

# Impact of Skill Development Trainings Conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathankot

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## ABSTRACT

Study was conducted at Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK), Pathankot (Gho) in the Pathankot district of Punjab. The Krishi Vigyan Kendra has been conducting Vocational/Skill Development trainings for rural youth, farmers and farm women. The present study was focused on the Impact of Skill Development trainings being organized in the discipline of Home Science by KVK Pathankot. Out of the total trainees, 160 trainees were selected as the respondents of this study. It indicated that these trainings had a positive monetary impact on the life of the trainees as they started earning money (who adopted on commercial scale) and others added to their family income by saving money by doing their own work rather than getting it done by others. The results indicated that out of the total sample, 55% of the trainees were in the age group of 20 to 40 years, 31.5% were less than 20 years and only 13.75% were more than 40 years. Most of them have passed primary school (55%) and 26, 88 % were higher secondary passed while 8.75% were senior secondary passed. Only 5.66 % were graduates or above. In the trainings regarding “*Value Addition of Agricultural Produce*”, 46.25 % trainees were in the high knowledge category and only 21.25 % were in the low knowledge category. In “*Rural Crafts*” 55 % trainees fall under high knowledge category and only 15.53 % were in the low knowledge category. Majority of the chosen trainees (85.09%) did not establish any business after obtaining the training on “*Value Addition of Agricultural Produce*” from the KVKs. They were simply utilizing it in their homes. But, 14.91 % out of them took it as an enterprise at commercial level. The training regarding “*Cookery*” resulted in 88.15% adoption at household level and 11.85% adoption at the commercial level. The “*Bakery*” trainings were adopted at the rate of 84.37% at household level and 15.53% adoption at Commercial level. Skill Development trainings of KVK have brought a considerable positive impact on the beneficiaries in terms of knowledge, skills acquired and adoption level.

**Keywords:** Training Programme, Impact, Adoption, Trainees

## INTRODUCTION

KVK is primarily focused on providing rural youth, farm women and farmers with need -based vocational trainings. Women in rural regions need skill-building and a supportive policy environment in order to become effective entrepreneurs as well as contribute to a thriving rural economy. The participants agreed that using women’s entrepreneurial abilities was a successful technique for combating rural unemployment and poverty. They may use plentiful locally available agricultural resources to generate value-added goods with training in

manufacturing and processing technology and marketing techniques. The ICAR (“*Indian Council of Agriculture Research*”) launched an advanced project during the fifth five-year plan by constructing KVKs around the country to provide vocational training to rural youth, farm women, and farmers. The *Directorate of Extension Education* of the *State Agricultural University (SAU)* in each state of the country provide administrative and technical support to Krishi Vigyan Kendras which act as a creative science-based institutions. The success of KVKs is contingent on high-quality upskilling and training that enables people to build self-reliance while also maximizing

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their innate potential and effort. Thus, KVKs serve as a resource center for farmers and rural residents.

The *Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathankot* was established under *Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana* in June, 2017 by the ICAR, New Delhi at village Gho of block Sujampur of district Pathankot in Punjab. It is one of the newly established KVK in the state of Punjab in its new district of Pathankot which was formed in the year 2011 by the Govt. of Punjab.

The “Skill Training” and “Need-based Training” are the two key components of any Krishi Vigyan Kendra’s training courses. It gives each initial training and ongoing professional development, as well as assists in the development of knowledge, skill and attitude toward a specific type of employment among its learners. These vocational training courses assist trainees in generating revenue and creating a business.

*Training* means to bring about continuous improvement in quality of work performed by the individuals. It should equip the trainees with necessary knowledge, skills or abilities and attitude to perform a particular job (Taylor, 1961). So, it is an important tool to bring improvement in the skills of the individual and apply it to the performance of his or her specific work situation. In order to achieve gender equality, it is very important to support women with information, technology and training. One of the important mandate of KVK is to impart trainings to rural youth/farm women so that they can become self-employed and raise the socio-economic standard of their family and ultimately of the society. Impact assessment has emerged as an important aspect to measure the effectiveness of training programmes for the improvement of livelihood and living standards of people in order to bring a more sustainable change. Keeping in view, the present study was undertaken at KVK Pathankot with following objectives:

### Objectives:

- To study the Socio-Personal Characteristics of the Trainees coming to Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Pathankot.
- To study the Impact of various Vocational Training Programmes conducted in the discipline of Home Science.

### Literature Review:

In Indian history, women started their journey as an entrepreneur in 1970 and proved their talent and potential

as successful entrepreneurs (Sivanesan, 2014). Sharma (2013) denote women entrepreneurs as self-sufficient and successful entrepreneurs who are equally good to run a business enterprise and maintaining the balance between professional and family life. The main challenge they have to face is because they are deprived of proper education and skill. They also have to face the financial shortage to give necessary support to their business. They are supposed to do their motherly duties and family responsibilities at the same time. There are still many social and cultural restrictions for them as well. In their daily household chores, they are losing their motivation to be a successful entrepreneur (Gautam and Mishra, 2016). Rural women as an entrepreneur are highly neglected. The research found that in rural India, the proportion of female workers’ participation in the total workforce is only 16.65 per cent (Mishra and Kiran, 2014). Their entrepreneurial potential is still unrecognized and unexploited. It is highly required to support them with proper skills and financial support policy to become a successful entrepreneur and to contribute to a dynamic rural economy.

## METHODOLOGY

KVK Pathankot organizes different trainings for the farm women like *Value Addition of Fruits and Vegetables, Cereal and Pulses and Millets, Preparation of Decorative Articles, Preparation of Cleaning Agents, Bakery and Confectionary, Embellishment of Fabrics, Special Cookery* and so on. The data regarding the participation and impact of various Vocational / Skill Development trainings in the discipline of Home Science was collected from a sample of 160 ex-trainees for studying the socio-personal characteristics of the trainees as well as to study their knowledge level. through questionnaire method whereas, the adoption (self-sustainable and commercial level) was also studied. It was collected from all the ex-trainees who have participated in the skill development/vocational trainings in the discipline of Home Science, since the inception of KVK, Pathankot. The data regarding these trainings were tabulated in the broad categories as *Value Addition of Agricultural Produce, Rural Crafts, Income Generating Enterprises, Cookery and Bakery*. The independent and dependent variables were selected. The independent variables like age, education, marital status, land holding and family occupation were taken.

Impact was studied in terms of participation, adoption and mean score regarding adoption of the occupation. The collected data were processed, tabulated, classified and analyzed in terms of percentage in light of the objectives of this study.

## RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Table 1 depicts the socio-personal characteristics of the trainees. It is evident that 55% of the trainees were in the age group of 20 to 40 years and only 31.5% were less than 20 years and 13.75% more than 40 years. Most of them have passed primary school (55%) and 26, 88 % were higher secondary passed while 8.75% were senior secondary passed. Only 5.63 % were graduates or above.

Table 2 reveals the knowledge level of trainees on being trained in the skill. In the training regarding “Value Addition of Agricultural Produce” 46.25 % trainees

were in the high knowledge category and only 21.25 % were in the low knowledge category. In “Rural Crafts” 55 % trainees fall under high knowledge category and only 15.53 % were in the low knowledge category. In the same way, trainings regarding “Income Generation Enterprises” depict that 45.63% trainees fall under high knowledge category and only 20.63 % were in the low knowledge category. As far as “Cookery” trainings are concerned, 46.24% trainees were in the high knowledge category and only 19.38 % were in the low knowledge category. In the “Bakery” training, 41.25% trainees were in the medium knowledge category and only 46.88 % were in the medium knowledge category.

According to the data presented in Table 3, the majority of the chosen trainees (55.39%) did not establish any business after obtaining the training on “Value Addition of Agricultural Produce”. They were simply utilizing it in their homes. But, 14.92 % out of them took it as an enterprise at commercial level. Similarly, training

Sr. No.	Variable	Intervals	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age	Less than 20 years	50	31.25%
		(20 – 40) years	88	55.00%
		Above 40 years	22	13.75%
2.	Education	Illiterate	6	3.75%
		Primary School	14	8.75%
		Higher Secondary	88	55.00%
		Senior Secondary	43	26.88%
		Graduate or above	9	5.63%
3.	Marital Status	Single	45	28.13%
		Married	92	57.50%
		Widow /Divorced	23	14.38%
4.	Land Holding	Landless	78	48.75%
		Small (>2 Hectare)	46	28.75%
		Medium (2-4 Hectare)	31	19.38%
		Large ( > 4 Hectare)	5	3.13%
5.	Family Occupation	Farming	86	53.75%
		Service/ Private	53	33.13%
		Labour Class	21	13.13%

Source: Field Survey, 2024

Sr. No.	Knowledge Category	Score	Frequency (Percentage)				
			Value Addition of Agricultural Produce	Rural Crafts	Income generating Enterprises	Cookery	Bakery
1.	Low	<40	34 (21.25%)	25 (15.53%)	33 (20.63%)	31 (19.38%)	19 (11.88%)
2.	Medium	40 - 70	52 (32.50%)	47 (29.38%)	54 (33.75%)	55 (34.38%)	75 (46.88%)
3.	High	70 -100	74 (46.25%)	88 (55.00%)	73 (45.63%)	74 (46.25%)	66 (41.25%)

Source: Field Survey, 2024

**Table 3: Adoption at Commercial/Household Level (since the inception of KVK)**

Sr. No.	Category of the Training	No. of Trainings	No. of Participants	Adoption at household Level		Adoption at Commercial Level	
				Frequency	% age	Frequency	% age
1.	Value Addition of Agricultural Produce	18	1354	750	55.39 %	202	14.92%
2.	Rural Crafts	5	108	75	69.44%	13	12.04%
3.	Income generating Enterprises	3	72	51	70.83%	11	15.28%
4.	Cookery	4	76	58	76.32%	9	11.84 %
5.	Bakery	2	32	17	53.13%	5	15.63%

Source: Field Survey, 2024

on “*Rural Crafts*” resulted in 69.44 % adoption at household level and only 12.04% adopted at commercial level. In case of trainings related to “*Income Generation Enterprises*”, 70.83 % adopted at household level and only 15.28% adopted at commercial level. The training regarding “*Cookery*” resulted in 76.32 % adoption at household level and 11.85% adoption at the commercial level. The “*Bakery*” trainings were adopted at the rate of 53.13 % at household level and 15.63% adoption at Commercial level.

Skill Development trainings of KVK have brought a considerable positive impact on the beneficiaries in terms of knowledge, skills acquired and adoption level. To increase the level of adoption, trainees need to be provided credit with a minimum interest rate and generating market at the root level by the government. For developing skills among the trainees, number of skill oriented trainings along with number of follow up activities could be carried out.

Therefore this study may be helpful in developing or planning future skill oriented training programmes in such a way that is conducive to farm women and SHGs.

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