

# IMPACT OF TRAININGS ON WOMEN EMPOWERMENT

## Abstract

Training is one of the mandatory activity of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra which are organized with the objective to create awareness, for providing technical know how and imparting skills which help farm women to be selfefficient and selfreliant leading to empowerment. Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Kushinagar organized 178 trainings for rural women at kvk campus and at selected villages which benefitted the 3136 rural women for their empowerment. The women gained knowledge in different aspect of farming which increased their efficiency and ultimately their productivity therefore it may be concluded that trainings are effective and useful for women empowerment.

**Keywords:** Training, rural women, empowerment, KVK.

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## I. INTRODUCTION

At an individual level empowerment is as building confidence, insight and understanding and developing personal skills for example, being able to analyse situation and communicate more effectively with others. Being empowered proposed some level of common understanding and emotional maturity and access to suitable information and know how. As for women empowerment, there are some indicators considered useful which are as follows; i) confidence & understanding. ii) skill in analysis & communication. iii) trust, caring & tolerance. iv) communication & cooperation, v) access to information. Rural development can not be separated from women empowerment **Bishnoi (2014)**. Therefore rural development and women empowerment both have to tackled simultaneously. Presently 44 percent of the world's food is produced by women indicating the importance of women's role in farming. Their roles range from management to that of landless laborer on daily basis. Of the total agricultural labour force (106.77 million) 46.31% are females. In the production of horticultural crops from land preparation to post harvesting almost 70 percent activities are performed by women. Despite their substantial contributions, women continue to be unorganized, undervalued and marginalized. Based on the report of Food and Agriculture Organization (2019), about 70% of the world's poor are women. There is a tendency among most administrators and policy makers to see women as farmer's wife devoid of any decision taking ability and highlight only their supportive role rather than their significant contribution to productivity. Thus, the women participation in agriculture faces different constraints like discrimination of wages - low wages for women. Women have limited access to modern technology viz. credit, training and to other facilities and due to women illiteracy their social exposure is limited. Due to migration of men, women have to bear the entire familial responsibility and hence they prefer to work from the comfort of their home. Women are generally not perceived to have any meaningful income generation capacity, lack of job opportunity, availability and security due to seasonal nature of agricultural production in rural areas forcing them to work on as an when available basis at very cheap wages **Tyagi (2008)**. Lack of regular assured income hampers their options of heightened social and economic security. To combat above constraints equal opportunities both men & women should be given in education and training. Women in rural areas of India play indispensable role in economic activities, agriculture and at home. It is quite necessary to provide appropriate training for human resource development and to enable rural women to live as equal and independent partners. The training must equip women with skills, knowledge and information in relevant areas. The government and voluntary agencies are actively involved in imparting training to rural women. Krishi Vigyan Kendra is an innovative agency implemented by Indian Council of Agricultural Research. Krishi Vigyan Kendra provides not only training in agriculture but women also receive training in such areas as nutrition, health & hygiene, nutritional gardening/backyard gardening/terrace gardening, poultry keeping, home management, child care, rural sanitation, etc. There are various training programmes to train the field level workers and functionaries like Mukhya Sevikas, Angan wadi worker's, Mid-wives, Gram Sevikas, Bal Sevikas, health functionaries and craft instructors to operate welfare programmes and projects for women education and training. In Krishi Vigyan Kendra, there is provisions for vocational education, nonformal education and training in skill development. There Support structures, such as crèches and balwadis is provided so that girls can be free to attend school. In view of the constraints faced by women, provision of open learning system, part-time educational programmes and coordination of school/college hours with the agricultural cycle would go a long way in stepping up enrolment and retention. Women's issues and concerns, information and training in new technology could form the

core of Adult Education Programme. The emphasis is on improving conditions for learning by enabling women to participate in the educational process, rather than just opening only educational institutions. Krishi Vigyan Kendra works with the involvement of the community, Panchayats etc. in bringing awareness about women's empowerment can bring qualitative improvement in the situation

## II. OBJECTIVES

It is important to train rural women so as to empower them with the Economic power, Decision-making, Self-confidence, Enhanced skills, Ability to think critically, Ability to participate in the development process, Ability to unify and take collective action. Keeping in view the importance of training, training for practicing farm women, rural youths and extension worker's is the primary mandatory activity of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra who organized the training based on different thrust area and after the implementation of training impact assessment was done with the following objectives-

- to assess the coverage of thrust areas of women empowerment
- to assess the interest of farm women of different castes
- to assess the usefulness of trainings

## III. METHODOLOGY AND RESULTS

The activities by Krishi Vigyan Kendra were organized with the prime objective of women empowerment in order to achieve self-sufficiency and self-reliance. i.e., i) Food security through Kitchen Gardening/Nutrition gardening, ii) Gender Mainstreaming through formation of Self Help Group, Mahila mandal, Mahila Kosh, iii) Value addition & Processing through technologies scientifically upgraded for value addition & manufacturing of quality processed goods with high nutritive value. Income generation through preparation of value added products, iv) Skill Development through location specific drudgery reduction technologies. Rural craft, Small scale enterprise, Poultry farming, Dairy farming, Goat farming, Bee-keeping, Mushroom production, v) Women and child Care through nutritious diet Awareness of vaccination Awareness about cleanliness, personal hygiene, Health Care.

1. **Thrust Area Covered by Krishi Vigyan Kendra through Training:** To cover above thrust areas through trainings Krishi Vigyan Kendra organized 178 trainings for rural women at kvk campus and at selected villages which benefitted the 3136 rural women to upgrade the inherent knowledge and skills of farm women and orienting them to suitably adjust their attitude to that of scientific one resulting in visual behavior change and heightened confidence (a small step to empowerment). The list of training is given below-

**Table 1: Thrust Area covered by Krishi Vigyan Kendra through Training**

S.No.	Thrust area	No.of Trainings	Participants
1.	Household food security by gardening	23	461
2.	Design and development of low/minimum cost diet	9	189
4.	Gender mainstreaming through SHGs	9	178

5.	Location specific drudgery reduction technologies	7	154
6.	Value addition	34	787
8.	Rural craft	5	198
9.	Women & child care	25	573
10.	Mushroom production for health & income	7	89
11.	Nursery management	5	51
12.	Integrated nutrient management	4	65
13.	Animal nutrition management	8	62
14.	Integrated pest management	5	59
15.	Nursery management of horticultural crops	6	50
16.	Disease management in livestock	11	53
17.	Weed management	3	45
18.	Cropping systems	13	69
19.	Integrated crop management	4	53

The data presented in table revealed that maximum number of training were organized on Value Addition followed by Women & Child Care and Household food security and minimum number of training were organized on Weed Management followed by Integrated pest management and Integrated Nutrient Management. Table also showed that the maximum number of farm women were benefitted through the training conducted on value addition followed by women & child care and household food security, where as the minimum number of farm women were benefitted through the training conducted on Integrated crop management followed by Animal nutrition management. The importance of training was also highlighted by **Gupta et al.2015**.

- 2. The Interest of Farm Women of Different Castes:** Table : 2 depicted that farm women of Other backward classes were more interested in attending the training programmes in compare to Schedule Class & Schedule tribes as on an average 78.11 % farm women of Other backward classes attended the training programmes from 2010-11 to 2017-18 while only 21.88 % farm women from Schedule Class & Schedule tribes attended the training programmes in the same period

**Table 2: The Interest of Farm Women of Different Castes in Trainings Organized by Krishi Vigyan Kendra from 2015-16 to 2020-2021**

S. No.	Year	Participation of farm women				Total female participants
		Other backward Classes		Schedule Caste/ Schedule tribes		
		Frequency	%	Frequency	%	
1.	2010-11	189	77.45	55	22.54	244
2.	2011-12	206	67.54	99	32.46	305
3.	2012-13	594	91.95	52	08.05	646
4.	2013-14	465	84.08	88	15.92	553
5.	2014-15	244	69.51	107	30.49	351

6.	2015-16	412	85.83	68	14.17	480
7.	2016-17	214	65.84	111	34.16	325
8.	2017-18	192	82.75	40	17.25	232
	Total	2516	78.11	620	21.88	3136

It was also observed that the participants of other backward class farm women was the highest in the year 2012-13i.e., 91.95% while the participants of Schedule Class & Schedule tribes farm women was highest in the year 2016-17i.e.,34.16 %.

- 3. Usefulness of the Training for Women Empowerment:** Usefulness of training which was assessed through post training evaluation of respondents is presented in table 3 revealed that 49.02% farm women found the training most useful where as 24.57 % respondents found the training somewhat useful ,although 15.87% farm women did not found the training useful for women empowerment

**Table 3: Usefulness of the Training for Women Empowerment**

S.No.	Thrust area	Most useful %	Somewhat Useful %	Not useful %
1.	Household food security by gardening	43.60	40.99	15.40
2.	Design and development of low/minimum cost diet	53.11	32.03	14.86
4.	Gender mainstreaming through SHGs	72.09	23.05	04.86
5.	Location specific drudgery reduction technologies	56.33	17.87	25.80
6.	Value addition	67.61	23.49	08.90
8.	Rural craft	79.20	15.77	05.03
9.	Women & child care	65.14	25.92	08.94
10.	Mushroom production for health & income	70.31	17.21	12.48
11.	Nursery management	54.88	25.54	19.58
12.	Integrated nutrient management	32.19	34.09	33.72
13.	Animal nutrition management	54.66	28.90	16.44
14.	Integrated pest management	32.98	45.23	21.79
15.	Nursery management of horticultural crops	43.77	36.30	19.93
16.	Disease management in livestock	68.21	11.34	20.45
17.	Weed management	52.00	33.87	14.13
18.	Cropping systems	62.09	13.56	24.35
19.	Integrated crop management	23.33	41.76	34.91
<b>Mean</b>		<b>49.02</b>	<b>24.57</b>	<b>15.87</b>

It may be concluded that trainings on different aspects of farm activities ,household activities, income generating activities and leadership development activities

provides recommendations for gender mainstreaming, such as increasing women's access to education or raising gender awareness which ultimately leads to women empowerment. Empowering women means gaining the power to think freely .Flourish a sense of self – reliance, believing in the ability to make desired change in oneself , the actualization of all women's caliber and equality in society (**Phala and Mukonza 2021**).Therefore trainings of farm women need to be promoted through out the length and breadth of the country in order to bring women led profitable farming(**Ponnusamy et al.,2015**).

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