

## Institutional linkages of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Western Maharashtra

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### ABSTRACT

The present investigation was conducted in ten Krishi Vigyan Kendra's of Western Maharashtra during 2008-09 to assess the infrastructural facilities, to study the technical achievements and institutional linkages of KVK's. The results of study revealed that technical achievements of those KVKs were satisfactory whose staff position index and infrastructural facility index were high. Therefore, it is concluded that availability of technical staff and infrastructural facilities strongly influences the technical achievements of Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

### INTRODUCTION

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) under the philosophy of Transfer of Technology (TOT) has devoted a Frontline Extension Activity system being organized and conducted by the Agricultural Scientists with the aim of demonstrating promptly the latest agricultural technologies to the farmers and extension workers, testing and verifying the technologies in the socio-economic conditions of the farmers and getting the first hand feedback to reorient the research, education and training systems. To achieve these objectives, a number of transfer of technology projects have been sponsored by the ICAR viz., All India Co-coordinated Project on National Demonstrations (AICPND), Operational Research Project (ORP), Lab to Land programme (LLP) and Krishi Vigyan Kendra (KVK)/Farm Science Centre from time to time. However, from 1<sup>st</sup> April 1992 all the above first line transfer of technology projects of the ICAR viz., ND, ORP and LLP have been merged under the concept of KVK. In the reorganized system, the major mandates of the KVK are to conduct the need base activities viz., Training programmes, Front line demonstrations, On farm trials and Extension activities

The first KVK was established in 1974 at Pondichery under Tamil Nadu Agricultural University and by now the number has gone up to 567 KVK in the country, at least one

KVK for each district. The priority for establishing KVK is given to hilly areas, drought prone areas, forest areas, coastal areas, flood prone areas and areas dominated by tribal farmers, weaker section, small farmers and landless labourers. The Krishi Vigyan Kendra is meant for bridging the gap between inducing the technology and its actual application on the field by the farmers.

It means that the prime objective of the KVK is to impart need based, skill oriented, vocational training to the rural people and other various activities viz., training programmes, FLD's, farm trials and extension activities with a view to help them to bring excellence in their occupational performance. These are also called as technical achievement of the KVK. The availability of infrastructural facilities with the KVK strongly influences the technical achievements of that particular KVK. In this view, the present investigation was undertaken with the following objectives : to assess the infrastructural facilities at the KVKs, to study the technical achievements of the KVK's and to know the institutional linkages of KVK's in the Western Maharashtra.

### METHODOLOGY

The jurisdiction of Mahatma Phule Krishi Vidyapeeth, Rahuri comprises ten districts of Western Maharashtra viz., Ahmednagar, Pune, Solapur, Satara, Kolhapur, Sangli, Nashik, Dhule, Jalgaon and Nandurbar. Every district

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