

Attitude of Respondents towards KVK Training Programmes

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ABSTRACT

This study was undertaken with a view to ascertain the level of attitude of the trainees towards KVK training programme as a result of training programmes conducted by Allahabad KVK, implemented by Allahabad Agricultural Institute Allahabad. The study was conducted on 300 respondents selected by random sampling technique from 10 villages covering 4 C.D. blocks of the district. The findings infer that the on-campus trainees have more favorable attitude than the off-campus trainees. This is indicating that the exposure of KVK training programme significantly changed the attitude of farmers in desired direction, which one could obviously expect. It may be stated that policies and plans to improve the adoption of agricultural technologies in India should not overlook the importance of the need to change the incompatible outlooks and view held by those farmers who are considered as traditional and conservative.

Key words: Attitude; On-campus trainees; Off-campus-trainees;

Human resource is the most precious resource for any country. It is, however, not the numerical but the qualitative strength of the people, which forges a country ahead towards progress and prosperity. It is basically the development of human resources that brings about socio-economic or political-cultural transformation of any society. Today the farmers are responsive to new ideas and are willing to take up improved practices. Even then the total production of food and milk production has always been far short of its requirement. Experience with the farmers training centres, showed that by and large, these had failed to have desired impact. These considerations make a case for revision of existing training institutions. The appropriate training of practicing farmers received the attention of various educational institutions in varying degrees. Mahatma Gandhi had suggested, "Education should be revolutionized so as to answer to the wants of the poorest villagers."

The KVK, an educational institution, offers a very real opportunity by organising training to work closely with trainees in developing a more skilled and educated work force. KVK has to develop and adopt both on campus and off campus training. The training programme of KVK is a multipurpose one to cover not only the varied needs of a person but also the entire needs of village and community. It covers agricultural technology, home crafts, childcare, family welfare, cooperation, animal rearing and management, fisheries, bee-keeping and cottage industries, depending upon the needs of area and people.

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Allahabad (Now Deemed University) sanctioned in 1992, finally started in September 1994, for imparting training and education with a view to raise the level of knowledge, attitudinal changes and testing and transferring of recommended improved farm technology so as to bridge the gap between production and productivity and also to increase self employment opportunities among the farm community. The training programmes (On and Off campus) of this KVK are being conducted for the last eight years for fulfilling the KVK mandate. In extension research, attitude of a person or group towards any programmes is of paramount importance. The success or failure of many a rural social reforms would mainly depend upon the client's attitude towards it. By and large attitude of farmers forms and essential component for the better implementation and success of KVK training programmes. Keeping this in view, an attempt was made to ascertain the level of attitude of the trainees towards KVK training programme.

METHODOLOGY

KVK, Allahabad Agricultural Institute, Allahabad was purposively selected including all the trainees (on and off-campus) and all the training personnel working in the concerned KVK. A sample of 10 villages out of 50 villages covering 05 blocks viz. Sankargarh, Jasara, Kaundhiyara, Karchhana and Chaka were selected purposively as these villages having maximum number of trainees, making it easy to get required number of

training and wider applicability among farmers respondents. For selection of respondents, a list of each village was obtained from the KVK under study and 15 on-campus trainees were selected randomly from the list obtained. The 15 off-campus trainees with similar socio-economic condition were also selected randomly from the same village. Thus the total respondents were 300 in number, consisting of 150 on-campus trainees and 150 off-campus trainees concerned with KVK under study.

To determine the attitude of on-campus trainees and off-campus trainees, a set of 20 statements were used. Responses were recorded on a three point scale of 'agree', "undecided", and 'disagree'. The scoring was 3 to 1 in case of positive statements and 1 to 3 in case of negative statements. The category of attitude was placed in three groups as below :

1. Low attitude score upto 20.
2. Medium attitude score above 20 upto 40.
3. High attitude score above 40.

The attitude of on- campus trainees and off-campus trainees is presented in Table 1.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

In the case of on-campus trainees, all the respondents i.e. 100 per cent had high level of attitude, towards KVK training programme while in case of off-campus trainees 86.67 per cent had high level of attitude followed by 13.33 per cent have medium level of attitude.

Table 1. Categories of the respondents according to their attitude towards KVK training programme

Category	on- campus		off- campus	
	F	%	F	%
Low (Upto 20)	0	0	0	0
Medium (Above 20 upto 40)	0	0	20	13.33
High (Above 40)	150	100	130	86.67

This indicates that the on-campus trainee farmers had high level of attitude than the off-campus trainees. Thus serious attention is required to educate the off-campus trainees in order to develop their attitude positively towards KVK training programme so that they also may develop their knowledge input.

Evaluation of Attitude of Respondents Towards KVK Training Programme: Based on all responses, total score and mean weighted score were computed for each statement. The mean weighted score was worked out by dividing the total score of each statement by number of respondents. The mean weighted score (MWS) for 20 statements was evaluated as per criterion prescribed in Table 2.

The total score of each statement, corresponding mean weighted score and its evaluation have been given in Table

3. The results presented in evaluation of responses have been summarised for positive/favourable attitude; negative/unfavourable attitude; by on-campus trainees and off-campus trainees which have been presented and summarised briefly as given below.

Table 2. Scale for evaluating positive and negative statements:

Positive Statement	Evaluation Table	Negative Statement
Disagree (DA)	Upto 1.0	Agree (A)
Undecided (UD)	Above 1.0 upto 2.0	Undecided (UD)
Agree (A)	Above 2.0	Disagree (DA)

Table 3 revealed that MWS shows that on-campus trainees have had clear positive response towards KVK training programme than the off-campus trainees. These findings are suggestive to KVK(s) and extension agencies for preparing a suitable strategy for implementation of training programme to the farmers; to develop favourable attitude of the farmers towards KVK training programme in order to develop cognitive compartment of farmers with regard to improve agricultural practices. In order to find out if there is any difference between trainees of on and off campus regarding their attitude towards KVK training programme, the null hypothesis (Ho) was also tested.

The calculated value of 'Z' was found to be 10.91, which was greater than the table value of Z (1.96) at 5 per cent level of significance. Hence, the null hypothesis (Ho) has been rejected and the alternate hypothesis was accepted. This shows that on-campus trainees have more favourable attitude towards KVK training programme than the off-campus trainees. Thus, the exposure of KVK training programme significantly changed the attitude of farmers in desired direction, which one could obviously expect. It may be stated that policies and plans to improve the adoption of agricultural technologies in India should not overlook the importance of the need to change the incompatible outlooks and views held by those farmers who are considered as traditional and conservative. The agencies concerned with agricultural extension should devote more attention to this respect in formulating and implementing their programmes. In fact, this measures should precede the formal introduction of the improved practices in the village communities. This findings is in agreement with the findings of Sindhu (1980); Babu and Singh (1986); Satyanarayan *et al.* (1994); Prabhukumar and Veerabhadraiah (1998) and Chhaya *et al.* (2001).

CONCLUSION

In case of on-campus trainees, all the respondents i.e. 100 per cent have had high level of attitude towards KVK training programme; while in case of on-campus trainees 86.67 per cent have high level of attitude followed by 13.33 per cent with medium level of attitude. This showed that on-campus trainees have more favourable

attitude towards KVK training programme than the off-campus trainees. Thus, the exposure of KVK training programme significantly changed the attitude of farmers in the desired direction which one could easily expect.

Table 3. Showing evaluation of attitude response of respondents towards KVK training programme.

S. No	Statement	On campus trainees			Off-campus trainees		
		Score	M.W.S.	Evaluation	Score	M.W.S.	Evaluation
1.	The majority of the farmers attending training programme are not selected as per their needs.	367	2.44	DA	310	2.07	DA
2.	For the sake of convenience trainers spare sufficient time for discussion.	420	2.80	A	331	2.21	A
3.	The trainers talk about something which the farmers do not need.	268	1.79	UD	309	2.06	DA
4.	The course content in KVK programme is well designed.	441	2.94	A	334	2.21	A
5.	The course content is not useful to the majority of the farmers.	438	2.92	DA	374	2.49	DA
6.	Because of the KVK training farmers have considerably increased their production of agriculture.	379	2.53	A	365	2.43	A
7.	The farmer will be not adversely affected if the KVK is closed.	436	2.91	DA	397	2.65	DA
8.	KVK provides unique opportunity to the farmers for undergoing need based skill oriented training.	363	2.42	A	348	2.32	A
9.	The training programme of KVK are not planned according to season and time.	435	2.90	DA	382	2.55	DA
10.	It is strongly felt that more number of KVK should be established.	384	2.56	A	319	2.13	A
11.	The training method followed at KVK are not in accordance with the course content.	427	2.85	DA	392	2.61	DA
12.	The KVK makes planning for each session in general well in time about training programme.	380	2.53	A	302	2.01	A
13.	KVK training facilities are available only to the new selected farmers.	413	2.75	DA	361	2.41	DA
14.	KVK maintained poor coordination with the other organisation engaged in the farmers training.	299	1.99	UD	306	2.04	DA
15.	KVK conduct well attended training programme as well on campus and off campus to the farmers.	331	2.21	A	333	2.22	A
16.	The farmers get all sorts of technological help from the KVK in related to agriculture matters.	442	2.95	A	399	2.66	A
17.	The training approach is not innovative but simply a traditional.	438	2.92	DA	412	2.75	DA
18.	KVK has very much added to the farmers knowledge about few improved methods of farming.	366	2.44	A	321	2.14	A
19.	The trainee's farmers find answer for their immediate problem by the trainers.	448	2.99	A	406	2.71	A
20.	There is no adequate follow-up of the training programmes at KVK.	377	2.51	DA	307	2.05	DA

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