

To Elicit the Constraints and Suggestions of Tribal Farmers of ITDA for Effective Implementation of Agricultural Activities

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ABSTRACT

The present study was carried out in vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh to analyse the constraints faced by the tribal farmers about agricultural programme activities of ITDA and solutions to overcome those constraints. Total 12 villages from three mandals were identified for the study. *Ex post facto* research design was used and 120 samples sizes were selected from the study by proportionate random sampling method. The collected data was analysed by using appropriate method of analysis viz., percentage, mean, standard deviation, correlation and regression etc., Overwhelming majority of the tribal farmers were less outside contacts (90.00%) followed by those with less mass media exposure (88.33%) and less awareness about training ITDA programmes (82.50%).

Key Words: *Constraints, Suggestions about ITDA Agricultural activities.*

Integrated Tribal Development Agencies (ITDAs) were established with an object of termination of exploitation in all forms, speeding up of the process of social and economic development, building up inner strength of people and improving the organizational capabilities. Accordingly, "Integrated Tribal Development Agency was registered under societies Act XXI of 1860 with an objective to identify the problems of tribal's in the agency area and to investigate into problems with a view to formulate firm measures for the development of the area and improving the economic & educational standards and to maintain social and cultural heritage of the tribes and started its function from 3rd March, 1980 with headquarters at Vizianagaram and subsequently the headquarters was shifted to Parvathipuram in the year 1982 (Integrated Tribal Development Agency (ITDA), 2013-14).

Our father of Nation, Mahatma Gandhi underlined the importance of rural India by saying that "India lives in villages". Since, then successive governments have been trying to develop the rural India. The main objective of the ITDA is to identify the problems of tribal's inhabiting the contiguous groups of villages called the sub plan tribal area, signifying the area based approach to the problems with a view to formulate viable and firm strategies in an Integrated manner to achieve socio economic development of the tribal's and also to improve infrastructure and standard of Administration in the Tribal area.

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES:

1. The poor socio-economic condition of tribal farmers of ITDA is caused by its physiographic condition and lack of knowledge about Agricultural activities of ITDA.
2. To explore the major problems and prospects of the study village.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The study was conducted in vizianagaram district of Andhra Pradesh Total 12 villages from three mandals were identified for the study. *Ex post fact* research design was used and 120 respond ate were selected from the study by proportionate random sampling method. The collected data was analysed by using appropriate methods of analysis viz., percentage, mean, standard deviation, correlation and regression etc.,

RUSULTS AND DISCUSSION

The results obtained from the present investigation are summarized below.

Constraints and Suggestions

Constraints

Constraints which are directly or indirectly considered as stumbling block in getting the benefits of the agricultural activities of ITDA meant for them, so as to increase their status and awareness of the tribal farmers in study area were studied. In depth of were analysed relation to personal, socio-economic, technical and organizational constrains of the tribal farmers. Endeavour has been made to locate the constraints from gross root to top level

Personal Constraints

A perusal of Table 1. indicated perceived personal constraints of tribal farmers of ITDA percentage rank order of their importance as; Less outside contacts (90.00%), less mass media exposure (88.33%), Less awareness about training ITDA programmes (82.50%), Less willing to take risk (81.66%), Inadequate decision-making ability (72.50%), Inadequate self-confidence (70.00%) and Inadequate co-ordination with government departments (62.50%). The result is in accordance with the results of Dhanasree *et al.* (2014) and Patel *et al.* (2015).

Table 1. Distribution of tribal farmers of ITDA in accordance with constraints elicited for effective implementation of agricultural programme activities (n=120)

S.No.	Problems	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
I. Personal Constraints				
1	Less willing to take risk	98	81.66	IV
2	Less awareness about ITDA Programmes	99	82.50	III
3	Inadequate self confidence	75	62.50	VII
4	Inadequate decision making ability	84	70.00	VI
5	Less outside contacts	108	90.00	I
6	Less mass media exposure	106	88.33	II
7	Inadequate co-ordination with government departments	87	72.50	V
II. Socio – Economic Constraints				
1	High cost of fertilizers	89	74.16	III
2	High wage rate of labours	109	90.83	I
3	Insufficient marketing and storage facilities	96	80.00	II
4	Insufficient government subsidy	75	62.50	V
5	Less social participation	84	70.00	IV
III. Technical Constraints				
1	Inadequate technical guidance	78	65.00	IV
2	Inadequate knowledge about new technology	75	62.50	V
3	Non-availability of skilled labours	103	85.83	I
4	Insufficient technical staff	89	74.16	III
5	Inadequate soil testing laboratories	97	80.83	II
IV. Organizational Constraints				
1	Less encouragement from officers	95	79.16	III
2	Distance location of training centers	83	69.16	V
3	Inadequate stipend given during training programmes	88	73.33	IV
4	Less exposure visits	98	81.66	II
5	Inadequate conduct of periodical training programmes	105	87.50	I
6	Insufficient duration of trainings was not sufficient for learning skills	79	65.83	VI

Table 2. Suggestions of tribal farmers of ITDA for effective implementation of agricultural activities

S.No.	Suggestions	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Organizaing skill training programmes	108	90.00	I
2	Establishing coordination with government departments	77	64.17	IV
3	Subsidized supply of fertilizers	102	85.00	III
4	Improving extension contacts	75	62.50	V
5	Increased staffing arrangements	105	87.50	II
6	Establishing more soil testing laboratories	30	25.00	XI
7	Increase in economic incentives	50	41.67	VI
8	Enhancing stipend during training period	43	35.83	VII
9	Arranging more exposure visits / study tours	38	31.67	VIII
10	Increasing frequencies of trainings on agricultural programme activities of ITDA	36	30.00	IX
11	Duration of trainings on agricultural programme activities of ITDA	32	26.67	X
12	Establishment of information kiosks on agriculture	20	16.67	XII

Socio- Economic Constraints

The Table 1. clearly showed the perceived socio-economic constraints of tribal farmers of ITDA percentage in rank order of their importance as; High wage rate of labour (90.83%), Insufficient marketing and storage facilities (80.00%), High cost of fertilizers (74.16%), Less social participation (70.00%) and Insufficient government subsidy (62.50%). This result is in accordance with the results of Manoj (2008) and Nagendrababu (2015).

Technical Constraints

The Table 1. clearly indicated the perceived technical constraints of tribal farmers of ITDA percentage in rank order of their importance as; Non-availability of the labour (85.83%), Inadequate soil testing laboratories (80.83%), Insufficient technical staff (74.16%), Inadequate technical guidance (65.00%) and lack of knowledge about improved technology (62.50%). This result is in accordance with the results of Manoj (2008) and Nagendrababu (2015).

Organizational Constraints

A critical look at table 1. revealed the perceived personal constraints of tribal farmers of ITDA percentage in rank order of their importance as; Inadequate conduct of periodical training programmes (87.50%), Less exposure visits (81.66%), Less encouragement from officers (79.16%), Inadequate stipend given during training programmes (73.33%), Distance location of training centers (69.16%) and Insufficient duration of trainings for learning skills (65.83). The result is in accordance with the results of Krishnaprasad (2005) and Ulman (2010). This result is in accordance with the results of Manoj (2008) and Nagendrababu (2015)

Suggestions

From the Table 2. clearly showed the suggestion of tribal farmers of ITDA in percentage rank order of their importance as; Organizing skill training programmes (90.00%), Establishing coordination with government departments (87.50%), Subsidized supply of fertilizers (85.00%), Improving extension contacts (64.17%), Increased staffing arrangements (62.50%), Establishing more soil testing laboratories (41.67%), Increase in economic incentives (35.83%) and Enhancing stipend during training period (31.67%), Arranging more exposure visits / study tours (30.00%), Increasing frequencies of trainings on agricultural programme activities of ITDA (26.67%), Enhancing in the duration of trainings on agricultural programme activities of ITDA (25.00%), Establishment of

information kiosks on agriculture (16.67%). The findings of Kiran (2011), Marcus (2013), Subramanyam and Veerabhadru (2013), Dhanasree *et al.* (2014), Patel *et al.* (2015) and Ramya (2016) were in line with the present study.

CONCLUSION

The most important constraints of tribal farmers of ITDA for effective implementation of agricultural activities were categorized into Personal Constraints- Less outside contacts (90.00%), Socio-Economic Constraints- High wage rate of labours (90.83%), Technical Constraints-Non-availability of skilled labours (85.83%) and Organizational Constraints- Inadequate conduct of periodical training programmes (87.50%). The most important suggestion of tribal farmers of ITDA for effective implementation of agricultural activities were; Organizaing skill training programmes (90.00%), Establishing coordination with government departments (87.50%), Subsidized supply of fertilizers (85.00%), Improving extension contact (64.17%) and Increased staffing arrangements (62.50%).

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