

PERCEPTION OF FARMERS ABOUT SELECTED ASPECTS OF VIDEO-CONFERENCE PROGRAMME

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ABSTRACT

Farmers who availed training at various VRCs through video-conference programmes were randomly selected to measure the perception about selected aspects of video-conference programme. The results indicated that the trainees were highly satisfied with different aspects of video-conference programme such as ratio of lecture to discussion, relevance of subject matter, applicability of subject matter, knowledge of trainer about subject, method of presentation, approach in teaching and use of audio-visual aids. Great majority of the trainees opined that the training was based on their needs and interest and they were satisfied with duration of the training period as well as timing or month of training.

INTRODUCTION

MOU has been made among ISRO-AAU-KNNA (Abhiyan)-SEWA in order to set up VRCs-Village Resource Centres which are envisaged as the single window delivery mechanism for a variety of space based services such as: Tele-education, Tele-medicine, interactive advisories on agriculture, livestock management, fisheries and water management in different parts of Gujarat for farmers, farm women and rural youth. Sardar Smruti Kendra is working as an expert node, whereas VRCs act as student nodes. During the year 2008-2009, farmers who availed training at various VRCs centre through video-conference programmes, were randomly selected. The questionnaire was sent to the respective VRCs (Amdavad, Bodeli, Chikhodra and Pij) to get the

responses in accordance with the VRCs coordinator. In order to know the perception of farmers about usefulness and utility regarding selected aspects of video-conference programme.

METHODOLOGY

The present survey was conducted in middle Gujarat. Twenty participants from each Village Resource Centre (Amdavad, Bodeli, Chikhodara, and Pij) who availed the training were selected randomly for the study. Thus, total 80 respondents were selected for the study. The schedule was developed to measure the perception of the trainees regarding selected aspect of training i.e. utility of training programme, satisfaction for different aspects of subject matter, trainer as well as physical facility. Elicited responses were then analyzed accordingly.

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FINDINGS**Table-1 Distribution of the respondents with respect to satisfaction for different aspects of subject matter** n= 80

Sr. No	Aspect of subject matter	Distribution of trainees					
		Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Not satisfied	
		No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent	No.	Per cent
1	Relevance of subject matter	62	77.50	18	37.50	00	-
2	Applicability of subject matter	40	50.00	40	50.00	00	-
3	Ratio of lecture to discussion	70	87.50	10	12.50	00	-

It is clear from the Table-2 that the trainees were highly satisfied with ratio of lecture to discussion (87.50 per cent) followed by relevance of subject matter (77.50 per cent) and applicability to subject matter (50.00 per cent). Not a single trainee responded that he was not satisfied. Thus all the trainees were highly satisfied/ satisfied with all the aspect of subject matter.

Table 2: Distribution of the respondents with respect to satisfaction for different aspects of trainer n= 80

Sr. No	Aspect of quality of trainer	Distribution of trainees					
		Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Not satisfied	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1	Knowledge of subject	66	82.50	14	17.50	00	00
2	Method of presentation	65	81.25	13	16.25	02	2.50
3	Use of audio-visual aids	57	71.25	20	25.00	03	3.75
4	Approach in teaching	61	76.25	14	17.50	05	6.25

Perusal of Table -3 indicates that majority of trainees expressed their high satisfaction towards Knowledge of subject (82.50 per cent) followed by method of presentation (81.25 per cent), approach in teaching (76.25 per cent) and use of audio-visual aids (71.25 per cent). However, a few of them reported their dissatisfaction with approach in teaching (6.25 per cent) followed by use of audio-visual aids (3.75 per cent) and method of presentation (2.50 per cent).

Table3 : Distribution of the respondents with respect to satisfaction for different aspects of physical facility n= 80

Sr. No	Aspect of physical facility	Distribution of trainees					
		Highly satisfied		Satisfied		Not satisfied	
		No.	Percent	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
1	Seating arrangement	71	88.75	09	11.25	00	00
2	Audio-visual equipment	78	81.25	20	12.50	00	00

It can be inferred from the table 4 that all the trainees were highly satisfied /satisfied with physical facilities such as seating arrangement and audio-visual equipments.

Table 5: Distribution of the respondents according to their perception of training with their needs and interest n= 80

Sr.No.	Extent of perceived relationship	No.	Per cent
1	To great extent	73	91.25
2	To some what extent	07	08.75
3	Not at all	00	00

Table -5 reveals that great majority of the trainees (91.25 per cent) were of the opinion that the training was based on their needs and interest. None of them reported lack of relationship of the training with their needs and interest.

Table 6 : Distribution of the respondents according to their perception for duration and timing of training n = 80

Sr.No.	Level of satisfaction	Duration of training		Timing of training	
		No	Per cent	No.	Per cent
1	Satisfied	74	92.50	77	96.25
2	Not satisfied	06	07.50	03	03.75

The results from table -6 indicate that great majority of the trainees were satisfied with duration of the training period (92.50 per cent) as well as timing or month of training (96.25 per cent).

CONCLUSIONS

The trainees were highly satisfied with different aspects of subject matter such as ratio of lecture to discussion (87.50 per cent), relevance of subject matter (77.50 per cent) and applicability of subject matter (50.00 per cent). In case of qualities of a trainer, majority of trainees expressed their high satisfaction towards knowledge of subject (82.50 per cent), method of presentation (81.25 per cent), approach in teaching (76.25 per cent) and use of audio-visual aids (71.25 per cent). Great majority of

the trainees (91.25 per cent) were of the opinion that the training was based on their needs and interest. Further, great majority of them were satisfied with duration of the training period (92.50 per cent) as well as timing or month of training (96.25 per cent).

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The great aim of education is knowledge, but action. - Herbert Spencer