

Farmers Perception Regarding the Training Constraints at Krishi Vigyan Kendra in The Southern Rajasthan

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INTRODUCTION

The Krishi Vigyan Kendras were established and designed for bridging gap between the available technologies at the one end and their application in the field for increasing production at the other. The three fundamental principles, viz., (1) agricultural production as the prime goal (2) working experience as the main method of imparting training and (3) priority to weaker sections of the society are the backbone of the KVK's programme. The main objective of KVK is to provide training to the farmers, rural youth and rural women on the basis of "teaching by doing" and "learning by doing" for bringing out higher production break through in agriculture.

The Krishi Vigyan Kendra at Badgaon in the district of Udaipur was established in July 1984 under the administrative control of a voluntary organization "Vidhya Bhawan Society". This KVK is engaged in the process of peasantry modernization by providing grass root level training in various agricultural and allied fields (Anonymous, 1991-92).

There may be several constraints on the part of the farmer's perception on various aspects of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The present study was conducted to identify the constraints and their possible suggestions

from farmers to increase effectiveness of KVK for peasantry modernization.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted at Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Badgaon in Udaipur district of Southern Rajasthan during 1993-94. Four panchayat Samities namely Badgaon, Gogund, Bhinder and Jhadol were selected purposively because maximum number of trained farmers come from these panchayat samities during the period from 1990-91 to 1991-92 of the study. From each panchayat samiti, three villages (total 12 villages) were considered and from each village 10 trained (total 120) farmers were randomly selected for the study. To measure the constraints responsible for effectiveness of Krishi Vigyan Kendra being realised by the beneficiaries, a suitable schedule was developed to enlist the possible constraints related with different activities of KVK. All the possible constraints were divided into five main areas namely, constraints related to training programme, trainers, physical facilities, transferred technology and organizations. Each of the main constraints area was further divided into

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subareas. To measure the intensity of constraints, the responses of beneficiaries were recorded on a four point continuum scale viz., 'most important', important 'least important' and 'not at all' with scores of 3,2,1 and 0, respectively.

The mean per cent scores were calculated for individual constraints and ranked accordingly.

Important suggestions received from beneficiaries for strengthening the future training programme and other related activities of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, were recorded and presented in frequency and per centage.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

The constraints perceived by trained farmers with respect to training programme, trainers physical facilities, technology and organizations are presented in the form of mean per cent score in the Table.1

The results clearly indicate that in case of constraints related to training programme, the mean per cent score ranged from 51.66 to 21.38, highest, being in information overloading (too Much information in too short time) and lowest towards less time for group discussion. The unsuitability of timings was at the second rank followed by improper use of A.V. and absence of field visits on the successful demonstration were the third and fourth ranks, respectively.

As far as constraints about trainers' competency is concerned the lack of

training-skill was rated as the first rank with 39.72 mean per cent scores followed by more emphasis on theoretical aspects and training is not given in local dialect at the second and the third ranks with 37.22 and 24.44 mean per cent scores, respectively.

With regards to physical facilities the constraints, poor transport and communication facilities was found to be on first rank with 71.66 mean cent scores followed by venue of training and facilities regarding lunch, breakfast, drinking water and light arrangements etc. were stood on the second and the third ranks, respectively.

It is evident from the data that high cost of technology advocated by the trainer was the main constraints regarding technology as felt by the trained farmers with 49.72 mean per cent score. Recommended technology is not applicable in real life situations and lack of related literature about technology were given on the second and the third ranks, respectively.

The recommended technology is not being adopted to the operational area was recorded with 10.55 mean per cent as the lowest rank.

As regards to organization constraints, the most important constraints were : provision of minimum stipend to the trainers and poor input supply with 53.05 and 50.27 mean per cent scores, respectively. Lack of feed back was rated

Table 1 : Constraints expressed by the trained farmers regarding various aspects of Krishi Vigyan Kendra (N = 120)

Sr. No.	Constraints	Mean per cent score	Rank
1	2	3	4
(A) Training Programme :			
1.	Duration is not appropriate	41.11	IV
2.	Course contents are not related too much with felt needs	32.61	V
3.	unsuitability of the timings	46.66	II
4.	Less provision for learning by doing	40.27	VI
5.	Over loaded information (too much information in short time)	51.66	I
6.	Absence of field visit on successful demonstration during training	41.11	IV
7.	Less time for group discussions	21.38	VII
8.	Improper use of A.V. aids.	45.27	III
(B) Trainers :			
1.	Lack of technical knowledge related to subject matter	14.16	IV
2.	Lack of training skills (competence)	39.72	I
3.	Training is not given local dialect	24.44	III
4.	Lack of ability to find the solution of problems	24.44	III
5.	More emphasis on theoretical aspects	37.22	II
(C) Physical facilities :			
1.	Inadequacy of lodging and boarding facilities	21.38	IV
2.	Poor transport and communication facilities	71.66	I
3.	Place of trainings	48.88	II
4.	Sitting arrangement was not proper	10.83	V
5.	Facilities regarding breakfast, lunch drinking water and light etc. were not up to date.	27.22	III
(D) Technology (course content) :			
1.	Not suitable to the area	10.55	V
2.	Not provided significant economic gains	13.61	IV
3.	High cost technology advocated by trainers	49.72	I
4.	Recommended technology is not applicable to real life situation.	37.22	II
5.	Lack of related literature	28.61	III
6.	Un-appropriate to input supply system of the area.	37.22	II

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1	2	3	4
(E) Organization :			
1. Too much flexibility about training schedule		18.88	IV
2. Lack of feed back		38.61	III
3. Poor input supply		50.27	II
4. Provision of minimum stipend to the trainees.		53.05	I

**Table 2 : Suggestions given by the respondents to strengthen the training strategy
(N =120)**

Sr.No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Per centage	Rank
1.	Training should be organised at farmers field when farmers are not engaged in farm operations.	79	65.83	I
2.	Variety of teaching aids be used	46	38.33	IX
3.	Maximum emphasis should be given on learning by doing	63	52.50	IV
4.	Training should be imparted in local spoken language.	59	49.16	VII
5.	Training should be related to felt need of the farmers	61	50.83	V
6.	Continue rapport be maintained with farmers	61	50.83	V
7.	Practical knowledge be imparted through conducting demonstration on the farmers field	66	55.00	III
8.	Stipend should be increased for active participation	55	45.83	VIII
9.	Assessment of training be done before concluding session.	29	24.16	XI
10.	Transport and communication facilities should be proper	76	63.33	II
11.	Releted literature should be per-distributed among the trainees.	37	30.83	X

on the third rank and too much flexibility about training schedule was recorded on the lowest rank with 18.88 mean per cent score by the trained farmers.

Similar results were obtained by Ram Krishna (1965) and Prasad (1978).

Suggestions given by the Respondents to overcome the constraints

For strengthening the training strategy the suggestions from the beneficiaries respondents for making training programmes more effective were invited and recoded in structured interview schedule. The results of which is, presented in Table 2.

It is evident from the data that the majority of the respondents, 65.83 per cent, suggested that trainings should be organised at the farmers field when farmers are not engaged in farm operations. This is followed by 63.33 per cent respondents who has suggested that transport and communication facilities should be proper for effective training programmes. Similarly 50 to 55 per cent beneficiary respondents suggested five important ways for making the training programme more successful. There are "practical knowledge be imparted through demonstration", "maximum emphasis should be given on learning by doing", "training should be related to felt need" and "continue rapport be maintained with farmers" for making the training programme more successful. The results were in line with that of Singh and Shrivastava (1970) and Chand (1973) .

CONCLUSION

The major constraints perceived by the beneficiary respondents were poor transport and communication, facilities provision of minimum stipend to trainees and poor input supply, information over loading, high cost technology advocated by trainer, unsuitable venue of training, poor use of audio-visuals aids during training and unsuitability of timings.

To strengthen the training strategy more effective, the suggestions offered by the trained farmers were that the training should organised at village level when farmers are not engaged in farm operations and secondly transport and communication facilities should be available at the farmers door. Other important suggestions were participatory skill oriented training approach, continue rapport with farmers, use of traditional and other audio-visual aids in training programmes and local dialects during training sessions.

IMPLICATIONS

The results of the study regarding various constraints and suggestions expressed by the beneficiary farmers regarding various aspects of training programme will be useful for the trainers in their future training programmes. The result of the study will also be useful to the training institutions (i.e. KVK F.T.C. etc) as a beacon which will pave the way to strengthen their working under similar conditions towards the formulation of future strategy for conducting effective training programme.

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WEALTH	
W	: Well doer
E	: Efficient
A	: Active
L	: Long sighted
T	: Tactful
H	: Hard working