

## COMMUNICATION BEHAVIOUR OF SCIENTISTS OF KRISHI VIGYAN KENDRAS

**Kishor Kumar. N<sup>1</sup>, V. J. Savaliya<sup>2</sup> and Pranav. R.<sup>3</sup>**

1 Subject Matter Specialist (Extension), Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kondempudi - 531026

2 Associate Professor, Office of Directorate of Extension, Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh - 362001

3 Ph. D (Ag.), Research Associate, Office of Directorate of Extension, College of Agriculture, JAU, Junagadh - 362001

Email: kishoragri2014@gmail.com

### ABSTRACT

*The research study on communication behaviour of scientists of Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Western India was conducted during 2021-22. The study was conducted in Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Goa states. All the KVKs of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Goa were purposively selected for the study. Considering the total number of KVKs in Western India, 160 respondents were selected for the study. The Ex-post facto research design was followed for carrying out the stud. Nearly three-fifths of the respondents (59.38%) were found under medium category of communication behaviour, followed by low (21.87%) and high (18.75%) categories of communication behaviour. Eleven of the independent variables screened for the path analysis which had positive and direct effect on communication behaviour of KVK scientists revealed that trainings received had highest direct effect on communication behaviour of KVK scientists, followed by attitude towards ICT and education. With respect to total indirect effect of the selected characteristics on communication behaviour of KVK scientists, it was found that trainings received ranked highest, followed by attitude towards ICT and scientific orientation.*

**Keywords:** communication behaviour, scientists and path analysis

### INTRODUCTION

The information need of the farmers is diverse and they also search different sources for getting information on agriculture and scientists of KVKs were found as one of the important sources of knowledge of the farmers (Jamir and Sharma, 2018; Harikrishna *et al.*, 2021). It was observed that 88.33 per cent of the respondents perceived that the extension services implemented by Krishi Vigyan Kendra were useful to more useful for them regarding the dissemination of knowledge (Sarnaik *et al.*, 2020). Especially in areas with such a geographic complexity as India, agricultural extension departments such as KVKs serve to gather, test and disseminate knowledge between centralized institutions and a geographically-dispersed rural population.

The Head or Programme Coordinator and Subject matter specialists (SMSs) are the crucial human resource persons working for the fulfilment of the mandate framed for the KVK. The generated technology is disseminated to its end users by the Head or programme coordinator and SMSs using different programmes such as Front-Line Demonstrations (FLD), On Farm Trials (OFT), Trainings, agricultural fairs, farmers advisory services, etc. Hence, for effective performance of the above programmes and various responsibilities undertaken by the scientists, communication is very much essential.

There are three systems involved in agriculture development process namely 'Research system', 'Extension system' and 'Client system'. The research system generates knowledge; the extension system disseminates the same to the farmers (Client system). Therefore, a constant flow of information from 'Research system' to 'Extension system' and there on to farmers is necessary for rapid agricultural development. This flow of information comprises information acquisition (input), information processing (processing), information dissemination (output) and feedback (response). It is only through communication that the external ideas, new information and new technologies enter the communities. The advantages of modern agricultural science and technology have yet to effectively reach the ultimate users. The effective and efficient communication of the farm information is an important pre-requisite for affecting adoption of agricultural innovations. This entails the extension personnel (KVK scientists) to have thorough understanding of the communication process. The extension worker cannot expect change among farmers unless he or she is able to communicate effectively to them. Hence, there is need to study the communication behaviour of the KVK scientists. The personal characteristics such as age, education, training exposure, perceived work load, job satisfaction, organisational climate, job performance, scientific orientation, innovativeness, achievement motivation and attitude towards ICT may directly or indirectly cause effect on their communication

behaviour. Hence, the study is mainly focused to analyse the direct and indirect effect of the selected characteristics of the scientists on their communication behaviour.

Communication behaviour of KVK scientists has been operationalized as the various activities undertaken by them for the development and dissemination of the improved agricultural information. For the purpose of operationalization, the concept of communication behaviour was broken into three main components namely; information input behaviour, information processing behaviour and information output behaviour.

### **Input behaviour**

Information input behaviour was operationalized as the activities performed by an agricultural extension personnel for the acquisition of improved agricultural information from various sources *i.e.*, books, newspapers, magazines, colleagues, internet, scientists, training programmes etc. The frequency of contact of extension personnel with information sources was quantified by following the scoring procedure as reported by Reddy (1976).

### **Information processing behaviour**

Information processing behaviour referred to all the activities performed by the KVK scientists for evaluation, storage and transformation of information. The frequency of contact of extension personnel with various procedures was quantified with the following scoring procedure as reported by Reddy (1976).

### **Information output behaviour**

Information output behaviour was operationalized as the activities performed by the respondents to disseminate the improved agricultural information to the farmers. Frequency of utilization of information dissemination channels was quantified by the following scoring procedure as reported by Reddy (1976).

## **OBJECTIVES**

- (1) To study the selected characteristics, communication behaviour of scientists of KVKs
- (2) To ascertain the relationship between the selected characteristics of the respondents and their communication behaviour.

## **METHODOLOGY**

The study was conducted in Western India consisting of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Goa states.

The study was conducted under *ex-post facto* research design. It is systemic empirical enquiry in which the scientist does not have direct control over the independent variables because their manifestations have already occurred or they are inherently not manipulated (Kerlinger, 1969).

A random sampling technique was used for this study. The sampling technique is described as under.

All the states of the Western India *i.e.*, Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Goa were selected purposely for the study.

All the KVKs of Gujarat, Rajasthan, Maharashtra and Goa were purposely selected for the study. Considering the total number of KVKs in Western India, 160 respondents were selected for the study. The dependent variables undertaken in this study was communication behaviour of KVK scientists. A scale was developed and used to measure the communication behaviour of scientists. To measure communication behaviour of KVK scientists, structured questionnaire was used. Twelve independent variables undertaken in this study *viz*; Age (X1), education (X2), job experience (X3), training exposure (X4), perceived work load (X5), job satisfaction (X6), organizational climate (X7), job performance (X8), scientific orientation (X9), innovativeness (X10), achievement motivation (X11), attitude of extension personnel towards ICT (X12). These were measured with the help of suitable scales and procedures with due modification.

A questionnaire was developed in accordance with the objectives of the study and it was pre-tested. The data of this study were collected with the help of structured questionnaire. The collected data were classified, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted in order to make the findings meaningful. The statistical measures such as percentage, mean, standard deviation, class interval method, correlation co-efficient and path analysis were used in the study.

## **RESULTS AND DISCUSSION**

### **Characteristics of scientists**

A perusal of Table 1 revealed that more than two-third (71.25%) of the KVK scientists belonged to middle age group, followed by young age group (17.50%) and old age group (11.25%). Thus, majority (88.75%) of the scientists in the present study are in the middle and young age groups. This might be due to very few direct recruitments done during last fifteen years. Almost identical findings were delineated by Rohan (2018) and James (2020).

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their profile characteristics

(n = 160)

Sr. No.	Independent variables	Category	F	%
1	Age	Young (Below 35years)	28	17.50
		Middle (35 to 50 years)	114	71.25
		Old age (Above 50 years)	18	11.25
2	Education	M.Sc. (Agri./Hort./ Agril. Eng./Vet. /Home Sc.) / other	82	51.25
		Ph.D. (Agri./Hort./ Agril. Eng./Vet. /Home Sc.) / other	73	45.63
		Post-Doctoral Fellowship	5	3.12
3	Job experience	Low (below 10 years)	46	28.75
		Moderate (between 10 to 20 years)	74	46.25
		High (more than 20 years)	40	25.00
4	Training exposure	Low (2 to 7 trainings)	71	44.38
		Medium (8 to 13 trainings)	53	33.12
		High (14 to 19 trainings)	36	22.50
5	Perceived workload	Low ( $\leq 12.08$ )	43	25.62
		Medium (12.09 to 16.80)	69	43.13
		High ( $\geq 16.81$ )	48	31.25
6	Job satisfaction	Low (15-29)	30	18.75
		Medium (30-44)	59	36.88
		High (45-59)	71	44.37
7	Organizational climate	Low ( $\leq 22.64$ )	44	27.50
		Medium (22.65 to 30.18)	45	28.12
		High ( $\geq 30.19$ )	71	44.38
8	Job performance	Low (29-48)	40	25.00
		Medium (49-68)	57	35.63
		High (69-88)	63	39.37
9	Scientific orientation	Low (6-13)	31	19.37
		Medium (14-21)	100	62.50
		High (22-29)	29	18.13
10	Innovativeness	Low (8-16)	34	21.25
		Medium (17-25)	103	64.38
		High (26-34)	23	14.37
11	Achievement motivation	Low (8-16)	30	18.75
		Medium (17-25)	102	63.75
		High (26-34)	28	17.50
12	Attitude towards information and communication technologies (ICT)	Low (17- 39)	19	11.87
		Medium (40-62)	113	70.63
		High (63-85)	28	17.50

More than half (51.25 per cent) of scientists had education up to masters in their respective fields viz., agriculture, horticulture, engineering, veterinary sciences and home sciences, followed by Ph.D. (45.63%) and very less (3.12%) respondents with Post Doctoral fellowship. The probable reason might be less availability of doctoral fellowship programmes in various institutions.

With regard to the job experience, nearly half (46.25%) of the KVK scientists had moderate job experience; whereas, 28.75 per cent and 25.00 per cent had less and more

experience respectively. It can be concluded that two-third (71.25%) of scientists were having moderate to high job experience. The finding was in line with the findings of James (2020) and Kusumalatha *et. al* (2021).

More than two-fifths (44.38%) of scientists had low training exposure, followed by medium (33.12%) and high (22.50%) training exposure. It was revealed that more than three-fourth (77.50%) of the respondents had low to medium level of training exposure. It also might be because of the fact that many of the KVK scientists got less opportunity

to expose themselves to a greater number of trainings. Moreover, extension personnel attend the trainings which were mandatory and majority might not be interested in attending trainings that were non mandatory. The extension personnel mostly attended trainings in ICAR institutes, and various SAUs. This finding was in conformity with the findings of Murai (2016) and Kusumalatha *et al.* (2021).

In case of perceived workload more than two-fifths (43.13%) of the respondents had medium level of perceived workload, followed by high (31.25%) and low (31.25%). It was also observed that nearly three-fourth (74.38%) of the respondents had medium to high level of perceived workload. The possible reason behind the findings might be that more than half of the respondents were middle aged and might not be in a position to spend extra time on work and also the government policies pressurise them to spend more time on additional duties, bringing up the new schemes, assigning targets to finish them in short time, shortage of adequate qualified sub staff causing more pressure on them This finding was in line with the findings of Gopika *et al.* (2015).

More than two-fifths (44.37%) of the respondents were found in the high job satisfaction group, followed by more than one-third medium (36.88%) and nearly one-fifth (18.75%) had low job satisfaction, respectively. It was revealed that majority (81.25%) of the respondents had medium to high job satisfaction. It was because of the fact that the most of respondents could get satisfaction as they were working nearer to their villages, the prestige and value were given to them by farming communities. Another reason might be due to the fact that most of the KVK scientists got ample scope to help the farming community to their desired level. This trend was also due to the prevailing job security as well as high salary. This finding was in line with the findings of James (2020).

With regard to the organizational climate, more than two-fifth (44.38%) of the respondents fall under high organizational climate category, followed by 28.12 per cent medium category and low category (27.50%). Thus 72.50 per cent of the respondents had medium to high level of organizational climate. The findings imply the prevailing congenial environment in the organization which specifically activates, energizes, direct an employee towards the achievement of organizational as well as personal goals. The low and medium category of considerable proportion of the respondents may be due to ambiguity in duties and responsibilities, lack of proper feedback about their performance and lack of proper transfer and promotion policy in the organization. These findings were in conformity with the findings of James (2020) and Kusumalatha *et al.* (2021).

Nearly two-fifths (39.37%) had high job performance, followed by 35.63 per cent had medium job performance and 25.00 per cent had low job performance. Thus, it could be concluded that exactly three-fourths (75.00%) of the respondents belonged to the high to medium job performance category. The possible cause for this trend might be the close supervision from the higher authorities, weekly follow up meetings by the KVK Heads and regular monitoring of the reports by Zonal Project Directorates which had compelled the respondents to acquire more job performance. The findings were in agreement with the findings of Suandi *et al.* (2014).

In case of scientific orientation nearly two-thirds (62.50%) of the respondents had medium scientific orientation category, followed by low category (19.37%) and high category (18.13%). The results revealed that majority (80.63%) of the respondents were in between medium to high scientific orientation in their job activity. The scientific orientation of an KVK scientist prepares him to face all issues and actions with a scientific outlook or scientific approach and KVK scientist transfers knowledge and messages based on science. Naturally scientist may approach the act of communication also scientifically in order to improve the quality of communication. This finding was in line with the findings of Nagaraj *et al.* (2018).

Nearly two-thirds (64.38%) of the respondents possessed medium level of innovativeness, followed by low level (21.25%) and high level (14.37%) of innovativeness. Thus, it could be concluded that the majority (85.63%) of the KVK scientists was in low to medium level of Innovativeness. It was conceivable that it was possible for both youth and middle-aged respondents in getting innovative ideas. Similar observations were reported by Ayushi (2018).

With regard to achievement motivation nearly two-third (63.75%) of the respondents had medium level of achievement motivation, followed by 18.75 per cent respondents who had low level and 17.50 per cent had high level of achievement motivation. Thus, it was revealed that majority (82.50%) of the respondents belongs to low to medium level of achievement motivation. This might be because of the fact that majority of the respondents willing to do something well for the greater sake of farming community rather than to gain power or recognition or profit. Another reason could be due to the fact that most of the scientists of KVK were middle aged and energetic and most of them had experienced short period of service life so far. These findings were in agreement with the findings of Hossain *et al.* (2019).

Nearly two-thirds (70.63%) of the respondents had medium favourable attitude towards ICTs, followed by high

(17.50%) and low-level categories (11.87%). Thus, majority (88.13%) had favourable attitude towards ICT. This might be due to the fact that the scientists had medium to high scientific orientation *etc.* which developed favourable attitude towards ICT services in the scientists. The finding was in line with the findings of Babu (2017).

### Communication behaviour of KVK scientists

The Table 2 reveals the Information input behaviour, Information processing behaviour, Information output behaviour and overall Communication behaviour of KVK scientists and it unearthed as below.

**Table 2: Communication behaviour of KVK scientists**

(n = 160)

Sr. No.	Item/ Description	Frequency	Per cent
1	<b>Information input behaviour</b>		
	Low information input behaviour (14 to 27)	33	20.62
	Medium information input behaviour (28 to 41)	101	63.13
	High information input behaviour (42 to 55)	26	16.25
2	<b>Information processing behaviour</b>		
	Low information processing behaviour (13 to 26)	29	18.12
	Medium information processing behaviour (27 to 40)	98	61.25
	High information processing behaviour (41 to 54)	33	20.63
3	<b>Information output behaviour</b>		
	Low information output behaviour (9 to 17)	43	26.87
	Medium information output behaviour (18 to 26)	88	55.00
	High information output behaviour (27 to 35)	29	18.13
4	<b>Overall communication behaviour</b>		
	Low communication behaviour (36-71)	35.00	21.87
	Medium communication behaviour (72-107)	95.00	59.38
	High communication behaviour (108-143)	30.00	18.75

#### Information input behaviour

The Table 2 and Fig.1 reveals that nearly two-thirds of the respondents (65.13%) were found under medium category of information input behaviour, followed by low

(20.62%) and high (16.23%) categories of information input behaviour. The trend might be due to the fact that majority of the KVK scientist acquiring new information and skills through training and workshops, colleagues, superior officers,

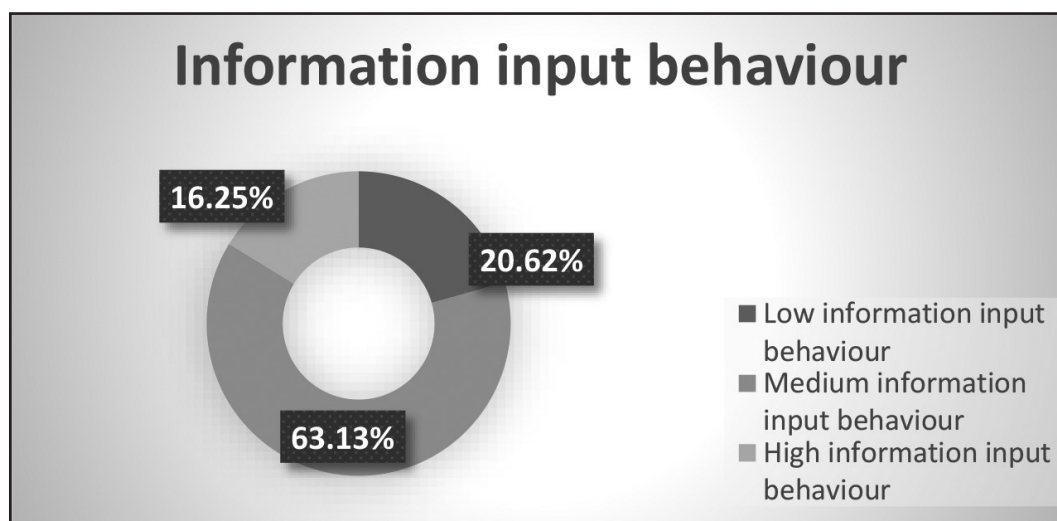
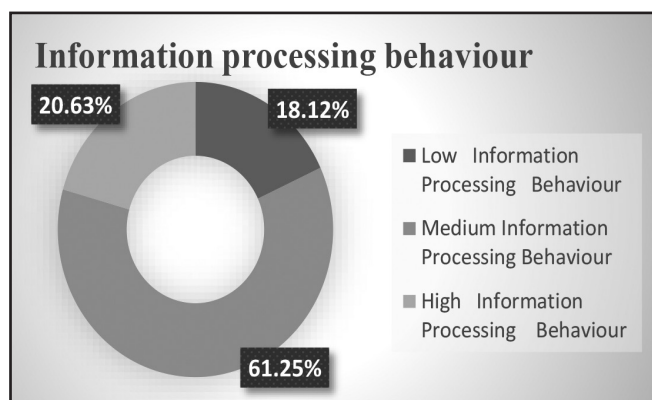


Fig.1: Distribution of scientists according to their information input behaviour

Agri portals and websites. The reasons for higher information input behaviour might be high education, medium job experience and job performance of the respondents. This result was in line with the findings of Singh and Singh (2019).

**Information processing behaviour**

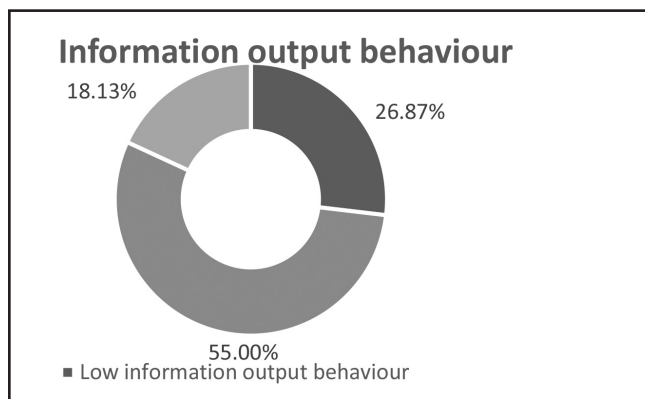
The Table 2 and Fig.2 depicts that more than three-fifth (61.25%) were found under medium category of information processing behaviour, followed by high (20.63%) and less (18.12%) categories of information processing behaviour. The trend might be on account of the fact that majority of the KVK scientist mainly used to add their personal experiences, discuss with other scientists in the KVK, judging the new technology in the light of past experiences. KVK scientist stored the information by preserving the information material and saving in a computer. The reasons for higher information processing behaviour might be due to high education, medium job experience, job performance and innovativeness of the respondents. Similar results were observed by Ravi and Ram (2018).



**Fig. 2: Distribution of scientists according to their information processing behaviour**

**Information output behaviour**

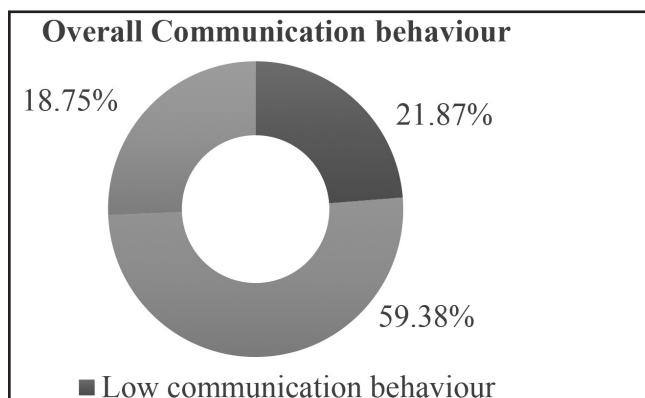
The Table 2 and Fig.3 reveals that more than half of the respondents (55.00%) were found under medium category of information output behaviour, followed by less (26.87%) and high (18.13%) categories of information output behaviour. The trend might be due to the fact that majority of the KVK scientist mainly maintaining eye contact while talking, using most modern means of ICTs like WhatsApp, Facebook and other means to disseminate the information. The reasons for higher information output behaviour might be higher education, more experience and greater innovativeness. This result was in line with the findings of Babu (2017).



**Fig. 3: Distribution of scientists according to their information output behaviour**

**Overall communication behaviour of KVK scientist**

Also, perusal of table 2 and fig.4 reveals that early three-fifth of the respondents (59.38%) were found under medium category of communication behaviour, followed by low (21.87%) and high (18.75%) categories of communication behaviour. The reasons for higher communication behaviour might be due to more training exposure, more job experience, better organisational climate and greater achievement motivation. These results were in conformity with the findings of Ravi and Ram (2018).



**Fig. 4: Distribution of scientists according to their communication behaviour**

**Association between selected characteristics and their communication behaviour**

In order to ascertain the relationship between the communication behaviour (dependent variable) of scientists and each of their selected characteristics (independent variables), the correlation co-efficient ('r') were calculated. The empirical hypotheses were stated for testing the relationship and its significance on zero order correlation are given in Table 3

**Table 3: Correlation between selected characteristics of KVK scientists and their communication behaviour** (n = 160)

Sr. No.	Characteristics	'r' value
X <sub>1</sub>	Age	0.247*
X <sub>2</sub>	Education	0.273*
X <sub>3</sub>	Job experience	0.203*
X <sub>4</sub>	Training Exposure	0.323**
X <sub>5</sub>	Perceived work load	-0.236*
X <sub>6</sub>	Job satisfaction	0.201*
X <sub>7</sub>	Organizational climate	0.259*
X <sub>8</sub>	Job performance	0.203*
X <sub>9</sub>	Scientific orientation	0.261*
X <sub>10</sub>	Innovativeness	0.199*
X <sub>11</sub>	Achievement motivation	0.246*
X <sub>12</sub>	Attitude towards ICT	0.299**

\* = Significant at 0.05 level    \*\* = Significant at 0.01 level

The characteristics of the respondents like training

exposure and attitude towards ICT had positive and highly significant relationship with their communication behaviour. The characteristics of the respondents *viz.*, age, education, job experience, job satisfaction, organizational climate, job performance, scientific orientation, innovativeness and achievement motivation had positive and significant relationship with their communication behaviour. Perceived work load of the respondents had negative and significant relationship with their communication behaviour. This finding was in line with Harsha and Jadhav (2010), Jahagirdar *et al.* (2010), Vijay *et al.* (2012), Leelavani *et al.* (2013a) and Babu (2017).

#### Path Analysis (Direct, indirect and largest indirect effect of selected characteristics on the communication behaviour of KVK scientists)

In order to quantitatively interpret the direct, the indirect and the largest indirect effects selected characteristics on the communication behaviour of KVK scientists, path analysis was carried out. The obtained results are presented in the Table 4 and fig.5.

**Table 4: Direct, indirect and largest indirect effect of selected characteristics on the communication behaviour of KVK scientists** (n=160)

Factor No.	Factors/Characteristics	Correlation coefficient	Direct effect	R	Total indirect effect	R	Three largest indirect effects channeled through
X <sub>1</sub>	Age	0.247*	0.115	4	0.132	7	0.081 X <sub>4</sub>
							0.035 X <sub>6</sub>
							0.016 X <sub>10</sub>
X <sub>2</sub>	Education	0.273*	0.124	3	0.149	5	0.082 X <sub>12</sub>
							0.042 X <sub>4</sub>
							0.023 X <sub>10</sub>
X <sub>3</sub>	Job experience	0.203*	0.099	9	0.104	10	0.061 X <sub>7</sub>
							0.035 X <sub>4</sub>
							0.008 X <sub>6</sub>
X <sub>4</sub>	Training Exposure	0.323**	0.165	1	0.158	1	0.089 X <sub>3</sub>
							0.042 X <sub>7</sub>
							0.027 X <sub>11</sub>
X <sub>6</sub>	Job satisfaction	0.201*	0.091	11	0.110	8	0.065 X <sub>2</sub>
							0.028 X <sub>7</sub>
							0.017 X <sub>8</sub>
X <sub>7</sub>	Organizational climate	0.259*	0.107	5	0.152	4	0.076 X <sub>6</sub>
							0.055 X <sub>2</sub>
							0.021 X <sub>11</sub>
X <sub>8</sub>	Job performance	0.203*	0.106	6	0.097	11	0.061 X <sub>4</sub>
							0.028 X <sub>2</sub>
							0.008 X <sub>7</sub>

Factor No.	Factors/Characteristics	Correlation coefficient	Direct effect	R	Total indirect effect	R	Three largest indirect effects channeled through
X9	Scientific orientation	0.261*	0.105	7	0.156	3	0.086 X4
							0.052 X12
							0.018 X3
X10	Innovativeness	0.199*	0.094	10	0.105	9	0.070 X4
							0.022 X12
							0.013 X8
X11	Achievement motivation	0.246*	0.104	8	0.142	6	0.077 X4
							0.043 X8
							0.022 X3
X12	Attitude towards ICT	0.299**	0.142	2	0.157	2	0.082 X4
							0.053 X10
							0.022 X2

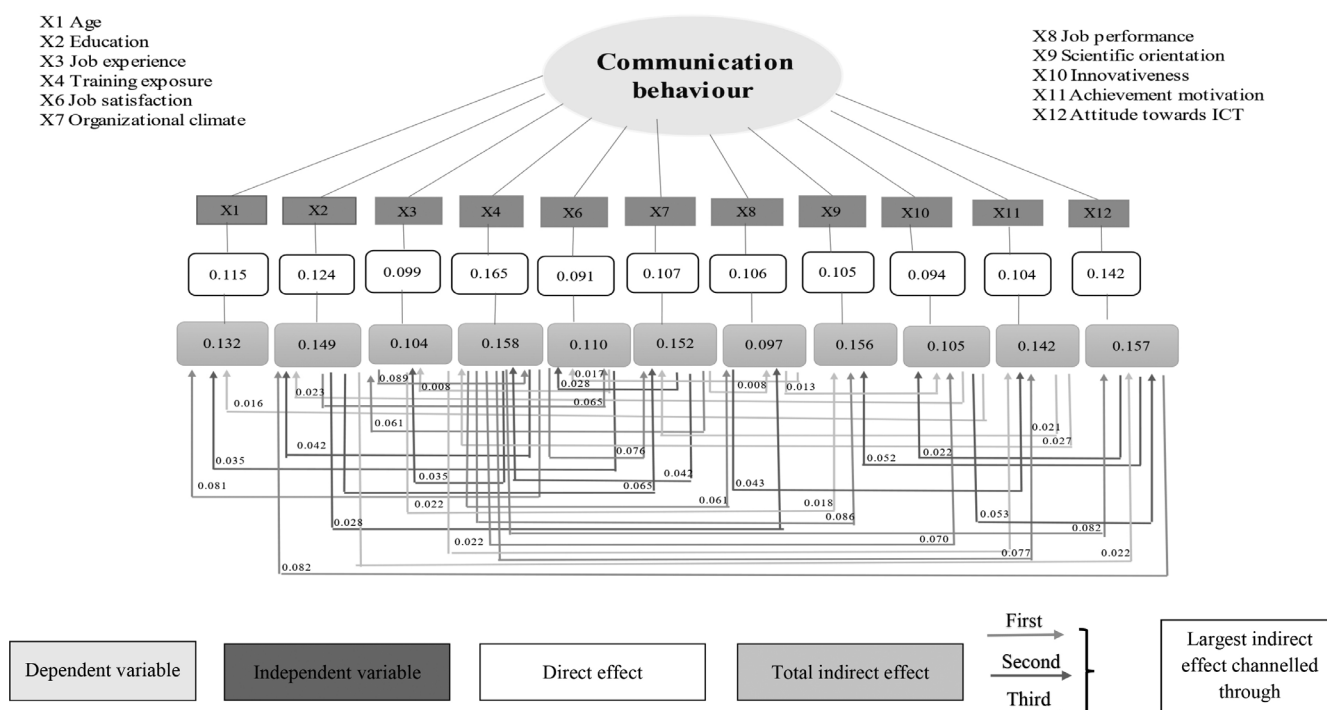


Fig. 5.: Path analysis of characteristics of scientists of KVKs on their communication behaviour

Eleven of the independent variables were screened for the path analysis had a positive and direct effect on communication behaviour of KVK scientists. Path analysis revealed that trainings received (X4) had highest direct effect on communication behaviour of KVK scientists, followed by attitude towards ICT (X11), education (X2), age (X1), scientific orientation or factor (X9), organizational climate (X7) and achievement motivation (X11). The last three variables which had less direct effect on communication

behaviour KVK scientists were job experience (X3), followed by innovativeness (X10) and job satisfaction (X6).

With respect to total indirect effect of the selected characteristics on communication behaviour of KVK scientists, it was found to be quite substantial. The ranking of these effects revealed that trainings received (X4) ranked highest, followed by attitude towards ICT (X12), scientific orientation (X9), organizational climate (X7), achievement motivation (X11), age (X1) and job satisfaction (X6). The

variables that occupied last three ranks with respect to having least indirect effect on communication behaviour of KVK scientists are innovativeness (X10), job experience (X3) and job performance (X8). Further, it's evident from results that first largest indirect effect channelled was through trainings received (X4) in case of variables namely, age (X1), job experience (X3), job satisfaction (X6), job performance (X8), innovativeness (X10), achievement motivation (X11) and attitude towards ICT (X12). This was followed by attitude towards ICT (X12) which the largest indirect effect was channelled education (X2), scientific orientation (X9) and innovativeness (X10). The third largest indirect effect was channelled through education (X2) in case of variables like job satisfaction (X6), organizational climate (X7), job performance (X8) and attitude towards ICT (X12).

## CONCLUSION

An overview of the findings revealed that most of the extension personnel were almost medium in their profile. Hence the nodal training institutes need to bestow attention on medium level of profile of KVK scientists. Findings of overall communication behaviour of extension personnel indicate that there is a need to increase the communication behaviour from 'medium' to 'high' through suitable training programmes on latest communication technologies and communication skills and modern methods. Also, information seeking behaviour and information dissemination dimensions revealed that use of modern channels viz. Expert system and mobile applications is very low by KVK scientists. Since the modern channels are very much needed in this present context of 'Liberalisation', 'Privatisation' and Globalisation' to stay in the main stream of developments. Administrators and policy makers should take care to provide training to browse the internet to acquire authentic and latest information on agriculture and global issues.

The independent variables like education, training exposure, job satisfaction, organizational climate, job performance, scientific orientation, innovativeness and achievement motivation had positive and significant relationship with communication behaviour indicates that the need for continuous and well-planned efforts to strengthen and develop these characteristics among KVK scientists through leadership training programmes and higher professional trainings. Greater proportion of the KVK scientists had favourable attitude towards ICT's. but despite of having favourable attitude towards ICTs, there usage is very less. The results of different dimensions of communication behaviour of KVK scientists indicated that majority of the respondents were in 'medium' category of information seeking behaviour, information processing and information dissemination. Both direct and indirect factors should be considered and need based

trainings should be imparted to the scientists to improve the above communication behaviour dimensions, which will lead to better communication behaviour which ultimately results in better 'Transfer of Technology' and ultimately upliftment of the farming community.

## CONFLICT OF INTEREST

This is to declare that there is "No conflict of interest" among researcher.

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