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Popular Article

## Role of Camel Production for Entrepreneurship Development in Rajasthan

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### *Abstract*

The state's rich cultural heritage heavily revolves around the camel. This animal had a particular place in the hearts of the desert people and even came to represent love. It was formerly the strongest defense against the drought. The camel, which was also thought to be a sign of love, is the subject of many folktales and ballads. Western Rajasthan's Raika community has always been engaged in camel breeding.

**Key word's** – Camel, Rajasthan, Milk Benefits, Schemes

### **Introduction**

With its distinct biophysiological traits and resilient ways of surviving in the severe conditions of the desert ecosystem, the camel is a significant livestock of semi-arid and arid regions and a proven symbol of adaptation.

There are 2.13 lakh camels in Rajasthan, according to the 20th livestock census, DAHD 2019. Of the nine camel breeds that NBAGR has registered, five—Bikaneri, Jaisalmeri, Jalori, Marwari, and Mewari—were originally from Rajasthan.

The fact that camels have keen vision and would never forget a new path is one of the main benefits of deploying them in Rajasthan's military areas. Sand dunes are mobile because of the frequent strong sandstorms that used to occur in western Rajasthan. This is the reason why even pricey electric vehicles that MHA imports from Israel cannot replace camels in the BSF.



### Benefits of Camel Rearing -

- It as additional application in eco-tourism, which will establish it as a
- 'Multi-utility' animal.
- Camel has been one of the important modes of transport across the deserts of western Rajasthan
- The Border Security Force, or BSF, uses camels.
- Its additional application in eco-tourism will establish it as an animal with several uses.
- In Rajasthan's western region, camels are employed for agricultural and draft purposes.
- The camel still views the desert as a place for production, and it gives the dependent farmers milk, meat, wool, manure, and byproducts from its post-mortem existence like skin and bones.
- A significant source of nutrients and functional foods, both fresh and fermented camel milk has been shown to offer certain health advantages to consumers based on the milk's bioactive ingredients.

### Advantages of Consuming Camel Milk

- Compared to cattle milk, camel milk has three times the amount of vitamin C and is richer in numerous macros and microminerals, including iron, copper, zinc, sodium, and potassium.
- Because camel milk has less lactose, people who are lactose intolerant can digest it more easily.
- Camel milk's lactoferrin concentration reduces the risk of arthritis.
- Naturally occurring insulin content in, milk helps to manage Diabetes.

### Beneficial Schemes of Government

In 2014, Rajasthan Government declared camel as state animal

- On October 2, 2016, a camel development scheme called the '**Ushtra Vikas Yojana**' was introduced. The camel farmer will receive payment under this system, in three installments, of a total of Rs. 10,000 for each calf born, regardless of breed. Three installments of Rs. 3,000 have to be paid. Rs.3,000 at the time of birth, Rs. 3,000 at 9 months, and Rs. 4,000 at the end of 18 months after the child is born.
- Camel milk was not classified as an edible Substance until December 2016, when the Food Safety and Standard Authority of India (FSSAI) recognized



- Camel-milk as human food and came out with standards for camel milk to be sold Commercially.
- Farmers can opt for both extensive and semi-intensive System of rearing starting with 10 females and 1 male. They can seek financial help from Banks/NABARD for the initial investment on animal, shelter and other
  - infrastructures and repay it in five years.

### **Conclusion**

In Rajasthan, camel-related activities such as camel safaris, races, and sports (polo) as well as camel decorating, including usta-kala and camel designing, are essential to the state's economic growth. Camels became well-known when they were showcased during some of Rajasthan's most well-known melas, such as the Pushkar mela, Thar Festival, Maru Mahotsav, and Bikaner Camel Festival.

The medical benefits of camel milk have been identified as the principal benefit of camel rearing in recent times, according to science. By investing personal resources and taking advantage of state government schemes, one can turn camel farming into their main source of income with a substantial profit margin.

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