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Role of Krishi Vigyan Kendra Training Programmes on Income and Employment Generation

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ABSTRACT

Krishi Vigyan Kendras (KVKs - Farm Science Centres) have been established by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to cater to the needs of farming community. The thrust areas of KVKs are refinement and demonstration of technologies, and training of farmers and extension functionaries. Imparting vocational trainings in agriculture and allied fields for the rural youth is one of its mandates. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Amadalavalasa conducted 27 various need based and skill oriented vocational training programmes during 2011-16 in Srikakulam district of Andhra Pradesh state. KVK trained about 633 people, among which 202 people were employed and 35 units were established. The percentage of employment generation was 31.91 which created income for rural people and played a positive role for their empowerment. On an average, income level of the trainees increased by 108.66 per cent because of the adoption of newly acquired skill and thereby improved their share in their family income by 15.07 per cent. Results revealed that majority of the sample trainees were young and most of the trainees belonged to the category of high income generation. The association between education level and income generation of the trainees was found to be significant.

Key words: *Impact, Income generation, Training programmes.*

Training is one of the important aspects of human resource development. The training programmes of KVK are multipurpose one to cover not only the various needs of a farmer but also the entire needs of village and community (Chaudhary, 1999 and Sharma *et al*., 2013). The KVK being an educational institution of the farmers offers a very real opportunity by organizing trainings to work closely with trainees in developing a more skilled and educated work force (Arora, 2015). Krishi Vigyan Kendra has been designed to impart need based and skill oriented vocational training to various categories of farming communities. KVK trainings are also designed on the most important needs of the clientele, their resources, constraints and nature of the eco-system (Bar *et al.*, 2014). The main purpose is to influence the productivity to achieve the social justice for the needy and deserving weaker sections of the community.

Vocational training refers to a certain type of training whose main objective is preparing people for work which includes initial training and continuing professional development. It is training for a specific vocation in industry or agriculture or trade and an important policy instrument for enhancing employment and can develop appropriate skills and there by improve labour supply and the employability of work force. One of the main aims of KVKs is to develop entrepreneurship amongst the rural people especially the farmers, farmwomen and rural youth. After training, follow up extension programmes are undertaken (Singh et al., 2013). A study was therefore designed to assess the impact of KVK trainings on the empowerment of rural community.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Amadalavalasa conducted various need-based and skill oriented short and long-term vocational training programmes in agriculture and allied vocations in Srikakulam district during 2011-2016 with emphasis on "learning by doing" to provide the knowledge on different income generating activities and to generate higher farm production and self employment. The list of beneficiaries who had attended the training programmes on different vocational skills was obtained from the KVK Amadalavalasa, out of total 50 trainee beneficiaries were selected by random sampling method. The percentage change in income level of the trainees was checked before and after trainings in the present study. The data was codified, tabulated and analysed with statistical tools such as frequency, percentage and averages. The association of different socio-economic characters of the trainees with their income generation was tested by chi-square test. For this purpose, the following formula was used.

$\chi^2 = \Sigma(O_i - E_i)^2 / E_i$ with d.f. (r - 1) (c - 1)

Where,

O_i = Observed frequency; E_i = Expected frequency

Σ = Summation over all differences

r = Number of rows; c = Number of columns

d.f. = Degree of freedom

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

It is evident from table 1 that KVK, Amadalavalasa had conducted 27 various need based and skill oriented vocational training programmes during 2011-16 in Srikakulam district. KVK trained about 633 people, among which 202 people were employed and 35 units were established. The percentage of employment generation was 31.91 which created income for rural people and played a positive role for their empowerment.

Table 1. Vocational training programmes conducted by KVK-Amadalavalasa

Year	No. of Program-mes	No. of Trainees	No. of units established	Employment generation	
				No. of trainees employed	Per cent to total trainees
2011-12	1	20	6	9	45.00
2012-13	5	84	5	23	27.38
2013-14	5	134	7	55	41.04
2014-15	7	150	9	48	32.00
2015-16	9	245	8	67	27.35
Total	27	633	35	202	31.91

Table 2. Distribution of trainees according to their age

Age group	Frequency	Percentage
Young (<35 years)	32	64
Middle aged (35-45 years)	13	26
Old (>45 years)	5	10
Total	50	100
Mean	34.94	

Table 2 depicts that majority of the respondents belonged to young age (64%) followed by middle age (26%) and a very few percentage (10) of the trainees fall under old age category. It is quite interesting that the mean age of the trainees is about 35 years. Similar findings were reported by Singh *et al.* (2010).

Table 3. Distribution of trainees according to their Education level

Education level	Frequency	Percentage
Illiterate	16	32
Primary	6	12
Secondary	16	32
College	12	24
Total	50	100
Mean	7.25	

It is evident from the above table that an equal percent (32) of the trainees fall under illiterate and secondary level of education followed by college level (24%) and meagre portion of the trainees (12) belong to primary level of education. These findings corroborate with the results of Lal and Tandon (2011).

Table 4. Distribution of trainees according to their family size

Family size	Frequency	Percentage
1-3 members	16	32
4-6 members	28	56
More than 6 members	6	12
Total	50	100

Table 4 displays the data pertaining to family size of the trainees and it can be concluded from the table that more than half of the trainees having 4 to 6 members in their family and 32 per cent of the trainees having 1 to 3 members in their family. A very nominal portion of the trainees (6%) having more than 6 members in their family.

From the results depicted in table 5, the change in income was highest in case of beneficiaries of micro shade net nursery raising (Rs.93667) followed by mushroom cultivation (Rs.81444) which required high investment. Percent share of the trainee in total family income was increased highly for the beneficiaries of millet processing (31.41%) followed by tailoring (18.96%) because the trainee beneficiaries are women and housewives who contributed very less to the total family income before the training and adoption of the skill for income generation. From the table, it is evident that the trainee beneficiaries of friends of coconut training (FOCT) increased their income by Rs. 62946 per annum. They are unemployed rural youth and after adopting the skill of coconut climbing with machine, coconut climbers increased their income by 103.65 percent. The adoption of vanaraja backyard poultry and natural dying of mesta fibre products also got employment and increased their income by 70.72 percent and 24.66 percent respectively.

It can be summarised from the table 6 that more than half of the trainees belonged to high income group with more than Rs. 50,000 followed by 28 per cent of the trainees belonged to medium income group with Rs. 25,000 to Rs. 50000 and 26 per cent of the trainees fall under low income category with less than Rs. 25,000. These results are similar with the results of Murthy *et al*. (2013).

Table 5. Impact of Training Programmes on income: KVK, Amadalavalasa

S. No.	Training programme	No. of Trainees	Income per year (Rs.)				Per cent share in total family income		
			Before Adoption	After Adoption	Change	Per cent change	Before Adoption	After Adoption	Change
1	Mushroom cultivation	3	74667	156111	81444	109.08	58.33	74.54	16.20
2	Friends of coconut	17	60727	123673	62946	103.65	80.68	89.36	8.68
3	Tailoring	8	5075	25460	20385	401.67	6.98	25.95	18.96
4	Micro shadenet nursery raising	3	77325	170992	93667	121.13	56.44	74.13	17.69
5	Millet processing	10	15522	57200	41678	268.51	31.79	63.2	31.41
6	Mesta products with natural dyes	5	29244	36456	7212	24.66	39.19	44.55	5.36
7	Vanaraja Backyard poultry	4	58079	99155	41076	70.72	80.08	87.28	7.20
	Pooled	50	45805.57	95578.12	49773	108.66	50.5	65.57	15.07

Table 6. Distribution of respondents according to their level of income generation

Category	Number	Percentage
Low (Less than Rs.25000)	13	26
Medium (Rs.25000-50000)	14	28
High (More than Rs.50000)	23	46
Total	50	100

Table 7. Association between age and income generation of the trainees

Category	Income generation			
	Low	Medium	High	Total
Young (< 35 years)	10	7	14	31
	(32.26)	(22.58)	(45.16)	(62.00)
Middle aged (35-45 years)	3	3	7	13
	(23.08)	(23.08)	(53.84)	(26.00)
Old (> 45 years)	0	4	2	6
	0.00	(66.67)	(33.33)	(12.00)
Total	13	14	23	50

χ^2=6.09 Non significant at 5 % level with 4 d.f.

Table 7 shows that among the trainees of young age group, 45.16 per cent belonged to high income category of more than Rs. 50000 and 32.26 per cent belonged to low income category and 22.58 per cent belonged to medium income category. Out of total middle aged group trainees, 53.84 percent belonged to high income followed by medium and low income categories with 23.80 percent. Within old aged trainees with above 45 years age, 33.33 per cent belonged to high income group, 66.67 per cent from medium income group and no one is falling under low income group. However, the Chi-square test result shows that there is no significant association between age and income generation of the trainees.

Table 8. Association between education and income generation of the trainees

Education group	Income Generation			Total
	Low	Medium	High	
Illiterate	1(6.25)	9(56.25)	6(37.50)	16
Primary level	5(83.33)	0(0)	1(16.67)	6
Secondary level	4(26.67)	4(26.67)	7(46.66)	15
College	3(23.08)	1(7.69)	9(69.23)	13
Total	13	14	23	50

χ^2=21.09** significant at 5 % level with 6 d.f.

Table 8 indicates the association between level of education and income generation of the trainee beneficiaries. Among the illiterate trainees, 56.25 per cent belonged to medium income category, 37.50 per cent belonged to high income category and only 6.25 per cent belonged to low income category. About 83.33 per cent trainees with primary education belonged to low income group and rest of them belonged to high income group. Out of total trainees with secondary school level education, about 46.66 per cent are

generating high income, where as 26.67 per cent each are generating medium and low income. The College level education of the trainees shows that 69.23 per cent generating high income and 23.08 per cent generating low income, where as a nominal 7.69 per cent generating medium income. Chi-square test value 21.09 is found to be highly significant thereby indicating that level of education is associated with the income generation of trainees. Similar results were reported by Singh *et al*. (2016).

Table 9. Association between family size and income generation of the trainees

Family size	Income Generation			Total
	low	Medium	high	
1 to 3 members	6(35.29)	5(29.41)	6(35.30)	17
4 to 6 members	7(25.93)	5(18.52)	15(55.55)	27
More than 6 members	0(0)	4(66.67)	2(33.33)	6
Total	13	14	23	50

χ^2=7.37 Non significant at 5 % level with 4 d.f.

The above results (table 9) shows that family size of the trainees with 1 to 3 members generating high and low income of about 35.30 per cent each compared to 29.41 per cent from medium income group. About 55.55 per cent trainees with family size of 4 to 6 members generating high income followed by 25.93 per cent low income and 18.52 per cent medium income. 66.67 per cent trainees with more than 6 members of the family generating medium income and 33.33 per cent generating high income. The Chi square values shows that family size of the trainees has no significant influence on the level of income generation of the trainees.

CONCLUSION

The main target in conducting the trainings was to convert the unemployed rural community to employed one. The results shows that the vocational training programmes conducted are augmenting the trainee income substantially. These results are similar with those of Singh *et al*. (2016), Lal and Tandon (2011) and Nazir *et al*. (2012) who assessed the impact of vocational training programmes and reported the improved economic status of trainee beneficiaries. The results also indicated that the KVKs are realising the objectives of the vocational training programmes in terms of achieving desired outcomes and impacts but KVKs. Hence it can be concluded that Krishi Vigyan Kendras play a positive role in the empowerment of rural community and better impact on imparted trainings can be achieved by conducting feedback and follow up visits by the KVK staff.

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