

Original Research Article

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Knowledge of Farmers towards Training Programme Organized by KVK in Aboi Town of Mon District, Nagaland

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ABSTRACT

Agriculture is the dominant sector of Indian economy. The progress of the nation is therefore, directly linked with advancement in agriculture. KVK play a vital role in carrying out various developmental activities on farmers' fields to increase the agricultural production and improve their living standards. The KVK was launched in 1988-89 in all 11 districts viz., Dimapur, Kohima, Kiphire, Longleng, Mokokchung, Mon, Phek, Peren, Tuensang, Wokha and Zunheboto of Nagaland. The study revealed that majority of the farmers belonged to middle aged group, educated between primary and high school level, had medium level of annual income with medium size of land holding. Majority of them had medium (10-20) years of farming experience, use of sources of information and high level of participation in extension activities. It was observed that the majority (74.20%) of the respondents had medium level of knowledge towards the training programme of KVK prevailing in the area followed by 17.50% having low and 8.30% having high knowledge level respectively. In respect of correlation analysis between knowledge level and the independent variables, it shows that age, education, annual income, marital status, family type, size of family, occupation and land holding had positive and non-significant. Whereas, participation in extension activities, social participation, innovativeness and mass media exposure was found to be significant. The major constraints faced by the respondents were lack of transport facility, inadequate credit facility, lack of promotional opportunities, non-availability of timely technical information, irregular supply of inputs etc.

Keywords

Socio economic, knowledge, KVK, Nagaland

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Introduction

The KVK imparts various regular training programmes in agriculture and allied fields for practicing farmers, farm women; rural youth/school drop-outs; extension workers/in-service personnel. There are two types of training programmes: scheduled training programmes for which training topics and dates are fixed by the Kendra and

applications are invited from the farming community and youth for the programmes through wide publicity in print and electronic media. The second type of training programmes are organized to meet the specific demands from individual farmer, farmers group, voluntary organizations, development departments, etc. (Dept of Agriculture, Nagaland). The training programme organised by KVK urges the trainees to actively participate in the

training programme and try to equip themselves with better knowledge and skills covering various topics under Seed Production and Poultry Rearing and Management by using different module namely power point presentation, audio visual in the form of film show besides, skilled based exercise through active participation and involvement of trainees in the form of interactive session and group discussion.

Moreover, hands on training, method demonstration are also imparted in the KVK instructional farm as well as on farm i.e. farmers field. Social forestry and plantation are also being encouraged to prevent soil erosion and maintain the eco- system.

Providing improved and high yielding seeds, fertilisers, pesticides and modern techniques of cultivation are some other measures of the State Govt. in association with the KVK's to improve the overall production in the agricultural front and encourage the trainees to well verse with the technical knowledge and put into practice for their livelihood security based with eco-friendly manner. (Morung Express, 2021).

Since KVK has taken up good step in this direction and results are very encouraging since 1988-1989 in Nagaland. Therefore, it is foremost need to evaluate the performance of KVK by this investigation; so to access the impact or benefits gained by the farming community in term of income and employment can be justified.

In the region farmers possess very small size of holdings and family labour (male, female & children) remains underemployed. Seasonal employment is a chronic affair.

Hence farmer needs subsidiary occupation, which may lead to generate additional employment and income as well as infrastructure through KVK training, so that government as well as local inhabitants should give more attention for implementation of KVK programme in the region, as the scheme has been implemented in all eleven districts of Nagaland State (Walling *et al.*, 2017).

Materials and Methods

The present study was conducted in Aboi block of Mon district of Nagaland. A total number of 120 respondents from were selected using proportionate random sampling procedure. Aboi block, was selected through purposive sampling based on maximum number of trained farmers.

Data was collected with the help of pre-structured interview schedule. The descriptive research design was used for the present research study.

The socio-economic variables selected for the study were age, education, family size, family type, occupation, land holding, annual income, farm experience, participation in extension activities, social participation, innovativeness and mass media exposure.

Results and Discussion

Socio – economic characteristics of the respondents

Table 1 revealed that majority (68.30%) of the respondents belong to middle age group. (48.30%) of the respondents had an educational qualification up to high school level. Majority (92.50%) of the respondents was married and 72.50 per cent had nuclear family.

Majority (67.50%) of the respondents had family size up to 5 members. Majority (55%) of the respondents had medium level of income and medium (58.33%) level of land holdings (2-4 acres).

It was also found that majority (54.16%) of the respondents had experience of above 20 years in farming. Maximum number (50%) of respondents had medium level of participation in extension activities. Majority (88.4%) of the respondents were having medium level of mass media exposure.

It was also found that majority (85.50%) of the respondents were members of the village council

followed by 60 per cent who were members of SHG. Similar findings are also reported by Meena *et al.*, (2013).

Knowledge level of the respondents towards the training programme of KVK prevailing in the area

The results presented in table 2 revealed that majority of 72.5 per cent of the respondents knows about result demonstration. 69.2% of the respondents were fully correct in knowing about method demonstration followed by front line demonstration (75.8%), vocational training (89.2%), attending exhibition organised by KVK(90%), attending discussion or group meetings (82.5%), scientist visiting their field (78.3%), educational tour visit of farmers (79.2%), member of SHG (62.5%), knowing the transfer of technology (72.5%) whereas most (76.7%) of the respondent's response were not correct about reading the agricultural newspaper/magazines/booklets/folders published by KVK and 92.5% were not correct about being a member of youth club.

Table 3 revealed that the level of knowledge farmers about the training programmes of KVK prevailing in the area is medium 74.20% followed by low 17.50% and high 8.30% respectively. Similar findings were found in Ajarwat and Kumar (2013) and Mehdi *et al.*, (2017).

Association between selected independent variables with knowledge of respondents

The result of correlation analysis in above table revealed the significance and non-significance of the socio- economic profile of the people and their level

of knowledge about the training programmes of KVK prevailing in the area.

Table 4 revealed that independent variables like age, marital status, participation in extension activities, social participation, innovativeness and mass media exposure are significantly associated with the knowledge of farmers.

Further, the variables education, annual income, family type, size of family, occupation and land holding was found to be non-significant with the knowledge of farmers towards the training programmes of KVK prevailing in the area. Similar findings are also reported by Kumar *et al.*, (2019) and Reddy *et al.*, (2020)

Majority of the respondents were middle aged people, had education up to high school level, majority are married, had nuclear family, up to 5 members and most of them lived in semi-cemented house.

Majority of the respondents had agriculture as their occupation, had farming experiences of 10- 20 years. A large number of the respondents had medium level of income.

It was found that large number of respondents had medium level of knowledge towards the training programmes of KVK prevailing in the area.

Independent variables like age, marital status, participation in extension activities, social participation, innovativeness and mass media exposure are significantly associated with knowledge of towards the training programmes of KVK prevailing in the area.

Table.1 Socio-economic profile of the respondents.

S.No	Independent variables	Category	Frequency	Percentage	
1	Age	Young (21-35)	21	17.5	
		Middle Age (36-55)	82	68.3	
		Old (Above 55)	17	14.2	
2	Education	Illiterate	26	22	
		Primary school	34	28.3	
		High School	48	40	
		Higher secondary	10	8	
		Graduation	02	1.7	
3	Annual income	Low (less than 60,000)	35	29.2	
		Medium (60,000-1,00,000)	66	55	
		High (Above 1,00,000)	19	15.8	
4	Marital status	Married	99	82.5	
		Unmarried	21	17.5	
5	Type of family	Nuclear	87	72.5	
		Joint	33	27.5	
6	Size of family	Up to 5 members	81	67.5	
		Above 5 members	39	32.5	
7	Occupation	Farming	70	58.3	
		Farming + Business	27	22.5	
		Farming + Service	23	19.2	
8	Land holding	Low (<2acres)	45	37.5	
		Medium (2-6 acres)	70	58.3	
		High (>6 acres)	05	4.2	
9	Participation in extension activities	Low	11	9.2	
		Medium	60	50	
		High	49	40.8	
10	Social participation	Village council	Member	103	85.8
			Non member	17	14.2
			Office bearer	00	00
		Youth club	Member	24	20
			Non member	96	80
			Office bearer	00	00
		SHG	Member	72	60
			Non member	45	37.5
			Office bearer	03	2.5
		Farmer's club	Member	42	35
			Non member	73	60.8
			Office bearer	05	4.2
11	Innovativeness	Low	04	3.3	
		Medium	20	16.7	
		High	96	80	
12	Mass media exposure	Low	04	3.3	
		Medium	106	88.4	
		High	10	8.3	

Table.2 Distribution of the respondents about knowledge of the training programme of KVK prevailing in the area.

S. No	Statements	Knowledge level					
		Fully correct		Partially correct		Not correct	
		f	%	f	%	f	%
1	You know about result demonstration.	87	72.5	33	27.5	-	-
2	You know about method demonstration.	83	69.2	37	30.8	-	-
3	You know about front line demonstration.	91	75.8	29	24.2	-	-
4	You know about vocational training.	107	89.2	13	10.8	-	-
5	You have attended exhibition organized by KVK.	108	90	12	10	-	-
6	You have attended discussion group/meeting.	99	82.5	18	15	03	2.5
7	You read the agricultural newspaper/ magazines/ booklets/ folders published by KVK?	10	8.3	18	15	92	76.7
8	The scientists visited your field.	94	78.3	10	8.3	16	13.3
9	You know about educational tour field visit of farmers conducted through KVK?	95	79.2	25	20.8	-	-
10	You are a member of self help group?	75	62.5	-	-	45	37.5
11	You are a member of youth club?	09	7.5	-	-	111	92.5
12	You know about the transfer of technology club?	87	72.5	19	15.8	14	11.7

Table.3 Distribution of the respondents based on the level of knowledge about the training programmes of KVK prevailing in the area.

S. No	Category	Frequency	Percentage	Mean	SD
1	Low (<24)	21	17.5	29.6	4.91
2	Medium (24-33)	89	74.2		
3	High (>33)	10	8.3		
	Total	120	100.00		

Table.4 Association between selected independent variables with knowledge

S. No	Variables	Pearson's correlation coefficient
1	Age	0.257**
2	Education	0.511NS
3	Annual income	0.399 NS
4	Marital status	0.233*
5	Family type	0.640NS
6	Size of family	0.371NS
7	Occupation	0.749NS
8	Land holding	0.752NS
9	Participation in extension activities	0.289**
10	Social participation	0.301**
11	Innovativeness	0.187*
12	Mass media exposure	0.204 *

* = Significant at p = 0.05%, **= Significant at p = 0.01%, NS= Non-Significant

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