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Problems faced by the women beneficiaries of Krishi Vigyan Kendras of North East region of India

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Abstract

North Eastern region consisting of 8 states, viz., Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. This study was conducted with 100 women beneficiaries of KVK, Aixawl (Mizoram) and KVK, East Garo Hills (Meghalaya) to determine the problems faced by the women beneficiaries in attending training programmers conducted by KVKs. It was revealed that "difficulty to attend training programme due to family responsibilities" (rank I) followed by "training venue is too far from the village" (rank II) and "no provision for meal during training" (rank III) were the problem of beneficiaries of KVK, Aizawl while "difficulty to attend training programme due to family responsibilities" (rank II) and "training venue is too far from the village" were not as per the trainees requirement" (rank II) and "training venue is too far from the village" were identified as problem of women beneficiaries of KVK, East Garo Hills.

Keywords: Problem, beneficiaries, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, women

Introduction

Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK) system is the main public sector agency for agriculture extension in India. The KVK is an innovative science-based institute which undertakes assessment and refinement of technologies, frontline demonstrations to promptly demonstrate the latest agricultural technologies to the farmers as well as the extension workers and conducts trainings for farmers, farm women, rural youth and extension personnel (Nath et al., 2017a) ^[2]. ICAR had launched the scheme as the training institutes in the country were not sufficient to meet the training needs of the farmers and consequently the process of transfer of technology had been slowed down (Nath et al., 2017b)^[3]. Based on the recommendations of the Education Commission (1964-66) and Inter Ministerial Committee (1973), the ICAR decided to establish KVK in the country, as they observed the KVKs are of national importance and would help in accelerating the agricultural production and also in improving the socio- economic conditions of the farming community (Nath et al., 2016)^[6]. According to the mandate of KVK, it conducts on-farm testing to identify the location specificity of agricultural technologies; organizes frontline demonstrations to establish production potential of various crops; organizes need based training of farmers, farm women and rural youth to update their knowledge and skills and training of extension personnel to orient them in the frontier areas of technology development; production and supply of good quality seed and planting material, work as knowledge resource centre of agricultural technology for improving the agricultural scenario of the district (Nath et al., 2017d)^[5]. Rural women carry out different farm operations besides their involvement in household activities. But due to their lack of knowledge regarding improved practices they are far away to compete with the changing society. So, it is utmost necessary to be trained in agriculture and household areas to keep them abreast of the latest innovations available by organizing training programme based on their need (Nath et al., 2022)^[7, 8]. The main purpose of organizing training programmes is to impart knowledge and develop skills required for adoption of latest technology. However, to make the training successful, trainees' participation must be considered. Good training requires effective learning situation including good participation of the trainees (Nath et al., 2017c)^[4]. So, this study attempted to find out the problems that the women beneficiaries faced in attending the training organized by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras.

Materials and Methods

North Eastern region consisting of 8 states, vi.z., Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, Nagaland, Tripura and Sikkim. The study was carried out in the selected operational areas of KVK, Aizawl of Mizoram and KVK, East Garo Hills of Meghalaya.

Fifty women beneficiaries were selected randomly of each operational areas of KVK. Thus the total sample size was 100 for the study. Data were collected with the help of structured interview schedule which were measured in three point scale and score were assigned as serious problem (2), moderate problem (1) and not a problem (0). The problems were analyzed by using Intensity Index of Problem (IIP) (Nath and Rahman, 2014)^[1].

Scores obtained by each problem IIP = -

Total no. of respondents

Based on the IIP, the level of intensity of problems were also measured as serious problem, moderate problem and mild problem with IIP 0- 0.21, 0.22- 1.92 and 1.93- 2 respectively.

Results and Discussion

It is evident from the Table 1 that "training venue is too far from the village" created serious problem to 12 percent of respondents of KVK, Aizawl, for 78 percent of the respondents it was moderate problem and 10 percent considered is as not a problem; whereas 20 percent of the respondents faced this problem as serious problem in KVK, East Garo Hills with 70 percent as moderate and 10 percent as not a problem. Table 1 reveals that 96 percent of the respondents of KVK, Aizawl faced serious problem in attending training programme due to family responsibilities while 2 percent considered it as moderate problem. In case of KVK, East Garo Hills 100 percent of the respondents commented it as a serious problem. It is concluded from the Table 2 that "difficulty to attend training programme due to family responsibilities" occupied first rank in KVK, Aizawl followed by "training venue is too far from the village" (rank II) and "no provision for meal during training" (rank III). In KVK. East Garo Hills "difficulty to attend training programme due to family responsibilities" ranked highest, which is followed by "training were not as per the trainees requirement" (rank II) and "training venue is too far from the village" ranked third position.

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	K	VK, Aiz	awl	KVK, East Garo Hills		
Statement of the problem	SP	MP	NP	SP	MP	NP
Training yanua is too for from the village	6	39	5	10	35	5
Training venue is too far from the village	(12)	(78)	(10)	(20)	(70)	(10)
Look of memory transportation			50		9	41
Lack of proper transportation	-	-	(100)	-	(18)	(82)
Training period is not according to trainees convenient		9	41	5	29	16
		(18)	(82)	(10)	(58)	(32)
Training were not as per the trainees requirement			50	47	3	
Training were not as per the trainees requirement	-	-	(100)	(94)	(6)	-
Difficulty to attend due to family responsibilities		2		50		_
Difficulty to attend due to failing responsionities	(96)	(4)	-	(100)	-	-
Difficulty to understand the trainees language	-	_	50		4	46
Difficulty to understand the trainces language		_	(100)	-	(8)	(92)
Lack of supply of training materials	_	_	50	6	41	3
	_	_	(100)	(12)	(82)	(6)
Lack of demonstration in training	-	-	50	2	13	35
			(100)	(4)	(26)	(70)
No provision for meal during training	_	6	44	_	8	42
	_	(12)	(88)	-	(16)	(84)
Lack of sufficient furniture		_	50	1	49	_
	_	_	(100)	(2)	(98)	_
Lack of drinking water facilities	-	_	50	10	37	3
		_	(100)	(20)	(74)	(6)
Lack of toilet facilities	1	8	42	_	10	40
		(16)	(84)		(20)	(80)
Lack of proper lodging and boarding facilities.	-	_	50	1	6	43
Eack of proper loaging and boarding facilities.			(100)	(2)	(12)	(86)

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to intensity of each problem (N=50+50=100)

SP= Serious Problem, MP= Moderate Problem, NP= Not a Problem

Table 2: Level of intensity of the problem- A rank wise distribution (N=50+50=10)	Table	2: Level	of intensity	of the	problem- A	rank wise	distribution	(N=50+50=100
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Statement of the problem	KVK, Aizaw	'l	KVK, East Garo Hills	
Statement of the problem	Level of intensity	Rank	Level of intensity	Rank
Training venue is too far from the village	Moderate	II	Moderate	III
Lack of proper transportation	-	-	Mild	XIII
Training period is not according to trainees convenient	Mild	V	Moderate	VIII
Training were not as per the trainees requirement	-	-	Serious	II
Difficulty to attend due to family responsibilities	Serious	Ι	Serious	Ι
Difficulty to understand the trainees language	-	-	Mild	XII
Lack of supply of training materials.	-	-	Moderate	VII
Lack of demonstration in training	-	-	Moderate	VI
No provision for meal during training	Mild	III	Mild	IX
Lack of sufficient furniture	-	-	Moderate	IV

Lack of drinking water facilities	-	-	Moderate	V
Lack of toilet facilities	Mild	IV	Mild	Х
Lack of proper lodging and boarding facilities.	-	-	Mild	XI

Conclusion

The overall impact and visibility of KVKs can be improved substantially on the eyes of the beneficiaries enhancing the number and quality of training conducted at farmers' field. Increased number of training specifically targeted for farm women will lead to better impact of the KVKs (Nath and Sharma, 2022). The study showed that the women beneficiaries faced different problems in attending the training programmes conducted by KVKs. The problems also varied from KVK to KVK. Therefore, the functionaries of KVK should take necessary steps to overcome the problems as perceived by the women beneficiaries to make the programme more effective.

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