities was found to be least among all the selected activities. The study reported 99.17 per cent men participation for selling and purchasing of animal, followed by 00.83 per cent joint participation and no women participation. The study further revealed 99.17 per cent men participation for purchase of fodder, followed by 00.83 per cent joint participation and no women participation. The study show 75.00 per cent men participation for selling of FYM, followed by 25.00 per cent joint participation and no women participation in this activity.

Other work: Rural women participation in other activities was found to be quite high among all the selected activities. The study revealed 65.83 per cent women participation, 19.17 per cent men participation and 15.00 per cent joint participation for collection of cow dung. The data show that 97.50 per cent women participation for making cow dung cake, as compared to 01.67 per cent joint participation and 00.83 per cent men participation.

Table 4: Extent of participation of rural women in animal husbandry activity (n =120)

Name of the activity	Only men			Only women		Joint		
	Maximum obtainable mean score	Total obtained mean score	Extent of participation (%)		Total obtained mean score	Extent of participation (%)	Total Obtained mean score	Extent of participation (%)
Breeding		12	06	50.00	02	16.67	04	33.33
Feeding		111.15	06	40.00	05	33.33	04	26.67
Fodder		03	01	33.33	00	00.00	02	66.67
Health care		09	02	22.22	05	55.56	02	22.22
Management		15	03	20.00	06	40.00	06	40.00
Milk production and processing		09	03	33.34	04	44.44	02	22.22
Marketing		09	08	88.89	00	00.00	01	11.11
Other work		06	01	16.67	04	66.66	01	16.67
Overall participation		78	30	38.47	26	33.33	22	28.20

Extent of participation of rural women in animal husbandry practices

Table 4 indicated that the men alone *i.e.* 88.89, 55.56 and 50.00 per cent were dominant in conducting marketing, milk production and breeding activities, respectively. The other men dominated activities were feeding with 40.00 per cent participation, milk production and processing with 33.34 per cent participation. One third participation of men was also reported in the fodder cultivation and management activities, however the other work were performed by men with only 16.67 per cent participation. In this way the overall participation of men alone in the animal husbandry was found 38.47 per cent, which was quite higher than the overall participation of only women which was only 33.33 per cent.

The major activities which were found with higher women participation was other work having 66.66 per cent followed by health care (55.56%) and milk production and processing (44.44%). No women alone participation was found in the marketing of animal produces and fodder cultivation activities in the study area. Men and women both were actively participated in fodder cultivation and management activities with participation of 66.67 per cent and 40.00 per cent, respectively. Breeding activities, animal feeding and milk production and processing was the other activity jointly participated with 33.33, 26.67 and 22.22 per cent, respectively. The overall joint participation of men and women was found to be 28.20 per cent.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to their level of participation in animal husbandry activity (n=120)

Participation	Level of Participation		
	Low (Up to 33.33%)	Medium (33.34-66.66%)	High (Above 66.66%)
Male	30 (25.00)	71 (59.17)	19 (15.83)
Female	61 (50.83)	41 (34.17)	18 (15.00)
Joint	74 (61.67)	32 (26.67)	14 (11.66)

Overall participation in rural women in animal husbandry activity

Further, the Table 5 shows the level of participation of male alone, female alone and jointly in overall animal husbandry practices. It shows that 59.17 per cent medium participation was reported to be executed by men only. About 16.00 per cent men were found to be in the category of high level of participation. With regards to female only, the data in the table shows that 50.83 per cent belonged to low level followed by 34.17 per cent in medium and 15.00 per cent in high level of participation. Majority of the joint category respondents (61.67) were found under low level of participation.

Conclusions

It was concluded that the women were middle aged (69.20%) in illiterate (42.50%), belonged to other backward caste and were engaged in animal husbandry activity. Maximum respondents had nuclear type of family and had medium size of family. In the study area, 62.50 per cent respondent landless farmers. majority (57.50%) of them had higher level of annual income. indicated that the men alone *i.e.* 88.89, 55.56 and 50.00 per cent were dominant in conducting marketing, milk production and breeding activities, respectively. The other men dominated activities were feeding with 40.00 per cent participation, milk production and processing with 33.34 per cent participation. One third participation of men was also reported in the fodder

cultivation and management activities, however the other work were performed by men with only 16.67 per cent participation. In this way the overall participation of men alone in the animal husbandry was found 38.47 per cent, which was quite higher than the overall participation of only women which was only 33.33 per cent. The major activities which were found with higher women participation was other work having 66.66 per cent followed by health care (55.56%) and milk production and processing (44.44%). No women alone participation was found in the marketing of animal produces and fodder cultivation activities in the study area. Men and women both were actively participated in fodder cultivation and management activities with participation of 66.67 per cent and 40.00 per cent, respectively. Breeding activities, animal feeding and milk production and processing was the other activity jointly participated with 33.33, 26.67 and 22.22 per cent, respectively. The overall joint participation of men and women was found to be 28.20 per cent.

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