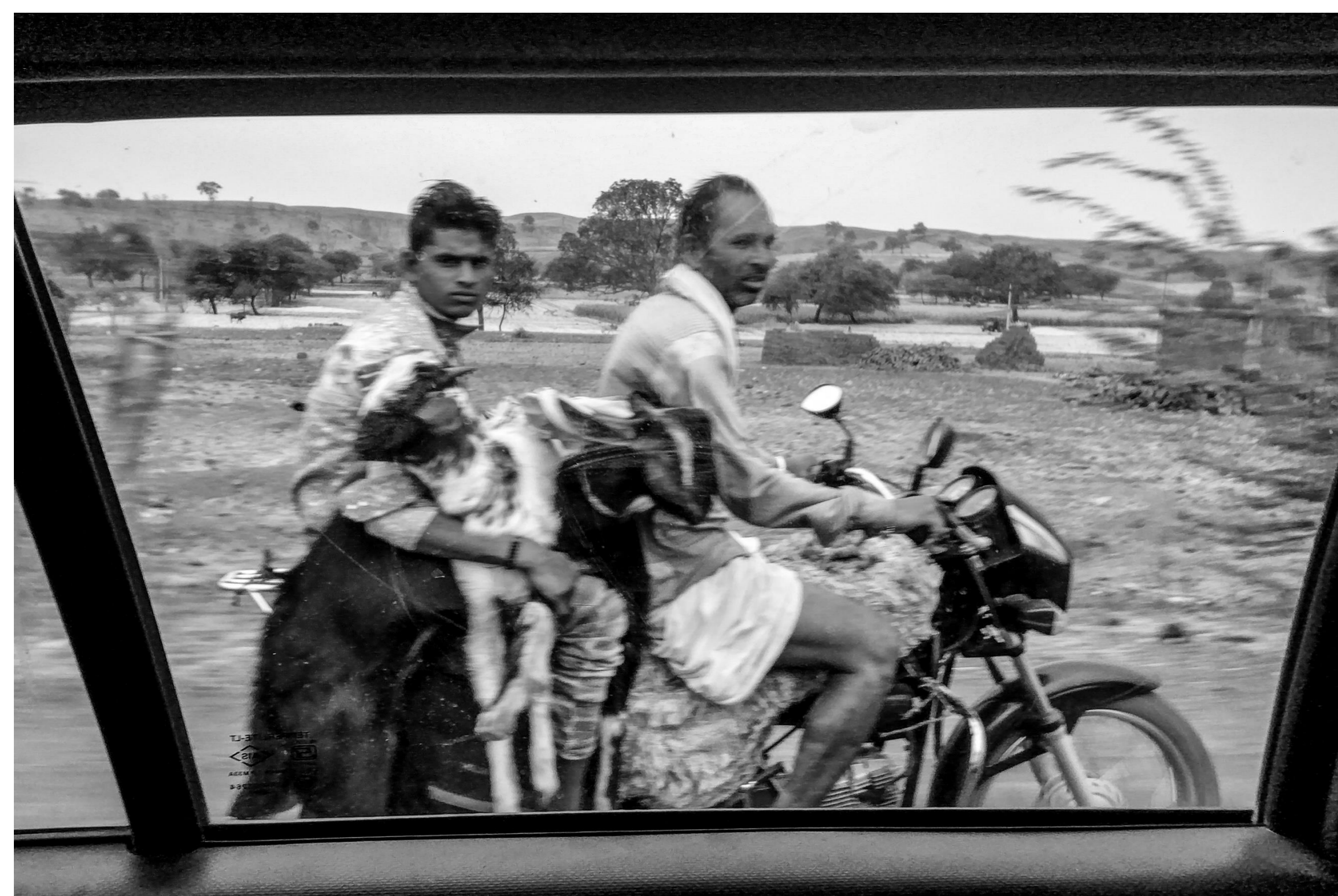




GOAT VALUE CHAINS DEVELOPMENT IN INDIA

a visual showcase by PRATYOOSH KASHYAP



Goat rearing is an important source of livelihood for 20 million resource-poor farmers in India.

India has the world's second largest goat population. Both demand and production of chevon continue to increase.

Dependence on monsoon for farming, erratic farm output, uncertain market prices make traditional farming unviable for the smaller farmers.



Challenges however are aplenty which need to be addressed to increase overall production and productivity in the sector.

Production - Traditional methods, low nutrition feed, high mortality due to diseases, low quality of the breeding bucks, poor extension services.

Marketing – Large number of buyers, traders. Though, the sector is unorganized and falls under the informal economy. Most transactions done in cash.

With the necessary inputs, extension support, market linkages and developing community based models, the goat value chain can be strengthened manifold.

It is the women in the family who are largely engaged in goat rearing - developing the sector will have a direct impact on women empowerment.

The photographs are from various states in India and represent an intimate connection between the farmers and the goats.

