



Migration pattern of *Raika* pastoralists of Marwar region in India

Deepak Chand Meena¹, Sanchita Garai^{1*}, Sanjit Maiti¹, Suchandra Dutta², B. S. Meena¹ and K. S. Kadian¹

¹ICAR-National Dairy Research Institute, Karnal-132001, India

²Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur-741252, India

*Corresponding author e-mail: sanchita.bckv@gmail.com

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Abstract

Pastoralists of India are facing various challenges due to degraded and shrunken pastures in their native places as well as limited availability of feed and fodder resources throughout their migratory routes. Therefore, the present study was conducted in the six villages of Pali and Jodhpur district of Marwar region of Rajasthan among the 120 *Raika* pastoralists to map and document their migratory pattern. Study revealed that *Raikas* of Pali district migrated for eight months from October to May and covered almost 900 km towards Madhya Pradesh and used nine halting points. Whereas pastoralists of Jodhpur district had more dispersed migration towards Uttar Pradesh and Haryana by covering more than 1000 km and spent 8-11 months with 11 transit halts. Necessary interventions like rejuvenation of degraded pastures, animal and human health camps etc. may be arranged at the identified migratory routes and halting points to secure sustainable livelihood of the *Raika* pastoralists of Rajasthan.

Keywords: Marwar, Migration pattern, Pastoralist, *Raika*, Rajasthan