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Perception of respondents towards the policies, means and expectations of governmental support in agripreneurship

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Abstract

The paper is based on the study “Factors promoting agripreneurship: An in depth study” as perceived by respondents of Bihar. The study was conducted in Bihar Agricultural University from the department of extension education in which perception of respondents towards governmental support was studied. Total 80 respondents were taken to study which includes 20 respondents were taken from each four districts namely, Patna, Purnea, Nalanda and Bhagalpur agripreneurs. There are three agro-climatic zones in Bihar comprising North-West (Zone-I), North-East (Zone-II) and South-Bihar (Zone-III) alluvial plains. The lists of respondents were collected from KVK's and BAMETI (Bihar Agriculture Management and Extension Training Institute) and agripreneurs of concerned field under the jurisdiction of Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour were taken for study. This paper is related to “study perceptions of respondents towards the means and expectations of governmental support”. The data was collected by survey method and then recorded and compiled. It was found that the perception was vary from different agripreneurs of the research locale, however the perception of respondents in respect to governmental support was found that provided needed training was got the maximum response by the respondents because it is most important aspect in entrepreneurship, as without full information like proper practical and theoretical knowledge in the concerned field, no one can start their own firm smoothly, whereas arranging loans at cheaper rate got the maximum response in the case of expectations of government support.

Keywords: Bihar, perception, agripreneurs, agripreneurship and government

Introduction

Growth of agriculture sector has been fluctuating now a days; it increased from 0.2% in 2014-15 to 6.3% in 2016-17 and then declined to 2.8% in 2019-20. During independence, more than half of the national income was contributed by agriculture along with more than 70 percent of total population was dependent on agriculture (Pandey, 2013) [1]. Due to the changing socio, economic, political, environmental and cultural dimensions over the world, farmers and nation options for survival and sustainably ensuring success in changing their respective economic environments have become increasingly critical. It is also worth mind that the emergence of the free market economies globally has resulted in the development of a new spirit of enterprise “Agripreneurship” and thus increased the individual need responsibility for running their own businesses (Alex, 2011). Entrepreneurship is the process of creating something new with value by devoting the necessary time and effort, assuming the accompanying financial, psychic and social risks and receiving the resulting rewards of monetary and personal satisfaction and independence (Buzza and Mosca, 2009) [2]. Agripreneurship is defined as the process of creating value in the production consumption activities of agriculture. There are so many areas and sub-areas in agriculture. Within each area, enormous numbers of commodities are available. Based on the needs, agro-climatic conditions and available resources agripreneurs can adopt some commodities and flourish on it. On the other hand, there are uncounted unemployed or underemployed youth searching for jobs. Therefore, it becomes essential to train these youth in agribusiness which will increase their own wealth, employment generation and economy of India (Chand, 2019) [3].

- 1. Start up India Seed fund:** It was started on 16 January 2021, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced the launch of the 'Startup India Seed Fund' worth INR 1,000 crores for helping startups and support ideas from the aspiring entrepreneurs globally (Financial express).
- 2. Start-up India initiative:** The Prime Minister of India launched the Startup India Initiative in the year 2016 on 16th January.

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The idea is to increase wealth and employability by giving wings to entrepreneurial spirits. The government gives tax benefits to startups under this scheme and around 50,000 startups have been recognized via this scheme in a period of a little more than five years, as of June 3, 2021(India Today).

3. **Aspire:** A Scheme for Promotion of Innovation, Rural Industries and Entrepreneurship (ASPIRE) is a Government of India initiative and promoted by the Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME). The mentioned scheme was launched in 2015 to offer proper knowledge to the entrepreneurs to start with their business and emerge as employers (Ministry of commerce and industry).
4. **Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojna:** Micro Units Development Refinance Agency (MUDRA) banks has been created to enhance credit facility and boost the growth of small business in rural areas. The government has introduced this scheme to support small businesses in India. The MUDRA banks provide startup loans of up to INR 10 lakhs to small enterprises, business, which are non-corporate, and non-farm small/micro-enterprises (Micro Unit Finance and Refinance Agency Ltd.)
5. **Credit Guarantee Fund Trust for Micro and Small Enterprises:** The (CGTMSE) was set up by the government of India and had been put to effect from 1st January 2000 onwards to provide business loans to micro-level businesses, small-scale industries, and startups with zero collateral. It allows businesses to avail loans at highly subsidized interest rates without requiring security (Ministry of commerce and industry).
6. **Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund (DIDF):** The Government of India announced the creation of the Dairy Processing and Infrastructure Development Fund under NABARD in the Union Budget of 2017-18 for the sustained benefit of farmers. Milk Unions, multi-state milk cooperatives, state dairy federations, milk-producing companies, and NDDB subsidiaries meeting the eligibility criteria under the project can borrow loans from NABARD. Borrowers shall get the loan at an interest rate of 6.5% per annum. The period of repayment will be 10 years. The respective state government will be the guarantor of loan repayment (Vikaspedia).
7. **Venture Capital Assistance:** Small Farmer's Agri-Business Consortium (SFAC) has launched the Venture Capital Assistance (VCA) scheme for the welfare of farmer-entrepreneurs and to develop their agri-business. The scheme is approved by the banks and financial institutions regulated by the RBI. It intends to provide assistance in the form of term loans to farmers so that the latter can meet the capital requirements for their project's implementation. VCA promotes the training and nurturing of agri-entrepreneurs (Ministry of Food Processing Industries).
8. **Bameti:** It is a State level institution which is autonomous with greater dynamic in the structure and functioning. It is responsible for organizing need based training programmes for the project implementation functionaries of different line departments as well as the farming community. This can be achieved through linkages with other technical and management institutions in the State for supporting desired training input. 'BAMETI' has to function with the technical

guidance of the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (Bihar Agricultural Extension Training Institute).

Research Methodology

For the present study, four districts namely Bhagalpur, Purnea, Patna and Nalanda have been selected purposively considering the availability of the respondents. There are three agro-climatic zones in Bihar comprising North-West (Zone-I), North-East (Zone-II) and South-Bihar (Zone-III) alluvial plains. However, the jurisdiction of Bihar Agricultural University includes agro-climatic zones II and III (A) and III (B). The Bhagalpur district belongs to agro-climatic Zone-III South Bihar Alluvial Plain, Patna belongs to agro-climatic Zone-III South Bihar Alluvial Plain and Purnea belongs to Zone-II North-East Alluvial plains respectively. The lists of respondents were collected from KVK's, Bameti ((Bihar Agriculture Management and Extension Training Institute) and agrepeneurs of concerned field under the jurisdiction of Bihar Agricultural University, Sabour. Based on the available list and convenient of data collection aforesaid four districts were selected. For the present study four promising agri enterprises were selected namely beekeeping, food processing agrepeneurs, mushroom growers and nursery growers. For each enterprise twenty respondents were selected randomly (without replacement techniques) with snow ball random sampling techniques were applied. Hence, the total sample size was 80. Ex post facto research design was used for this study. The study pertained to select the agriculture based enterprises established five years back and being run with varying degree of success. The events which have already occurred are the focus of the study. Therefore, an Ex post facto research design was adopted for conducting this study. Statistical methods such as frequency, percentage, and correlation coefficient and t-test techniques were used for precise and meaningful analysis of the collected data.

Results and Discussions

On the basis of the literature survey, consultation with agripeneurs and findings of the study on the different dimensions of governmental support regarding entrepreneurship are discussed as following:

Governmental policies

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to perception on governmental policies on entrepreneurship n=80

S. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Favourable	36	45	I
2	Unfavourable	13	16.25	III
3	Neutral	31	38.75	II
	Total	80	100	

Table 1 depicts that majority (45%) of the respondents were favourable towards governmental policies followed by (38.75%) respondents were neutral and (16.25%) were unfavourable towards governmental policies. Maximum (45%) of the respondents were favourable towards the governmental policies because government has been started many policies and schemes regarding the promotion of entrepreneurship like Atal incubation centre, MSME business loan, national small industries corporation subsidy, mudra

loans, swarojgar credit card, women entrepreneurship platform etc. Similarly, Chatley (2021) [4] depicted the same results that the respondents strongly agree that with the new schemes launched by the government seed funding and tax exemption has been improved. Least number (16.25%) of the respondents was unfavourable about the governmental

policies. Some respondents were unaware about the governmental policies and hence, not agreed about the governmental policies were helpful for the promotion of entrepreneurship.

Governmental Support

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to means of governmental support in promotion of local entrepreneurs

S. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Providing employment opportunities to rural people	35	16.50	III
2	Providing incentives to SSI unit	34	16.06	IV
3	Providing market facilities	35	16.50	III
4	arranging infrastructure facilities	37	17.45	II
5	Provided needed trainings	39	18.39	I
6	No support	32	15.09	V
	Total	212*	100	

n=80

*Multiple responses

Table 2 reveals that majority (18.39%) of the responses from the respondents indicated provided needed trainings as major means of governmental support in promotion of local entrepreneurs followed by arranging infrastructure facilities (17.45%), providing employment opportunities to rural people (6.50%), providing market facilities (16.50%), providing incentives to SSI (16.06%) and no support (15.09%). Needed training got the highest (18.39%) response from the respondents because majority of the respondents felt that government had active regarding the needed training facilities

and thus, promote agripreneurship in a large scale. Similarly, D'Cruz (2003) [5] reported that the training was reportedly useful in a general fashion on the respondents and create a perceptible impact on the quality of the women's enterprises for the promotion of agripreneurship in a large scale. No support got the lowest (15.09%) response from the respondents because some respondents felt that at some place government didn't support local agripreneurship

Support expectations

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to expectations of support from government on entrepreneurship n=80

S. No.	Categories	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Arranging loans at cheaper rate	66	36.26	I
2	Promoting the indigenous/traditional entrepreneurship	56	30.77	III
3	Establishing separate department for promoting industries	60	32.97	II
	Total	182*	100	

*Multiple responses

Table 3 reveals that majority (36.26%) of the responses from the respondents indicated arranging loans at cheaper rate as major performance expectation from government on entrepreneurship followed by establishing separate department for promoting industries (32.97%) and promoting the indigenous/traditional entrepreneurship (30.77%). Arranging loans at cheaper rate got the highest (36.26%) response from the respondents as performance expectation from the government because majority of respondents took loan but at the time of repayment majority faced high interest rate. Hence, it should be available at cheaper rate. Similarly, D'Cruz (2003) [5] revealed the same results that about more than 75 percent of the respondents did not get any benefit in terms of margin money and working capital. Hence, the respondents expected these facilities from the government. Promoting the indigenous/traditional entrepreneurship got the lowest (30.77%) response from the respondents as performance expectation from government on entrepreneurship because government already promoted the indigenous/traditional entrepreneurship. Maximum people wanted modern entrepreneurship should be promote

Conclusions

The present study showed that majority of respondents were perceived that the governmental policies towards entrepreneurship development was favourable whereas

majority of the responses were get from the respondents towards needed training facilities for the promotion of entrepreneurship and also the respondents were responded on the expectations of government support regarding availability of loans at cheaper rate for more fulfilments of financial crises for the smooth running of the enterprises. So, government is regularly developing policies for the promotion of entrepreneurship like providing needed training facilities on the skill development of the youths at minimal charger by any entrepreneurship institute and also try to fulfil the expectations of financial facilities of the needy agripreneurs by providing the loans at cheap rate of interest.

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