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Constraints faced by the beneficiaries of the training programmes organized by KVK: A study in Manipur

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Abstract

KVK plays a very important role in implementing various technological interventions based on the needs of the farming community. The present study was conducted to find out the number of trainings organised by KVK Andro, Imphal East, Manipur during the year 2019, 2020 and 2021 and also to identify the constraints and their possible suggestions from farmers to increase effectiveness of KVK training programmes. Hundred numbers of respondents were selected randomly from the list of trainees who attended trainings organised by KVK Andro, Imphal East, Manipur during the year 2019, 2020 and 2021. The primary data were collected with the help of pre- tested structured interview schedule. On the basis of the responses, the data were analysed and tabulated using statistical tools such as percentage, frequency, mean score and Pearson correlation coefficient.

Keywords: Constraints, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, suggestion

Introduction

KVK serve as a major channel between research and farmers that promotes the assessment, refinement and transfer of technologies to particular areas. KVK is a leading capacity building institution for the farmers to provide need based training on various aspects of agriculture and allied areas.

Krishi Vigyan Kendras were established and designed for bridging gap between the available technologies at one end and their application in the field for increasing production at the other. The three fundamental principles of the centre i.e. Agricultural production as the prime goal, working experience as the main method of imparting training and priority to farmer, farm women and rural youth are the backbone of the KVK's programme. The most important function of the KVKs is to conduct need based training programme in agriculture and allied vocation to impart up to date scientific knowledge and skills to the farmer, farm women, rural youth and Extension functionaries.

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Andro KVK Imphal East district of Manipur was established in 2005 under the administrative control of Central Agricultural University Imphal. This KVK is engaged in the process of modernization of agriculture in a sustainable manner by providing grass root level training in various agricultural and allied fields.

For a smooth functioning of training programme, active participation of the farmers, farm women and rural youth is essential. So the planners, policy makers and the training organizers should have the knowledge and idea about the constraints faced by the participants during the training programmes. So that efforts will be made to address those issues for smooth functioning of the training programmes.

The training programmes imparted by KVKs are based on the needs of the farmers and are demand-driven. These programmes enable capacity building of farmers in order to update their knowledge and skills which ultimately helped them to live their lives in a better way. At the same time, there may be several constraints faced by the farmer in participating on various programmes of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. For a smooth functioning of training programme, active participation of the farmers, farm women and rural youth is essential. So the planners, policy makers and the training organizers should have the knowledge and idea about the constraints faced by the participants during the training programmes. Keeping these points in view, the present study was conducted to identify the constraints and their possible suggestions from farmers to increase effectiveness of KVK training programmes. So that efforts will be made to address those problems and it will also be beneficial for policy planners and programme coordinators of KVKs in developing training policies and action plans for smooth functioning of the training programmes.

Methodology

The present study was conducted on the beneficiaries of KVK Andro, Imphal East, Manipur of CAU Iroisemba, Imphal. The sample size for the study was 100 which were selected randomly and the primary data was collected from the respondents with the help of pre-tested interview schedule and the secondary data was collected from the records maintained in the office of KVK Andro. Problems of the respondents during training programmes conducted by KVK were measured in the study by using a structured schedule developed by the researcher. All the possible constraints were

enlisted in the schedule and accordingly the responses were collected and assigned a score of '1' for the responses 'Yes' and '0' for the responses 'No'.

On the basis of the responses, the data were analysed and tabulated using statistical tools such as percentage, frequency, mean score and Pearson correlation coefficient.

Results and Discussion

Trainings conducted by KVK Andro, Imphal East during last three years

Table 1: Training programmes conducted by KVK Andro, Imphal East during last three years.

Training Areas	Training conducted					
	2019		2020		2021	
	On campus	Off campus	On campus	Off campus	On campus	Off campus
Animal science	2	2	1	-	1	3
Agronomy	2	7	4	7	2	4
Agricultural Engineering	2	4	2	4	2	16
Home science	2	5	1	7	-	4
Fishery	1	-	3	6	-	3
Plant Protection	1	3	2	3	-	6
Horticulture	1	3	2	4	1	6
Extension Personal	1	1	-	-	-	-
Vermiculture	-	-	1	-	-	-
Total	12	25	16	31	6	42
Overall	37		47		48	

The data presented in Table 1 revealed that in the year 2019 and 2020, a total of 35 and 46 trainings were conducted respectively by KVK Andro, Imphal East. In both the year highest number of trainings were conducted in the field of Agronomy. Again in 2021, a total of 48 trainings were

conducted by KVK Andro, among which highest number of trainings were conducted in the field of Agricultural Engineering.

Socio-economic profile of the respondents:

Table 2: Socio- economic profile of the respondents

Sl. No.	Variable	Categories	Percentage (%)
1	Age	18 - 30	23
		31-42	49
		43 - 54	17
		55 - 66	11
2	Caste	General	43
		OBC	23
		SC	34
3	Religion	Hinduism	98
		Christianity	2
4	Educational qualification	Illiterate	14
		Can read only	1
		Can read and write	22
		Primary school passed	3
		Middle school passed	6
		High school passed	16
		Higher secondary school passed	19
		Graduate	13
5	Marital status	Married	84
		Unmarried	12
		Widow	4
6	Occupation	Farming only	37
		Business + Farming	48
		Service + Farming	4
		Daily wage earner + Farming	11
7	Annual income of the family	Rs. 50,000 - 1,00,000	65
		Rs. 1,00,001 -1,50, 000	22
		Rs. 1,50,000 - 2,00,000	3
		Rs. 2,00,001 - 2,50,000	4
		Above Rs. 2,50,000	6

8	Family type	Nuclear	68
		Joint	28
		Extended	4
9	Family size	Small	46
		Medium	35
		Large	19
10	Number of trainings attended	Once	18
		Twice	30
		Thrice	24
		More than three times	28
11	Member of SHG	Yes	25
		No	75

The data presented in Table 2 indicate that nearly half of the respondents i.e. 49 percent belonged to the age group of 31 - 42 years and a large proportion (43.00%) of the respondents belonged to General Caste where a large majority (92.00%) of the respondents were Hindu. Further, 86 percent of the respondents were literates and 14 percent were illiterates. Among the literates, 22 percent of them could read and write followed by 19 percent of them had education level up to higher secondary. Again, it was found that majority of the respondents (84.00%) were married and the main occupation of a large number of respondents was farming + business

(48.00%) while 37 percent were only depend on farming. Majority of the respondents (65.00%) had annual income between Rs. 50,000 – Rs. 1, 00,000 and belonged to nuclear families (68.00%) while a large proportion (46.00%) of them had small family size. Among all the respondents, around one-third of them attended two training programmes organised by KVK and only one fourth of the respondents (25.00%) were member of a SHG.

Farming profile of the respondents

Table 3: Farming profile of the respondents

Sl. No.	Variable	Categories	Percentage (%)
1	Landholding	Landless	34
		Marginal (up to 2.5 AC)	41
		Small (up to 5 AC)	20
		Large farmers above 5 AC)	5
2	# Types of crops cultivated	Pulse	6
		Cereals	82
		Vegetable	42
		Fruits	15
		No cultivation	3
3	Livestock possession	Cattle	15
		Piggery	41
		Poultry	26
		Fishery	8
		None	10
4	Purpose of rearing livestock	Consumption	10
		Marketing	18
		Both for consumption and marketing	63

Multiple response

More than one third (41.00%) of the respondents had marginal (up to 2.5 AC) land holding while (34.00%) of them were landless. Again, majority (68.00%) of the respondents cultivated cereals crops and (41.00%) of respondents had piggery as livestock possession as (63.00%) of respondents reared livestock possession as both for consumption and marketing.

The constraints faced by the respondents associated with the training programmes conducted by KVK

The constraints faced by the respondents associated with the training programmes conducted by KVK are presented in the Table 4.

Table 4: Ranking of the constraints associated with training programmes conducted by KVK

Sl. No.	Constraints	Mean score	Ranking
1	Training programmes on allied activities other than agriculture are not conducted regularly by KVK.	0.33	VII
2	Lack of transportation facilities to attend the training.	0.69	I
3	The terms and concepts used in training are scientific, hence difficult to understand.	0.47	IV
4	Inability to purchase input recommended by KVK due to higher cost.	0.62	II
5	Course contents of training programmes are not related too much with felt needs.	0.21	X
6	Highly complex technologies to be understood by the trainees.	0.51	III
7	Lack of wide publicity about training programmes.	0.45	V
8	Less provision for learning by doing.	0.18	XI
9	Difficulties faced during on-campus training as KVK is far from home.	0.39	VI
10	Impact on income in case of daily wage earner.	0.26	VIII
11	Difficulties faced to stay away from home in case of residential training.	0.23	IX

The results clearly indicate that “Lack of transportation facilities to attend the training” was perceived as a constraint by majority of the people with the mean score of 0.69 (Rank I). This was followed by the constraints “Inability to purchase input recommended by KVK due to higher cost” and “Highly complex technologies to be understood by the trainees” with a mean score of 0.62 and 0.51 respectively. The constraint

“Less provision for learning by doing” was perceived as a constraint by the least number of people with a mean score of 0.18.

Suggestions given by the respondents regarding the training programmes conducted by KVK

Table 5: Suggestions given by the respondents

Sl. No.	Suggestion	Percentage	Rank
1	KVK should be equipped with better provision of transportation facilities.	73	I
2	KVK should arrange more number of training programmes on allied activities i.e. poultry, fishery etc.	54	II
3	More number of exposure visit / field visit should be arranged during the training programmes	43	III
4	Proper written material should be provided at the time of training programme.	41	IV
5	More income generating programmes should be conducted	31	V
6	Training should be based on the felt need on the farmers.	25	VI
7	KVK should give more emphasis in linking farmers to financial institutions for financial support.	22	VII
8	KVK should be equipped with more manpower	18	VIII

It is evident from the Table 5 that 73 percent of the respondents suggested that “KVK should be equipped with better provision of transportation facilities”, followed by 54 percent of them suggested that “KVK should arrange more number of training programmes on allied activities i.e. poultry, fishery etc.”, followed by “More number of exposure visit/field visit should be arranged during the training programmes” (43.00%).

Factors related to the problems of the respondents

Table 6: Factors related to the problems of the respondents

Independent variables	“r” value
Age	0.22*
Education	-0.27*
Annual income	0.13
Family size	0.09
Land holdings	0.11
Number of trainings attended	-0.19*

The data in the Table 5 revealed that age as a socio economic variable was found to have a positive and significant correlation with the number of problems that they have been facing with relevance to the KVK training programmes. It means that more the age of the respondents, more the number of problems they have faced. On the other hand, the variables - education and number of trainings attended were found to have a negative and significant correlation with the number of problems that they have reported. This indicates that more their education was, lesser are the number of problems being faced by them and also more the number of trainings they have attended, lesser are the number of problems being faced by them.

Conclusion

Based on the findings of the present study it can be concluded that the major constraints perceived by the respondents were lack of transportation facilities to attend the training programmes, inability to purchase input recommended by KVK due to higher cost, followed by highly complex technologies to be understood by the trainees. It was found that age have a positive and significant correlation with the number of problems faced by the respondents and at the same time education and number of trainings attended have a

negative and significant correlation with the number of problems that they have reported.

Therefore, KVK may give more importance on provision of better facilities for the respondents during the training programmes, arranging more number of training programmes on allied activities like poultry, fishery etc. The results of the study regarding various constraints and suggestions of KVK training programmes expressed by the beneficiary will be useful for the trainers and KVK personnel in providing effective training in the future.

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