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Studies on purchasing/selling pattern of goats and their constraints faced by goat owners of Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh

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Abstract

The status of goat farming have been analysed by performing a questionnaire survey in each of the seven blocks (Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora) of Jabalpur district of Madhya Pradesh. An overall 61.43% of the respondents sold goats in last one year in Jabalpur district. The purposes of selling goats of the respondents were for cash income (37.74%), for credit-debit (20.11%), due to shortage of fodder or grazing land (15.43%), for purchase of fertilizer/ seeds etc. (10.47%) and school fees of childrens (16.25%) in Jabalpur district. The respondents sold their goats at self-village, adjoining villages, nearby market and to middle man were 14.88%, 9.64%, 1.93% and 73.55%, respectively in Jabalpur district. Overall 21.21% of the respondents purchased goats in LOY (last one year). An overall 42.42% of the respondents faced constraints/problems in selling their goats and the constraints were limitation of transport (19.48%), limited awareness of market and price (25.32%), seasonal market demand and price (39.61%) and unwanted middleman's and their credit (15.58%) in Jabalpur district. overall 92.21% of the respondents sold their adult male goats because they fetch better price and male goats are always in demand in market as the meat consumers prefer male goat's meat as compared to meat of female goats.

Keywords: goats respondents Jabalpur district Kundam Majholi Panagar Patan Shahpura Sihora

Introduction

Livestock in India is mainly reared by the marginal and small farmers. Marginal and small households together comprised more than 60% of total rural households and possess 74% of country's cattle, 71% of buffaloes, 78% small ruminants, 89% pigs and 81% of poultry birds. However, their share to total land was only 44% (Birthal *et al.*, 2013) [7]. Small holder farmers tend to keep animals for family needs, rather than purely as an economic enterprise. In this system, livestock provide agricultural inputs, such as manure, and render the enterprise more secure by using residual capacities of production factors with low opportunity cost such as non-arable land, excess labour, by converting crops and crop residues into high value animal products and by balancing production and market risks (Jahnke, 1982) [16].

Farming surveys are useful in describing the characteristics of a large population and are relatively inexpensive way to draw an outcome of their response. No other research method can provide this broad capability, which ensures a more accurate sample to gather targeted results to draw conclusions and make a hypothesis. Questionnaire personal interview of the respondents is the most commonly used method in survey based studies (Kabir, 2016) [17]. Various studies conducted in Jabalpur district to analyse the status of goat farming did not covered the whole district and comprised only the data of few villages and on limited parameters. (Kirar *et al.*, 2012, Lakhera and Kirar, 2012, Kirar and Mondal, 2014, Bilwar, 2015, Bilwar *et al.*, 2016, Baghel *et al.*, 2017, Singh, 2017, Singh *et al.*, 2017 and Singh *et al.*, 2018) [19, 20, 23, 4, 5, 2, 17, 28] Hence, present work is a detailed study to cover each block of Jabalpur district for assessing goat farming status in Mahakoshal region of Madhya Pradesh in Jabalpur district. The duration of the survey work was January 2019 to January 2020. The study was confined to Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks.

Materials and Methods

The survey was conducted in Jabalpur district comprising 7 blocks, as per survey proforma developed by Bilwar (2016) [5] with minor modifications as desired in the study. For the study, 5 villages were selected from each of the seven blocks of Jabalpur district, so as to cover the

whole district, thus total number of village will be 36 as one extra number of village was taken from Jabalpur block because of its higher population base in comparison to other blocks. A total of 10 farmers was be selected randomly from each of those 36 villages. The number of respondents selected from Ujjarod village of Patan block was 13. Hence, the total number of respondents covered in the study was 363.

Result and Discussion

Selling pattern of goats (%) of respondents in different blocks of Jabalpur district

The data present in table no. 1 represents the proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats in last one year were 75.00, 70.00, 56.00, 70.00, 67.92, 46.00 and 42.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats in last one year were 61.43 in Jabalpur district. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold their goats as purpose for income were 21.67, 44.00, 38.00, 32.00, 30.19, 48.00 and 54.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats as purpose for credit-debit were 20.00, 18.00, 22.00, 18.00, 20.75, 16.00 and 26.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan,

Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats as purpose for shortage of fodder or grazing land were 21.67, 6.00, 12.00, 20.00, 26.42, 12.00 and 8.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats as purpose for fertilizer/ seeds etc. were 15.00, 14.00, 16.00, 4.00, 13.21, 8.00 and 2.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats as purpose for School fees of childrens were 21.67, 18.00, 12.00, 26.00, 9.43, 16.00 and 10.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats as purpose for Income, for credit-debit, due to shortage of fodder or grazing land, for fertilizer/ seeds etc., and for School fees of childrens were 20.11, 15.43, 10.47 and 16.25, respectively in Jabalpur district. The proportion of respondents (%) goats' average age (months) of selling were 27.60, 32.64, 30.72, 26.64, 26.26, 27.12 and 25.44 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondent's goat's average age (months) of selling (%) were 28.03 in Jabalpur district.

Table 1: Selling pattern of goats of respondents (%) in different blocks of Jabalpur district

S. No	Parameters	Jabalpur (n=60)	Kundam (n=50)	Majholi (n=50)	Panagar (n=50)	Patan (n=53)	Shahpura (n=50)	Sihora (n=50)	Total (n=363)
1.	At least one goat sold in LOY	75.00	70.00	56.00	70.00	67.92	46.00	42.00	61.43
2.	Purpose of Selling goat	Jabalpur (n=60)	Kundam (n=50)	Majholi (n=50)	Panagar (n=50)	Patan (n=53)	Shahpura (n=50)	Sihora (n=50)	Total (n=363)
		Income	21.67	44.00	38.00	32.00	30.19	48.00	37.74
		For credit-debit	20.00	18.00	22.00	18.00	20.75	16.00	20.11
		Due to shortage of fodder or grazing land	21.67	6.00	12.00	20.00	26.42	12.00	15.43
		For purchase of fertilizer/ seeds etc.	15.00	14.00	16.00	4.00	13.21	8.00	10.47
		School fees of childrens	21.67	18.00	12.00	26.00	9.43	16.00	16.25
3.	Average age of goat for selling (months)	27.60	32.64	30.72	26.64	26.26	27.12	25.44	28.03

Table no. 1 depicts that a total of 61.43% of respondents of Jabalpur district sold goats in last one year, the minimum (42.00%) and maximum (75.00%) of them was sold by respondents of sihora and Jabalpur blocks, respectively. Among the purposes of selling goats highest goats were sold for purpose of cash income (37.74%) and least for fertilizer/ seeds etc. in Jabalpur district. The overall average age of selling goats was 28.03 months (2.36 yrs.) of the respondents of Jabalpur district. Related findings were given by Deoghare and Kumar (2003) ^[10] indicated that 30.81% goat farmers preferred to sell goats right in the village, 27.77% in village as well as weekly market, 39.90% in weekly market and 2.02% in district market. Gurjar *et al.* (2008) ^[13] Most of goat rearers preferred to sale their animals in their own village round the year on the basis of physical appearance and owners for their home consumption used maximum goat milk. Nyaupane *et al.* (2016) ^[25] two most commonly cited marketing channels in US, are direct sales to consumers and live auctions. Only a relatively small portion of the population uses other marketing channels. Dovie *et al.* (2006) ^[11] elaborated livelihood of peoples in communal areas of South Africa and found that animals were sold and/or slaughtered for payment of school fees, purchasing of household items, capital for trading and housing projects. Kosgey *et al.* (2008) ^[21] surveyed the central and western parts of Kenya and observed that the income from goats was spent on school fees (32%), purchase of food

(22%), farm investment (18%), medical expenses (10%), off-farm investment (9%), social activities (5%) and re-stocking (4%). Biradar and Sridhar (2009) assessed the consequences of 2002-03 drought in Karnataka, 17.34% households sold their livestock and the average herd size reduced from 4.15 ACU to 3.85 ACU. While majority (70.84 %) purchased fodder to mitigate drought effect. Khatun *et al.* (2012) ^[18] observed that about 84% of farmers of all categories sold their goats for cash income to meet immediate family needs such as wedding, festivals and medical treatment and only 15% farmers for rearing problem. Sabapara (2016) ^[26] surveyed and found that most of the goat rearers sold their goats at their village round the year on the basis of physical appearance to the middlemen's.

Practices of selling of goats followed by the respondents (%) in different blocks of Jabalpur district

The data present in table no. 2 represents the proportion of respondents who sold goats in their own villages (%) were 13.33, 10.00, 18.00, 12.00, 13.21, 20.00 and 18.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats in their adjoining villages were 5.00, 8.00, 4.00, 4.00, 15.09, 18.00 and 14.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold

goats in their nearby markets were 1.67, 6.00, 0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 2.00 and 4.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats to middle men's were 80.00, 76.00, 78.00, 84.00, 71.70, 60.00 and

64.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondents (%) who sold goats in own village, adjoining villages, nearby market and to middle men's were 14.88, 9.64, 1.93 and 73.55, respectively in Jabalpur district.

Table 2: Practices of selling of goats followed by the respondents (%) in different blocks of Jabalpur district

S. No	Place of selling goats	Jabalpur (n=60)	Kundam (n=50)	Majholi (n=50)	Panagar (n=50)	Patan (n=53)	Shahpura (n=50)	Sihora (n=50)	Total (n=363)
1.	Self-village	13.33	10.00	18.00	12.00	13.21	20.00	18.00	14.88
2.	Adjoining villages	5.00	8.00	4.00	4.00	15.09	18.00	14.00	9.64
3.	Nearby market	1.67	6.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	2.00	4.00	1.93
4.	Middle man	80.00	76.00	78.00	84.00	71.70	60.00	64.00	73.55

Obtaining a better price in the market by selling goats is the ultimate desire of the goat rearers. But apart from this they hardly sometime gets the remunerative price for their goats. Table no. 2 depicts that majority 73.55% of the respondents sold their goats to middle man, followed by 14.88% in self-village, 9.64% in adjoining villages and 1.93% in nearby market. The maximum numbers of goats were sold to the middle man might be because of lack of proper goat marketing system, inadequate transport facilities for animal etc. Time, extra monetary burden, and distress to both respondent and goat in travelling to different places to fetch better price and combining all, their opinion about past experiences and obtained advice from a reliable known source were the reasons. Related findings were given by Lavania and Singh (2008)^[24] found that majority of the goat farmers in the village sold their goats to middlemen. Kirar *et al.* (2012)^[20] analysed goat marketing system in rural areas of Jabalpur and elaborated that farmers mainly sold their goat to consumers, traders and to a lesser extent to other farmers. Goat were primarily sold in the nearby market where the local traders were the principal actors in the marketing process.

Practices for purchasing of goats followed by respondents in last one year in different blocks of Jabalpur district

The data present in table no. 3 represents the proportion of

respondents (%) who purchased goats in last one year were 10.00, 16.00, 28.00, 18.00, 22.64, 24.00 and 32.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondents (%) who purchased goats in last one year were 20.21 in Jabalpur district. The proportion of respondents (%) who purchased goats from their own village farmer were 33.33, 0.00, 21.43, 33.33, 0.00, 50.00 and 56.25 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who purchased goats from their adjoining villages were 33.33, 62.50, 35.71, 33.33, 50.00, 25.00 and 6.25 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who purchased goats from nearby markets were 33.33, 37.50, 42.86, 33.33, 33.33, 16.67 and 18.75 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who purchased goats from Middle men's were 0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 16.67, 8.33 and 18.75 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents (%) who purchased goats from their own village farmer, adjoining villages, nearby market and Middle men's were 29.87, 32.47, 29.87 and 7.79, respectively in Jabalpur district.

Table 3: Practices for purchasing of goats followed by respondents in last one year in different blocks of Jabalpur district

S. No	Parameters		Jabalpur (n=60)	Kundam (n=50)	Majholi (n=50)	Panagar (n=50)	Patan (n=53)	Shahpura (n=50)	Sihora (n=50)	Total (n=363)
1.	Purchased goats in LOY		10.00	16.00	28.00	18.00	22.64	24.00	32.00	21.21
2.	Purchase options		Jabalpur (n=6)	Kundam (n=8)	Majholi (n=14)	Panagar (n=9)	Patan (n=12)	Shahpura (n=12)	Sihora (n=16)	Total (n=77)
		Self-village	33.33	0.00	21.43	33.33	0.00	50.00	56.25	29.87
		Adjoining villages	33.33	62.50	35.71	33.33	50.00	25.00	6.25	32.47
		Nearby market	33.33	37.50	42.86	33.33	33.33	16.67	18.75	29.87
		Middle man	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	16.67	8.33	18.75	7.79

Selling and purchase of a commodity are related terms, when someone sells something in need and someone who require it purchases. But in terms of business the producer sells the commodity in conditioned requirement, these requirements may differ from person to person and region to region. In

terms of the trade, the purchaser will buy only when he finds some futuristic profit, so are the things related in goat marketing too. Table no. 3 depicts that 21.21% of the respondents of Jabalpur district purchased goats in last one year.

Table 3a: Relationship between flock size and purchase criteria of the respondents (%) of Jabalpur district

Categories	Flock size		
	Small	Medium	Large
Purchased goats in LOY	50.00	22.11	15.49

Table no. 3a reveals the relationship between flock size of the goats of respondents and whether the respondents purchased

(%) goats in last one year. The respondents who had small flock size and purchased goats in last one year were 50%,

followed by medium flock sized respondents 22.11% and large flock sized respondents 15.49% in Jabalpur district. This data reveals that as there is increment in the flock size of the goats of the respondents there is steeping decline in the purchase of additional goats for their flock by the respondents. Related findings were given by Kumar (2007)^[22] reviewed that major initial investment was found on the purchase of breeding stock and construction of sheds and structures, which accounted for 47% and 48% of the total capital investment, respectively in India. In the traditional flocks, 75-80% of the total investment was made in acquiring the breeding stock. The total investment per breeding goat in categories I, II and III was estimated to be Rs. 5083, Rs. 3419 and Rs. 6015, respectively. Rahman *et al.* (2012) found that 13.3% farmers purchased goat around the year and 86.7% purchase goat occasionally for goat production. Byaruhanga *et al.* (2015)^[8] conducted survey in rural Uganda and found that goat owners acquired indigenous goats mainly by purchase from livestock markets and from other farmers. Barman *et al.* (2017)^[3] assessed the socio-economic conditions of the farmers related to goat fattening in Rangpur district of Bangladesh and found that 83% of the farmers purchased goat occasionally and 17% farmers purchased goat around the year.

Selling and buying criteria and their problems (%) faced by the respondents in different blocks of Jabalpur district

The data present in table no. 4 represents the proportion of respondents who sold goats on live weight basis (%) were 0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 0.00, 3.77, 4.00 and 4.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents who sold goats on external appearance basis (%) were 85.00, 78.00, 76.00, 82.00, 77.36, 80.00 and 94.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents who sold goats

both on live weight and external appearance (%) were 15.00, 22.00, 24.00, 18.00, 18.87, 16.00 and 2.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondents who sold goats on live weight basis, external appearance and both live weight and external appearance (%) were 1.65, 81.82 and 16.53, respectively in Jabalpur district. The proportion of respondents who faced problems in buying or selling of goats (%) were 50.00, 46.00, 52.00, 46.00, 37.74, 26.00 and 38.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondents who faced problems in buying or selling of goats (%) were 42.42 in Jabalpur district. The proportion of respondents who faced problems of limitation of transport, in buying or selling of goats (%) were 13.33, 13.04, 19.23, 21.74, 20.00, 0.00 and 47.37 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents who faced problems of limited awareness of market and price, in buying or selling of goats (%) were 30.00, 30.43, 34.62, 30.43, 25.00, 15.38 and 0.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents who faced problems of seasonal market demand and price, in buying or selling of goats (%) were 33.33, 30.43, 23.08, 34.78, 50.00, 76.92 and 52.63 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The proportion of respondents who faced problems of Unwanted middleman's and their credit, in buying or selling of goats (%) were 23.33, 26.09, 23.08, 13.04, 5.00, 7.69 and 0.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. The overall proportion of respondents who faced problems of limitation of transport, limited awareness of market and price, seasonal market demand and price and unwanted middleman's and their credit (%) were 19.48, 25.32, 39.61 and 15.58, respectively in Jabalpur district.

Table 4: Selling and buying criteria and their problems (%) faced by the respondents in different blocks of Jabalpur district

S. No	Parameters	Jabalpur (n=60)	Kundam (n=50)	Majholi (n=50)	Panagar (n=50)	Patan (n=53)	Shahpura (n=50)	Sihora (n=50)	Total (n=363)
1.	Criteria of selling goats	On live weight basis	0.00	0.00	0.00	3.77	4.00	4.00	1.65
		External appearance	85.00	78.00	76.00	82.00	77.36	80.00	81.82
		Both live weight and external appearance	15.00	22.00	24.00	18.00	18.87	16.00	16.53
2	Face problems in buying or selling of goats	50.00	46.00	52.00	46.00	37.74	26.00	38.00	42.42
3	Types of problem faced in buying or selling goats	Limitation of transport	13.33	13.04	19.23	21.74	20.00	0.00	19.48
		Limited awareness of market and price	30.00	30.43	34.62	30.43	25.00	15.38	25.32
		Seasonal market demand and price	33.33	30.43	23.08	34.78	50.00	76.92	39.61
		Unwanted middleman's and their credit	23.33	26.09	23.08	13.04	5.00	7.69	15.58

It is evident from table no. 4 that majority (81.82%) of the respondents sold their goats on external appearance basis, followed by 16.53% on both external appearance and live weight basis, and remaining 1.65% on only live weight basis. It is already mentioned in table no. 2 that majority (73.55%) of the respondents sold their goats to middle man. These middle man arrives frequently and on call at the respondents residence and they mostly buy goats on the basis of physical appearance as there is no facility at the respondent's home to weigh their goats. The goat rearers who faces problems in buying and selling of goats were 42.42% of the respondents of Jabalpur district. Among the constraints or types of problems faced by respondents in buying/selling their goats were seasonal market demand and price (39.61%), limited awareness of market and price (25.32%), limitation of

transport (19.48%) and unwanted middlemen and their credit (15.58%). The greed of respondents to fetch more and remunerative price for their goats is the nevertheless satisfying ultimate aim. After these also only 15.58% of the respondent's blames middleman because they also provide prior small loan as credit for future purchase and they arrives on call by the respondent. Seasonality of market demand and price in India is mainly because of religious beliefs of the majority of the population is of Hindu community (approximately 80%) and Hindus have restrictions on meat consumption during festivals, particular days of week (tuesdays, thursdays and saturdays), rainy season (*saavan*) and marriage rituals also, specially in northern and central India (Fisher, 2019). Related findings given by other researchers, are as follows:

Deoghare (2001) ^[9] examine the system of selling goats and price spread in Etah district of Uttar Pradesh and found that goat farmers transported most of their goats for sale in market where goats were sold through commission agents and primary producers (goat farmers) were getting 72.90% share for their produce whereas petty traders, high traders and wholesale meat dealers received 10.20%, 7.50% and 9.40% share, respectively. Sharma *et al* (2007) ^[27] conducted field survey in parts of Rajasthan and analysed that most of goat rearers preferred to sell their animals in village market and nearby city on the occasion of festivals on body weight basis. Homann (2007) ^[15] investigated market-related constraints in Zimbabwe and were: difficulties to contact buyers, lack of price and grade information, high transport cost and tedious legal procedures and low market prices for goats across all districts. Hassan *et al.* (2010) ^[14] analysed goat marketing constraints and found that including insufficient water supplies, poor market structures and fluctuating prices, in addition to the fact that markets are seasonal. Continuous movement of pastoralists from one place to another affected livestock condition, livestock marketing and animals' products since they don't have daily permanent markets. Transportation facilities constitute the most serious limitation when selling animals and animal products. Tanwar and

Rohilla (2012) ^[31] surveyed goat rearers of Jaipur district of Rajasthan and found that physical appearance of the animals was considered as the main criteria for selling (48.33%) of animals. Fisher (2019) analysed vegetarianism and non-vegetarianism in India and found that it's also common to be a vegetarian on Tuesdays, Thursdays or Saturdays as well as occasions like the Hindu festivals of *Saavan*, *Navaratri* and *Rama Navami*.

Class of goats usually sold by the respondents (%) to meet urgent family requirement in different blocks of Jabalpur district

The data present in table no. 5 represents the proportion of respondents who usually sold adult male goats in urgent requirement of money (%) were 98.33, 58.00, 98.00, 100.00, 98.11, 92.00 and 100 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. the proportion of respondents who sold other category of goats in urgent requirement of money (%) were 1.67, 42.00, 2.00, 0.00, 1.89, 8.00 and 0.00 in Jabalpur, Kundam, Majholi, Panagar, Patan, Shahpura and Sihora blocks, respectively. the proportion of respondents who sold adult male goats and other category of goats in urgent requirement of money (%) were 92.29 and 7.71, respectively in Jabalpur district.

Table 5: Class of goats usually sold by the respondents (%) to meet urgent family requirement in different blocks of Jabalpur district

S. No	Class of goats to be sold in urgent requirement of money	Jabalpur (n=60)	Kundam (n=50)	Majholi (n=50)	Panagar (n=50)	Patan (n=53)	Shahpura (n=50)	Sihora (n=50)	Total (n=363)
1.	Adult male	98.33	58.00	98.00	100.00	98.11	92.00	100	92.29
2.	Other category of goats	1.67	42.00	2.00	0.00	1.89	8.00	0.00	7.71

Table no. 5 states that respondents mostly sold of their adult male goats 92.21% because they fetch better price and male goats are always in demand in market because the meat consumers prefer male goat's meat as compared to meat of female goats. Adult male goats are also preferred for sacrifices during rituals and festivals. Related findings were given by Ahmadu and Lovelace (2002) ^[1] surveyed in Zambia and analysed seasonal selling pattern of the animals and suggested that most of the farmers preferred selling the heaviest animals in the flock. About 35% of the animals sold during this survey were rearing males. This was followed closely by the rearing females (24%), breedable females (16%) and breedable Males (14%). Similarly, the adult mature animals comprised about 84% of the goats slaughtered for home consumption by the farmers with rearing males being the most affected class (39%), followed by rearing females (25%) and castrated males (19%). Kumar (2007) ^[22] found that adult male goats were preferred by Muslim communities for sacrifice at Eid and fetched much higher price compared to the kids sold for meat purpose.

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