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**Jerul Halpati**  
 Research Scholar  
 (Ph.D. Student at IABMI,  
 AAU, Anand, Gujarat, India

**Dr. Dilip Rasiklal Vahoniya**  
 (IABMI) International  
 Agribusiness Management  
 Institution, AAU, Gujarat, India

## Scope of commercial goat farming in India

**Jerul Halpati and Dr. Dilip Rasiklal Vahoniya**

### Abstract

**Background:** Goat production is a basic element of the farming system and a significant source of rural livelihood for poor villagers. Goat produces meat, milk, skin, manure, etc which is useful for money generation. Commercial Goat Farming is defined as goat rearing under intensive and semi-intensive systems for commercial production. Commercial goat farming has emerged as important drivers of agricultural growth in India. Commercial goat farming has a huge opportunity in rural development as goat has the potential for export of products, capital storage, household income and employment.

**Method:** There were a total of eight literatures available that studied commercial goat farming in India. Those eight literatures were collect form book, thesis reports, and research papers. The literature covered different areas of commercial goat farming of different state of India, so the literature were divided on the basis of five different areas like entrepreneurial behavior index of commercial goat farming, criteria of price fixation, economics analysis, marketing channel, and constraints. Also, collect the information on the different schemes provided by the different state governments for promoting commercial goat farming in their respective state through their respective website.

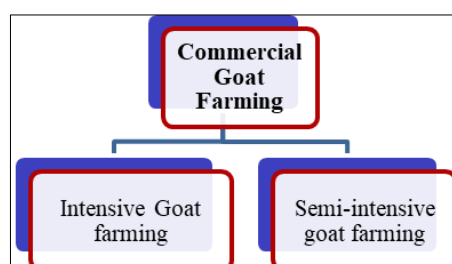
**Finding:** It was observed that there were 34 goat breeds were registered according to a different zone of India. It was found that commercial goat farmers adopt scientific management practices like housing practices, vaccination schedules, and feeding practices to improve the farm's economy. It was also observed that commercial goat farmers were also involved in multiple occupations. Farmers fix the price of goats on the basis of weight, kids' age, body conformation, and breed. It was observed that a commercial goat farm is profitable as compared to a traditional goat farm. There were five types of marketing channels mainly used for meat and rearing purposes. Most of the farmers prefer channel I, farmers to farmers for the marketing of goats due to no transportation cost and high market efficiency. It was observed that major constraints faced by commercial goat farmers were lack of veterinary services, lack of unorganized goat market, and non-availability of breeding bucks. There are a few schemes provided by the different state governments to promote and support commercial goat farming in India.

**Keywords:** Goat, commercial goat farming, intensive goat farming, semi-intensive goat farming, benefit-cost ratio

### Introduction

Goat production is the main component of the farming system and an important source of income for poor villagers. Goat produces milk, meat, fiber, skin etc. Goats are raised for meat production, but they also produce milk to meet the family requirement.

Commercial goat farming is defined as goat rearing under intensive and semi-intensive systems for commercial production. Commercial goat farming has emerged as important drivers of agricultural growth in India (Prasad, 2018) [7]. Commercial goat farming has a huge opportunity in rural development as goat has the potential for export of products, capital storage, household income and employment. The goat rearing using improved management practices undertaken for maximization of returns from the enterprise was considered 'commercial goat farming' (Singh *et al.*, 2018) [9].



**Fig 1:** Types of commercial goat farming

**Corresponding Author**  
**Jerul Halpati**  
 Research Scholar  
 (Ph.D. Student at IABMI,  
 AAU, Anand, Gujarat, India

Semi intensive system is a combination of extensive and intensive systems in which limited free-range grazing is allowed with stall feeding. Goats are allowed to graze on the common property resources or cultivable/fallow land for 4-6 hours/day and are kept in stalls where they are offered tree leaves, dry fodder, and concentrate mixture (Prasad, 2018) [7]. Intensive system goats are continuously kept under housing in confinement with limited access to land (zero-grazing system) and provided with complete stall feeding on cultivated fodders, crop residues, and concentrates or compounded feeds. (Prasad, 2018) [7]

**Global Scenario of Goat Farming**

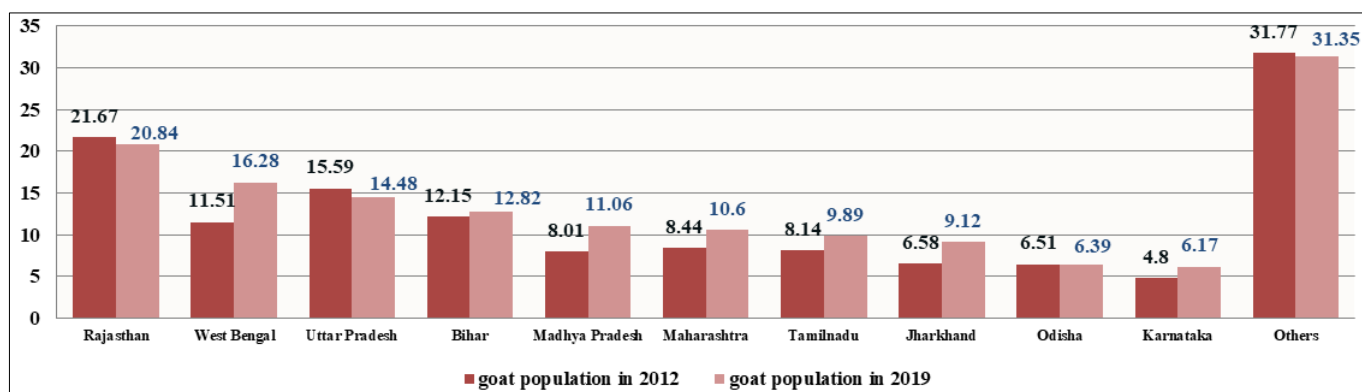
Asia and Africa have major goat populations in the world. Africa contributed 53% of the total population in the world. In Asia India, China, Pakistan, and Bangladesh have the most shares in the population (Department Animal Husbandry Statistics- 2020-21).

**Table 1: Region wise Goat Population**

Region	Population 2019 (Million No's)	Contribution (%)
Africa	458.81	53
Asia	575.53	42
America	39.24	4
Europe	16.13	0.5
Oceania	4.32	0.5
World	1094.06	100

**Indian Scenario of Goat Farming**

The goat population increased by about 10% as compared to the previous census. India secured 1st rank in goat milk products and 2nd rank in sheep and goat meat In 2020-21, 7050.55 MT of goat and sheep meat was exported by India. Rajasthan has the highest goat population in India followed by West Bengal, Uttar Pradesh, Bihar and Madhya Pradesh(20<sup>th</sup> livestock census). West Bengal, Maharashtra, Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan are major states of goat and sheep meat production. Thirty four goat breeds are registered according to a different zone of India.



**Fig 2: State wise goat population in India 2012 & 2019 (In Millions)**

**Table 2: Different 34 Registered Breeds of India**

Temperate Region			
Breed	Body size	Adult weight	Conformation
Gaddi	Medium	M 27.45 ±0.41 F 24.72±0.51	Coat colour is white but black and brown combination is also seen. Ears medium and drooping, nose convex, under small and round long white hairs
Changthangi	Small	M 20.37±0.24 F 19.75±0.15	Predominantly white but also seen in grey, brown or black. Horns are large. also Producing “pashmina” as undercoat
Bhakarwali	Large	M 60±0.56 F 50±0.41	Body is covered with white long hair, goats having a convex head. Ears are cut and pendulous. Horns are screw and also carried upwards and backward
Chengu	Small	M 20.337±0.24 F 19.75±0.15	Coat is usually white mixed with greyish red producing pashmina as under coat
Northwest Region			
Jamnapari	Large	M 44.66±1.89 F 38.03±0.52	Predominantly white with brown patches on neck and face, long and pendulous ears, roman nose, tuft of hairs on buttocks, large and developed udder
Beetal	Large	M 59.07 ±2.82 F 34.97 ± 0.52	Coat colour is brown or black with white patches in animals. Face is convex, ears are long and flat
Pantja	Small	M 18.84 ± 1.50 F 16.25 ± 0.35 (12 Month)	Colour is light brown and white mix in females and males are mix white, black straight and horns are backwards and small size
Rohilkhandi	Small	M 36 ±1.31 F 31 ± 0.27	Coat colour is black with patches or star on the neck and face of some animals. The majority of animals are horned, Beard and wattles are absent in both sexes. Forehead is slightly convex, Tuft of hair is present in thigh region, Tail is bunchy
Southern Region			
Osmanabadi	Medium	M 33.66 ± 0.55 F 32.36 ± 0.55	Coat colour black, white or spotted, ears are medium long, udder is small, round with short teats
Malabari	Medium	M 38.96 ± 2.32 F 31.12 ± 0.90	Coat colour varies from white to black, horns are small twisted ears are medium sized, udder is small and round
Sangamneri	Medium	M 38.37 ± 2.44 F 28.97 ±0.49	Body colour white, black or brown with spots. Medium and drooping ears, udder small
Kodi Adu	Large	M 39 ± 0.75	Tall, long, lean and leggy with compact body, black in colour with white spots on the body

		F 32 ± 0.35	
Salem Black	Large	M 48.64 ± 0.64 F 31.76 ± 0.26	Body Coat is predominantly black, Neck is in males thick, and broad. Ears are medium, semi-pendulous having leaf-like appearance, horns are medium in size, curved upwards and backward
Attapady	Medium	M 34.5 ± 1.08 F 31.3 ± 0.35	Coat is black, the head is Convex, eyes colors are Bronze, ear length are medium, Horns are Curved or Straight laterally backward and upwards, beard Absent, Bunchy type and curved tail, Long strong legs
Bidri	Large	M 52.3 ± 1.28 F 45.1 ± 0.20	The coat color is white. The muzzle, eyelids, and hooves are white. Ears are leafy and pendulous.
Nandidurga	Large	M 56.2 ± 1.13 F 41.7 ± 0.41	Coat color is white. Muzzle, eyelids and hooves are white. Ears are leafy and pendulous. Horns are directed backward, downward and inward touching the neck of a few animals.
<b>Eastern Regions</b>			
Black Bengal	Small	M 32.37 ± 2.74 F 18.31 ± 1.67	Coat colour is black, brown or grey, horns are short, udder is very small
Ganjam	Medium	M 44.05 ± 0.13 F 31.87 ± 0.37	Coat is black, white or brown or spotted, tall, laggy, ears are medium, horns are straight long, udder is poorly developed
Assam Hill	Small	M 25.45 ± 2.12 F 18.31 ± 1.67	Coat is colour vary from black to brown and spotted ears small and flat, legs are short
Sumi-Ne	Small	M 16.18 ± 1.25 F 13.5 ± 0.5	Coat colour is white with black patches on head, head is straight, ears are horizontal, horns are pointed, small-sized and curved backward
Teressa	Large	M 65 ± 1.25 F 55 ± 0.50	Coat color is Brownish or tan with white or black patches.
<b>Western Region</b>			
Sirohi	Large	M 50.37 ± 2.52 F 22.54 ± 0.17	Coat colour is predominantly brown with light or dark patches, ears are flat, udder is medium sized and round
Barbari	Small	M 28.80 ± 1.96 F 20.56 ± 0.17	Coat colour is white with brown patches, ears are short, eyes are shining, udder is small teats
Kutchi	Medium	M 43.50 ± 1.16 F 39.29 ± 0.38	Coat is predominantly black, few with brown or white spots, hairs is long, ears are long and drooping, udder is well developed
Marwari	Medium	M 33.18 ± 1.77 F 25.85 ± 0.29	Coat colour is predominantly black, hairs is long, some animals with white or brown patches, udder is round and small
Mehasani	Medium	M 37.14 ± 1.51 F 32.29 ± 0.38	Coat is black, hairs is long, ears are long and drooping, horns are long twisted, large udder with conical Teats
Zalawadi	Medium	M 38.84 ± 1.46 F 32.99 ± 0.32	Coat is black, hairs is long, ears are long and drooping, horns are long twisted, large udder with conical Teats
Surti	Medium	M 29.50 ± 0.50 F 25 ± 0.55	Coat colour is White, ears are medium size, horns are small, udder is very well developed
Kahmi	Large	M 56 ± 0.55 F 48 ± 0.38	Coat color is unique; neck and face are reddish brown while rear abdominal part is black. Ears are long, tubular & coiled, head is convex. Horns are directed upwards and backwards
Jakharana	Large	M 57.80 ± 3.50 F 44.48 ± 0.52	Coat is predominantly black with white spots on ears, the forehead is narrow, the udder is large with conical teats.
Gohilwadi	Medium	M 37.10 ± 1.42 F 36.03 ± 0.38	Black and covered with coarse long hairs, Nose is slightly convex, Tubular and drooping, Both sexes have slightly twisted horns, turned backward
Konkan Kanyal	Medium	M 35.10 ± 1.75 F 29.64 ± 0.45	Coat are mainly black with a white marking in a specific pattern, the ventral surface of the body is white and the legs have white 'stockings'.
Berari	Medium	M 34.5 ± 1.50 F 27.3 ± 0.60	Goats have light to dark strips on lateral sides from horn base to nostrils of face

Source: ICAR-Central Institute for Research on Goat, Makhdoom

## Objective

The main objective of the paper is to study the scope of commercial goat farming in India.

## Methodology

The paper is based on a literature survey relating to commercial goat farming. The paper is divided into five sections.

Since the paper is based on the outcomes of the research done by earlier researchers, there may be a gap in the survey of the literature. Besides, the survey relies only on published sources. Review of Literature

## Entrepreneurial Behavior Index of Commercial Goat Farming

Gunaseelan (2018) [2] revealed that the highest Entrepreneurial behavior Index was found in achievement motivation (85.60%) it indicates an urge for economic independence and desire to success competing with

challenging situation, followed by co-ordinating ability (80.60%) it indicates that majority of commercial goat farmers involved in multiple occupations, Innovativeness (78.80%) it show that majority of commercial farmers had willing to adopt new ideas or techniques as compare to the other member of social system, Risk orientation (76.00%) it indicated that goat farmer prefers to take moderate risks in dealing with a challenging situation, Decision making ability (74.81%), Information seeking behaviour (73.23%) it indicated that commercial goat farmers require latest information on management practices and other farming activities, self-confidence (69.33%) it indicated that taking independent decision, generating profit from goat farm. Planning ability (65.60%) indicates that good planning ability, Cosmopolitaness (60.75%). The lowest EBI was observed in the case of cosmopolites.

### Adoption of Goat Husbandry Practices by Commercial Goat Farmers

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> found that majority of commercial goat farmers adopted housing practices (74.41%) it found that different types of feeding and watering system for goats used by farmers based on the type of goat shed, slatted floor housing, feeding (67.42%) found that commercial goat farmers used readymade and homemade concentrate feed. Disease control (66%) it was found that farmers adopted vaccinations schedule and deworming.

### Criteria of price fixation

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> study found that the majority of commercial goat farmers fix prices based on live weight (58.33%), followed by age of kids (16.67%), body conformation (13.33%), and according to breed (11.67%). The priority for farmer's buyers was age, breed, and body conformation since they had been purchased for breeding or rearing purposes, while traders'/butchers prime criteria were live weight and age since they had been purchased for meat purposes.

### Economics analysis

Kumar (2007) <sup>[4]</sup> found that the gross returns were Rs.20,35,400 in large farmers, followed by Rs.4,32,508 in medium farmers and Rs.1,35,904 in small farmers. The net return per goat was Rs.652 in medium farmers, followed by Rs.494 in large farmers and Rs. 371 in small farmers. The Benefit-Cost Ratio was higher in small farmers (1.58) followed by medium farmers (1.42), and large farmers (1.14). Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> study reveals that the Benefit-Cost Ratio is higher in larger farmers (>100 Goats) (2.09) followed by medium farmers (51-100Goats)(1.90) and small farmers (< 50 Goats) (1.73).

Shivakumara and Siddaraju (2019) <sup>[8]</sup> study reveal that the gross returns were Rs. 559796, Rs. 226448, Rs. 129860 in intensive method, semi-intensive method, Extensive method respectively. Net income was Rs. 2,93,007, Rs.1,08,710, Rs. 58416 in Intensive method, semi-intensive method, Extensive method respectively. Net return over variable cost/ animal were Rs. 4542, Rs 2365, Rs. 1659 in intensive method, semi-intensive method, extensive method respectively. The Benefit-Cost Ratio was 2.09, 1.92, 1.82 in the intensive method, semi-intensive method, and extensive method respectively.

Karote (2020) <sup>[3]</sup> found that the gross returns were Rs. 16,87,161 and Rs. 91,392 in an intensive and extensive method. The total cost was Rs. 5,67,245 in intensive and Rs. 53,268 in extensive method. Net profit was Rs 11,19,916 in intensive and Rs. 38,124 in an extensive method. The Benefit-Cost Ratio was 2.97 in intensive and 1.72 in extensive method higher in small farmers (1.58) followed by medium farmers (1.42), large farmers (1.14).

### Marketing channel

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> study reveals 5 types of different channels, the first one is farmers → farmers whose purpose was breeding/rearing, 2<sup>nd</sup> channel was farmers → Butcher → Consumers and whose purpose was Meat, 3<sup>rd</sup> channel was farmers → Local → Consumers and Whose purpose was meat for festival/ religious celebration, 4<sup>th</sup> channel was farmers → Local traders → Butcher → Consumers and its purpose was Meat/ Breeding, 5<sup>th</sup> channel was farmers → Distant traders → Butcher → Consumers and its purpose was Meat/breeding.

The majority of commercial goat farmers preferred channel I (40.00%) for the marketing of goats due to no transport cost and high market efficiency. followed by channel II (26.67%) and channel III (12.50%) and channel IV and channel V were preferred by few farmers due to less market efficiency and involved higher marketing cost

### Constraints

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> found socio-economics constraints faced by commercial goat farmers, It reveals that the high cost involved in establishing slatted floor housing was the major face constraint with (Rank I), followed by Higher capital investment (Rank II), higher feed (Rank III), Unorganized goat entrepreneurs (Rank IV), high cost of medicine and treatment (Rank V), lack of credit and insurance facilities (Rank VI) and low prestige with goat rearing (VII).

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> found technological constraints faced by commercial goat farmers, It reveals that the non-availability of higher breeding stock was a major constraint faced by commercial goat farmers with the (Rank I), followed by the non-availability of balanced feed at low cost (Rank II), difficult in adopting scientific breeding practices in goat (Rank III), lack awareness about existing improved technologies on scientific goat farming (Rank IV), non-availability of vaccine (Rank V), non-availability of mineral-blocks (Rank VI) and non-availability of artificial Insemination Facilities (Rank VII).

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> found institutional constraints faced by commercial goat farmers, It reveals that limited veterinary infrastructure and services are major constraints faced by farmers with the (Rank I), followed by lack of training in scientific goat farming (Rank II), Lack of extension support and services (Rank III), lack of government subsidy (Rank IV) and distant location of veterinary hospital/dispensary (Rank V).

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> found management constraints faced by commercial goat farmers. Study reveals that insufficient technical knowledge about goat production and management practices was a major constraint faced by goat farmers with Rank I followed by, shortfall grazing land (Rank II), high mortality due to diseases (Rank III), shrinkage of grazing land (Rank IV), difficulty in maintaining records (Rank V), labor demand (Rank VI) and maintaining shed hygiene (Rank VIII).

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> found marketing constraints faced by commercial goat farmers, study reveal that the lack of an organized goat market was a major constraint faced by goat farmers with Rank I followed by, lack of price regulating agency (Rank II), poor infrastructure for marketing (Rank III), long-distance to market (Rank IV), exploitation by a middleman (Rank V), non-remunerative price (Rank VI), poor access to market information (Rank VII), logistics issues (Rank VIII) and seasonal price variation (Rank IX)

Gunaseelan (2018) <sup>[2]</sup> found Overall constraints faced by commercial goat farmers, study reveals that marketing constraints with Rank I followed by, Socio-economic constraints (Rank II), management constraints (Rank III), technological constraints (Rank IV), and institutional constraint (Rank V).

Karote (2020) <sup>[3]</sup> found that, in the commercial method, major constraints were lack of veterinary aid with 25% (Rank I) followed by inadequate own funds (22.50%) (Rank –II), and other problems like labour shortage, electricity fluctuations (22.5%) (Rank III), non-availability of feed (10.00%) (Rank IV), No availability of market (7.50%) (Rank V), and non-

availability of the improved breed(7.5%)(Rank VI),. In traditional goat farming, lack of veterinary aid (Rank I) followed by inadequate own funds (Rank- II)other problems(Rank III),non-availability of improved breed(Rank IV), limited overgrazing area(Rank V), non-availability of improved feed(Rank VI), and non-availability of the market(Rank VI I).

Lokesha (2020) found that in technological constraints, the major constraint faced by farmers was high drug price, followed by shortage of drugs, and inaccessibility to veterinary personnel. In marketing constraints, the major constraints faced by farmers was broker/dealers followed by the seasonality of the market, lack of access to incentive market, transportation cost

**Suggestions**

Singh *et al.* (2018) [9] suggested to government agencies for farmers' support for commercial farming were, promoting semi-intensive or strategic feeding management systems through field demonstrations, development of genetic stock by a supply of high potential pure-breed bucks, promotion of goat health calendar, development of feeding resources at village level by improving wasteland and community pastures and it's judicious utilization, Strengthening support services and extension network, Motivation and popularization of the package of improved management practices.

Karote (2020) [3] In the intensive method major suggestions given by the goat farmers were, the provision of adequate veterinary facilities (32.50%) followed by the supply of information regarding different government schemes (25%),

supply of feed (22.50%), Imparting technical knowledge in goat rearing (17.50%), supply of high yielding breeds.

**Schemes**

There are two national schemes for commercial farmers, one provided by the department of animal husbandry and dairy and 2nd given by NABARD. There are states-wise different schemes are available for goat farming.

**National Scheme for Goat Farming**

**1. Scheme Name:** Establishment of Entrepreneur for Breed Development in Small Ruminant Sector

**Eligible Entities:** Individuals/ Self Help Group (SHG)/ Farmers Producer organizations (FPO)/ Farmers Cooperatives (FCOs)/ Joint Liability Groups (JLGs) and section 8 company

- Farnes/Eligible Organizations can establish sheep and goat breeding unit with minimum 500 females and 25 males.
- The Central Government will provide up to 50% back ended subsidy for the capital cost of the project. (Source:- dahd.nic.in)

**Subsidy limit:** 50 lakh

**2. Scheme Name:** Entrepreneurship development and employment Generation

- **Sub Scheme:** Integrated development of small ruminants
- **Agency:** NABARD

**Table 3:** National Scheme for Goat Farming

Commercial units of 10 ewe/does+ 1 ram/buck	At 25% level subsidy- subsidy ceiling Rs. 12500/- Minimum unit size 10 ewe/does + 1 ram/buck (maximum 4 units)
Breeding farm with 100 ewe/does + 5 Ram/bucks	At 25% level subsidy- subsidy ceiling Rs. 2,50,000 Minimum unit size 100 ewe/does + 5 ram/buck

(Source:-www.nabard.org)

**State-wise Different Schemes for Goat Gujarat**

**Table 4:** State-wise Different Schemes for Goat Gujarat

Particulars	Osmanabadi/ Sangamneri (Rs.)	Local breeds (Rs.)
10 + 1 goat group rates (Osmanabadi/ Sangamneri breed per goat - Rs.6000/- and male goat Rs. 7000/-) (Local breeds per goat - Rs. 4000/- and male goat Rs.5000/-)	67000	45000
insurance 4 percent of the cost of livestock including service charges (Osmanabadi / Sangamneri breeds per goat Local breeds Per Goat	2957	1986
Goat Wada (for 225 sq. foot)	15750	15750
Other (Health Facilities and treatment, feeding, utensils and water pots)	2150	2150
Total	87857	64886
Subsidy:- General 50%, schedule caste and schedule tribes 75%		

**Scheme for Establishment of Goat Unit**

(10+ 1)

To apply: i Khedut Portal

Plan-unit cost: 90000

Percentage of Assistance: 50%

The maximum assistance provided: 45000

(Source: doah.Gujarat.gov.in)

**Karnataka**

**Scheme:** Pashu Bhagya

Backend subsidy of 33% to farmers belonging to SC and ST and 25% to other small and marginal farmers will be provided

to establish goat units in availing a maximum loan of Rs.1.20 lakh from commercial banks (Source: www.ahvs.kar.nic.in).

**Haryana**

**Scheme:** Employment opportunities by establishment piggery, sheep and goat unit (15+1)

Plan unit cost: 98000

(Cost of 15 doe @ eacah Rs. 6000, buck @ Rs. 8000)

Maximum subsidy for one Goat unit @25%=Rs. 24500

(Source:-pashudhanharyana.gov.in)

**Maharashtra**

**Scheme Name:** Navinypuarn Scheme- Semi: Stallfed 10 goats and 1 male goat group distribution

**Implementing Officer:** District Deputy Commissioner Animal Husbandry

**Rights of selection of beneficiary:** Committee under chairmanship of the Collector

**Source:** [ahd.maharashtra.gov.in/state-scheme](http://ahd.maharashtra.gov.in/state-scheme)

**Odisha**

**Scheme:** Goat Rearing through Women Self Help Groups

**Goat Unit:** 30+2

**Year of Implementation:** 2021-2

**Table 4:** Goat Rearing through Women Self Help Groups in Odisha

Components	Amount (Rs.)
Cost of animals-male(6-7 month) @Rs. 6000/,female(5-6 months)@Rs. 5000/- for (30 does +2 bucks)	1,62,000
Insurance premium for 1 year @7.5% for 32 animals	12150
Others expenses like utensils, medicines, deworming, transportation cost etc	10850
Low cost goat shed construction@ Rs.100/Sq. Ft for 450 sq. ft	45000
Total unit cost	230000
State share: Rs. 115000 (50% back ended subsidy) WSHG share: Rs. 115000 (50% WSHG share)	

**Source:** [www.fardodisha.gov.in](http://www.fardodisha.gov.in)

**Conclusions**

The goat population in India is increasing as compared to the previous census. The goat production system in India has been slowly moving from a traditional to a commercial system due to its huge scope. Due to the lack of an organized market, there is a need to formulate farmer's groups, SHGs, and Cooperative societies. There is a need to Developed of feeding resources at the village level by improving wasteland and community pastures and their judicious utilization. At last for the promotion of the Commercial Goat farm, there is a need for Subsidies support and extension services support by the Government.

**Suggestions**

- Organized short-duration training on different aspects of goat farming by Government Agencies to improve the management ability of goat farmers to promote commercial goat farm
- Formulation of farmer's groups, SHGs, FPOs and Cooperative societies for the transfer of technology
- Established an organized goat market in the local area and also provide upto date information about goat for the better prices and profit

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