

## Study of the Impact of Vocational Training Program on Knowledge, Skill Development and Income Generation of Women Farmer

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Paper Received on October 12, 2018, Accepted on December 06, 2018 and Published Online on December 15, 2018

### ABSTRACT

*Women empowerment is the important aspect in the present scenario. It is an active, multi-dimensional process which should enable women to realize their full identity and power in all spheres of life. India envisions a future in which Indian women are independent and self-reliant. KVK Sidhi organized vocational training on various aspects for 180 women farmers to enhance the skill of women and they can gain more knowledge and use their abilities to improve the economic condition of their families. Majority (53.58%) of the respondents had medium level of knowledge as well as maximum respondents has (59.58%) medium skill level about all five activities which they have received training. Maximum average income generated by preservation (i.e. Rs 6528/-) followed by mushroom cultivation (i.e. Rs 4530/-), minimum income generated by fabric dyeing and printing (i.e. Rs 1000/-).*

**Key words :** Vocational training; Income generation; knowledge enhancement; Skill development.

Since ancient times, women have played an significant role in almost every aspect of our society. Meeting the world's food needs in 2025 will depend even more than now on the capabilities and resources of women. In many developing countries, especially India, women are responsible for creating food security for their families. Women not only process, procure, and prepare food, but they also play an important role in national agricultural production by producing both food and cash crops (Gautam et al., 2012). Women empowerment is not only a process but also an outcome (Singh & Chauhan, 2004). The Government is implementing many programmes for socio-economic upliftment of women. The process of empowerment is conceptualized in terms of personal assertions and confidence ability to protect themselves as women, attaining economic independence, ownership of productive assets ability to handle capital and assets and provide leadership in both women and community of all levels. Any kind of development in our science and technology will be not fruitful unless until this will be adopted by our farm women, the real uses of our

modern technology or who are the real beneficiaries of the technology (Kumari et al., 2015). KVKs of Madhya Pradesh were carried out a considerable number of trainings for farm women for their capacity building and livelihood security (Singh et al., 2012). For economic independence, vocational training may become very effective tool to empower women (Yadav et al., 2021). It is sometimes referred to as technical education as the trainee directly develops expertise in a particular group of techniques or technology. There is a need to encourage and attract grassroots rural women to participate in such training programmes (Gupta et al., 2005). The Krishi Vigyan Kendra of Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh has successfully organized different types of vocational trainings related to agriculture and allied field to assess the impact of vocational training on knowledge, skill development and income generation.

### METHODOLOGY

The study was carried out in Sidhi district of Madhya Pradesh. Sidhi block was selected purposively due to higher number of vocational training has been conducted

by KVK in this block. Multistage random sampling procedure was followed for selection of sample for study. 5 villages were selected for vocational training purpose by KVK Sidhi. In these 5 villages, 180 rural women were trained by the KVK between the year of 2014-17. All these 180 women participants were taken for this study. A well structure interview schedule was used for assessing the socio-economic status, knowledge and skill level of beneficiaries. The data in the form of numerical value were categorized. Frequencies and percentage were worked out using the following formula.

$$P = X/N \times 100$$

Where,

P = Percentage

X = Frequency of respondents

N = Total number of respondents.

## RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 shows the impact of vocational training programme on knowledge acquisition. Majority (50%) of the trainees whose engaged in value addition has medium level of knowledge, 30% had low level of knowledge and only 20% has high knowledge. Regarding mushroom cultivation, 50% has medium, 29.4% has low and 20.6% had high level of knowledge. 57.89% respondent had medium level, 26.31% had low and only 15.78% had high level of knowledge regarding rural craft. 50% had medium level, 32.14% had low and 17.85% had high level of knowledge regarding fabric dyeing and printing. 60% had medium, 30% had low and 10% had high level of knowledge regarding candle making.

Table 2 depicted the impact of vocational training programme on skill development. Among participants 64% had medium level, 24% had low and 12% had high skill level regarding Preservation. 53% had medium skill level, 29.4% had low and 17.6% had high skill level regarding mushroom cultivation. 62.1% trainees had medium level, 32.7% had low and 10.3% had high skill level regarding rural craft. 58.8% had medium level, 29.4% had low and 11.8% had high skill level regarding fabric dyeing and printing. 60% respondent had medium, 28% had low and 12% had high skill level regarding candle making.

Table 3 shows the impact of vocational training programme on income generation. Out of 89 respondents, 61.8% had generated high income, 24.7% had generated medium income and 13.5% had generated low income

**Table 1. Distribution of respondents according to their knowledge level**

Activities/ Knowledge level	No.	%
<i>Preservation/Value addition</i>		
Low	21	30
Medium	35	50
High	14	20
<i>Mushroom cultivation</i>		
Low	10	29.4
Medium	17	50
High	7	20.6
<i>Rural craft</i>		
Low	5	26.31
Medium	11	57.89
High	3	15.78
<i>Fabric dyeing and printing</i>		
Low	9	32.14
Medium	14	50.0
High	4	17.85
<i>Candle making</i>		
Low	9	30
Medium	18	60
High	3	10

**Table 2. Distribution of respondents according to their skill level**

Activities/Skill level	No.	%
<i>Preservation/value addition</i>		
Low	18	24
Medium	48	64
High	9	12
<i>Mushroom cultivation</i>		
Low	10	29.4
Medium	18	53
High	6	17.6
<i>Rural craft</i>		
Low	8	27.6
Medium	18	62.1
High	3	10.3
<i>Fabric dyeing and printing</i>		
Low	5	29.4
Medium	10	58.8
High	2	11.8
<i>Candle making</i>		
Low	7	28
Medium	15	60
High	3	12

from preservation. From out of 42 respondents, 38.1% of respondents had generated medium income, 33.3% respondent had generated low income and 28.6% respondent had generated high income by mushroom

**Table 3. Distribution of respondents according to income level**

Income level	No.	%
<i>Preservation/value addition</i>		
Low	12	13.5
Medium	22	24.7
High	55	61.8
<i>Mushroom cultivation</i>		
Low	14	33.3
Medium	16	38.1
High	12	28.6
<i>Rural craft</i>		
Low	8	25
Medium	16	50
High	8	25
<i>Fabric dyeing and printing</i>		
Low	2	25
Medium	4	50
High	2	25
<i>Candle making</i>		
Low	3	33.3
Medium	4	44.5
High	2	22.2

cultivation. From out of 32 respondents, 50% respondents had generated medium income, 25% respondent had generated low income and 25% had generated high income by rural craft. From out of 8 respondents. 50% respondent had generated medium income, 25% respondent had generated high income and 25% respondents had generated low income by fabric dyeing and printing. From out of 9 respondents, 44.5% respondents had generated medium income, 33.3% respondents had generated low income

and 22.2% respondents had generated high income by candle making.

From Table 4 it was observed that from out of all five activities, maximum average income was generated through preservation (Rs 6528), followed by mushroom cultivation (Rs 4530), by rural craft, (Rs 3200), by candle making (Rs 1500) and from fabric dyeing and printing (Rs 1000).

**Table 4. According to their average income generation by all five activities**

Activities	Av. income generated (Rs.)	Rank
Preservation/value addition	6528	I
Mushroom cultivation	4530	II
Rural craft	3200	III
Candle making	1500	IV
Fabric dyeing and printing	1000	V

## CONCLUSION

The present study was conducted to know the effects of various vocational trainings conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra Sidhi for the upliftment of women farmers. The trainees were found to have medium knowledge and medium skill level in all the five trainings in which they had undergone training. The highest average income was achieved by Preservation / value addition training and the lowest was achieved by fabric dyeing and printing and the medium average income was achieved in the other three occupation. It may be concluded that the preservation/ value addition and mushroom cultivation have been the best enterprise for rural women in terms of income generation.

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