RESEARCH ARTICLE

ADVANCE RESEARCH JOURNAL OF SOCIAL SCIENCE

Volume 3 | Issue 2 | December, 2012 | 157-159

Relative contribution of the personal socio-economical and psychological factors in determing the rural youth's participation in paddy farming

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ARTICLE INFO :

Received : 18.04.2012
Revised : 22.08.2012
Accepted : 27.09.2012

KEY WORDS :

Rural youth, Participation, Paddy farming

HOW TO CITE THIS ARTICLE :

Patel, J.K., Patel, B.M. and Badhe, D.K. (2012). Relative contribution of the personal socio-economical and psychological factors in determing the rural youth's participation in paddy farming, *Adv. Res. J. Soc. Sci.*, **3** (2) : 157 - 159.

ABSTRACT

Present study was conducted in twelve villages of Anand district. Ten respondents from each village having minimum three years of experience were selected at random, making the sample of 120 respondents. The findings indicated that variables *viz.*, education, farming experience, social participation, land holding, occupation, extension contact, mass media exposure, scientific orientation, economic motivation, risk orientation, knowledge and decision making had positive and highly significant correlation with participation of rural youths. Six variables *viz.*, decision making ability, knowledge, scientific orientation, type of family, occupation and education together contributed 92.90 per cent variation for determining extent of participation.

INTRODUCTION

Undeniably, the youths constitute a vast reservoir of energy especially in under developed countries including India. The participation of rural youth in paddy farming make more important because it solves the problems of unemployment and another is the youth farmers are more innovative and accept new farm technology earlier than old once. Gujarat is mainly industry based state and more employment is provided by industries to youth including agriculture sector. The participation of rural youth in agriculture sector in general and paddy farming in particular leads to increase area, production and productivity of paddy to meet demand of fast growing population as rice is one of the main staple foods of the state and problem of unemployment of rural youth in industrial sector caused by worldwide recession.

Understanding the basic need of a day, a study on functional analysis of rural youth's participation in paddy farming was carried out with the following specific objectives to study the influence of personal socio-economical and psychological traits of rural youth on their extent of participation in paddy farming and to study the relative contribution of the personal-socio-economical and psychological factors in determining the rural youth's participation in paddy farming.

METHODS

The present study was under taken in Tarapur Taluka of Anand district. Ten paddy growing villages were randomly selected from this Taluka. For this study, 120 rural youth who had minimum 3 years of experience in paddy cultivation were selected randomly. Then the data were collected with the help of well-structured, pre-tested, interview scheduled through personal contact and data were compiled, tabulated, analyzed and interpreted to the draw the valid conclusion. The relationship between characteristics of the rural youth and their extent of participation was determined and tested with help of Karl Pearson's (1978) coefficient correlation test. Statistical tools like correlation coefficient, multiple and stepwise regression were used.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

Considering the important characteristics of the

respondents and review of past research studies, the relationship between personal, social, economic, communicational and psychological characteristics of the rural youth and extent of participation in paddy farming were calculated and are presented in Table 1.

Relationship between characteristics of the rural youth and their extent of participation in paddy farming:

In order to find out the relationship between the personal, socio- economic and psychological characteristics of the rural youth and extent of their participation in paddy farming, co-relation co-efficient was worked out. The data in this regard are presented in Table 1.

From Table 1, it can be seen that the independent variables studies *viz.*, education, farming experience, social participation, land holding, occupation, extension contact, mass media exposure, scientific orientation, economic motivation, risk orientation, knowledge and decision making had positive and highly significant correlation with participation of rural youth, whereas age of rural youth had negative and significant correlation with participation. The remaining traits like type of family and size of family exerted no relationship with the participation of rural youth in paddy farming. Extent of participation in paddy farming was observed significantly higher among those youth who were young in age, highly educated, had more years of experience of paddy cultivation, better social participation, involvement in more occupations, large size of land holding, elevated extension contact, better scientific orientation, economic motivation, risk orientation, knowledge of paddy cultivation and better decision making ability.

Relative contribution of the personal socio-economical and psychological factors in determining the rural youth's participation in paddy farming:

Generally, in behavioural science no dependent variable

Table 1 : Relationship between characteristics of the rural youth and extent of their participation in paddy farming

Sr. No.	Independent variables	Correlation co-efficient ('r' value)
Personal		
1.	Age	--0.230*
2.	Education	0.345**
3.	Farming experience	0.418**
Socio-economical		
4.	Size of family	0.056
5.	Type of family	0.049
6.	Social participation	0.455**
7.	Occupation	0.310**
8.	Land holding	0.225*
9.	Extension contact	0.304**
10	Mass media exposure	0.361**
Psychological		
11.	Scientific orientation	0.362**
12.	Economic motivation	0.427**
13.	Risk orientation	0.259**
14.	Knowledge	0.776**
15.	Decision making	0.949**

NS = Non-significant * and ** indicate significance of values at P=0.05 and 0.01, respectively

Table 2 : Stepwise multiple regression analysis of participation level of rural youth in relation to paddy cultivation technology

Sr. No	Independent variable	Multiple co-relation co-efficient (R)	Co-efficient of determination (R2)	'F' values	Partial regression co-efficient (b)	'T' value	Standard partial regression co-efficient (SPRC)	Rank
1.	Decision making ability	0.949	0.90 (90.00)	1058.52	0.769	21.91	0.854	I
2.	Knowledge	0.957	0.917 (91.70)	642.27	0.189	4.59	0.174	II
3.	Scientific orientation	0.959	0.920 (92.00)	443.20	0.273	2.69	0.074	III
4.	Type of family	0.961	0.923 (92.30	346.50	--1.304	2.69	--0.069	IV
5.	Occupation	0.962	0.926 (92.60)	288.26	--0.858	2.23	--0.061	V
6.	Education	0.964	0.929 (92.90)	246.21	--0.556	2.08	--0.058	VI

can influence by any single independent variable. As such extent of participation in reality, is not influenced by any of the independent variables singly. It is found to be influenced by more than one of these independent attributes jointly through their reciprocal and interactive relationship in order to assess the contribution of each independent variable to the dependent variable, the effect of others were held constant.

Stepwise regression is one such method which has been widely adopted in multiple regression analysis. It has got the added advantage that at each stage of analysis every variable is subjected to an examination for its predictive value. The stepwise regression was carried out with the help of computer. The results are presented in Table 2.

It can be observed from Table 2 that out of fifteen traits of rural youth, only six were acquainting influence on participation in relation to paddy cultivation technology. All the six variables together were contributing 92.90 per cent variation as indicated by (R2) value for the extent of participation pertaining to paddy cultivation technology.

Further, it can be inferred that 90.00 per cent variation in extent of participation was contributed by decision making ability of rural youth. However, decision making ability + knowledge accounted for 91.70 per cent, decision making ability + knowledge + scientific orientation + decision making ability + knowledge + scientific orientation + type of family were contributing 92.30 per cent, decision making ability + knowledge + scientific orientation + type of family+ occupation accounted for 92.60 per cent and decision making ability + knowledge + scientific orientation + type of family occupation+ education were contributing 92.90 per cent. The R2 values at each stage of step up regression were found to be significant at 0.05 level of probability. The partial 'b' values of these six variables were converted into standard partial' b' values which were 0.854 for decision making ability (I), 0.174 for knowledge(II), 0.074 for scientific orientation (III), 0.069 for type of family (IV), 0.061 for occupation (V) and -0.058 for education (VI). The't' values or partial 'b' were significant incase of all the six variables. Thus, the findings are suggestive of the fact that for increasing the participation of rural youth in paddy cultivation technology, such variables should be reckoned and concentrated efforts should be made to mobilize such variables.

Conclusion:

It is concluded from the above discussion that independent variables *viz.*, education, farming experience, social participation, land holding, occupation, extension contact, mass media exposure, scientific orientation, economic motivation, risk orientation, knowledge and decision making had positive and highly significant correlation with participation of rural youth. Out of fifteen traits of rural youth, only six were acquainting influence on participation in relation to paddy cultivation technology. More efforts should be made by the extension agencies to establish in-depth extension contact with the rural youth and their background factors which influence the participation of the rural youth in terms of change in behavioural components must be reckoned within training programme.

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