

RESEARCH ARTICLE:

Attitude of beneficiary respondents towards Rastriya Krishi Vakash Yojana

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SUMMARY: The present study was conducted in which two tribal (Jhadol and Sarada) and two nontribal (Bhinder and Mavli) Panchayat samities of Udaipur district of Rajasthan. Four beneficiary villages and two non-beneficiary villages from each selected Panchayat samiti were taken and 10 respondents were selected randomly from each selected village for the study. Data were collected through prestructured interview schedule. The findings revealed that 11.87 per cent respondents had least favourable towards RKVY. On the other hand, 68.75 per cent respondents belonged to moderately favourable group. However, 19.38 per cent respondents had highly favourable attitude towards RKVY. It indicated positive impact of the project under study.

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KEY WORDS:

Attitude, Beneficiary respondents, Tribal area, Non-tribal area, RKVY

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The Rastriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) was launched in the year 2007with the specific aims at achieving 5.5 per cent annual growth in the agriculture sector during 12th plan period by ensuring a holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors.

The scheme is essentially a State Plan Scheme that seeks to provide the States and Territories of India with the autonomy to draw up plans for increased public investment in agriculture by incorporating information on local requirements, geographical/climatic conditions, available natural resources/technology and cropping patterns in their districts so as to significantly increase the productivity of agriculture and its allied sectors

and eventually maximize the returns of farmers in agriculture and its allied sectors.

Initially, it was decided that a sum of Rs. 5875 crore would be released by the Central Government every year under the 11th Five Year Plan and Rs. 1500 crore was allocated in 2007-08. During the first three years of the implementation of the RKVY, an amount of Rs. 8462.11 crore, which is roughly 33.00 per cent of the total allocation under the RKVY of Rs. 25000 crore was released to states for this programme. Budget 2012-13 provides Rs. 9217.00 crore for this scheme which included two new sub-components, namely: (a) Special initiative for pulse and oilseed development in selected pulses /oilseed growing villages in rainfed areas as supplementary programmes

specially targeted to rainfed areas and will be implemented on same parameter as ongoing programmes for oilseed and pulses. (b) Scheme to bridge yield gap in agriculture in east India. Allocation of budget in 2013-14 and 2014-15 are Rs. 9954.02 crore and Rs. 9954 crore, respectively.

It is universally accepted that the attitude of an individual towards any programme has a significant influence upon his participation in that programme. The success of the programme directly dependents on the fevourable attitude of beneficiaries towards the programme. Further, it is also an indication to the officials to review closely each and every aspect of attitude so that Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana can be made successful in achieving the goal. Therefore, it was felt necessary to study the attitude of beneficiary respondents towards Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The present paper presents the data gathered in a rendomly selected sample of the beneficiary and nonbeneficiary farmers towards recommended interventions of wheat crop introduced under RKVY programme in two tribal (Jhadol and Sarada) and two non-tribal (Bhinder and Mavli) panchayat samities of Udaipur district of Rajasthan. The 160 beneficiary and 80 non-beneficiary farmers were selected for the study. To measure the attitude of farmers towards RKVY, attitude scale using Likert's technique of summated rating was constructed. The scale consisted of 26 items, out of which 13 were positive and 13 were negative. The responses obtained were assigned scores as 5, 4, 3, 2 and 1 to strongly agree, agree, undecided, disagree and strongly disagree in case of positive statements. However, for negative items, pattern of scoring was reversed. Total score obtained by each respondent was calculated. The respondents were divided into three categories (least favourable, favourable and most favourable) on the basis of mean and S.D. of their attitude scores. Frequency and percentage of respondents in each category were calculated. Further, per cent level of agreement for each statement was calculated.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The results obtained from the present study as well as discussions have been summarized under following

heads:

Distribution of beneficiary respondents according to their attitude towards Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana:

The data incorporated in Table 1 reveal that out of total 160 beneficiary respondents, 68.75 per cent respondents were having moderately favourable attitude towards Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana. Only, 19.38 per cent respondents expressed highly favourable attitude, while percentage in the category of less favourable attitude was 11.87. Further, analysis of the table shows that 71.25 per cent tribal area's respondents and 66.25 per cent non-tribal area's respondents were having moderately favourable attitude. Whereas, 13.75 per cent tribal area's respondents and 10.00 per cent non-tribal area's respondents were noted in the less favourable attitude towards RKVY. Likewise, 15.00 per cent and 23.75 per cent tribal area's and non-tribal area's respondents expressed highly favourable attitude towards RKVY, respectively.

The results of the study are in line with the findings of Rathore and Kalla (2000) and Ramakrishan (2004) who observed that 62.50 per cent respondents had moderately favourable attitude, followed by 17.50 per cent respondents were from highly favourable attitude and 20.00 per cent had less favourable attitudes towards Prime Minister's Rozgar Yojana.

Aspect-wise attitude of respondents towards RKVY:

For knowing the attitude of respondents towards the different aspects of Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana, in all 26 statements were considered. For this mean per cent scores (MPS) for each statement was calculated and ranked accordingly. The results are presented in Table 2.

Table 2 indicates that majority of the beneficiary respondents strongly agreed with the attitude statement entitled "RKVY is helping in economic upliftment of farmers" which was ranked first with 83.37 MPS. This was followed by the statements namely "farmers can go for any Agricultural operations with the help of RKVY" and "there is active participation of AAOs/extension workers in conducting demonstrations" with 80.00 and 79.75 MPS and ranked second and third, respectively. These statements were strongly agreed may be due to

the reason that respondents possessed complete knowledge about the activities of Rastriya Krishi Vikash Yojana.

Further analysis of the table reveals that the respondents also viewed the positive attitude about the statements entitled "benefits under RKVY are reaching to the concerned target groups", "RKVY provides services and advice to the farmers", "RKVY helps to improve economic condition of the rural people",

"adoption of new agricultural technology of cereal crops provided under RKVY being simple", "any farmer can practice it without much difficulty" and "RKVY is an innovative organization for the farmers". The extent of attitude about these statements was 79.50, 79.25, 78.25, 77.50 and 77.12 MPS with ranked fourth, fifth, sixth seventh and eighth, respectively.

The statements which have high degree of attitude were "agricultural implements provided under RKVY are

Table 1:	(n = 160)							
Sr. No.	Category	Tribal area		Non-tribal area		Total		
		f	%	f	%	f	%	
1.	Less favourable (< 93.23)	11	13.75	8	10.00	19	11.87	
2.	Moderately favourable (93.23 to 107.79)	57	71.25	53	66.25	110	68.75	
3.	Highly favourable (> 107.79)	12	15.00	19	23.75	31	19.38	
	Total	80	100	80	100	160	100	

f = Frequency, % = Per cent

Table 2: Aspect wise attitude of the beneficiary respondents regarding						(n =10	50)
Sr.	Statement	Tribal area		Non- tribal area		Overall	
No.	Statement	MPS	R	MPS	R	MPS	R
1.	Farmers can go for any Agricultural operations with the help of RKVY	73.50	11	86.50	1	80.00	2
2.	Economic condition of the farmers does not improve due to RKVY	62.75	15	64.50	14	63.62	14
3.	Only big farmers are getting benefits from RKVY	74.50	10	74.00	12	74.25	13
4.	Many farmers have not availed RKVY benefits due to lack of proper publicity	55.00	19	58.25	17	56.62	18
5.	Benefits under RKVY are reaching to the concerned target group	77.00	6	82.50	3	79.50	4
6.	Sufficient seed minikits are not provided to the farmers under RKVY	57.75	17	62.25	16	60.00	15
7.	RKVY helps to improve economic condition of the rural people.	77.75	3	79.00	7	78.25	6
8.	RKVY is nothing but the source of livelihood of farmers	61.00	16	56.50	19	58.75	17
9.	There is active participation of AAOs/extension workers in conducting demonstrations	82.50	1	77.00	11	79.75	3
10.	There is a little of work one and more of its propaganda made in the RKVY	56.00	18	63.75	15	59.87	16
11.	RKVY is helping in economic upliftment of farmers	81.25	2	85.50	2	83.37	1
12.	Extension workers are not aware of the methodology of conducting demonstrations	51.50	23	57.75	18	54.62	20
13.	Inclusion of good number of demonstrations and farm trials under RKVY has helped to	72.50	12	80.25	5	76.37	10
	establish local proof of the new technology						
14.	RKVY has nothing new to offer for better extension work	49.50	24	50.25	23	49.87	25
15.	RKVY is an innovative organization for the farmers	76.00	8	78.25	9	77.12	8
16.	Adoption of recommended new technology is not possible for the poor farmers	63.25	14	47.75	26	55.50	19
17.	Adoption of new agricultural technology of cereal crops provided under RKVY being	76.25	7	78.75	8	77.50	7
	simple, any farmer can practice it without much difficulty						
18.	There is no change in farming due to RKVY	47.50	25	50.00	24	48.75	26
19.	RKVY Provide economically viable technology	77.25	5	72.75	13	75.00	12
20.	The technology are not viable to the poor farmers provided through RKVY	52.50	22	54.50	21	53.50	22
21.	Agricultural implements provided under RKVY are useful	75.25	9	78.00	10	76.62	9
22.	The crop production reduced due to the project activities	46.75	26	56.00	20	51.37	23
23.	RKVY provides services and advice to the farmers	77.50	4	81.00	4	79.25	5
24.	RKVY is less helpful to increase the agricultural production of farmers	53.00	21	48.50	25	50.75	24
25.	Productivity of cereal crops variety provided under RKVY is high as compared to	72.25	13	79.50	6	75.87	11
	traditional variety						
26.	Fertilizers and chemicals for plant protection are not provided timely under RKVY	54.50	20	53.50	22	54.00	21
) (DC	Total	65.53		67.57		66.55	-

MPS = Mean per cent score, R = Rank

useful", "inclusion of good number of demonstrations and farm trials under RKVY has helped to establish local proof of the new technology" and "productivity of cereal crops variety provided under RKVY is high as compared to traditional variety" with the extent of 76.62, 76.37 and 75.87 MPS and ranked ninth, tenth and eleventh, respectively by the beneficiary respondents.

Further analysis of the table shows that the beneficiary respondents also agreed with attitude statements namely "RKVY Provides economically viable technology" with 75.00 and ranked twelfth in the rank order of statements.

It was also found that majority of beneficiary respondents have strongly disagreed with the negative statements namely "economic condition of the farmers does not improve due to RKVY", "sufficient seed minikits are not provided to the farmers under RKVY", "there is a little of work one and more of its propaganda made in the RKVY", "RKVY is nothing but the source of livelihood of farmers", "many farmers have not availed RKVY benefits due to lack of proper publicity", "adoption of recommended new technology is not possible for the poor farmers through RKVY", "extension workers are not aware of the methodology of conducting demonstrations" and "the fertilizers and chemicals for plant protection are not provided timely" with the extent of 63.62, 60.00, 59.87, 58.75, 56.62, 55.50, 54.62 and 54.00 MPS and ranked as fourteenth, fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth, eighteenth, nineteenth, twentieth and twenty one, respectively (Table 2).

Whereas, the beneficiary respondents have given their strong opinion towards the negative statements entitled, "the technology given through RKVY are not viable to the poor farmers", "the crop production reduced due to the project activities", "RKVY is less helpful to increase the agricultural production of farmers", "RKVY has nothing new to offer for better extension work" and "there is no change in farming due to RKVY" with MPS 53.50, 51.37, 50.75, 49.87 and 48.75 and assigned ranks at the bottom in ranking hierarchy as twenty two, twenty three, twenty four, twenty five and twenty six, respectively.

Thus, from the above discussion it can be concluded that the respondents had favourable attitude towards the interventions of RKVY but still they need some positive encouragement by the government or by the organization to prepare favourable and supportive policy and to

strengthen and revitalize the existing extension system which provides technical know-how and other relevant details to the farmers regarding interventions of RKVY in their respective area. It means that farmers always think that how they will maximize their return from their field and RKVY are the best alternative in-front of the farming community, especially in Rajasthan where the number of big farmers are very less so the tribal and non-tribal area's farmers are also taking keen interest to go for the adoption of interventions giving under RKVY so that they can earn more profit. The results of the study are in line with the findings of Samota (2011).

Conclusion:

Thus, from the above results, it may be concluded that the respondents had highly favourable attitude towards the interventions of RKVY. It was noted that the respondents had favourable attitude towards the interventions of RKVY. The farmers always think that how they will maximize their return from their field and RKVY are the best alternative in-front of the farming community, especially in Rajasthan where the number of big farmers are very less so the tribal and non-tribal area's farmers are also taking keen interest to go for the adoption of interventions giving under RKVY so that they can earn more profit. It indicated positive impact of the project under study.

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