



The relational analysis profile of agriculture graduates with attitude towards entrepreneurship

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ARTICLE INFO :

Received : 18.07.2014
Accepted : 28.11.2014

KEY WORDS :

Entrepreneurship, Attitude, Sensitization, Relational analysis

HOW TO CITE THIS ARTICLE :

Deshmukh, P.R. and Kadam, R.P. (2014). The relational analysis profile of agriculture graduates with attitude towards entrepreneurship. *Adv. Res. J. Soc. Sci.*, 5 (2) : 257-260.

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ABSTRACT

The present study is an attempt to delineate the relational analysis of profile of agriculture graduates with attitude towards entrepreneurship of the B.Sc. (Agri.) VIII semester agricultural students at College of Agriculture in Parbhani. The study has conducted within a surveying methodology by using questionnaire. Statistical population of the study consisted of 20 students of six experiential learning module thus 120 agricultural graduating students samples were selected randomly. A five point Likert scale questions (Strongly agree, Agree, Undecided, Disagree, and Strongly disagree) was used. More than half of the respondents (51.66 %) were having medium annual family income, maximum number of respondents (57.50 %) had medium level social participation, with regards to gender, it was observed that more than two third (76.67 %), of the respondents were male. Majority of the respondents (62.50 %) had living in joint type of family. Near about thirty per cent (29.17 %) of the respondent had semi medium land holding, majority of respondents (82.50 %) had belonged to rural back ground, majority of respondents (61.67 %) had medium family size. Academic performance (CGPA) of majority (64.17 %) of the respondents possessed second class performance. Majority (55.83 %) respondents reported that they got GOI scholarship. The relational analysis revealed that annual family income, social participation, landholding and academic performance were found positive and significant relationship with attitude towards entrepreneurship, while gender, family types, family size, family background and scholarship showed non-significant relationship with attitude towards the entrepreneurship. The suggestions of the respondents towards entrepreneurship development expressed that provide the students with an ideas to start new business with first rank, 95.83 per cent of the respondents with II rank suggested that create more awareness of entrepreneurship as possible carrier choice. While 93.33 per cent respondents expressed that arrange the conferences / workshop on entrepreneurship and bring the students in contact with the network need to start new enterprise.

INTRODUCTION

Entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship are arguably the pillars on which economic health of societies was built. Their role has been highlighted in opportunity creation through new ventures and maintenance of existing ones (Evans, 1942; Leibenstein, 1968). Entrepreneurship has been identified as the fourth factor of production that helps discover new frontiers

leading to all round economic growth (Harper, 1991; Leff, 1979), and a resource that needs to be tapped by developing countries to enable them to compete in a globalizing market economy (Kanungo, 1998; Khandwalla, 1998).

Entrepreneurship can be understood as the mind set and process to create and develop economic activities. The economic entrepreneurship is seen as vital source for economic growth and competitiveness, job creation as well as wealth creation and providing societal interest. The role of education

has been conformed as an important component in the creation and continuing development of entrepreneurial attitude. In this context, the students are seen as the primary resource of future entrepreneur. However, there is a need to understand how to develop and nurture potential entrepreneur further while continuing to grow in entrepreneurship education, our understanding of students in respect to entrepreneurial education is still lacking.

Moreover, attitudes are defined by cognitive psychology as the predisposition to respond in a generally favourable or unfavourable manner with respect to the object of the attitude. The attitudinal approach has been utilized in many fields including evaluating entrepreneurship education. Thus, for increasing the level of entrepreneurial initiative among students, it is needful to increase the positive attitudes towards entrepreneurship, so attitudes can be viewed as the stepping stone to entrepreneurial intentions.

There are numerous interconnections between attitudes and various interrelated objects. Attitudes would measure the extent of individual values positively or negatively. Generally, the behaviour of an individual is greatly determined by his/her attitude.

Objectives :

- To study the profile of the respondents.
- To study the overall attitudes of the respondents towards entrepreneurship.
- To delineate the relationship between the profile of the respondents and attitude towards entrepreneurship.
- To invite the suggestions for entrepreneurship development.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

The present study was an attempt to assess the attitude of B.Sc. (Ag.) VIII semester agricultural students towards entrepreneurship at College of Agriculture in Parbhani. The study was conducted within a surveying methodology by using questionnaire. Statistical population of the study consisted of 20 students of each Experiential learning module (i) Groundnut production technology-Agronomy, (ii) Milk and milk products-Dairy, (iii) Mushroom production technology- Plant Pathology, (iv) Commercial vegetable production-Horticulture, (v) Soil water plant and fertilizer analysis laboratory- Soil Science, (vi) Commercial sericulture, thus 120 agricultural graduating students samples were selected randomly.

Data gathering tool was a questionnaire. A paper based survey was used in order to allow the survey to achieve high coverage as the questionnaires could be given directly to students and collected at the same time. The data were subjected to statistical analysis with the help of frequency,

percentage, mean, and standard deviation and co-efficient of correlation.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The data with regards to profile of the respondents are presented in Table 1. More than half of the respondents (51.66 income, while 26.67 per cent and 21.67 per cent respondents were found in low (up to Rs. 60,000) and high (above Rs. 2,00,000) annual family income category, respectively.

Table 1 : The profile of the respondents		(n=120)	
		Respondents	
Sr. No.	Characteristics	Frequency	Per cent
Annual family income (Rs.)			
1.	Low (up to Rs. 60,000)	32	26.67
2.	Medium (60,001 to 2,00,000)	62	51.66
3.	High (above 2,00,000)	26	21.67
Social participation			
1.	Low (up to 2)	38	31.67
2.	Medium (3 to 5)	69	57.50
3.	High (6 and above)	13	10.83
Gender			
1.	Male	92	76.67
2.	Female	28	23.33
Family type			
1.	Joint	75	62.50
2.	Nuclear	45	37.50
Land holding (ha.)			
1.	Landless	16	13.33
2.	Marginal (up to 01)	08	6.67
3.	Small (1.01 to 02)	25	20.83
4.	Semi-medium (2.01 to 4)	35	29.17
5.	Medium (4.01 to 6)	17	14.17
6.	Big (above 6.1)	19	15.83
Family background			
1.	Rural	99	82.50
2.	Urban	21	17.50
Family size			
1.	Small (up to 4)	26	21.67
2.	Medium (5 to 7)	74	61.67
3.	Big (7 and above)	20	16.66
Academic performance (CGPA)			
1.	First with distinction (above 8.50)	00	00.00
2.	First (7.50 to 8.49)	43	35.83
3.	Second (6.00 to 7.49)	77	64.17
4.	Pass (5.50 to 5.99)	00	00.00
Scholarship			
1.	GOI	67	55.83
2.	Free ship	06	5.00
3.	Other (NTS)	11	9.17

Maximum number of respondents (57.50 %) had medium level social participation, while 31.67 per cent and 10.83 per cent respondents had low and high social participation, respectively. With regards to gender, it was observed that more than two third (76.67 %) of the respondents were male and 23.33 per cent respondents were female. Majority of the respondents (62.50 %) were living in joint type of family while 37.50 per cent of them belonged to nuclear family.

Near about thirty per cent (29.17 %) of the respondents had semi-medium land holding, followed by small land holding (20.83 %), big (15.83 %) while 14.17 per cent were with medium and 13.33 per cent landless whereas 6.67 per cent of the respondents were marginal land holders.

Large majority of respondents (82.50 %) belonged to rural back ground, while 17.50 per cent of them had urban background.

Majority of respondents (61.67 %) had medium family size (5 to 7 members) while 21.67 per cent and 16.66 per cent of the respondents had small (upto 4 members) and big family size (more than 7 members), respectively.

Academic performance (CGPA) of majority (64.17 %) of the respondents had possessed second class while 35.83 per cent respondents had first class, whereas none of the respondents was found pass class and first class with distinction.

As far as scholarship holding by the respondent is concerned majority (55.83 %) of respondents reported that they got GOI scholarship, while 9.17 per cent and 5.00 per cent respondents holding other (NTS) and freeship, respectively.

The data with regard to respondent's overall attitude towards entrepreneurship are presented in Table 2. It was observed that majority (72.50 %) of the respondents had favourable attitude towards the entrepreneurship, while 21.67 and 5.83 per cent respondents had highly favourable and unfavourable attitude towards the entrepreneurship, respectively. It means majority of the respondents were having favourable attitude regarding entrepreneurship in future.

It is observed from Table 3 that annual family income, social participation, landholding, and academic performance were found positive and significant relationship with attitude towards

Table 2: Overall attitude of the respondents towards entrepreneurship

Attitude	Frequency	Percentage
Unfavourable (up to 102)	07	05.83
Favourable (103 to 127)	87	72.50
Highly favourable (128 and above)	26	21.67
Mean = 115		SD: 12

Table 3 : The relationship between the profile of the respondents and attitude towards entrepreneurship

Sr. No.	Characteristics	'r' value of attitude
1.	Annual family income	0.231*
2.	Gender	0.033 ^{NS}
3.	Social participation	0.253*
4.	Family type	0.111 ^{NS}
5.	Land holding	0.241*
6.	Family size	0.038 ^{NS}
7.	Family background	0.261 ^{NS}
8.	Academic performance	0.221*
9.	Scholarship	0.059 ^{NS}

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

entrepreneurship, whereas gender, family types, family size, family background and scholarship were shown non-significant relationship with attitude towards the entrepreneurship.

The higher is the annual family income of respondents, they have favourable attitude towards entrepreneurship. Those respondents having more social participation and land holding they were also having favourable attitude towards entrepreneurship.

The academic performance of the students plays a vital role in making the favourable attitude towards the entrepreneurship. Higher grade point (CGPA) students also felt to start the enterprise, instead of seeking job.

The suggestions of the respondents towards entrepreneurship development are presented in Table 4. It could be noticed from the table that high majority (98.33 %) of the respondents expressed that provide the student with an ideas to starts new business which was with first rank, 95.83 per cent of the

Table 4: Inviting suggestions towards entrepreneurship development (n=120)

Sr. No.	Suggestions	Respondents		Rank
		Frequency	Per cent	
1.	Create more awareness of entrepreneurship as a possible career choice	115	95.83	II
2.	Provide students with ideas to start a new business	118	98.33	I
3.	Offer a bachelor or master study on entrepreneurship	111	92.50	IV
4.	Offer project work focused on entrepreneurship	111	92.50	IV
5.	Arrange conferences / workshops on entrepreneurship	112	93.33	III
6.	Bring students in contact with the network needed to start a new enterprise	112	93.33	III
7.	Provide students with the financial means needed to start a new enterprise	110	91.67	V
8.	Brought entrepreneurial students in contact with each other	004	03.33	VI

respondents with II rank suggested that create more awareness of entrepreneurship as possible carrier choice. While 93.33 per cent respondents with III rank expressed that arrange the conferences / workshop on entrepreneurship and bring the students in contact with the network need to start new enterprise. While 92.50 per cent suggested that offer a bachelor or master study and project work focused on entrepreneurship. 91.67 per cent respondents also expressed that provide students with financial means needed to start a new enterprise and very meagre percentage (3.33 %) of the respondent suggested that brought entrepreneurial students in contact with each other, which was with the last rank of VI.

Conclusion :

The respondents had predominantly the profile as they were male, having rural background, medium annual family income, social participation, semi-medium land holding belonging to joint and medium size family, sought GOI scholarship and possessed second class in academic performance.

The personal characteristics such as annual family income, social participation, land holding and academic performance are directly influenced on making favourable attitude towards entrepreneurship.

Large majority of the respondents suggested that provide the students with new idea to start new enterprise.

Recommendation :

- According to the results of this research, target agricultural students had favourable attitude towards entrepreneurship. Therefore, it is recommended that entrepreneurship programmes for the students should be planned and held at colleges of agriculture seriously.
- There was favourable attitude towards entrepreneurship among agricultural students. Therefore, it is suggested that entrepreneurship courses must be taught with implant training.
- Creating more awareness of entrepreneurship, the students should be exposed to entrepreneurial thinking, supplemented with entrepreneurial behaviours and traits.
- Agricultural higher education institutions at least in Maharashtra should work as a hub, putting different types of students in contact with each other and helping in the establishment of bridges between potential entrepreneurs and entrepreneurship support organizations.
- It is recommended that hand-on seminars and workshops be held by inviting the agribusiness

practitioners and other professionals for agricultural students.

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