

Perception of People about Role of Livestock in conservation of Environment in District Attock, Pakistan

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Abstract:

In recent years, production of livestock has increased rapidly in developing countries. Livestock plays a major role in climate change, biodiversity, management of land and management of water [1]. The present study was conducted in District Attock to dig out the perception of people about role of livestock in conservation of environment. The sample size of the study was 100 and focus group discussion was conducted to find out the perception of people. The major finding of the study highlights that livestock play an important role in conservation of environment. Majority of the respondents perceived that livestock can contribute to peaceful and clean environment. The study recommended that Government and other stakeholders should introduce interventions that how people can use livestock and their waste in preserving the environment.

Key Words: Biodiversity, conservation, environment, livestock.

1. INTRODUCTION:

More than 1.3 billion poor people of the world are attached with livestock directly or indirectly for their livelihoods. Livestock has become the main source of income in rural livelihood in Pakistan. Livestock is an integral part of livelihood like cattle, buffaloes, sheep, goats and cows [2]. Livestock is reducing the risk of crop failure in the harsh environmental areas crop does not give income where livestock production works as a side business and maintain continues the livelihood of the people in poor farmer and their communities [3,4]. The drought animal's power is used to the crop production for example horses, camel, donkey, etc work hard for the production of crop and achieving more benefits for the human[5]. Livestock and agriculture works together for the better production of crop. The combination of drought animals and the crop production exits mostly in the third world countries or developing countries especially in India, Pakistan and Bangladesh [6]. Animals have a vital part in the horticulture generation. Animals improve the worth, limit and nature of the near focal point. Distinctive kind of sustenance segments of animals advertises the nature of milk and meat. As it were, cultivating plants and other life structure for nourishment are incorporated in the farming [7]. Livestock system impacts on the environment positively and negatively through different aspects the raw material of the animal's effects directly on the environment in the shape of dung and animals germs. Dung cakes are utilized as a source of fuel in villages of Pakistan. The raw material is mixed in different source of water and contamination of water has also negative effect on the environment [8]. According to our information and research very little research has been conducted on role of live stock in conservation of environment. The present study was conducted to explore the role of livestock in conservation of environment.

2. OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY: To explore the perception of people about role of livestock in conservation of environment

3. MATERIALS AND METHODS:

The present study was conducted in rural area of district Attock in Tehsil Jand and one village Pindsultani was selected. The technique which was utilized for the particular sample size and gathering information is embraced

from Research Methods for Business by *Uma Sekaran* [9]. It generally and completely relies on upon the extent of population and the basis of exploration. As it is specified over that the approximately population of the *Pindsultani* is 12000 while the choosing household of particular field are take 1232. In any case, the population is blended including (Doctors, Teachers, Agrarians, Businessmen and so on) so the researcher chooses household having domesticated animals which are just 137 household units. For this purpose sample of 100 household units was chosen out of 137 household through purposive sampling technique. The data was collected through socio-economic survey form, interview guide and focus group discussion. The quantitative data gathered through socio economic census survey forms. While the qualitative data collected through, interview guides and focus group discussions is presented in descriptive form.

4. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION:

4.1 Role of Livestock in Cleanness of Environment

Some illiterate people don't accept that animals contribute to the cleanness of atmosphere and environment. They say that animal's create environmental by through spreading waste material. But in fact, we can clean our environment through the animals. For example waste material can be used as natural fertilizer in our field and fertile the land for production of crops and greenery which can save the environment and also create oxygen, which is essential for animals and human life. Researcher got information through hundred samples from the research areas *Pindsultani*. Among elected respondents 41 percent were agreed that animals could contribute to conservation of environment through different ways like the fertility of land and produce more production of grass, crops, vegetables for the cleaning of oxygen and environment. While the rest of (59%) people were not agreed and they were arguing that they could not save the atmosphere or environment through the animal's waste material. Their opinion was that animals were destroying the environment and produced different gasses.

4.2 Impact of Livestock in Reducing the Smell of Waste Materials

Everything has two sides good and bad and profit and lost. Like other fields, same situation is with livestock sector for the environment. In one hand, waste materials are harmful for environment but on the other hand, proper usage of these waste materials can contribute for the cleanness of atmosphere and environment. However, the research data described that 52 percent respondents answered that animals didn't play any role to reduce the smell of waste substance in our surroundings. The other (48%) declared that indirectly animals reduced the smell. Animals eats waste material of domestic and damage vegetables, fruits and food. Therefore, livestock play role in different ways to conservation of environment.

4.3 Cleaning Environment by Utilizing the Dung

Results showed that 57 percent people responded that animals dung was not contributed to the conservation of environment. They further argued that dung of animals were pollutant the water, air and produce carbon dioxide which is not useful for human health and environment. The rest of (43%) percent respondents were agreed that the animals dung were valuable, it could be used in agriculture land for soil fertility and produce greenery for them. The animals dung was used in different ways. It was used for making bio-gas and also used for the purpose of burning and secure the plant and control deforestation. So in this way, we can say that animal wastes material are useful elements the protection of environment.

4.4 Using Dung as Fertilizer for Soil Sustenance

Dung is a natural fertilizer which is used for soil fertility and increase the production of the crops. In rural areas dung is mostly used as a fertilizer as compare to chemical fertilizer. This natural fertilizer produces more production of crops and contributes in the better atmosphere as compare to chemical fertilizers. The dung and manure of animals are excellent sources or nutrients and natural substance for productions of food crops, vegetables, fruits, soils fertility, land fertility and useful for microorganisms. Mostly gardeners and farmers are encouraged to use dung as a natural fertilizer and get more production. These crops, vegetables are beneficial for cleanness of air, water, oxygen and collectively for environment. Researcher got information from the hundred samples, about livestock and agriculture and about the usage of dung as fertilizer. These primary data showed that 76 percent respondents favoured that the usage of animals dung as natural fertilizer was better for the production of crops and agriculture as compare to chemical fertilizers. While the remaining (24%) percent respondents

invalid the statement and they were saying that dung was not enough for their requirement of fertilizer that is why they were also using the other chemical fertilizer with dung. So, by using the amalgamation these two different fertilizers they produced more production and also saved the environment.

4.5 Ploughing through Drought Animals is Constructive for Environment

Draught power will remain a major source of energy in agriculture into the predictable future, and the lack of draught power in some places may be the primary constraint to growing crop production. Ploughing is an old tradition and way to make field more fertile. Before the innovations of technology people were used to do animals power for cultivation. Researcher gathers data from the hundred people through different tools. The gathered data showed that 56 percent respondents in the favor of animal's power which was used for ploughing, and more useful for the fertility of land as compare to other source of technology. The rural people used animal's power because the lands of rural areas were not smooth and mostly fields were about to 2 or 3 acre. The poor people of *Pindsultani* kept drought animals and worked by these animals. The animals were used in irrigation, cultivation in agriculture sector. So, animal were easy for ploughing in every corner of agriculture land. It was also good for the cleanness of environment. While the rest of (44%) were not agreed with the statement that animals were constructive for the environment. According to them animals did not participate anything for good atmosphere by ploughing in the field.

4.6 Comparison of Technology and Animal Ploughing regarding Soil Fertility

In the rural areas people mostly use drought animal's power like, ox, horses, elephant, camel, donkey, cow for cultivation and other games, events. Basically the poor people are using animals for such purposes because they cannot purchase the modern technologies which are used for the agricultural. Researcher conducted interviews from hundred respondents, in which 49 percent respondents said that animals were used for ploughing and increase the production of the crops. Ploughing through animals was considered better than the modern technology. Apart from land fertility and more production the traditional system of ploughing is good for environment as well. The traditional pattern of ploughing is a time consuming process that is why people give preference to the modern technology like, tractor etc. While the remaining (51%) were satisfied that the modern technology good for land fertility and don't waste the time. Technology are used for the high level of irrigation in agriculture sector and produce more product like, wheat, corn, maize, pulses, vegetables and greenery.

4.7 Impact of Milk and Meat on the Human Health

It is fact that people use the milk and yogurt according to the condition of weather. Mostly the people of *Pindsultani* use milk, *lassi*, yogurt in the summer and hot seasons. People use yogurt for good health in warm season. Meat is used in winter season which provide vitamins and protein. Milk and meat are influential food for human health in both cold and warm environment. However, researcher collected data from hundred samples from the research area whereas, 97 percent people depicted that the animals milk were meat are used as a seasonal food. These foods provide protein and vitamins for the good health of the human beings. People use the production of animal's food according to the season. Therefore, milk, *lassi* are used in summer and the meats are used in cold winter season. While the other (3%) people suggested that the some people are facing long diseases and doctors do not allow eating the high protein and vitamin. It shows that heavy proteins of animals are not good for health.

4.8 Using Animals as Means of Transport and its Impact on Environment

This is the oldest tradition that animals were used as transportation and travelling. In the rural areas people are still using animals for carrying heavy load from one place to another. Researcher took data from hundred samples through interviews. Whereas, 52 percent said that animals are used for the transportation and other daily heavy load work. They don't destroy the environment because don't burn fuel and reduce carbon dioxide which are harmful for the environment. The other (48%) people were not in the favour of that the animals play their role in conservation of environment through transportation. They argued that animals are not used in large scale for the transportation and shipping of goods from one place to another. Therefore, the rural people used animals in local level in the village. There are no role animals in the cleanness of environment.

4.9 Using Animals for Leisure and its Impact on Environment

There are numerous benefits of the animals in our society. Animals are used for enjoyment like, game, events, competition and dance festivals. For example horses dance. However, researcher collected data from hundred samples through interviews technique. Whereas, 72 percent respondents said that the animals are used for their leisure in different festivals, event, and game. In this way animals are useful for good environment in the society. Therefore, the usages of animals create peaceful enjoyment of the people of the society. Animals are also used for the outing and travelling and people feel happy and get enjoyment with them. While the remaining (28%) percent respondents were disagreed with the statement that animal's play role in the shape of enjoyment with different competition.

4.10 Waste Materials of Agriculture Sector and their Decomposition through Animals

Agriculture is a more productive and beneficial business as compare to livestock. Agriculture and livestock are depended on each other. Animals give natural fertilizer like dung and manure which fertile the soil and increase the agricultural production. On the other hand, agriculture provides grasses, wheat, sugar cane, and maize which are used for animals as a food. Researcher collected data from hundred samples whereas, 82 percent people said that agriculture and livestock depended on each other. While the other (18%) people said that animals are not used to meant and clean the environment of the society. they say that if they eat the raw material of agriculture then they also do the same thing

5. CONCLUSION:

The results demonstrate that some uneducated individuals don't acknowledge that livestock help the cleanness of environment nature. Majority of people were not agreed and they were arguing that they could not save the atmosphere or environment through the animal's waste material. Their opinion was that animals were destroying the environment and produced different gasses. Domesticated animals additionally assume part in horticulture segment and the staying of waste material like, wheat, maize, corn, sugar stick, and grasses are consuming by animal's and cleaning nature's grass. Milk and meat deliver animal's protein, vitamins and it is give a decent well-being to human body and decrease sickness by characteristic nourishment and individuals are solid work for the cleaning nature. Hence it can be concluded that people perceived that livestock contribute to conservation of environment but on other sided it also effect health. The study recommended that Government and other stakeholders should introduce interventions that how people can use livestock and their waste in preserving the environment.

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