

WOMEN EMPOWERMENT ASSESSMENT IN TERMS OF INCOME AND EMPLOYMENT GENERATION

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ABSTRACT

The vocational training are designed to bridging the gap between technologies awareness and its utilization for increasing agricultural production, getting employment on allied activities and supplement the income for better socio-economic status among the society. Women skill has been improved after getting vocational training from Krishi Vigyan Kendra Chomu, (Jaipur) Rajasthan of India. Therefore, a study was conducted to assess the level of women empowerment in terms of income/employment generated by 105 beneficiary rural women who trained by the Subject Matter Specialists of KVK Chomu. Their responses on all aspects related to income and employment generated for women empowerment were recorded personally by using an interview schedule. It was concluded from the findings that the majority of respondents (60.95 per cent) had medium level of income generation whereas under employment generation most of the women had started employment herself (MPS 91.90).

Keywords: empowerment, employment, generation, income, training, vocational

INTRODUCTION

Vocational training programme plays a positive role for the empowerment of rural women. Majority of rural women developed their socio-economic status, their psychological confidence and had become able to take decision (Bansal *et al.*, 2021). Income generating activities are considered as those initiatives that affect the economic aspects of people's lives through the use of economic tools such as credit (Vinaya *et al.*, 2018). It is being increasingly realized that women's income in a family is very important in relation to the nutritional, economic and educational upliftment of the family. Empowerment is a multi-dimensional process which should enable women or group of women to realize their full identity and power in all spheres of life. "Empowerment comes from Women's groups who seek to empower themselves through greater self-reliance.

The government is implementing many programmes for socio-economic upliftment of rural women because women are the backbone of a family and by getting technical knowledge through vocational training and may change their whole life. They will utilize all their mind power by using of new technology they also make them self-dependent because they can take own decision related to their works. By increasing income of family, they can actually participate in development of society and also in future prospective.

OBJECTIVE

To assess Women Empowerment in terms of Income and Employment Generation

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted in the Jaipur district of Rajasthan in India. KVK Chomu was selected purposely because this is one of the oldest (1992) KVK working under NGOs (Non-Government Organizations) in Rajasthan where maximum numbers of vocational trainings for rural women (753) were organized for women empowerment and 17853 women were trained in different professional aspects in the last twenty five years from 1996 to 2021. (Annual report of ATARI, Jodhpur). A list of all vocational trainings conducted by KVK Chomu for women empowerment was prepared with the help of SMS of KVK Chomu. Total 695 rural women were trained in different vocational aspects related to agriculture purpose specially fruit and vegetable preservation, nursery raising and dairy farming during last five years (2011-12 to 2015-16), out of these, 15 per cent (105) trained women were selected randomly for the study.

Data and Source: The data were collected from Krishi Vigyak Kendra Chomu.

Table 1: List of selected respondents received vocational trainings in different aspects during 2011 to 2016

| Name of trade for Trainings | Years | Duration (days) | No. of respondents | Duration (days) | No. of respondents | No. of trainings | Total trained women | No. of selected respondents |
|------------------------------------|----------|-----------------|--------------------|-----------------|--------------------|------------------|---------------------|-----------------------------|
| 1 Fruit and vegetable preservation | 2011-012 | 30 | 30 | 15 | 38 | 2 | 68 | 10 |
| | 2012-013 | 30 | 26 | 15 | 25 | 2 | 51 | 07 |
| | 2013-014 | 30 | 25 | 30 | 16 | 2 | 41 | 06 |
| | 2014-015 | 15 | 45 | - | - | 1 | 45 | 07 |
| | 2015-016 | 15 | 16 | 30 | 22 | 2 | 38 | 05 |
| 2 Nursery raising | 2011-012 | 90 | 33 | 45 | 30 | 2 | 63 | 10 |
| | 2012-013 | 30 | 38 | - | - | 1 | 38 | 06 |
| | 2013-014 | 15 | 38 | - | - | 1 | 38 | 06 |
| | 2014-015 | 90 | 35 | - | - | 1 | 35 | 05 |
| | 2015-016 | 45 | 25 | 15 | 30 | 2 | 55 | 08 |
| 3 Dairy farming | 2011-012 | 45 | 32 | - | - | 1 | 32 | 05 |
| | 2012-013 | 38 | 35 | - | - | 1 | 35 | 05 |
| | 2013-014 | 42 | 35 | - | - | 1 | 35 | 05 |
| | 2014-015 | 45 | 35 | - | - | 1 | 35 | 06 |
| | 2015-016 | 45 | 86 | - | - | 1 | 86 | 14 |
| Total | | | | | | | 695 | 105 |

Source:- Annual report of ATARI, Jodhpur 2015-2016.

Income generation referred to the total income earned by the beneficiaries as the result of establishing enterprise in which they had received training. In this study income generation means the income generated by the rural women respondents after obtaining the vocational training and after that who were engaged themselves and served for production and preservation of the fruits and vegetables, raising of nursery plants and dairy farming. On the basis of income generated by the rural trained women were grouped in to three categories i.e. low, medium and high income based on mean and standard deviation. Employment generation refers to the employment created by the trained rural women for themselves and others through producing and preservation of fruits and vegetables, nursery raising and dairy farming. On the basis of kind of employment generated by the trained women, the respondents were categorised into three groups viz., Started employment Individually, Started in groups and Connected with any institution / organizations for employment based on mean percentage score.

Measurement of income and employment generation from selected trainings

$$\text{Net income} = \text{Gross income} - \text{gross expenses}$$

Equations

To analyze the collected information, following statistical tools and methods were used for interpreting

the data and to find out effect of independent variables on dependent variable.

- (i) **Percentage:** Simple comparisons were made on the basis of frequency and percentage.
- (ii) **Mean score:** It is obtained by total score of each statement divided by total number of farmers.
- (iii) **Mean Per cent Score (MPS):** Mean per cent scores were obtained by multiplying total obtained score of the respondents by hundred and divided by the maximum obtainable score under each practice. Formula of MPS is given as under :

$$\text{MPS} = \frac{\text{Total scores obtained by the respondents}}{\text{Maximum obtainable scores}} \times 100$$

- (iv) **Standard Deviation (S.D.):** The standard deviation measures the absolute dispersion of variability of distribution. Here mean and standard deviation were used for categorization of respondents in to different categories.

$$\text{SD} = \sqrt{\frac{\sum EX_i^2}{n} - \left(\frac{\sum EX_i}{n}\right)^2}$$

Where,

$\sum X_i^2$ = Sum of squares of the variables

$\sum X_i$ = Sum of values of the variables

n = Number of respondents

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Level of women empowerment in terms of income generation

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their income generation

(n=105)

| Sr. No. | Categories of level of income generation (per annum) | Trainings | | | |
|---------|--|---|------------------------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|
| | | Fruit and vegetable preservation n ₁ =35 | Nursery raising n ₂ =35 | Dairy farming n ₃ =35 | Total n=105 |
| | | Frequency (%) | Frequency (%) | Frequency (%) | Frequency (%) |
| 1 | Low (₹14140.4) | 04 (11.43) | 05 (14.29) | 03 (8.57) | 12 (11.43) |
| 2 | Medium (from ₹ 14140.4 to 72469.12) | 26 (74.28) | 24 (68.57) | 14 (40.00) | 64 (60.95) |
| 3 | High (above ₹ 72469.12) | 05 (14.29) | 06 (17.14) | 18 (51.43) | 29 (27.62) |

Mean= 43304.76, SD=29164.36

(multiple response)

The data given in table 2 show that out of total respondents, 64 (60.95 per cent) had medium level of income generation, whereas 29 (27.62 per cent) had high level and only 12 (11.43 per cent) had low level of income generation.

The percentage of trained women belonging to high income was more in dairy farming (51.43 per cent) over nursery raising (17.14 per cent) and fruit and vegetable preservation (14.29 per cent). Similarly the trained women belonging to low level of income were also generated more income in nursery raising (14.29 per cent) and fruit and vegetable preservation (11.43 per cent) as against that in

dairy farming (8.57 per cent). On the other hand, the women trainees belonging to medium level of income generation were found more in fruit and vegetable preservation (74.28 per cent) and nursery raising (68.57 per cent) over dairy farming (40 per cent) women trainees.

Therefore it may be concluded from the findings that maximum number of respondents i.e. (50 per cent) had earned medium income by post-harvest technology i.e. fruit and vegetable preservation. The present findings are in conformity with the findings of Patel et al. (2022), Chaudhari et al. (2022), Belwanshi (2007).

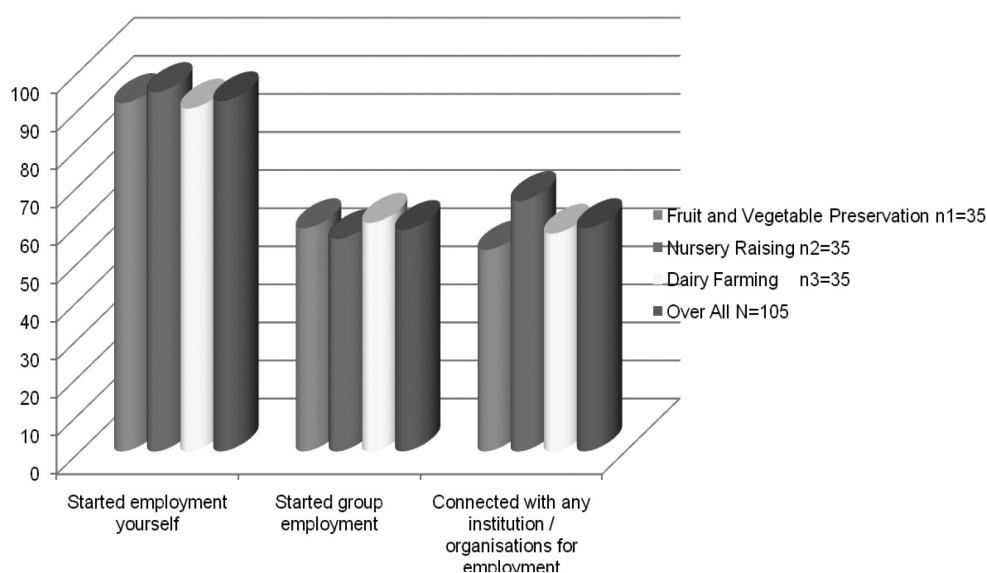


Fig. 1 : Distribution of respondents according to their income generation

Level of women empowerment in terms of employment generation

The data given in table 3 indicate that out of total respondents, It was observed that the majority of the respondents had started employment herself (MPS 91.90) followed by the connected with any institution / organizations for employment (MPS 58.57) and least employment generated by the respondents belonging to the category who Started group employment (MPS 58.09).

The mean percent scores obtained by trained women in the fruit and vegetable preservation belonging to high level of employment generation was more in the group of respondents started employment herself (MPS 91.42) followed by started group employment (MPS 58.57) while

only 52.85 percent of the respondents had connected with any institution / organizations for employment generated. Similarly the women trainees in the nursery raising belonging to high level of employment generation were found more in the group of started employment herself (MPS 94.28) followed by connected with any institution / organizations for employment (MPS 65.71) and only 55.71 percent belonged to the group who had started group employment. On the other hand the women trainees in the dairy farming had high level of employment generation were found more in the category of started employment herself (MPS 90) followed by the category of started group employment (MPS 60) while only 57.14 percent of the respondents belonged to the category of Connected with any institution / organizations for employment generated. The present findings are in conformity with the findings of Jain (2013).

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to their employment generation

(n=105)

| Sr. No | Categories of level of employment generation | Mean percent scores obtained(MPS) | | | | | | | |
|-----------------|---|---|------|------------------------------------|------|----------------------------------|------|----------------|------|
| | | Fruit and vegetable preservation n ₁ =35 | Rank | Nursery Raising n ₂ =35 | Rank | Dairy farming n ₃ =35 | Rank | Over All n=105 | Rank |
| 1 | Started employment herself | 91.42 | I | 94.28 | I | 90 | I | 91.90 | I |
| 2 | Started group employment | 58.57 | II | 55.71 | III | 60 | II | 58.09 | III |
| 3 | Connected with any institution / organizations for employment | 52.85 | III | 65.71 | II | 57.14 | III | 58.57 | II |
| Over all | | 67.61 | | 72.38 | | 69.04 | | 69.68 | |

(multiple response)

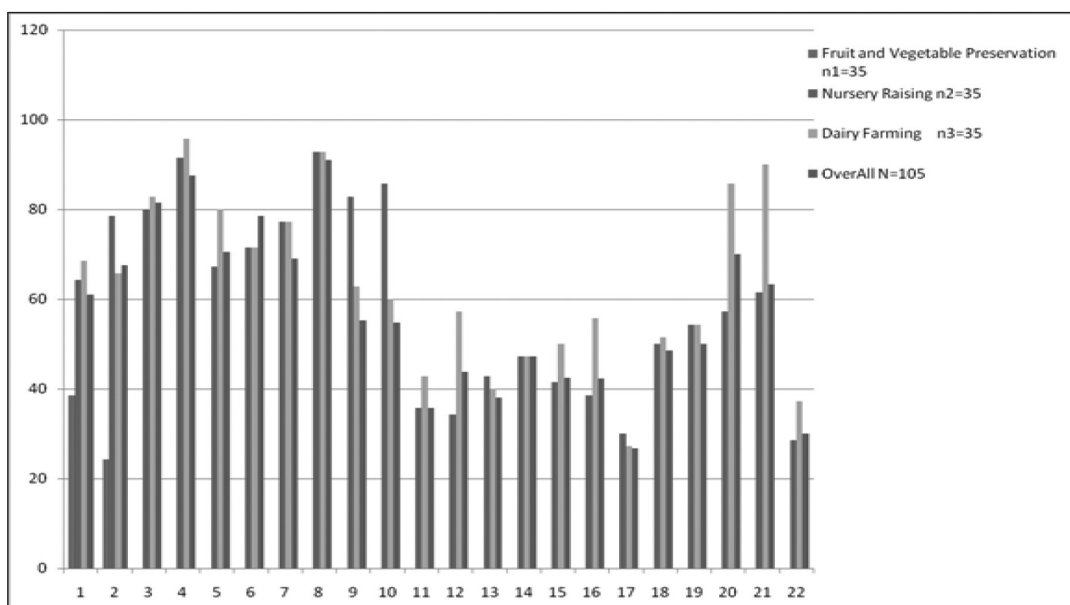


Fig. 2 : Distribution of respondents according to their employment Generation

CONCLUSION

It was concluded from the findings that majority of respondents (60.95 per cent) had medium level of income generation whereas 27.62 and 11.43 per cent had high and low level of income generation, respectively. Similarly it was also summarized from the findings of employment generation that majority of the respondents had started employment herself (MPS 91.90) followed by the connected with any institution / organizations (MPS 58.57) and least employment generated by the respondents belonged to the group started group employment (MPS 58.09).

CONFLICT OF INTEREST

No conflict of interest among researchers

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