

Problems faced by rural women in technology adoption

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■ **ABSTRACT :** The study was undertaken with an objective to identify the problems of respondents in practicing / adopting the technologies dissemination through Home Science Extension programmes. The respondents of the present study were rural women from adopted villages of Department of Extension Education, Faculty of Home Science, Assam Agricultural University, Jorhat selected purposively. The data were collected through a structured interview schedule. It was observed from the findings that the respondents had faced a number of problems in practicing different technologies disseminated through Home Science extension programme. In the area of “smokeless chullha” 29 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of “high cost of the pipe”. As regards to “Janata cool chamber” 50 per cent of respondents had the main problem of “do not have vegetables and fruits in surplus to store”. Whereas 26 per cent of the respondents opined that the main problem in planting nutrition garden was “non-availability of space”. In case of practicing demonstrated food preparation, 47 per cent respondents had faced the problem of “need longer time to prepare”. In practicing the programme of demonstrated food preservation a sizeable 22 per cent of the respondents faced the problem of “ingredients are costly”. Problems in the area of income generating activities a sizeable percentage of respondents had faced the common problem of costly materials. Although, the respondents showed wide acceptance of various technologies, the study indicates that the respondents in small numbers faced certain problems in practicing of the different technologies disseminated through Home Science extension programme. Costly raw materials such as pipe, brick, foam, food ingredients etc. were faced by small number of respondents. It is expected that the concerned authority will take into account those issues seriously to improve the future extension programmes. Planning of extension programmes considering the expectations of the respondents will create a conducive learning environment to the respondents during implementation of those programme carried out by the department in future.

■ **KEY WORDS :** Technology, Rural women, Problems

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In the context of rural development, it has been recognized that women play a very important role. Women are the world caretakers of home and perform a variety of tasks. No nation can think of its full development by ignoring the welfare of women and children. To achieve this aim, various steps have been taken for carry out research for identification of human problems, to develop suitable technologies for socio-economic development to rural women. It is widely known that knowledge of Home Science has the potential for development of women.

In the present era of scientific explosion, a study flow of Home Science knowledge is must be to bridge the gap

between what is generated and known by the Home Science researchers and what is practiced by the rural women. There are number of Home Science researchers engaged in generating new and appropriate Home Science knowledge and technology on one hand and there are several agencies, institutions and programmes entrusted with the responsibility of delivering their useful knowledge and technology to the rural women.

Extension activities in different villages have been carried out by the faculty of Home Science since its inception. Department of Extension Education plays a predominant role in the extension activities in its adopted villages. So far a