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Sneha Singh
Research Scholars, Department of Extension Education, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, UP, India

Dr. OP Mishra
Professor and Head, Department of Extension Education, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, UP, India

Correspondence
Sneha Singh
Research Scholars, Department of Extension Education, Institute of Agricultural Sciences, Banaras Hindu University, Varanasi, UP, India

Impact of income generating training programmes on knowledge gain by the rural women in Varanasi region

Sneha Singh, and Dr. OP Mishra

Abstract
KVK imparts need-based and skill oriented training to increase the agricultural production and to create the employment for the rural women. The rural women not only needed knowledge of the technologies but also skills in various agricultural and allied operations. The training programmes are planned to impart the latest knowledge to the farmers and rural women through work experience. The KVK provides the training not only in agriculture and allied vocations but also in other income-generating activities that increases the income of farm families. The present study was conducted in Varanasi Region of Uttar Pradesh which was selected purposively as the KVK is catering the needs of the farmers of all the districts in Varanasi Region. A total of 200 trained rural women were selected for the study purpose. Impact analysis was done to find out the knowledge gain by the respondents.

Keywords: Training, Knowledge, Rural women

Introduction
Krishi Vigyan Kendra designs different kinds of training courses for the farmers/ rural women. Courses are based on the information received through family and village survey. No specific qualification is required to be the respondents of the training programmes. No certificate is awarded after training programmes. After conducting the training programmes follow up programmes are organised for converting the obtained skills of the respondents into practice. While designing the training programmes, the concept of farming system is taken into account to make the enterprises commercially viable. The training starts from farmer's/rural women production units such as fields, dairy units, poultry units, mushroom unit, beekeeping unit, preservation unit, nursery raising etc. and closes with discussion. The vocational training programmes take into account all methods and means which will result in skill development and entrepreneur in rural women in the areas of their interest. Keeping in mind the impact of income generating training programmes imparted by the KVK, a study was undertaken with the objective to assess the impact of income generating training programmes on knowledge gain by the rural youths.

The present study was conducted in four districts (Varanasi, Ghazipur, Chandauli and Jaunpur) of Varanasi Region in Uttar Pradesh which were selected purposively as the KVK was catering the needs of the farmers/ rural women of all districts. A sample of 2oo rural women trained by the KVK was selected purposively. Twenty one different income generating training programmes were imparted by the KVK scientists. These were cutting and stitching, fruit and vegetables preservation, raising of nursery for self employment, modern goat, sheep and poultry farming, mushroom (dhingri) cultivation, knitting, tailoring and cutting, soft toys making, embroidery etc. Several lectures with different audio visual aids were delivered. Flash cards/charts/posters were prepared and demonstration was given of different steps included in each activity. A pre post test performa developed for the trainings was filled up to measure the knowledge of the rural women participated in the training programmes.

Table 1, reveals the description of the income generating training programmes conducted in the selected areas. Twenty one income generating training programmes were conducted before and after to agriculture and allied fields. The number of respondents were 47 in case of least known, 153 for case of not known, 125 in case of fully known and 75 in case of considerably known. There is no respondents fall under the fully known and considerably known categories in aspects of before training while in after training, there is no respondents fall under the least known and not known categories.

Table 1: Rural women income generating Training Programmes

S. No.	Knowledge	Number of respondents				Total
		Fully Known	Considerably Known	Least Known	Not Known	
1.	Before	0	0	47	153	200
2.	After	125	77	0	0	200

Table 2 describes the knowledge gained after training programme. Knowledge gain was majority of respondents in cutting and tailoring (80.0%), followed by soft toys making (77.5%), embroidery (75.0%), knitting(72.0%) and mushroom cultivation (70.0%). raising of fruit plant nursery (32.60), value added products from. Knowledge gained was maximum among in fabric printing (67.5%) followed by vermin compost (67.0%), waste product management (66.5%), mirror work (64.5%) and seed production techniques in vegetables (31.57) modern dairy farming (30.43), raising of fruit plant nursery for self employment (28.26), fruits and vegetables preservation (63.5%) and kitchen gardening (62.5%). Knowledge gain was fully known in case of earthen wear painting (62.0%) followed by tilla work (61.0%), nursery raising (60.0%) and poultry rearing (58.0%).

Table 2: Knowledge gained during training programmes

S. No	Knowledge	Before training				After training			
		Least known		Not known		Fully known		Considerably known	
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
A.	Income generating activity								
1.	Mushroom cultivation	110	55.0	90	45.0	140	70.0	60	30.0
2.	Bee keeping	110	55.0	90	45.0	102	51.0	98	49.0
3.	Knitting	90	45.0	110	55.0	148	72.0	52	21.0
4.	Goat & Sheep rearing	140	70.0	60	30.0	105	52.5	95	47.5
5.	Nursery raising	102	51.0	88	44.0	120	60.0	80	40.0
6.	fruit & vegetable preservation	113	56.5	87	43.5	127	63.5	73	36.5
7.	Waste product management	122	61.0	78	39.0	133	66.5	77	33.5
8.	Poultry rearing	110	55.0	90	45.0	116	58.0	58	49.0
9.	Health care	102	51.0	98	49.0	107	53.5	93	46.5
10.	Tailoring and cutting	50	25.0	150	75.0	160	80.0	40	20.0
11.	Fabric printing	40	20.0	160	80.0	135	67.5	65	37.5
12.	Soft toys making	85	47.5	115	52.5	155	77.5	45	22.5
13.	Arts and crafts	55	27.5	145	72.5	108	54.0	92	46.0
14.	Vermi-compost	35	17.5	165	82.5	134	67.0	66	33.0
15.	Kitchen gardening	65	32.5	135	62.5	125	62.5	75	37.5
16.	Bread Crafting	60	30.0	140	70.0	101	50.5	99	49.5
17.	Mirror work	77	38.5	133	66.5	129	64.5	71	35.5
18.	Tilla work	30	15.0	170	85.0	122	61.0	88	44.0
19.	Tie and Die	55	27.5	145	72.5	113	56.5	87	43.5
20.	Earthen wear painting	78	39.0	122	61.0	124	62.0	76	38.0
21.	Embroidery	89	44.5	111	55.5	149	75.5	51	25.5

Effect of Knowledge and practice of Income generating activity

The values of T -test revealed significant effect (T = 30.33; P<0.0001; df=1) of the knowledge level of Income generating activity on the interest of before KVK training and after KVK training of the respondents. The results indicated that the different KVK training for Income generating activity were significantly attracting the interests of the respondents. In this case we hypothesized that:

H_0 There is no significant relationship between the before and after KVK training for Income generating activity and the interest of the respondents.

H_1 There is significant relationship between the before and after KVK training for Income generating activity and the interest of the respondents.

Thus, in this case our data was supporting our alternate hypothesis; and the different KVK training for Income generating activity were differentially drawing the interest of the respondents.

Paired t test for Income generating activity

		N	Mean	SD	SE Mean
Income generating activity Knowledge	Before	200	1.235	0.425	0.0301
	After	200	2.625	0.485	0.0343

	paired difference					T value	DF	P value
	Mean	Std Deviat-ion	Std Error Mean	95%CI of the Difference				
				Lower	Upper			
Income generating activity Knowledge before and after	-1.390	0.648	0.045	-1.299	-1.480	30.33	1	0.000

It can be concluded that income generating training programmes had a positive impact on the knowledge gain by the rural women. Income generating trainings play an important role in developing the skills and employment among the rural women for generation of income. Such training programmes can be replicated elsewhere and some more need based vocational training programmes may be incorporated so that the rural youths can earn their livelihood.

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