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Opinions of farm women regarding vocational trainings conducted under KVK Jeolikote

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Abstract

Imparting vocational training is considered as the basic principle of Krishi Vigyan Kendra. Training has been used as an effective tool to develop human resource by giving opportunity to develop knowledge, attitudes, and skills which will accelerate their all-round development. The present study was conducted in Nainital district of Uttarakhand. To assess opinion of the 90 farm women regarding vocational trainings conducted under KVK Jeolikote. Descriptive research design was used for the present investigation. Based on the nature of data, frequency, percentage, arithmetic mean, standard deviation was used as statistical tools. Majority of trainees preferred their own village as suitable venue for training, and three fourth of the respondents suggested that most suitable time for imparting training was during slack season.

Keywords: Imparting vocational training, slack season, Krishi Vigyan Kendra, human resource

Introduction

Women are the back bone of the nation. They generally constitute nearly half of the global population and approximately account for one-third of the total labour force and perform nearly two third of working hours (UN, 1995) [5]. They are recognized as the pillars of progress and development for the country. In spite of the fact that the women's contribution and role to the country's development is equal to that of man, they still experience a diverse variety of limitations that restrain them from assimilating their full potential for expansion. Women are the vital human infrastructure and their empowerment (economic, psychological, social and political) would accelerate the pace of national development. Developing the women capabilities and empowering them is the important way to contribute to economic growth and overall development. In Uttarakhand, rural women constitute the productive work force in the economy of this region. In spite of their major role they still lagged behind in many areas like economic dependency, and social neglect. Government initiated various schemes to make them self-sufficient. Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) has been working regularly to uplift the rural masses through vocational trainings provided through KVKs.

Research Methodology

The present study was conducted in Uttarakhand state. Out of thirteen districts of the state, Nainital was selected purposively for the present study as Krishi Vigyan Kendra; Jeolikote has been working in this district. Bhimtal block was selected purposively as KVK Jeolikote is located in this block and maximum numbers of vocational trainings are organized by KVK in this particular block. Selection of three villages was done randomly. A complete list of trainees who had undergone trainings during (2017-18) conducted by KVK Jeolikote in the villages were obtained by investigator from KVK personnel. The beneficiaries were selected from the villages. Equal numbers of non-beneficiaries were selected from the villages by using proportional allocation method. Thus constituting the total sample size of 90 women in which 45 were beneficiaries and 45 were non beneficiaries. Opinion was operationalized as the suggestions or views taken from the trainees with regard to venue, time, duration of training and different training activities or tools which need to be improved or taken care of while training programme. The opinions of the trainees on different aspects of training programme were obtained. To measure the opinion of beneficiary farm women towards vocational trainings, an opinion scale was used. The scale consisted of different options for farm women to know the opinion of the respondents, regarding venue, time, and number of days and size of training groups. The response of the beneficiaries only was taken with the multiple options given to each category. Overall score for each respondent was calculated with the help of frequency and percentage, and thereafter, respondents were categorized accordingly.

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Results and Discussion

Opinions for effective organization of training programmes

1. Venue

The beneficiaries were asked to suggest the venue they felt most suitable for undergoing training. From the data indicated in Table 1, majority of trainees (88.88%) preferred their own village as suitable venue for training. However (11.11%) trainees also preferred other venues as suitable for training.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to preferred venue (n=45)

S. No	Venue	Frequency	Percentage
1.	In the village	40	88.88
2.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra	0	0.00
3.	Any others	5	11.11

2. Suitable time for training

The result in Table No. 2, indicates that majority (75.55%) of the respondents suggested that most suitable time for imparting training was during slack season, followed by about 24.44 per cent of the respondents preferred any other season apart from cropping season as the right time.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to preferred time for training (n=45)

S. No	Time	Frequency	Percentage
1.	During slack season	34	75.55
2.	During crop season	0	0.00
3.	Others	11	24.44

3. Duration

Table No. 3 clearly shows that more than half of the respondents suggested that most suitable number of days for receiving training are three days, followed by about 42.22 per cent of respondent suggested five days as most suitable duration of training.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to duration of training (n=45)

S. No	Duration of training	Frequency	Percentage
1.	3 days	26	57.77
2.	5 days	19	42.22
3.	10 days	0	0.00

4. Training group

The data in Table No. 4 clearly shows that majority of trainees (77.77%) preferred to take trainings in a group less than 25 trainees. Some of the respondents (22.22%) felt that the group should be between 25 to 50 was suitable.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to training group (n=45)

S. No	Training group	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Less than 25 women	35	77.77
2.	25 to 50 women	10	22.22

5. Training methods

Women beneficiaries were asked to give their opinion about the preferred training methods. The data in Table No. 5 showed that majority of respondents (64.44%) preferred demonstration as a method for trainings followed by discussion with demonstration was preferred by about 29 per cent respondents.

Table 5: Distribution of respondents according to preferred venue (n=45)

S. No	Type of training method	Frequency	Percentage
1	Lecture	0	0
2	Discussion method	0	0
3	Demonstration method	29	64.44
4	Discussion +demonstration	13	28.88
5	Lecture with simple visuals	3	6.66

While very few beneficiaries (6.66%) preferred lecture with simple visuals as training method. The more preference of demonstration method by women trainees was found. This might be due to the reason that skill based vocational trainings require demonstration.

6. Audio visual aids used

Table 6: Distribution of respondents according to preferred audio visual aids (n=45)

S. No	Audio visual aids	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Model	5	11.11
2.	Chart	30	66.66
3.	Flash cards	0	0
4.	Tape recorder	0	0
5.	Slides	0	0
6.	Chalk board	0	0
7.	Photos	10	22.22

It is inferred from data in Table No. 6 that majority of the beneficiaries (66.66%) preferred chart for trainings followed by photos preferred by (22.22%) of beneficiaries, while very few beneficiaries (6.66%) preferred models for training purposes.

7. Opinions regarding physical facilities available

Trainee's opinions regarding the physical facilities available at the site of training venue were reported. The findings showed that none of the trainees was dissatisfied with the training facilities. However all the respondents were found to be satisfied with the sitting arrangement while majority of them found proper power supply with good ventilation and adequate drinking water. The result shows that trainees were very well satisfied with the physical facilities available.

The present findings are also in conformity with the findings of Jyoti Minz (1998) ^[1] and Patel (2001) ^[4] who also concluded that when there was not much work in the field, the farm women preferred to attain the training programme. The results shows that majority of women preferred to undergo training in the village. The might be due to reason that in village women can easily attain the training with performing all the household work. However (11.11%) trainees also preferred other venues as suitable for training. The finding of the study is found contradictory with study conducted by (Mazumdar 1993) who said that majority of farm women preferred farmers training centre for receiving training, and also found that majority of farm women preferred long duration training to get more skill and perfection. It can be concluded that farm women felt small group as most suitable and efficient in learning skills, with proper trainers' guidance and support. The results were in contradictory with the findings of Kanani (1988) ^[2] who also reported that majority of farm women preferred training in slightly larger groups.

Conclusion: Training programmes conducted by KVK had good role in creating awareness, increasing the knowledge, self-confidence, and providing improved skills which will help in the betterment of their livelihood security. The opinions of trainees highlighted on infrastructural facilities where KVK lagged behind and training methodologies used are conventional, therefore KVKs and other similar training institutes should upgrade the facilities and use innovative training methods also.

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