

Success Story of a Goatery Farmer
Mr. Rajaramsingh Ghatowal
Village-Bhuyandih, GP-Het-gugui,
Block-Arsha, Dist-Purulia, West-Bengal



Rajaramsingh Ghatowal is the resident of remote forest fringe tribal Village-Bhuyandi, GP-Het-gugui, Block-Arsha, Dist-Purulia. Rajaramsingh's total family size is three including his wife & a male child. Ramsingh had no agricultural land in spite of his small homestead plot, for which he usually depended upon forest to collect firewood & sold it maximum Rs200.00 by utilizing two person day's. Being an unskilled labour barely he got 20 to 25 person days in the fields of MGNREGA & agricultural works with wage rate Rs.120.00 to Rs.150.00, in which he managed his family deficiently.



During 2013 Rajramsingh was identified as the beneficiary of Action Research Project, by WADI committee considering his deprived condition & supported Bengal Black variety goats (10 female & 1 male goat), in which the male goat is mainly for the breeding purpose.

Most of the time Rajaram taken the goats for grazing & few times his wife also manage the work in his absence. The Goats have taken for grazing daily twice to forest, agriculture fallows, or along the field bunds, on the way back they collect lopping/branches from some of the locally grown trees, known as Mahua, Sal, Gambhari etc for use of the fodder at night.

Goat has been described as a poor man's cow (or mini-cow) because of its immense contribution to the poor man's economy. India possesses the second-largest goat population in the world. In the prevailing socio-economic conditions in the country where per capita land holding is hardly 0.2 Ha, goat rearing becomes an inseparable component of mixed farming system. Goat farming has been recommended as the best choice for the rural people in developing countries because of the low investment, wide adaptability, low feed and management needs, quick pay-off and low risk involved. Goats play an important role in income generation & employment generation.

The **Black Bengal** goat is a breed of goat found in throughout Bangladesh, WestBengal, Bihar and Orissa regions of north-eastern India. This breed is usually colored black but it is also found in brown, white or gray. The Black Bengal goat is small in size but its body structure is tight, horns are small and legs are short. An adult male goat weights about 25 to 30 kg and female 20 to 25 kg in maximum. It is poor in milk production. It is very popular because of its very low demand of food and very high baby production rate. The Black Bengal goats gain sexual maturity very fast. The female goat becomes pregnant twice a year and gives birth to 3-4 baby goats every time. This breed can adapt to any environment easily and its disease preventive ability is very high. It produces high-quality meat and skin. They can eat most of vegetables, grasses and leaves, however, high amounts of carrots are fatal to them.



Since inception the goat shed was managed in his small part of house, but at present though the number of goats increased up to twenty two it barely required

extra space. Now the shed is under construction combined to his house for which GVT supported only six pieces of asbestos that costs around Rs4000.00 & the remain costs of material & labour will be bear by him. Since business only one goat dead was due to lack of knowledge but today he is well known about the vaccination, de-worming & regularly consulting the vetnary surgeon & Pranibandhu as local volunteer.

As Rajram's statement within few days he is going to sell his two male goats that may cost Rs.5000.00 for meat purpose as local rate per kg mutton is Rs.400.00. After two mother another 4 male goats will

be ready to sell around Rs.10000.00. Rajaramsingh has no plan to sell the female goats, is looking for more generation.

It was estimated that, in the coming days every year Rajaramsing will got around Rs.15000.00 minimum surplus by this present volume of business for which he is looking very confident with his growing business & income.
