



GLOBAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH  
(Scholarly Peer Review Publishing System)

## “MEATY ISSUE” AFFECT AND RIPPLE EFFECT, OF MAHARASHTRA ANIMAL PRESERVATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1995 ON VARIOUS SECTORS OF THE ECONOMY.

**Ms. Durdana Ovais**

Research Scholar  
D-7 Kausar Bunglows  
Safia College road Koh – e – Fiza, Bhopal.  
India

**Dr. Mrs Naaz Ovais**

Asst.professor  
P.G Department of Economics  
Safia Arts and Commerce College Bhopal ,MP  
India

### Abstract

Recently the Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill 1995, passed on march 7 2015 created quite a buzz. Between a lot of opinions and facts the true picture of the bill is somehow lost. It's really a point to ponder that was so much fuss is necessary over a bill that was already in existence since 1976 banning the slaughter of Cow. Only an amendment is being made as to include the slaughter of bulls and bullocks as well which were previously allowed based on a fit-for-slaughter certificate. The bill also bars anyone the possession and selling beef , resulting which the guilty would have to pay 10000 rupees as fine and five years in jail. Through all the noises regarding India becoming a leading beef exporter in the last four year, one important fact is missed out. And that is internationally both cow meat and buffalo meat is termed as beef. The export earning and increased consumption of “beef” as talked about is actually “carabeef” - meat from buffalo. Under this light the research paper aims to find out the affect and ripple effect of the Bill on various sectors of the economy.

The research paper present the facts and figures related to the livestock industry, the meat industry and the effect on various sectors of the economy with the coming into play of the Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill 1995. The research also refrains from giving either an optimistic or a pessimistic view of reality, and stick to presenting the particulars as collected from different sources.

**Key words:** Ban, Beef, Carabeef, Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 1995

### 1. INTRODUCTION

The last few years have seen a steady increase in the demand for beef ( both from cow and buffalo) the emergence of India as a leading beef exporting country is also widely noticeable. The Hindu Business Line reported in 2013, that India has become the world's largest exporter of beef, with earnings over 18, 000 crores Indian rupees. It also stated that competitively low priced “Halal” Indian beef has found international customers in Africa, Southeast Asia, and the Middle East. While a large portion of the beef that is exported is from buffalo (11 percent of buffaloes are slaughtered for meat) a significant portion is also from cows (6 percent of the cattle population is slaughtered) (The Hindu -Business Line , 2013).



Under the former UPA government the production and export of meat was promoted. “The pink” revolution resulted in the increased meat consumption as well as export earnings from meat. According to data compiled by the animal husbandry departments of all states, meat from registered slaughterhouses increased from 5.57 lakh tonnes in 2008 to 8.05 lakh tonnes in 2011. The government also provided subsidies to **modernized abattoirs** and **storage facilities**. The food processing ministry had announced subsidies of 15 crore to modernize abattoirs. The buffaloes killed went up from 49.46 lakh in 2008 to 69.6 lakh in 2011 (The Times of India -Ramkumar, 2013).

In 2012 U.S. Department of Agriculture, reported that India has emerged as a leading one beef exporter , “beating out such perennial beef powerhouses like Australia and New Zealand.” But the report clearly stated that it is unclear as to how much of this beef is sourced from cow and how much from other bovine cattle. It acknowledge the fact that ,it is not cows but the less revered water buffaloes that mostly make the cut for meat-processing factories. Half of the world's buffalo population is in India, and global demand for buffalo meat has become a source of revenue and brought in a lot of money for the country. Both buffalo meat and meat from cows are known as beef internationally (BBC News -Kannan, 2014).

Statistics showed that beef exports from India raised to 1.89 million tonnes of beef in 2012-2013, which was approximately increase of 50 per cent as that of five years ago. Similarly the poultry export also increased. The country exported 3.5 million tonnes of poultry in 2011-12, a 6 per cent hike over the previous year, putting India in the third place after the US and Brazil. Data showed that export earnings from meat touched Rs 21,000 crore in 2012-2013. The New India express stated that the chief marketplaces for Indian meat were found to be in US, Europe, the Gulf and South-East Asian countries (The New Indian Express , 2014) .

Research points out that the not so well regulated meat industry exports its finest quality to the international market were as the domestic market is supplies with the substandard one

The recent approval received by the BJP led Maharashtra government from President Pranab Mukherjee for the Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 1995 created lot of buzz in the meat industry. And the ripples can be seen in the related industries like leather, export and the by-products industry. Effects can also be felt in the employment sector, the tourism sector. Concerns have also been raised on the illegal trade that is expected to increase in the neighbouring states, and countries.

Under the Maharashtra Animal Preservation Act of 1976 cow slaughter was already banned since 1976 and the new amendment prohibits the slaughter of bulls and bullocks as well, which were earlier legitimate based on a fit-for-slaughter certificate. The recent law makes it illegal for anyone to sell or possess beef. Anybody found guilty can be jailed for five years with a fine on 10,000 rupees.

The forces which are driving the consumption of meat in India are as follows.

**Figure 1**  
**Market Drivers**





There are a number of trends driving growth in the food industry. The rising income is leaving more dispensable income with consumers, who are ready to try luxury item such as meat and meat products. Thus, demanding a larger and more option filled food plate. The rapid urbanisation too creates a push factor to try variety products. The advertisements and promotion took by companies also leads to increased consumption of meat products. With the rise in the number of working women, a growing trend is to “eat out”. When anyone see what other customers are ordering, usually curiosity leads to trying out beef and beef products. All these factors are leading to increased consumption and demand for beef and beef products.

The typical Indian lifestyle is becoming more urbanised and Western. This is leading to higher consumption of processed, packaged, branded and value-added food and beverage products. Urban consumers are increasingly willing to pay for premium products. However, the majority of the population are still located in rural areas and consume only subsistence foods such as cereals and breads (Enterprise, 2012).

## 2. THE LAW

**Figure 2**  
**Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 1995**

- President Pranab Mukherjee has given his assent to a law that bans sale and possession of beef in Maharashtra, 19 years after the legislation was passed by the Shiv Sena-BJP government in the state in 1996.
- Maharashtra joins many other states where cow slaughter is banned.
- the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) government in Maharashtra received approval from President Pranab Mukherjee for the Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 1995.
- The bill bans the slaughter of bulls and bullocks as well. This was previously allowed based on a fit-for-slaughter certificate.
- There was already a ban on cow slaughter in Maharashtra since 1976 under the Maharashtra Animal Preservation Act of 1976.
- The new law makes the selling of beef or possession of it by anyone in the state illegal, and the person doing so can be jailed for five years and fined Indian Rs 10,000. (Anand, 2015)
- Cow slaughter is banned in Maharashtra since 1976. The ban extends to bullocks and bull, which can be slaughtered with certificate and permission
- However, the government has not moved any notification or instruction on how to implement the act. The sources in the government said it will come up with guidelines and notifications (Ganapatye, 2015) .



- Attempts were made to bring about a complete ban in practice of cow slaughter by setting 25 years as the minimum age for the cow to be slaughtered that was struck down by the Supreme Court which noted that the cow was not economically useful after 15 years, and raising the minimum age created an effective absolute ban. What changed was the decision of the Supreme Court in *Mirzapur Moti Kureshi* in 2005, where the court reversed a long line of decisions from 1958, accepting the assertion of the Gujarat government that new developments in technology and veterinary care had extended the economic life of the cow. Chief Justice Lahoti relied heavily on the fact that even after they ceased to give milk, cows produced dung and urine which had value as manure and fuel. The court famously described cow dung to be more valuable than the Kohinoor diamond. Finally, the court made a plea holding that an animal that had served human beings is entitled to compassion in old age (The Hindu -Business Line , 2013).
- This was followed by the *Hinsa Virodhak* case, where the Supreme Court upheld the closure of slaughterhouse and abattoirs during a Jain religious festival, on grounds of religious sentiment. Since 2008, the Supreme Court has retreated from the *Mirzapur* judgement, making it clear that an absolute ban on cow slaughter was not constitutionally required or desirable. However, its recent jurisprudence sets precedent for imposing the dietary preferences of a few, in this case practicing Jains, upon many (The Hindu -Business Line , 2013).

**Table 1**  
**Indian States and Laws regarding Cow Slaughter**

<b>Uttar Pradesh, Tamil Nadu, Rajasthan, Punjab, Odisha, Puducherry, Haryana, Gujarat, Delhi, Bihar and Andhra Pradesh.</b>	<b>Bans cow slaughter (HuffpostIndia, 2015).</b>
<b>Daman &amp; Diu and Goa</b>	Slaughter is allowed of those cows which are old or sick, or for medical purposes.
<b>West Bengal</b>	Slaughter allowed of all cattle but require a 'fit for slaughter' certificate
<b>Rajasthan, Punjab, J&amp;K and Himachal Pradesh</b>	Stringent laws that ban the slaughter of all cattle
<b>Kerala, Manipur, Mizoram, Meghalaya, Arunachal Pradesh, and Nagaland.</b>	Slaughter of all cattle allowed, and do not require any certificate.
<b>Madhya Pradesh.</b>	law criminalizes the slaughtering as well as transporting cattle for slaughter
<b>Karnataka</b>	The Karnataka Act (modified after the defeat of Yeddyurappa in May 2013) originally criminalized the trade, ownership, and consumption of beef (HuffpostIndia, 2015).

### 3. THE LIVESTOCK SECTOR

Bequeathed with vast livestock wealth India has the largest livestock in the world. The livestock has been well knit with the socio-economic fabric of our rural economy and played an important role in the employment and income generation. Beyond their direct role **in generating food and income, livestock are a valuable asset, serving as a store of wealth, collateral for credit and an essential safety net during times of crisis,** wrote FAO. "Livestock are also **essential to mixed farming systems. They consume waste products from crop and food production, help control insects and weeds, produce manure for fertilizing and conditioning fields and provide draught power for ploughing and transport.**" Animals support communities financially. In developing countries, economic development means a growing middle class. In an article written by the American Society of Animal Science, Nancy Morgan, a liaison to the World



Bank and economist with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations, said that this growing middle class demands even more animal products (Animalsmart.org).

Given below is the table showing vital information regarding the Livestock population in India

**Table 2**  
**Live stock in India**

Particulars	Statistics
Live stock population	Largest in the world. 84.2 million buffaloes, 204.5 million cattle, 50.8 million sheep, 115.3 million goats, 12.8 million pigs and 307.1 million poultry. APEDA
Buffalo Population	84.2 million buffaloes (APEDA)
India's World buffalo population	58 % ( Meattechasia 2015,)
Cattle Population	204.5 million (APEDA)
World cattle population	14.7 % ( Meattechasia 2015,)
Registered slaughter houses	2,702
Meat production	They contribute to 1.48 million metric tonnes of meat, amounting 24.54% of the total meat produced in the country (Buffalopedia)
Value of output from the country's livestock sector at current prices	Rs 4,59,051 crore in 2011-12, 24.8 per cent of the total worth of output from agricultural and allied sector at current price The value of output from the meat group in 2011-12 was Rs. 83.641 crore ( Meattechasia 2015,).
Contribution to GDP	6 %
Contribution to Agricultural GDP	25%
Growth Rate of Livestock sector	5.6 percent (last two decades)
Growth Rate of Agricultural sector	3.3 percent

- Efficient utilization of by-products has direct impact on the economy and environmental pollution of the country. Non-utilization or under utilization of by-products not only lead to loss of potential revenues but also lead to the added and increasing cost of disposal of these products (K. Jayathilakan, 2011).
- This suggests that livestock is expected to emerge as an engine of agricultural growth in the coming decades. It is also considered as one of the potential sector for export earnings (Birthal et al 2002).
- The importance of livestock goes beyond its food production function (Birthal et al 2002)
- It provides **draught power and organic** manure to crop sector and hides, skin, bones, blood and fibers to the industrial sector. Livestock sector also makes significant contributions towards **conservation of environment. Livestock sector supplements income from crop production and other sources and absorbs income shocks due to crop failure. It generates a continuous stream of income and employment and reduces seasonality in livelihood patterns particularly of the rural poor** (Birthal and Ali 2005).
- Several empirical studies indicate that livestock rearing has significant positive impact on equity in terms of income and employment and poverty reduction in rural areas (Singh and Hazell 1993; Adams and He 1995; Birthal and Singh



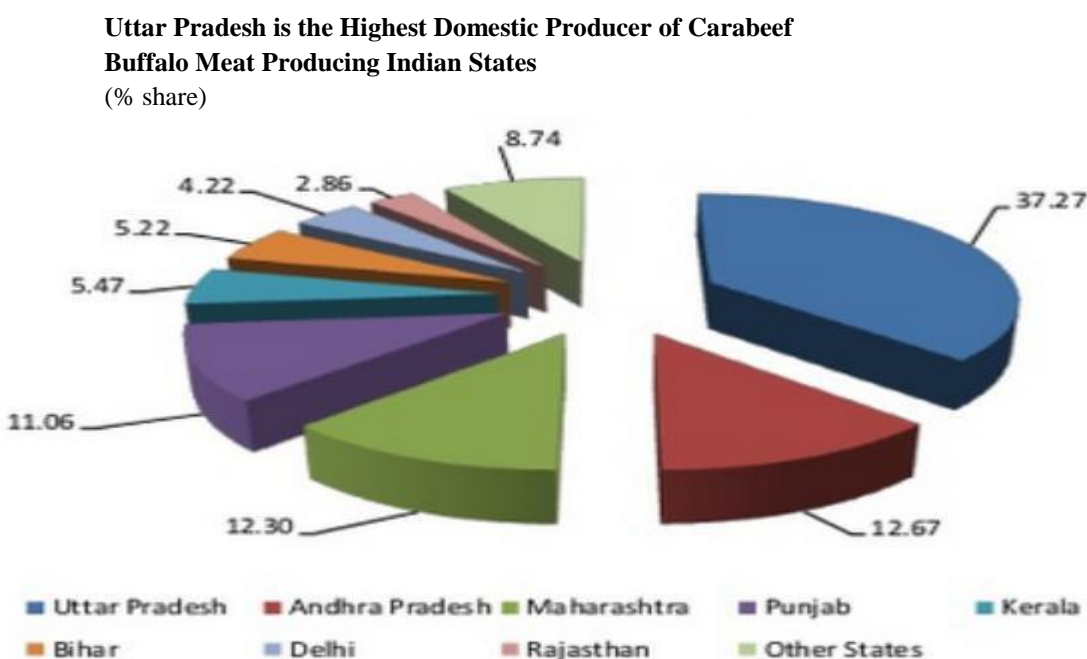
1995; Thornton et al 2002; Birthal and Ali 2005) as distribution of livestock is more egalitarian compared to land (Taneja and Birthal 2004). In India, over 70 percent of the rural households own livestock and a majority of livestock owning households are small, marginal and landless households. Small animals like sheep, goats, pigs and poultry are largely kept by the land scarce poor households for commercial purposes because of their low initial investment and operational costs (Birthal 2002) (Ali, 2007).

- The major components through which livestock contributes to the agricultural income are milk and milk products, meat and eggs. These products contribute about one-sixth of the calories and one-third of the proteins in the per capita food supplies of the world; the balance comes from vegetable products (Sarma and Patrick, 1985).
- The per capita consumption of livestock products is, however, four to five times higher in the developed countries than in the developing countries. In the developing countries, the income elasticity of demand for livestock products is high as compared to cereals. It is also high as compared to the developed economies. This implies that with rising per capita income, the demand for these products would rise faster in the Third World countries (Shah, 2005).
- The highest total of livestock-related greenhouse-gas emissions comes from the developing world, which accounts for 75% of the global emissions from cattle and other ruminants and 56% of the global emissions from poultry and pigs (Walsh, 2013).

#### 4. THE MEAT INDUSTRY

An important aspect on Indian meat industry prohibits the marketing of cow meat, but legally, buffalo meat is classified as “beef” (Meattechasia 2015,). Imports into India of beef, or products that contain beef, are prohibited too. This ban applies to beef imports from all countries and is in place for religious reasons (Enterprise, 2012).

Figure 3



Source: Animal Husbandry Department



There are 53 approved Indian abattoirs-cum- meat processing plants serving the export market (for more details, please refer to List of Indian Integrated Abattoirs and Meat Processing Plants approved by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA). (Joshua. Lagos, 2014)

Spurting meat exports from India reflects the importance attached to the livestock sector in the country's agro-economy. There are about 71.6 million sheep, 140.5 million goats and about 11.1 million pigs in the country. India's vast resource of livestock and poultry plays a vital **role in improving the socio-economic conditions of the rural masses**. Indeed, the scope for development of India's meat sector is vast. During the last few decades, India witnessed the Green, White and Blue Revolutions – in food grains, milk and fisheries -- and now the time has come to usher in one more Revolution, which may be called Red/Pink Revolution in the form of a quantum jump in meat production (Meattechasia 2015,).

The Congress aggressively promoted beef sales abroad, encouraging greater use of dairy buffalo carcasses and rearing of male buffalo. The result was that in the financial year 2013-14, Indian beef exports soared 31 percent to 1.5 million tonnes from the previous year, and were worth 264.6 billion rupees (\$4.3 billion), the US Department of Agriculture (USDA) says. This year, exports look set to hit 1.9 million tonnes, according to USDA, while **India has a 20 percent share of the global beef export market**. "You can't ignore this activity — whether you like it or not," said Ankur Bisen, analyst at leading Indian consultancy Technopak Advisors. With "growing demand for Indian meat abroad", the industry has an increasingly vital economic role, said ALM's Malik (The Times of India, 2014).

Uttar Pradesh is the top buffalo meat-producing state with 3 lakh tonnes in 2011. At least 70% of the buffalo meat is exported. "Our meat is lean and cheaper. We supply halal meat, which is preferred in Gulf countries," said Surendra Kumar Ranjan, director of Uttar Pradesh-based Hind Agro Industries (The Times of India -Ramkumar, 2013).

## 5. THE BY-PRODUCTS

There are three categories of by-products to determine the items made with the rest of the animal: EDIBLE, INEDIBLE and MEDICINAL (CattleEmpire, 2014).

No story of beef by-products is complete without telling about the medicines produced from cattle. More than 100 individual drugs perform such important and varied functions as helping to make childbirth safer, settling an upset stomach, preventing blood clots in the circulatory system, "pepping up" a sluggish thyroid, controlling anaemia, relieving some symptoms of hay fever and asthma, and helping babies digest milk. Insulin is perhaps the best-known pharmaceutical derived from cattle (University, 2012).

- It is in hospitals and drug stores.

Much of the material used for surgical sutures is derived from the intestines of meat animals.

- It is helping your car run better and your clothes get cleaner.
- It is in sporting goods, photographic equipment, and art supply shops.
- It is in firecrackers.
- It is in your garden keeping down insect infestations.
- It is in soap for washing your face (CattleEmpire, 2014)
- It is in hand and face creams.
- It is in the cosmetics you apply to soften and beautify your skin.

Indeed, it is just about everywhere (University, 2012)

**Table 3**



**GLOBAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH**  
*(Scholarly Peer Review Publishing System)*

By- products	Uses
Edible By-products	<p><b>Variety Meats</b></p> <p><b>Others and (Product Uses)</b></p> <p><i>Fats</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Oleo stock (Margarine and bakers’ shortening)</li> <li>• Oleo oil (margaine and bakers’ shortening)</li> <li>• Oleo stearine (chewing gum and candies)</li> </ul> <p><i>Gelatin</i> (marshmallows, ice cream, canned meats, candies)</p> <p><i>Intestines</i> (natural sausage casings)</p>
Inedible By-products and Product Uses	<p><b>Inedible By-products and Product Uses</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Hide -leather (sports equipment)</li> <li>• Binders - (plaster and asphalt)</li> <li>• Hair - (insulation, “camel hair” brushes)</li> <li>• Fats - (industrial oils, lubricants, soap)</li> <li>• Glycerine - (explosives, cosmetics)</li> <li>• Fatty acids - (shaving cream, candles, detergents)</li> <li>• Bones, Horns, and Hooves - (buttons, bone china, piano keys, glues, adhesives, animal feeds, photographic film, sandpaper) glues, fertilizer, neat’s-foot oil (CattleEmpire, 2014)</li> <li>• gelatin - for photographic film, paper, wallpaper, sandpaper, combs, toothbrushes, and violin string. Bone charcoal is vital in the production of high grade steel ball bearings.</li> <li>• Even inedible by-products of beef cattle are used to feed other animals. Beef fat, protein, and bone meals are used in feeding poultry, swine, dairy cattle, and domesticated fish (University, 2012).</li> <li>• Industrial oils and lubricants, tallow for tanning, soaps, lipsticks, face and hand creams, some medicines, and ingredients for explosives are produced from the inedible fats from beef. Fatty acids are used in the production of chemicals, biodegradable detergents, pesticides, and flotation agents.</li> <li>• One fatty acid is used to make automobile tires run cooler and, therefore last longer (CattleEmpire, 2014).</li> </ul>
Some Pharmaceuticals - Sources and Uses	<p>From the pancreas</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Insulin - treats diabetes</li> <li>• Pancreatin - aids digestion</li> <li>• Glucagon - treats hypoglycemia</li> <li>• Trypsin and Chymotrypsin - promotes healing of wounds</li> </ul> <p><b>From the blood</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Thrombin - blood coagulant</li> </ul> <p><b>From the bone</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Bone marrow - treats blood disorders</li> <li>• Soft cartilage - plastic surgery</li> </ul> <p><b>From the pituitary gland</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Corticotropin (ACTH) - treats arthritis and allergies</li> <li>• Thyrotropin (TSH) - stimulates thyroid gland</li> </ul>





**From the liver**

- Heparin - anticoagulant
- Liver extract - treats anemia

**From the stomach**

- Rennet - aids in digestion of milk

**From the adrenal glands**

- Epinephrine - some relief from asthma and allergies (University, 2012)
- It takes the pancreases from 26 cattle to provide enough insulin to keep one diabetic person alive for a year (CattleEmpire, 2014)
- Through genetic engineering techniques and other research developments, many of the drugs produced from cattle are now being chemically produced in the laboratory (CattleEmpire, 2014).
- These procedures are often less expensive than recovery from animal organs. However, synthesis has been only partial, and the animal sources remain extremely important in many situations.
- Diabetecs in india- 61 million people . About 1 million people died from diabetes in India in 2012 (1) (The Times Of India -Chandalia, Hemraj, 2015).

**6. THE IMPACT**

Any law that is being made by the government both affects and effects the various sectors of the economy. Looking at one aspect of the law and forming an opinion would not account for a rational attitude. Due to lack of precise and clear information of the outcomes of Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 1995, a lot of waste of energies can be seen. As such this section of the research tries to present an unbiased picture of the economic and social impact that will come into play due to the amended Bill banning the slaughter of bulls and bullocks too, apart from cows which are already banned from slaughtering.

**Figure 4**  
**Impact of Maharashtra Animal Preservation (Amendment) Bill, 1995**





## 6.1 Consumers

- Not only Muslims and Christians, but also India's Scheduled tribes and Scheduled castes - who account for 25 percent of the country's population, are beef eaters (AlJazeera, 2014).
- In the states of Kerala, West Bengal and most of the Northeastern region - where cattle slaughter is legal, beef is widely consumed.
- "Beef is one of the most affordable sources of protein for the Dalit community," said Mohan Dharavath, President, Dalit Adivasi Bahujan and Minority Students' Association based in southern city of Hyderabad (AlJazeera, 2014).
- Poor people will be forced to look for alternatives and since so many people would have lost one source of food, other meats are bound to become more expensive. "The state government cares for animals, but not for humans whose livelihood is going to be affected permanently," Mohammed Qureshi said (The Asian Age- Ganapatye, 2015).
- Pointing at its food value, Congress MLC Amin Patel said beef has remained a cheap protein source for the poor (The Asian Age, 2015).
- Buffalo meat is the healthiest meat among red meats known for human consumption because it is low in calories and cholesterol. It has almost 2-3 folds cost advantage over mutton and goat meat (Buffalopedia).

## 6.2 Employment

- The direct effect of the amended bill can be seen on the people engaged in the beef business, it is estimated that around 20 lakh people (in Mumbai) will lose livelihood resulting in a loss of Rs 50 crore business.
- Mostly the people associated with the business are from minority and backward classes.
- The leather industry, farmers, middlemen, workers at slaughterhouses, retailers are also associated with the business. But the government has not offered any alternative for them, especially the Qureshi community, who will be completely jobless," said Abdul Jameel Qureshi from the Beef Traders' Association. In the city alone, the turnover of the beef trade is of Rs 50 crore, he said (The Asian Age, 2015).
- The whole supply chain will be disrupted due to the ban. Right from the cattle procurement, to processing, deboning, packing, and allied industries such as leather, pharma and pet food impact will be seen.
- A very important aspect of the beef industry is overlooked and that is the farmer who provisions cattle to slaughterhouses. In the drought of legal and better alternatives, he will be left with the illegal option to procure money and recover his costs accrued in rearing of cattle.
- Uneconomical animals such as aged milch cattle, bulls or male calves are sold fetching at least a minimum of \$332 (Rs 20,000). This is a vital source of income for farmers and a significant security in dire times such as crop failure or drought (AlJazeera, 2014).
- As calls are being made by other states to impose ban, shutting down the beef industry is all together not viable. 20 million Indians work in the industry and it yields over \$3 billion in foreign exchange, said Ranjan of Hind Agro (Forbes - Saritha Rai, 2014).

## 6.3 Leather Industry

- The move to ban cattle slaughter and beef consumption in Maharashtra had come at a time when the Indian leather industry was building up good momentum with figures for the financial year that will close at the end of March suggesting strong growth for the sector (FashionNetAsia.com, 2015)
- About 40% of the demand for cattle hide by Tamil Nadu is being met by Maharashtra. The ban has raised a lot of concerns among the tanner.
- The concern finds significance in the fact that raw material from Maharashtra are ranked best in the country, after hides from Kolkata and Punjab.



- With the supply of raw material going down the output of finished leather is also expected to decrease. This downfall is largely attributed to the cost incurred by the tanners who are unlikely to import hides to replace the raw materials earlier received from Maharashtra.
- The cost of sourcing has gone up by nearly 5%. If Maharashtra is not going to supply, the production of leather will come down (FashionNetAsia.com, 2015).
- The booming Indian leather industry helped tanners to get orders from customer who previously sourced leather in China. As such concerns are building up on diversion of current and future orders.
- A well known figure in the Indian leather industry has complained about a decision in the state of Maharashtra to ban beef, saying the move will have a big effect on the tanning industry elsewhere in India, reports international news site Leatherbiz.

Some commentators in India have said that the idea of a ban on beef in a state that includes Mumbai will prove unworkable. However, Rafeeqe Ahmed, who is president of the All India Skin and Hide Tanners and Merchants Association, said in reaction to the announcement in early March that if it goes ahead, tanners in Tamil Nadu will be particularly affected (FNA).

- A much overlooked and side glanced fact is that leather is not a by product. it's not a left over component of meat commerce that is being utilised efficiently.
- The leather industry is highly profitable and money-spinning business. Cuppled with the fact of India's vast livestock.
- A hide is approximately 10% of the total price of an animal, making it the most commercial part of the body.
- Surprisingly, leather actually makes the meat industry more sustainable (as selling skins is very profitable while meat isn't always so), not the other way around.
- The majority of leather comes from India's cows, who are abused, beaten and poisoned in order to make leather for high street stores. As India forbids the slaughter of cows, these poor, innocent animals are forced to endure brutal and grueling journeys where they are confronted with an unimaginable end (Buffalopedia),(Geer, September).
- With the above fact in view the ban could actually regulate killing of cattle for their skins. The leather black market can actually be monitored and controlled, thus saving the innocent creatures.

## 6.4 Exports

Much of the "beef" that political parties are bickering over and all the legal beef exported is, in fact, "carabeef", meat of the water buffalo and not the cow (Buffalopedia).

**Factors that had made the carabeef industry successful are as follows.**

- Good quality
- Largest population of buffaloes
- Efficiency improvements,
- Increased slaughter
- Price-competitiveness in the international market.
- Affordably priced(both nationally and internationally)
- Indian buffalo meat exports are growing at 15% annually (Forbes - Saritha Rai, 2014)
- In 2013 exports touched \$3.2 billion (Forbes - Saritha Rai, 2014)
- The beef export industry is a well-organized industry.
- The country has exported 14,49,758.64 MT of buffalo meat products to the world for the worth of Rs. 26,457.79 crores.
- The major areas for Buffalo Meat production are Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Maharashtra and Punjab.
- Major Export Destinations (2013-14) :Vietnam Social Republic, Malaysia, Egypt Arab Republic, Thailand, Saudi Arabia and Jordan (APEDA)



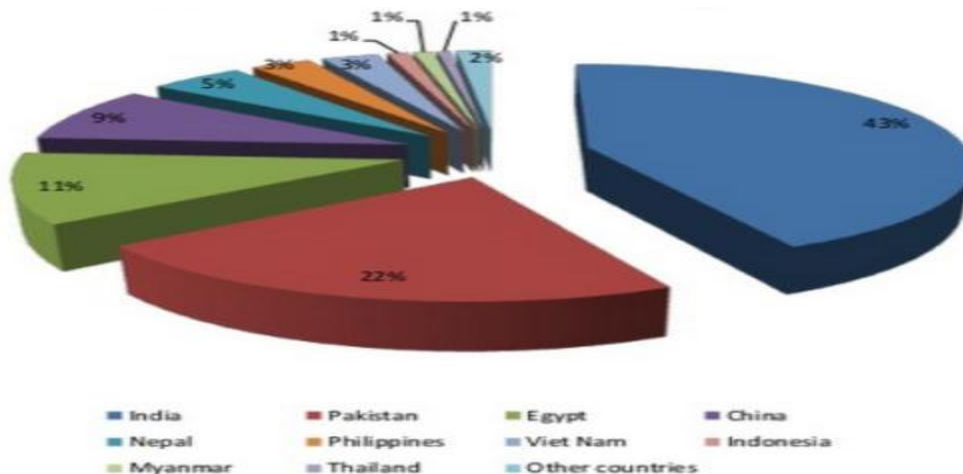
**GLOBAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH**  
(Scholarly Peer Review Publishing System)

- The export of cow meat is forbidden but it is the meat of the Indian buffalo, less revered than the hump-backed native Indian cow, which is mostly exported under the category of 'beef'. However, cow meat too clandestinely finds its way into the export market (Forbes - Saritha Rai, 2014).
- Much of the "beef" that political parties are bickering over and all the legal beef exported is, in fact, "carabeef", meat of the water buffalo and not the cow (AlJazeera, 2014).
- Besides about 3600 slaughter houses, there are live modern abattoirs and one integrated abattoir meat processing plant for slaughtering buffaloes for exports and domestic consumption. There are 24 meat processing plants including 13, hundred percent export oriented units who are mainly engaged in export of meat products. In the last one-year three new export oriented units of buffalo meat processing have been approved and are reportedly under implementation (APEDA).
- India accounts for a fifth of the global beef supply, including to markets in Africa and South East Asia. In 2013, the country exported 1.89 million tonnes of beef, about a 50% jump in a five-year period, overtaking Brazil as the world's largest exporter for the second year (Forbes - Saritha Rai, 2014).
- Currently, the government provides subsidies under a variety of heads such as transport and plant modernization (Forbes - Saritha Rai, 2014).
- In all, India has half the buffaloes in the world, according to the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, and the largest number of cattle, with 327 million head, according to the USDA (OneIndia -Panwar, 2013).
- Buffalo is the only potential animal that can boost meat industry in India. Buffalo meat is the major item of Indian meat export generating huge revenue in animal products sector (Buffalopedia).
- Currently, the government provides subsidies under a variety of heads such as transport and plant modernization (Forbes - Saritha Rai, 2014).
- Bovine (buffalo and cow) meat from India is popular in South-East Asian and Gulf countries, said Surendra Kumar Ranjan, director of Uttar Pradesh based Hind Agro Industries. "Our meat is lean and cheaper. We supply halal meat, which is preferred in Gulf countries," he said. Though meat meeting international standards reaches markets in the Europe, the Gulf and South-East Asia, most of the meat sold in India is substandard. The best quality meat is sent abroad while B-grade meat reaches the domestic market (The Times of India -Ramkumar, 2013).
- **Trade:** CY 2014 and CY 2015 carabeef exports are forecast at 2 and 2.2 million tons CWE on export pace and expectations of increased demand from the Middle East, Africa, and Southeast Asia. Vietnam and Malaysia are the largest export markets for India Most importers prefer Indian carabeef due to price competitiveness and because it is halal. Carabeef exports to India are heavily restricted for all sources (Joshua. Lagos, 2014).
- There are 38 integrated abattoirs in the country which slaughter for export. Agricultural and Processed Food Exports Development Authority (Apeda) inspects them and renews licenses. "The BIS team does checks a few times a year," said Ranjan (The Times of India -Ramkumar, 2013).



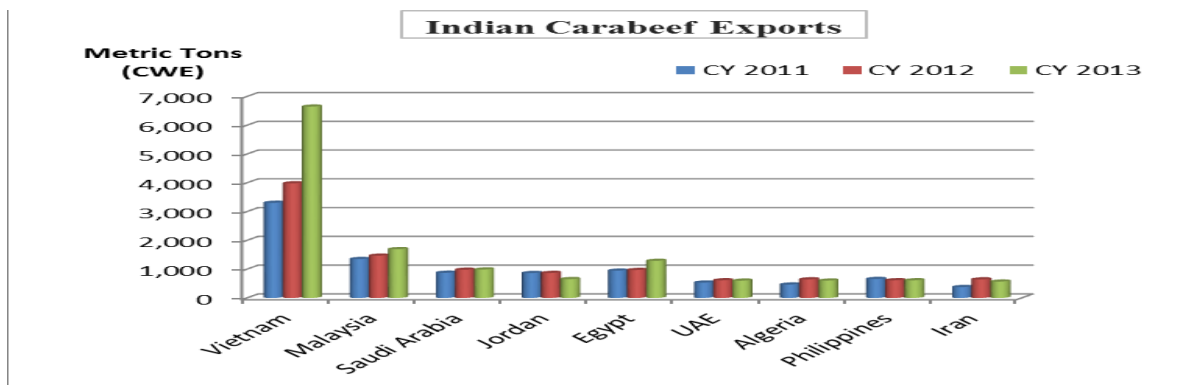
Figure 5

**India Produces 43 Percent of Global Carabeef Production**  
**Buffalo Meat Producing Countries**  
 (% share)



Source: FAO

Figure 5  
**India’s Largest Export Markets for Carabeef**



Source: Global Trade Atlas

- R K Krishnakumar of The Economic Times writes in June 2014 that for years, beef has become an important foreign exchange earner for India next only to basmati rice, with 31% increase in quantity and 52% rise in value terms during 2013-14. India was ranked second largest beef exporter in the world with 20% market share after Brazil by the department of agriculture of the United States (USDA) in its recent report. “As per the figures of Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), the beef exports totaled 14,49,759 tonne worth Rs 26,458 crore last year.
- In 2013, Naresh Dayal of International Organization for Animal Protection (OIPA) of United Nations in India has demanded from the government to reconsider meat export policy. In fact he documented that beef exports have gone up 44% in four years. According to data compiled by the animal husbandry departments of all states, meat from registered slaughterhouses increased from 5.57 lakh tonnes in 2008 to 8.05 lakh tonnes in 2011. Uttar Pradesh is the



top buffalo meat-producing state with 3 lakh tonnes in 2011. At least 70% of the buffalo meat is exported (HinduismToday, 2014).

- Buffalo meat has emerged as India's second highest agri-export commodity after Basmati rice, according to data released by Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) under the Ministry of Commerce. Indian buffalo meat exports touched an all time high of Rs 13,917 crore in value terms in April-October 2013, representing an increase of nearly 58% over same period last year. In terms of quantity too, there has been 23% rise in buffalo meat exports from India ( Meatechasia 2015,).
- Among Indian states, Uttar Pradesh (UP) has emerged as the biggest exporter of buffalo meat, followed by Punjab and Maharashtra. Besides having the country's largest buffalo population, U P has also has the highest number of abattoirs- cum-meat processing export units. The state has 317 registered slaughterhouses and, in addition, 24 export-oriented units for buffalo meat. Of total Indian carabeef exports, 67% originates from this state\_ (OneIndia -Panwar, 2013) .

**Table 4**

**Buffalo Meat Exports from India**

	Value (Rs Crore)	Quantity (tonnes)
2013-14 (April-Oct)	13917	719256
2012-13 (April-Oct)	8802	584392
2011-12 (April-Oct)	7046	540406

**Buffalo Meat Exports from India to Vietnam**

	Value (Rs Crore)	Quantity (tonnes)
2013-14 (April-Oct)	5220	247819
2012-13 (April-Oct)	1586	123138
2011-12 (April-Oct)	1888	137913

Source: APEDA/ DGCIS

(Ghosh, 2013)

But according to news agency Reuters special report, " in the land of 'sacred cows', there is a fury over beef exports' as per the data by the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA). In India, the beef exports mainly consists of buffaloes rather than the 'sacred cows'. The beef consumption in India is reported to be only 2.1 million tonnes a year as compared to the US beef consumption of 11.5 million tonnes! Statistics show that exports of beef from India are likely to hit close to 1.8 million tonnes in 2013, second only to Brazil, according to an April forecast by the USDA (OneIndia - Panwar, 2013).

## 6.5 Illegal Business

- The amended bill1995 have in fact raised concerns for providing fuel for an underground business.
- The more stringent the ban the more lucrative the illegal trade of beef.
- Illegal transport and marches of cattle to the areas where their slaughter is legal is a well known fact. In this regards the cruelty that can be imposed on the cattle is very gruesome. Which calls for even more stringent rules and regulations.
- It is estimated that the country houses 30,000 illegal, unlicensed slaughterhouses PETA.
- The leather usage is directly related to cattle slaughter too.
- "Farmers can barely sustain themselves, we cannot expect them to care for unproductive animals" (AlJazeera, 2014).
- The speedy expansion of the sector, increasing incomes, growing prices and demand has encouraged cattle smuggling.



- Bans on cow slaughter have fuelled an underground business where cows are illegally transported long distances to states where slaughter is legal (HuffpostIndia, 2015).
- Expressing fear that the blanket ban on the beef would encourage smuggling, Mohammed Qureshi president of Mumbai Suburban Beef Dealers' Association said that the farmers and poor people would be affected the most. "The farmers will be compelled to sell their animals at very low prices and the middlemen will slaughter it in villages, so that the police or authorities cannot catch them. The government decision will encourage smuggling of beef," he said (The Asian Age, 2015).
- It is evident that even aversion to beef eating does not result in more compassion towards the cow. Animal rights activists have complained about cattle death marches, whereby "old", "uneconomical" cattle were made to march to places where slaughter is permitted, or smuggled into Bangladesh, where by one estimate, half of all beef eaten comes illegally from India (The Hindu -Business Line , 2013).
- "The demand is very strong and with this traffic, people make a lot of money," said Ashoo Mongia, who set up a group Rashtriya Goraksha Sena or national army to protect cows (The Times of India, 2014).
- CNN estimates that 1.5 million cows, valued at up to a half-billion dollars, are smuggled out of India every year -- roughly one-half of the beef eaten in neighboring (and overwhelmingly Muslim) Bangladesh come from these "illegal" cattle (International Business Times, 2013).

## 6.6 Tourism

- Though the direct impact is yet to be researched, but a lot of international tourist to Maharashtra will surely feel the impact of the ban. If not "the tourist attraction it was surely one of them.
- Some of the famous Goan Cuisine using beef as the main ingredient will be missed too.
- Also a similar call of ban in other states is likely to see impact on tourist attraction.

## 7. FOOD FOR THOUGHT – THE ISSUES AND NOT JUST THOUGHT FOR FOOD

- The Indian judiciary system too acknowledges the fact that a complete ban on Beef and not Carabeef is not possible.
- Beef export is a lucrative and viable business given the facts regarding population growth and livestock growth ratio. Also it provides crucial foreign exchange.
- It contributes to the economy in the form of taxes inflows.
- Other by products industries is interdependent on the meat industry. As such the impact of the bill can be felt on these too.
- Moreover imposing a food culture is quite a challenge for anyone.
- The annual population growth rate of India is 1.58 % while that in animal sector is 4.48 %. It has to be studied how the ban will have adverse implications on this proportion.
- The move will also have serious impact on the health sector. The consumption of animal protein is viewed as an answer to diseases caused by protein deficiency (Sethumadhavan, 2015).
- The cattle economy will also be affected. And the plight of animals can be worsened if proper measures are not taken.
- The current situations calls for demand management and not demand curbing.
- Like alcohol prohibition or the American controls over abortion, the attempt to create a blanket ban on cow slaughter creates a black market, hurts industry and causes suffering to parties concerned. It criminalizes the dietary choices of a large majority from all religious faiths, for whom beef is the most affordable source of protein. As incidents in Karnataka and Gujarat show, it also makes beef eating populations vulnerable to intimidation and violence. And finally, it creates economic inefficiencies (DE, 2013).



## 8. REFERENCES

- [1] Ali, J. (2007). Livestock sector development and implications for rural poverty alleviation in India. *Livestock Research for Rural development* .
- [2] AlJazeera. (2014, April 20). *Sacred cows and politics of beef in India*. Retrieved March 15th, 2015, from AlJazeera.
- [3] Anand, A. (2015, March 15). *Who is affected by the ban on beef?* Retrieved March 18, 2015, from Daily Times.
- [4] Animalsmart.org. (n.d.). *Exporting animal products*. Retrieved from Animalsmart.org: <http://animalsmart.org/feeding-the-world/exporting-animal-products>
- [5] APEDA. (n.d.). *Buffalo Meat*. Retrieved March 28th, 2015, from Agriculture & Processed Food Products Export Development Authority: [http://apeda.gov.in/apedawebsite/SubHead\\_Products/Buffalo\\_Meat.htm](http://apeda.gov.in/apedawebsite/SubHead_Products/Buffalo_Meat.htm)
- [6] BBC News -Kannan, S. (2014, May 4). *India's elections spark debate on beef exports*. Retrieved April 5th, 2015, from BBC News: <http://www.bbc.com/news/business-27251802>
- [7] Blackwell, G. (n.d.). *The Ecological Consequences of Meat Consumption*. Retrieved March 17th, 2015, from Vegetarismus.ch.
- [8] Buffalopedia. (n.d.). *Buffalo Meat production in India*. Retrieved April 20th, 2015, from Buffalopedia: [http://www.buffalopedia.cirb.res.in/index.php?option=com\\_content&view=article&id=225&Itemid=128&lang=en](http://www.buffalopedia.cirb.res.in/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=225&Itemid=128&lang=en)
- [9] CattleEmpire. (2014, February 4). *The Many Uses of a Cow - Beef By-Products*. Retrieved March 14th, 2015, from CattleEmpire.
- [10] DE, R. (2013, November 18). *Who Moved My Beef?: Regulatory Changes and the Pink Revolution*. Retrieved March 16th, 2015, from CENTER FOR THE ADVANCED STUDY OF INDIA.
- [11] Enterprise, N. Z. (2012). *FOOD & BEVERAGE IN INDIA:Market Profile*. New Zealand Trade and Enterprise:exporters Guide.
- [12] FashionNetAsia.com. (2015, March 13). *India - Maharashtra beef ban will hurt tanners*. Retrieved March 18th, 2015, from FashionNetAsia.com.
- [13] Forbes - Saritha Rai. (2014, August 5). *Exporters Anxious As Election Results Could Threaten India's Position As World's Topmost Beef Exporter*. Retrieved March 15th, 2015, from Forbes: <http://www.forbes.com/sites/saritharai/2014/05/08/exporters-anxious-as-elections-results-could-threaten-indias-position-as-worlds-topmost-beef-exporter/>
- [14] Geer, A. (September, 5 2013). *The Shocking Truth About Leather: No, It's Not a Meat Byproduct*. Retrieved March 16th , 2015
- [15] Ghosh, P. (2013, May 14). *Where's The Beef? In India, Believe It Or Not*. Retrieved March 10th, 2015, from International Business Times.





**GLOBAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH**  
(Scholarly Peer Review Publishing System)

- [16]HinduismToday. (2014, October 13). *Requests Narendra Modi to Ban Subsidy to export Beef*. Retrieved March 19th, 2015, from Hinduism Today.
- [17]HuffpostIndia. (2015, March 3). *How Different States In India Treat Beef Eating*. Retrieved March 7th, 2015, from HuffpostIndia: [http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2015/03/03/beef-ban-maharashtra\\_n\\_6790006.html](http://www.huffingtonpost.in/2015/03/03/beef-ban-maharashtra_n_6790006.html)
- [18]International Business Times. (2013, May 14th). *Where's The Beef? In India, Believe It Or Not*. Retrieved April 2nd, 2015, from <http://www.ibtimes.com/wheres-beef-india-believe-it-or-not-1258469>
- [19]Joshua. Lagos, R. M. (2014). *Livestock and Products Annual*. India: GAIN Report NumberIN4080.
- [20]K. Jayathilakan, K. S. (2011, February 20). *Utilization of byproducts and waste materials from meat, poultry and fish processing industries: a review*. Retrieved March 16th, 2015, from Journal of Food Science and Technology .
- [21]Meattechasia 2015,. (n.d.). *India:Top buffalo meat exporter*. Retrieved from [www.abfonline.com](http://www.abfonline.com)
- [22]OneIndia -Panwar, P. (2013, December 18). *India to become world's biggest beef exporter soon: Report*. Retrieved March 20th, 2015, from OneIndia.
- [23]Sethumadhavan, T. (2015, March 9). *Beef ban opens a Pandora's Box*. Retrieved March 28th, 2015, from Mathrubhumi.com.
- [24]Shah, D. (2005). EXPORT POTENTIAL OF INDIA IN LIVESTOCK SECTOR: FUTURE. *Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics* .
- [25]The Asian Age. (2015, March 4th). *Beef ban likely to affect 20 lakh in Maharashtra*. Retrieved March 19th, 2015, from The Asian Age: <http://www.asianage.com/mumbai/beef-ban-likely-affect-20-lakh-maharashtra-289>
- [26]The Asian Age- Ganapatye, S. (2015, March 4). *Beef ban in Maharashtra to hit livelihood of 20 lakh people*. Retrieved April 20th, 2015, from Deccan Chronicle: <http://www.deccanchronicle.com/150304/nation-current-affairs/article/beef-ban-maharashtra-hit-livelihood-20-lakh-people>
- [27]The Hindu -Business Line . (2013, November 18). *Who Moved My Beef?: Regulatory Changes and the Pink Revolution*. Retrieved March 16th, 2015, from The Hindu -Business Line.
- [28]The New Indian Express . (2014, February 9). *UPA's Pink Revolution Makes India World's Biggest Beef Exporter*. Retrieved April 3rd, 2015, from The New Indian Express: <http://www.newindianexpress.com/business/news/UPAs-Pink-Revolution-Makes-India-Worlds-Biggest-Beef-Exporter/2014/02/09/article2045869.ece>
- [29]The Times of India. (2014, July 14th). *Beef exporter confidence returns in India*. Retrieved april 3rd, 2015, from The Times of India.
- [30]The Times Of India -Chandalia, Hemraj. (2015, March 9). *The bittersweet truth about diabetes in India*. Retrieved april 2, 2015, from The Times Of India: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/life-style/health-fitness/health-news/The-bittersweet-truth-about-diabetes-in-India/articleshow/45033299.cms?>
- [31]The Times of India -Ramkumar, P. (2013, April 1). *Beef exports up 44% in 4 years, India is top seller*. Retrieved March 17th, 2015, from The Times of India: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Beef-exports-up-44-in-4-years-India-is-top-seller/articleshow/19314449.cms?referral=PM>



**GLOBAL JOURNAL OF ADVANCED RESEARCH**  
(Scholarly Peer Review Publishing System)

- [32] University, O. S. (2012). *“Where’s the Beef?” The story of Beef By-products*. Oklahoma: Oklahoma Cooperative Extension Service • Division of Agricultural Sciences and Natural Resources.
- [33] Walsh, B. (2013, December 16). *The Triple Whopper Environmental Impact of Global Meat Production*. Retrieved March 14th, 2015, from TIME.