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Capacity building of rural women through training on livelihood security under RKVY project

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Abstract

Rural women play a vital role in agricultural management and production activities in addition to their responsibilities at household level. Their contribution to socio economic development as producers and worker need to be recognized in the formal and informal sectors and appropriate policies relating to employment and her working conditions need to be drawn. Training is vital and essential to induce motivation, create confidence and increase the efficiency of women. It is a process by which desire, ideas, positive attitude, knowledge and skills are inculcated and reinforced. Keeping in view the present study under RKVY project was under taken in randomly selected Hisar and Bhiwani districts of Haryana state. 120 rural women from four villages i.e. 30 from each. Bheni kungar (Bhiwani), Kamiari, Mangali and Rajthal (Hisar) were sample for present study. Five days training along with intervention were provided on selected aspects. Skill of the respondents was assessed by preparing products from each training aspect. Highest skill acquisition was found for potato chips, jam preparation and pearl millet sprouted chat 90 percent each. All 100 percent respondents further disseminated the technology for knowledge and skill up gradation 33.30 percent adopted as an enterprise.

Keywords: capacity building, rural women, agricultural

Introduction

Agriculture is the backbone of the Indian economy which plays the most important role in the socio-economic development of the country. The increase in population subdivision and fragmentation of land holdings due to breakdown of joint family system is further resulted in un-economic land holdings on which application of new agricultural practices become more difficult. Food processing is the transformation of raw ingredients into food, or of food into other forms. Across the world, food processing is considered to be a sunrise sector because of its large potential for growth and socio economic impact. It not only leads to income generation but also helps in reduction of wastage, value addition, and foreign exchange earnings and enhancing manufacturing competitiveness. In today's global market, quality and food safety have become competitive edge for the enterprises producing foods and providing services. The improved food processing word is highly fragmented as it widely comprises of the sub segment like fruit and vegetables, milk and milk products, grain processing meat and poultry, alcoholic beverages, packaged or convenience food and packaged drinks. Women alone are responsible for the method adopted for nutritional security of household particularly food processing and preservation. The nutritional status of family members are influenced by the specific knowledge, attitude, and beliefs possessed by them. The important role of women in the welfare of the family is being realized gradually. As the socio- economic progress of the community has a direct link with the empowerment of women, the development programmes for women are receiving greater attention. The task now is to ensure effective participation of women in sustainable development of the community. It is very obvious that rural women can't adopt any of the technology for income generation because of lack of knowledge or training and resources. Appropriate training is the key to build capacity and successful entrepreneurship among the rural women, training is increasingly becoming a potent instrument that can help people bring about improvement in their need based and bring attitudinal change to establish own enterprise. Training is vital tool to attain, sustain and accelerate the pace of development. Training can be more effective and successful if these are imparted to women in the field of their interest. It has been found that women possess an aptitude and linkages for household activities like stitching of garments, embroidery, handicrafts products, pickle making, jam & jelly making etc. as these can be taken easily by the women without ignoring their families.

Different value-added products and food processing techniques can be demonstrated to the rural women in training period. In rural areas women have basic knowledge about different food products by the addition of new techniques of food processing they can start their own small scale enterprise.

Methodology

The present study was conducted under National Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana Project. "Livelihood and food security of rural women through diversified agriculture activities" during the year 2016-18 in Haryana. Four villages Bheni kungar (Bhiwani district), Kamiari, Mangali and Rajthal (Hisar district) were selected randomly for the purpose. Total 120 respondents i.e. 30 from each village/ each training were selected on four aspects of training namely value addition in fruits and vegetables, bag making, post harvest management and value addition in cereals and handicrafts. For selection of control group 120 rural women selected randomly other than the women involved in RKVY training i.e. 30 from each village. Training and intervention of five days implemented for skill upgradation of women in each village which compared of rapport building, lectures, discussion, group meeting, demonstration and assistance kit. Skill inventory consisted close-ended statements, which were prepared and compiled after consulting relevant literature, and specialist in concerned area on each aspects of training i.e. value addition in fruits and vegetables, bag making, post harvest management and value addition in cereals and handicrafts. The responses on the skill inventory were obtained in

categories of Yes/No for both control and experimental group. The aggregate scores were then divided into three categories i.e low, medium and high category. Adoption has been operationalized as the extent to which the recipients of training take the technology in use/practice. Adoption was assessed through inventory developed for this purpose.

Results and Discussion

Skill level of the respondents on value addition in fruits and vegetables

This section contains the information regarding skill level of respondents in control and experimental groups, regarding all components of training under RKVY project. Data presented in table 1 revealed that in control group all the respondents (100%) had low level of skill in jam, squash, tomato ketchup, potato chips and aonla preserve respectively. However, a few of the respondents (13.33% and 6.66%) had medium level of skill in lemon and green chilli pickle and mix vegetable pickle. Whereas majority of respondents in experimental group (93.33%) had high level of skill in squash, mix vegetable pickle, jam (90%), potato chips (90%), tomato ketchup and lemon & green chilli pickle (86.66%) respectively. A few of them had medium level of skill in aonla preserve (16.66%) followed by lemon & green chilli pickle and tomato ketchup (13.33%), potato chips and jam (10%) respectively. Whereas none of the respondents had low level of skill in any components of value addition in fruits and vegetables. Similar finding were reported by Hangai *et al.* (2016) and Sharma *et al.* (2018) [9]

Table 1: Skill level of the respondents on value addition in fruits and vegetables

Sr. No.	Components	Skill level	Control group F (%)	Experimental group F (%)
1.	Jam	Low (0-3) Medium (4-6) High (7-8)	30 (100) - -	- 03 (10.00) 27 (90.00)
2.	Squash	Low (0-3) Medium (4-6) High (7-8)	30 (100) - -	- 02 (6.66) 28 (93.33)
3.	Tomato ketchup	Low (0-4) Medium (5-8) High (9-12)	30 (100) - -	- 04 (13.33) 26 (86.66)
4.	Potato Chips	Low (0-2) Medium (3-4) High (5-6)	30 (100) - -	- 03 (10.00) 27 (90.00)
5.	Mix vegetable Pickle	Low (0-3) Medium (4-6) High (7-9)	28 (93.33) 02 (6.66) -	- 02 (6.66) 28 (93.33)
6.	Aonla preserve	Low (0-5) Medium (6-10) High (11-14)	30 (100) - -	- 05 (16.66) 25 (83.33)
7.	Lemon and green chilli pickle	Low (0-2) Medium (3-4) High (5-6)	25 (83.33) 04 (13.33) 01 (3.33)	- 04 (13.33) 26 (86.66)

Skill level of the respondents on bag making

Data pertaining to skill level of respondents of control and experimental group presented in table 2 show that in control group majority of the respondents (93.33%, 90%, 83.33% and 80%) had low level of skill regarding hand bag, jute bag and cotton picking bag respectively. However, a few of the respondents (20%, 16.66%, 10% and 6.6% had medium level of skill regarding cotton picking bag, cotton carry bag, folded

bag, jute bag and hand bag respectively. However, in experimental group majority of the respondents (86.66%) had high level of skill in jute bag followed by hand bag (60%) respectively. None of the respondents had low level of skill in any component of bag making. The results were inconsonance with the studies of Dahiya (2013) [1, 5] and Pandey *et al.* (2018) [8]

Table 2: Skill level of the respondents on bag making

Sr. No.	Component	Knowledge level	Control group F (%)	Experimental group F (%)
1	Jute bag	Low (0-2)	27 (90.00)	-
		Medium (3-4)	03 (10.00)	04 (13.33)
		High (5-6)	-	26 (86.66)
2	Cotton carry bag	Low (0-2)	25 (83.33)	-
		Medium (3-4)	05 (16.66)	06 (20.00)
		High(5-6)	-	24 (80.00)
3	Handbag	Low (0-3)	28 (93.33)	-
		Medium (4-6)	02 (06.66)	12 (40.00)
		High (7-9)	-	18 (60.00)
4	Folded bag	Low (0-2)	27 (90.00)	-
		Medium (3-4)	03 (10.00)	10 (33.33)
		High (5-6)	-	20 (66.66)
5	Cotton picking bag	Low (0-2)	24 (80.00)	-
		Medium (3-4)	06 (20.00)	05 (16.66)
		High (5-6)	-	25 (83.33)

Skill level of the respondents on post harvest management and value addition in cereals

As the table 3 indicated that majority of the respondents of control group had low level of skill in pearl millet *sprouted chat* (100%) followed by *namkeen sev* (80%), *namakpara* (76.66%), pearl millet *laddoo* (73.33%) and *chaulai laddoo* (70%) respectively. It was interesting to note that a few of the respondents had high level of skill regarding *namakpara* (10%) and pearl millet *laddoo* (6.66%) respectively. Whereas the respondents of experimental group had high level of skill

regarding pearl millet *sprouted chat* (90%) followed by pearl millet *laddoo* (83.33%), *namakpara* (80%) and *chaulai laddoo* (66.66%) respectively. A few of them had medium level of skill in *chaulai laddoo* (33.33%) followed by pearl millet *laddoo*, *namkeen sev* (16.66), pearl millet *sprouted chat* (10%) and *namakpara* (6.66%) respectively. However, none of the respondents had low level of skill in any component of post harvest management and value addition in cereals. Similar conclusions were arrived by Sain (2012) ^[6], Malik (2014) ^[7] and Dahiya *et al.* (2015) ^[2]

Table 3: Skill level of the respondents on post harvest management and value addition in cereals

Sr. No.	Component	Skill acquisition	Control group F (%)	Experimental group F (%)
1.	Pearl millet <i>laddoo</i>	Low (0-2)	22 (73.33)	-
		Medium (3-4)	06 (20.00)	05 (16.66)
		High (5-6)	02 (06.66)	25 (83.33)
2.	<i>Namkeen sev</i>	Low (0-2)	24 (80.00)	-
		Medium (3-4)	06 (20.00)	05 (16.66)
		High (5-6)	-	25 (83.33)
3.	<i>Namakpara</i>	Low (0-2)	23 (76.66)	02 (6.66)
		Medium (3-4)	04 (13.33)	04 (13.33)
		High (5-6)	03 (10.00)	24 (80.00)
4.	<i>Chaulai laddoo</i>	Low (0-2)	21 (70.00)	-
		Medium (3-4)	05 (16.66)	10 (33.33)
		High (5-6)	04 (13.33)	20 (66.66)
5.	Pearl millet <i>sprouted chat</i>	Low (0-2)	24 (80.00)	-
		Medium (3-4)	04 (13.33)	03 (10.00)
		High (5-6)	02 (6.66)	27 (90.00)

Skill level of the respondents on handicrafts

Data pertaining to skill level of respondents of control and experimental group regarding handicrafts presented in table 4 show that in control group majority of the respondents had low level of skill in lamasa art (100%) followed by candle making (93.33%), teddy bear (86.66%), parrot & rabbit (83.33%), organdy flower making (80%) and pot painting (73.33%) respectively. However, a few of the respondents had medium level of skill regarding pot painting (23.33%) followed by organdy flower making (20%), rabbit & parrot

(16.66%), teddy bear (13.33%) and candle making (6.66%) respectively. However, in experimental group majority of the respondents had high level of skill regarding teddy bear (90%) followed by parrot making (86.66%), rabbit making (83.33%), candle making (80%), organdy flower making & pot painting (66.66%) and lamasa art (60%) respectively. However, none of the respondents had low level of skill in any component of handicrafts. Similar results were also arrived at by Babel and Sharma (2016) ^[4]

Table 4: Skill level of the respondents on handicrafts

Sr. No.	Components	Skill acquisition	Control group F (%)	Experimental group F (%)
1	Candle making	Low (0-2)	28 (93.33)	-
		Medium (3-4)	02 (06.66)	06 (20.00)
		High (5-6)	-	24 (80.00)
2	Soft toy making (Rabbit)	Low (0-2)	25 (83.33)	-
		Medium (3-4)	05 (16.66)	05 (16.66)
		High (5-6)	-	25 (83.33)
3	Teddy bear	Low (0-2)	26 (86.66)	-
		Medium (3-4)	04 (13.33)	03 (10.00)
		High (5-6)	-	27 (90.00)
4	Parrot	Low (0-2)	25 (83.33)	-
		Medium (3-4)	05 (16.66)	04 (13.33)
		High (5-6)	-	26 (86.66)
5	Organdy flower making	Low (0-4)	24 (80.00)	-
		Medium (5-7)	06 (20.00)	10 (33.33)
		High (8-10)	-	20 (66.66)
6	Lamasa art	Low (0-2)	30 (100.0)	-
		Medium (3-4)	-	12 (40.00)
		High (5-6)	-	18 (60.00)
7	Pot painting	Low (0-2)	22 (73.33)	-
		Medium (3-4)	07 (23.33)	10 (33.33)
		High (5-6)	-	20 (66.66)

Adoption status of the respondents

Data presented in table 5 revealed the adoption status of respondents about bag making. It was observed that majority of the respondents (83.33%) adopted for household purpose. Only 33.33 percent of them adopted as an enterprise. While assessing the purpose of adoption majority of them reported that they got self interest (54.16%) followed by to utilize surplus resources (66.66%), prepare gift items for relatives & family members (63.33%) and to earn money (33.33%). However a few of them (20%) also wanted to adopt the

activity as time utilization. While assessing further dissemination of technology 96.66 percent of the respondents disseminated the technology to family members followed by neighbors and relatives (90% and 26.66%) respectively. While observing reasons for non adoption as an enterprise, it was observed that all the respondents reported lack of credit facilities (100%) followed by lack of confidence (50%), lack of marketing facilities (43.33%) and lack of technical knowledge (33.33%) respectively. Similar finding were reported by Malik (2014)^[7] and Dahiya *et.al* (2015)^[2]

Table 5: Adoption status of the respondents

Sr. No.	Adoption status	F	%
a)	Adoption level		
	Adopted for household purpose	100	83.33
	Adopted as an enterprise	40	33.33
	Not adopted	-	-
b)	Purpose of adoption		
	To earn money	30	25.00
	As gift for relatives, family members	60	50.00
	To utilize surplus resources	50	41.66
	Self interest	65	54.16
	Time utilization	20	16.66
c)	Further dissemination of technology		
	For family members	120	100
	For neighbors	90	75.00
	For relatives	40	33.33
d)	Reasons for non adoption as an enterprise		
	Lack of credit facilities	120	100
	Lack of confidence	60	50.00
	Lack of marketing facilities	40	33.33
	Lack of technical knowledge	30	25.00

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