

Impact of KVK Training Programme on Socio –economic Status and Knowledge of Trainees in Allahabad District

A. K. Dubey¹, J.P.Srivastva², R. P. Singh³ and V.K.Sharma⁴

1. SMS, KVK, (C.R.U.R.R.S., Hazaribag /C.R.R.I., Cuttack, Orissa) Jainagar, Koderma, Jharkhand. 2. Dean and Head (Ag..Ext.) K.A. P.G. College, Allahabad 3. Asso. Director Extension, KVK, Hastinapur, SVBPUA&T, Meerut, 4. Lecturer, R.B.S.College, Bichpuri, Agra
Corresponding Author E-mail: akdubeykvk@yahoo.com

ABSTRACT

The study was undertaken among 150 on-campus trainees and 150 off-campus trainees spread among ten purposively selected villages under five blocks under the domain of KVK Allahabad. The 15 on-campus trainees and 15 off-campus trainees were selected randomly from each selected villages. Two variables namely, respondents' socio-economic status and their level of knowledge about the training programme of the selected KVK were measured by utilizing pre-structured and pre-tested interview schedule. Findings of the study showed that majority (43.33 %) of on-campus trainees had medium socio-economic status followed by low (36 %) socio-economic status and only 20.67 per cent had high level of socio-economic status. However, in case of off-campus trainees, 55.33 per cent had low socio-economic status followed by 42 per cent medium level and only 2.67 per cent high level of socio-economic status. The study revealed considerable difference between on and off-campus trainees regarding their socio-economic status. It was also found that majority (74.67 %) of the on-campus trainee respondents had high level of knowledge followed by medium level of knowledge (24 %) and low level of knowledge (1.33%), whereas in case of on-campus trainees 75.34 per cent respondents had medium level of knowledge, 15.33 per cent had high level of knowledge followed by 9.33 per cent who had low level of knowledge about the KVK training programme. This indicates that there has been a significant difference between the on and off-campus trainees with regard to their knowledge about KVK training programme.

Key words: Training; Socio-economic status; Knowledge;

In order to ameliorate the poor socio-economic conditions of the farmers, farm women and rural youths in rural India by raising the level of farm productivity, income and employment with application of agricultural innovation generated at research station, an innovative extension education institutions i.e. Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVKs) was introduced by Indian Council of Agricultural Research.

Socio-economic status is an important factor, which pervades all fields of social action in Indian society. This is needless to say that a man's position in the socio-economic status hierarchy determines, by-an-large, his behaviour in the society. People belonging to higher socio-economic status are said to be more modernized in their values and behaviours than the people who are in comparatively low ranges of the socio-economic status.

Knowledge may be defined as those behaviour and test situations, which emphasize upon memorization the remembering, either by recognition or recall of ideas. One of the main tasks of Krishi Vigyan Kendra is to provide and improve the level of knowledge of the trainees about the improved farm practices, because knowledge is

cognitive component of individual's mind and plays an important role in covert as well as overt behaviour and individuals with a greater knowledge of technical nature of improved practices would lead to a high adoption possibly because knowledge is not inert. Once knowledge is acquired and retained, it undergoes and produces changes in the thinking process and of mental alchemy. This study was, therefore, conducted to ascertain the level of socio-economic condition of the farmers as well as their prevailing level of awareness knowledge of the KVK training programme.

METHODOLOGY

KVK, Allahabad was selected purposively. For selection of respondents, the total respondents were 300, consisting of 150 on-campus trainees and 150 off-campus trainees. The data were collected through personal interview method using structural schedule. The ex-post facto research design was employed in the present investigation. The entire data were transformed into normal scores. The level of knowledge was categorized as low, medium, and high on the basis of scores obtained.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

I) *Socio-Economic Status (SES) of Respondents:* The SES status scores of the respondents were computed and their distribution is given in Table 1

Table 1. Distribution of trainees according to their socio-economic status score.

Category (SES Scale)	Trainees			
	On-campus		Off-campus	
	F	%	F	%
Low (Upto 40)	54	36.00	83	55.33
Medium (Above 40 upto 80)	65	43.33	63	42.00
High (Above 80)	31	20.67	04	02.67
Z-Value (0.05)	5.23			

As revealed from the Table 1, majority of the on-campus trainees (43.33 per cent) had medium socio-economic status followed by low socio-economic status (36 per cent) and only 20.67 per cent had higher level of socio-economic status, whereas, in case of on-campus trainees 55.33 per cent had low socio-economic status followed by 42 per cent medium level and only 2.67 per cent had high level of socio-economic status. Thus, it can be concluded that the on-campus trainees had higher socio-economic status than the off-campus trainees.

The calculated value of 'Z' was found to be 5.23, which was greater than the table value of 'Z' (1.96) at 5 per cent level of significance. It is thus concluded that there was significant difference between trainees on and off-campus regarding their socio-economic status. The finding is in conformity with the findings of Patel and Patel (1968).

II) *Knowledge of the Trainees and Non-trainees about KVK Training Programmes:* Knowledge of the trainees of on and off-campus about KVK training programme was determined by a set of twenty-five questions. Only one question was discarded since its item difficulty level was found to be above 80.

A perusal of the data in Table 2 reveals that majority

(74.67 per cent) of the on-campus trainees had high level of knowledge followed by medium level of knowledge (24 per cent) and low level of knowledge (1.33 per cent), whereas in case of off-campus trainees 75.34 per cent respondents had medium level of knowledge, 15.33 per cent had high level of knowledge followed by 9.33 per cent had low level of knowledge. Hence, it may be concluded that on-campus trainees had high level of knowledge than the off-camps trainees about KVK training programmes.

Table 2. Distribution of respondent according to their knowledge towards KVK training programmes.

Category (Level of Knowledge)	Trainees		Non-Trainees	
	F	%	F	%
Low (Upto 8)	02	1.33	14	9.33
Medium (Above 8 upto 16)	36	24.00	113	75.34
High (Above 16)	112	74.67	23	15.33

Z- Value (0.05)=12.93

The calculated value of 'Z' was found to be 12.93, which was greater than the table value of 'Z' (1.96) at 5 per cent level for 298 degrees of freedom. This indicates that, there was a significant difference between the trainees of on and off-campus with regard to their knowledge about KVK training programme.

Thus, it was concluded that the on-campus trainees have more knowledge about the KVK training programme than the off-campus trainees. These findings tally with those of Kumar *et al.* (1994), Murthy and Veerabhadraiah (1999).

CONCLUSION

It is evident from the findings that KVK is able to bring about significant changes in the socio-economic status as well as the level of knowledge among different categories of trainees. Training and guidance given to trainees have played prime role in influencing technological changes, besides management orientation. Therefore, there is need to give due importance for the above factors with suitable changes by the staff to promote successfully functioning of KVK training programmes.

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