FUNCTIONING OF KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRA IN GARHWAL HILLS

Kiran Pant[1] & Ummed Singh[2]

ABSTRACT

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) is the grass-root level technology transfer and vocational training institutions designed for bridging the gap between technologies on one hand and there application for increased productions on the other hand. To fulfill the need of training and extension facilities in hilly areas particularly in Tehri district, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Ranichauri came in to existence in May 1983. A study on the functioning of KVK was undertaken and it reveal that it was the general practice of the KVK scientists to conduct the trainings in an organized way and majority of the functionaries were agreed upon that farmer's need should be the criteria for the selection of trainees. Further majority of the beneficiaries (62.5 %) also found the trainings fully need based. The inference may be drawn from the findings that Kendra should designing its training programmes with adequate emphasis on practical and having a good balance of theory and practical. It could be referred that the Kendra is performing its duties in a responsible manner as far as the assessment of the needs of the farmers is concerned

Key Words : Vocational Training, Transfer of technology, Functioning

INTRODUCTION :

Krishi Vigyan Kendra is an innovative science center that aims at imparting vocational training to practicing farmers, farm women and rural youth, in service training to field level extension functionaries in the area of emerging agricultural technologies, on farm testing for assessment and refinement of technology with farmers participation and front line demonstration on oilseeds and pulses and also to provide scientific feed back to the research functionaries for further modification as per the needs and requirements of the farmers The main purpose of the KVK is imparting learning through "Work Experience' to those who are engaged in farming. The KVKs are the grass-root level technology transfer and vocational training institutions designed for bridging the gap between technologies on one hand and their application for increased productions on the other hand. According to the report of annual general meeting of the 74'th ICAR Society at present 344 KVKs are working in all over India. According to the report 5.81 lakh farmers, rural youths and extension functionaries were trained by different KVKs. 26,000 front line demonstrations were conducted on important technologies and 1,998 indigenous technical knowledge in various thematic areas were documented. (Times of India July 16, 2003)

For the overall growth and development of Uttaranchal hills, attention has to be focused on new agricultural technologies, scientific cropping patterns, alternative land use techniques, proper land and water management practices, livestock management and home & family resource management. To meet this challenge and to fulfil the need of training and extension facilities in hilly areas particularly in Tehri district, Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Ranichauri came in to existence in May 1983, but its actual functioning started in the year 1984 with the appointment of the scientific personnel. The KVK has been established by the G.B. Pant University of Agriculture and Technology and financed by the Indian Council of Agriculture Research, New Delhi.

The evaluation of performance of KVK and its training programme from time to time is essential with a view to improving the content, quality and methodology of training This is about time that an assessment of its functioning must be analysed systematically. Keeping in this view a study has been undertaken *To study the functioning of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra in Garhwal Hills.*

METHODOLOGY :

The whole District serves as the working area of the KVK . So a list of beneficiaries was prepared and 200 farmers benefited through the KVK programmes during the period of 1996-2000 were selected randomly covering the whole district . Their were two types of respondents, first who received the training (Beneficiaries),and second who imparted the trainings(Functionaries). The number of functionaries working in the KVK were less so all the functionaries working in the KVK were selected purposely. The data gathered by personal interview with the functionaries and beneficiaries and analyzed .

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION :

Training is an important part and tool of dissemination of latest information to the farmers.Lal and Panwar (1994) concluded in their study that training was the most useful extension technique for transfer of technology for trainees. It was studied whether the proper method was followed by the scientists of KVK and the study reveals that it was the general practice of the KVK

1. KVK,G.B.P.U.A.&T., Hill Campus Ranichauri, **2.** Reader (ag. Ext.), J. V. College, Baraut.

scientists to follow the following steps to conduct the trainings in an organized way-

1. Planning :

Planning was done by following the steps:

(a) Scheduling of training programme : It was done well in advance with due planning as the concerned scientists prepare the annual calendar of training programmes with fixed dates. This calendar is widely circulated in the district.

(b) Job Analysis of the participants : Before starting the training programme participants were asked about their on going activities in their farms/villages. Their performance level was also enquired and they were asked as what they want to accomplish during the training course. Extension functionaries were asked about their duties.

(c) Trainees analysis : Knowledge test done verbally just before commencement of the training.

(d) Training need assessment : Farmers were asked to discuss among small groups about their training needs just before the start of training. Training need assessment is the regular activity of KVK Ranichauri.

2. Preparation :

(a) Organisation of content : Course content and syllabus was prepared

(b) Lesson Plan : Lesson plan were prepared well in time and adhered to.

3. Implementation of training

(a) Conduct of training : Audio visual aids were used in conducting of training.

(b) Mid review : Mid review was done as per need.

(c) Review and revision of training : Training contents were revised based on the feedback.

4. Monitoring and evaluation syllabus :

Post training contacts were made personally during field and village visits and also through feedback by post.

It was necessary to find out the actual implementation of the steps in the opinion of trainees and trainers. For this the information was gathered and it was presented and analysed in the following tables;

Need assessment survey : Before going for the actual implementation of the programmes.It is very essential to find out the needs of the farmers.

Table 1. Functionaries who conduct the need assessment survey

S.N.	Mode of Survey	No. of functionaries	Percentage
1	Always	4	50.00
2	Occasionally	4	50.00
3	Never	0	0.00
	Total	**8**	**100**

The table 1. reveals that all the functionaries were conducting the need assessment survey prior going for actual training. Half of the functionaries (50 %) conducted the need assessment survey always while the same number (50%) of functionaries conducted it occasionally.

Criteria for selection of the trainees : The criteria of selection of the trainees are very important, so that only needy could get the trainings so the information was collected by the functionaries about the criteria they followed during the selection of the trainees.

Table 2. Criteria for the selection of the trainees

S.N.	Selection Criteria	No. of functionaries	Percentage
1	Farmer's need	5	62.50
2	Caste	0	0.00
3	Poverty	0	0.00
4	Age	2	25.00
5	Gender	1	12.50
	Total	**8**	**100.00**

The table 2. describes that majority of the functionaries were agreed upon that farmer's need should be the criteria for the selection of trainees. Manjula et al. (1994) revealed that for the training to be more effective, resulting in better adoption, it is important to select farm women who are the older member of the family as they have higher achievement motivation. It proves that age should also be one important criteria for selection of trainees this criteria was reported only by 25% of the functionaries of KVK.

Need based ness of the training programme : The respondents were asked about whether the trainings were need based or not.

Table 3. Need basedness of the training

S.N.	Extend to need based	No. Of beneficial	Percentage
1	Fully	125	62.50
2	Partially	55	27.50
3	Not at all	20	10.00
	Total	**200**	**100.00**

It can be concluded on the basis of the table 3 that majority of the respondents (62.5%) accepted that the trainings were fully need based' followed by those (27.50 %) who accepted that the trainings were partially need based. Only few (10.00%) found the training programmes as needless.

It can be referred that the Kendra is performing its duties in a responsible manner as far as the assessment of the needs of the farmers is concerned in designing the training programmes as majority of the farmers found the training programmes need based.

Practical orientation of the training programme :

The principal method of imparting training is 'Teaching by doing". Appropriate balance of practical and theory is an important aspect of a training programme and also determines its effectiveness. The respondents were asked about the proportion of theory and practical in the training.

Table 4. Practical orientation of the training programme

S. N.	Proportion of theory and practical	No. of functionaries	Percentage
1	More practical oriented	40	20.00
2	More theoretical	16	8.00
3	Balanced	144	72.00
	Total	**200**	**100.00**

The majority of the respondents found the theory and practical as in balanced proportion. The inference may be drawn from the table 4 that Kendra is designing its training programmes with adequate emphasis on practical and having a good balance of theory and practical.

Use of audio-visual aids in the training programme : Use of audio visual aids is very important to make the training programme more effective. Audio visual aids generally helps and assist the trainer in imparting training to the target group. It provides an added experience to the trainees and helps them in acquiring skill effectively and efficiently. It also adds quality to the training programmes. The respondents were asked about whether the audio visual aids were utilized during the training programmes or not.

Table 5. Use of audio visual aids in the training programme

S.N.	Use of Audio Visual Aids	No. of functionaries	Percentage
1	Use	128	64.00
2	Don't use	72	36.00
	Total	**200**	**100.00**

The table 5. reveals that majority of the functionaries (64 &) were using audio visual aids during the training programmers while rest (36 %) of the functionaries were not using the audio visual aids during the training programmes.It may be inferred that the functionaries have been utilizing the potential of audio visual aids properly.

Pre and post evaluation of the training programmes : To know that whether the objectives formulated before actual conduct of the training were fulfilled or not, it is very important to conduct evaluation before and after the training.

Table 6. Functionaries conducting pre and post evaluation of the training programmes

S.N.	Frequency of conducting evaluation	No. of functionaries	Percentage
1	Always	5	62.50
2	Occasionally	3	37.50
3	Never	0	0.00
	Total	**8**	**100.00**

The functionaries were asked about whether they conduct pre and post evaluation and it was found (table 6) that majority of the functionaries (62.50 %) were conducting it always while few reported (37.50%) that they conduct pre and post evaluation occasionally.

As the table 6 reveals that all the functionaries are conducting evaluation. It shows that pre and post training evaluation being an important component for assessing the impact of the training programmes

Linkages maintained after the training programmes : To follow up the training programmes it is very essential to maintain post-training linkages with the farmers. Post training linkages are necessary to reinforce the adoption process among the trainees and help to get the feed back for them. Proper linkages also help to build and induce trust and confidence among the trainees with respect to trainers and technology being transferred.

Table 7. Functionaries maintaining post-training linkages with the farmers

S.N.	Trend of maintaining linkages	No Of functionaries	%
1	Generally	3	37.50
2	Sometime	5	62.50
3	Not at all	0	0.00
	Total	**8**	**100.00**

To know whether the linkages with the farmers were maintained after the trainings were over, the information was obtained. The table 7 reveals that majority of the functionaries (62.50%) agreed upon that only some time the linkages were maintained after the training was completed. Few of them reported (37.50 %) that the linkages were generally maintained with the farmers even after the training was over.

CONCLUSION :

It could be concluded that it was the general practice of the KVK scientists to follow proper methodology during the conduct of trainings. As the need assessment survey is an important part of the training, it was found that all the functionaries were conducting the need assessment survey prior going for actual training. The study reveals that majority of the functionaries were agreed upon that farmer's need should be the criteria for the selection of trainees. Further the beneficiaries were also asked about whether the trainings were need based, and it was found that majority of the beneficiaries (62.5 %) accepted that the trainings were fully need based. The majority of the beneficiaries found the theory and practical as in balanced proportion. It is suggested that the functionaries should pay more attention in maintaining the post training linkages to make the KVK programmes more influential.

REFERSENCES

1. Lal and Panwar (1994) Impact of short duration training programme on gain in knowledge about extension teaching methods and horticultural practices. *Maha. J. of Ext. Edu.*XIII :39-42
2. Manjula, N.; Siddaramaiah, B.S. and Achouth, L.(1994).Factors contributing to the adoption of trained and untrained farm women. *Journal of rural Development* Hyderabad. 13(1);107-114.

■ ■ ■ ■ ■