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To study the profile characteristics of KVK Scientists of Gujarat state

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Abstract

The present study was undertaken during the year 2021-22 in the all thirty KVKs of Gujarat state. All the 30 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Gujarat state district were purposively selected for the study. The data was collected from the 140 KVK scientists using structured interview schedule. The results of the study revealed that, majority of the KVK scientists found in a middle age group, possessed post-graduation level education, had medium level of social participation, had lower level of service experience, had frequently used the source of information, received five to more than fifteen no. of trainings, had medium level of managerial ability, medium level of technical efficiency, higher level of communication ability, higher level of scientific orientation, medium level of group motivation, moderate level of stress management, low level of innovativeness, medium level of decision making ability, medium level of cosmopolitanism and medium level of achievement orientation.

Keywords: Group motivation, decision making ability, service experience

Introduction

KVK (Farm Science Centre) is a noble concept developed by Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) as primary links for the farmers to know about the agricultural technologies being generated by National Agricultural Research System (NARS). Besides, KVK works as a knowledge and resource centre of agricultural technologies for supporting farmers in improving their agricultural production and livelihood. At present, KVK appears to be the important institutional system at the district level for technological backstopping in agriculture and allied sectors. (Anonymous, 2014a) ^[1].

The scientists of KVK are responsible for successful execution of the mandate of KVK. In SAUs run KVK the whole work is monitored and guided by Directorate of Extension Education under the guidelines of Zonal Project Directorate of ICAR. So, scientists are at the centre position of functioning of KVK who plays different roles for the fulfilment of KVK mandate (Singh *et al.*, 2012) ^[3]. The KVK scheme is 100% financed by the Government of India. KVK have been functioning as knowledge and resource centre of agricultural technology supporting initiatives of public private and voluntary sector for improving the agricultural economy of the district and the linking the NARS with extension system and farmers. The scientists help to identify the problems and gives the solution by developing participation in the farmers. Scientists can be a major tool for agricultural information dissemination for technology transfer to agricultural extension workers, different group of farmers, and private investors. The mandate of KVK is technology assessment, refinement and demonstration by providing critical inputs to the farmers which enable them to sustain their productivity (Anon., 2020) ^[2].

Not many studies have been conducted to know the personal, socio-economic and psychological related characteristics of KVK scientists of Gujarat state. Hence, the present study was undertaken with an objective to know the profile characteristics of the KVK Scientists of Gujarat state.

Materials and Methods

The study was conducted in the thirty Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Gujarat state during the year 2021. The research studies carried out to study role perception and role performance of KVKs in the Gujarat state. The ex-post-facto research design was used for the study. All the 30 Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Gujarat state were purposively selected for the study. The data was collected from the respondents using structured and standardized interview schedule developed for the study.

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The data was collected from the respondents using structured and standardized interview schedule developed for the study. The data collected was tabulated and analyzed using

appropriate statistical tools like frequency, percentage, mean, standard deviation etc.

Table 1: Profile of KVK Scientists of Gujarat (n=140)

Sl.	Characteristics	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Age	Young	54	38.57
		Middle	57	40.71
		Old	29	20.72
2	Education	B. Tech.	1	0.71
		M.Sc./M.V.Sc/ M. Tech/M.F.Sc	69	49.28
		M.Sc./M.V.Sc/M.Tech /M.F. Sc. + NET	7	5.00
		Ph.D.	43	30.71
		Ph.D. + NET	20	14.30
3	Social participation	Low	27	19.28
		Medium	75	53.57
		High	38	27.15
4	Service experience	Lower	85	60.72
		Moderate	34	24.28
		Higher	21	15.00
5	Source of information	Rarely	17	12.14
		Frequently	90	64.28
		Regularly	33	23.58
			Mean = 32.09, SD =4.39	
6	Training received	Less than five	46	32.85
		Five to ten	34	24.58
		Eleven to fifteen	33	23.58
		More than fifteen	27	19.29
7	Managerial ability	Low	24	17.15
		Medium	98	70.00
		High	18	12.85
			Mean= 19.22, SD =1.42	
8	Technical efficiency	Low	25	17.85
		Medium	80	57.14
		High	35	25.00
			Mean = 37.62, SD =4.17	
9	Communication ability	Low	20	14.29
		Moderate	50	35.71
		Higher	70	50.00
			Mean =31.07, SD=2.73	
10	Scientific orientation	Lower	33	23.57
		Moderate	44	31.43
		Higher	63	45.00
			Mean = 15.68, SD=1.77	
11	Group motivation	Low	28	20.00
		Medium	65	46.42
		High	47	33.58
			Mean = 52.57, SD=7.17	
12	Stress management	Lower	17	12.15
		Moderate	85	60.71
		Higher	38	27.14
			Mean = 26.37, SD=4.41	
13	Innovativeness	Lower	87	62.14
		Moderate	33	23.58
		Higher	20	14.28
			Mean=2.47, SD=0.73	
14	Decision making ability	Low	22	15.72
		Medium	97	69.28
		High	21	15.00
			Mean = 28.79, SD=3.08	
15	cosmopolitaness	Low	13	9.28
		Medium	104	74.28
		High	23	16.44
			Mean=16.36, SD=1.68	
16	Achievement orientation	Low	18	12.86
		Medium	90	64.29
		High	32	22.85
			Mean = 17.55, SD=15.74	

Results and Discussion

Profile Characteristics of KVK Scientists

It is evident from Table 1 that, near about half of the scientists (40.71%) comes under the middle age group, followed by the young age group (38.57%) and the remaining (20.72%) of the 'old' age group respectively. Further near about half of the scientists (49.28%) had master degree in agriculture, veterinary science, Agril. engineering, and fisheries science, followed by 30.71% of them belonged to doctoral degree, 14.30% of them belonged to doctoral degree with NET exam, 5.00% had master degree in agriculture, veterinary science, Agril. engineering, and fisheries science, with clearing NET exam and only 0.71% belonged to bachelor degree in Agril. engineering. These findings suggest that the scientists were benefited in their role perception, role performance and attitude towards job due to their higher level of education. The findings revealed that half of the scientists 53.57% possessed medium level of social participation, followed by 27.15% of scientists possessed higher level of social participation and only 19.28% of scientists had possessed low level of social participation.

It is observed that half of the scientists 53.57% possessed medium level of social participation, followed by 27.15% of scientists possessed higher level of social participation and only 19.28% of scientists had possessed low level of social participation. The possible reason for this finding might be that each of the scientists may have his distinct requirements for the development in his profession to gain the benefits.

It is revealed that majority (60.72%) of the scientists had low level of service experience, followed by 24.48 and 15.00% of them had moderate and high level of service experiences, respectively. It was found that very few of the scientists were serving up to twenty years and having a good experience about working.

It is also evident that the majority of the scientists (64.28%) had frequently used the source of information, followed by 23.58 and 12.14% of them were regularly and rarely used the source of information; respectively.

It is apparent that, 32.85% of the scientists participated in less than five days trainings followed by 24.58% participated in five to ten number trainings, 23.58% participated in eleven to fifteen number training and 19.29% participated in more than fifteen number trainings of 7 days and 21 days trainings at state, national and institutional level; respectively.

Table 1 also depicted the information regarding managerial ability of the KVK scientists. The data indicated that, majority (70.00%) of the scientists had medium level of managerial ability while 17.15% of them were having low managerial ability and 12.85% of the scientists had high managerial ability. The probable reason for the above result can be that the scientists were having average level of management experience at their organization or institution.

It was also evident that that more than half of the scientists (57.14%) had medium level of technical efficiency, followed by 25.00 and 17.85% of scientists had high and low level of technical efficiency; respectively. The probable reason may be that the scientists were fine educated and sufficient knowledge about to use extension method during on and off campus activities.

It can also be seen in Table 1 that half (50.00%) of the scientists had higher communication ability, followed by 35.71 and 14.29% of them had moderate and low level of communication ability; respectively. The probable reason for this might be due to their aggressively conducting of various

trainings, on-farm trials, field visits and extension activities etc.

Further, a glance at the above table indicates that nearly half of the scientists (45.00%) had moderate level of scientific orientation, followed by 31.43 and 23.57% of the scientists had higher and lower level of scientific orientation; respectively. The probable reason for above finding might be that the scientists had trust in science and also in idol at the same level.

It is observed from table 1 that near about half of the scientists (46.42%) had medium level of group motivation followed by 33.58 and 20.00% of them had higher and lower level of group motivation; respectively. Among scientists they may have "we" feeling and because of that they took active participations with commitment in the activities of KVK to fulfil the objectives of group motivation.

Further, with regard to stress management majority (60.71%) of the scientists had moderate level of stress management, followed by 27.14 and 12.14% had higher and lower level of stress management; respectively. The result might be due to their medium to higher level of cohesion and doing daily physical exercise like yoga, walking etc. and meditation as a mental exercise.

It is evident from table 1 that majority of the scientists (62.14%) had lower innovativeness, followed by 23.58 and 14.28% of them had moderate and higher innovativeness; respectively. This indicates that the scientists may much ahead and lagging behind in accepting the advances coming in their profession.

Further, table 1 also depicted that majority of the scientists (69.28%) found in medium decision making ability category, followed by 15.72 and 15.00% of scientists belonged to low and high decision making ability categories. The possible reason for the above situation might be due to the fact that the majority of them have such type of job work in which they need authority/decisive support or might have source of income in the case of failure in their profession.

The data presented in table 1 revealed that majority (74.28%) of the scientists had medium level of cosmopolitanism while, 16.44% of them had high level of cosmopolitanism whereas, 9.28% had low level of cosmopolitanism. The reason for such situation might be due to their nature of type of work in rural area for technology transfer and authority/decisive support or might have source of income in the case of failure in their profession.

It is evident from table 1 that the majority of the scientists (64.29%) had medium achievement orientation, followed by 22.85 and 12.86% of scientists had high and low achievement orientation; respectively. It might be due to stipulated resources with an individual to earn supplement income and medium level of perception.

Summary and conclusions

It can be concluded from the results of the study that, The majority of the scientists were in the middle to young age groups. Majority of the scientists were holding doctorate and master degree with NET exam. More than three fourth of the scientists possessed higher to medium level of social participation. The majority of the scientists possessed low to medium level of service experience. More than half of the scientists (64.28%) had frequently used the source of information. The majority of the scientists (81.01%) have participated in the trainings for the number of five to fifteen days at State, National and Institutional level. The near about

three fourth of the scientists (70.00%) possessed medium level of managerial ability. More than two fifth of the scientists (57.14%) had medium level of technical efficiency. The majority of the scientists (85.71%) possessed higher to moderate level of communication ability. More than three fourth of the scientists (76.43%) possessed higher to medium level of scientific orientation. The majority of the scientists (80.00%) possessed higher to medium level of group motivation. The majority of the scientists (80.00%) possessed higher to medium level of group motivation. More than half of the scientists (60.71%) possessed moderate level of stress management. More than half of the scientists (62.14%) had medium level of innovativeness. The majority of the scientists (69.28%) found in medium decision making ability category. The majority of the scientists (74.28%) possessed medium level of cosmopolitaness. The majority of the scientists (64.29%) had medium level of achievement orientation.

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