

ABSTRACT

Livestock is an important source of national economy, specially for the rural areas. It has potential for job creation, meeting growing, food requirements and boosting national exports. All livestock holders in developing countries including Pakistan whether better or worse off, are exposed to verity of risks. Livestock farmers of Sindh are among those who face different kinds of threats such as low production, diseases, flood, lack of marketing facilities and climatic hazards are few of them. These threats cause significant financial losses and adversely impact on the livelihood who depend on livestock.

It is imperative to provide a mechanism of financial protection to the farmers to mitigate their loss of earning assets. By comprehensively insuring the livestock from reputed insurance companies or financial institutes or subsidies against the direct or indirect climatic risks. The need for risk protection among the low income and poor farmers is crucial specially for those who depend on livestock for livelihood are therefore more vulnerable.

To conduct this research three insurance companies Adamjee insurance company, jubilee insurance company and united insurance company are the organizations involved in providing protection to livestock holders of the area and offer various types of insurance coverage to the people experiencing emergencies, and fifty livestock farmers/owners (big and small scale) of district Hyderabad.

Although these insurance companies claim that the products they offer usually cover large number of risks associated to livestock farmers, but this study identified that 90% of the farmers/ owners respondents were without insurance protection. Also most of farmers were unaware for the insurance of livestock. This research recognized that not only livestock holders have challenges, but insurance companies also face many challenges such as public awareness , moral hazard, limited distribution and client risks. The social protective measures including intervention from public, private and voluntary organizations and support from government and insurance organization which promise to be an effective strategy and vital in providing the financial assistance for low income and poor people who need the protection.