

## Training needs of rural women in clothing and textile

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### ABSTRACT

The present study was conducted to know the training needs of the women in the area of clothing and textiles. For this purpose, 100 rural women of Bharowal of Ludhiana district were selected. Data were collected through interview schedule. The response was recorded on three point scale *i.e.* most need, needed and not needed. Accordingly, score of two one and zero was assigned, respectively to calculate the mean score of each item. Training needs were studied in different sub areas of clothing and textiles *viz.*, training for preparation of detergents and soaps, dyeing and paining of fabrics, stitching of different garments and knitting and identification and care of different types of clothes etc. The study findings revealed that highest mean scores were found for stain removing, preparation of soaps and detergents, identification of different types of fabrics and their dyeing methods. Highest mean score indicated that rural women required more training in these sub areas of clothing and textiles. Lowest mean scores were observed in knitting, stitching and crocheting. The low mean scores in these areas may be due to the reason that rural women had already engaged in preparation of these articles. So, it is suggested that trainings may be imparted in the different sub-areas *viz.*, preparation of soaps and detergents, identification of different fabrics and their dyeing methods, so that they can adopt these as an enterprise.

**KEY WORDS :** Training needs, Clothing and textiles, Rural women

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Women play an important role in the clothing related decisions of the family. She is involved in different clothing related activities like purchasing clothes for the family members, their care and maintenance, stitching of garments, knitting etc. But as the time has changed, these women need to acquire new knowledge and skills to keep up with the changing scenario for which training is essential. Moreover, the stitching of garments, knitting of articles and preparation of soaps and detergents at home can contribute to the income of the family and reduce the heavy expenditure of the family. Training needs act as a motivating force for positive impact of training on its beneficiaries. So, in the present study, attempts were made to access the training needs of rural women in the area of clothing and textile with specific objectives. The objectives are as follows: to study the training needs of farm women in different sub-areas of clothing and textiles and to compare the different items of sub-areas of clothing and textiles.

### RESEARCH METHODS

A total 100 rural farm women of village Bharowal of Ludhiana district were selected for the study. Data were collected through interview schedule. The response

was recorded on three-point scale *i.e.* most needed, needed and not needed. To calculate the mean scores, different scores were assigned to responds categories that is 2, 1 and 0, respectively.

### RESEARCH FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

Training needs were studied in different sub-areas of clothing and textiles *viz.*, knitting and stitching of different garments, training for preparation of detergents and soaps, dyeing and printing of fabrics, identification of different fabrics and care of different types of clothes etc.

#### Training needs in knitting of different garments:

Perusal of Table 1 reveals that the training of knitting of socks secured highest mean score of 1.07 followed by knitting of muffler and sweater with mean score of 1.00 each. It was found that 56 per cent of the respondents reported no need of training for knitting of caps. Similarly, low training need was expressed for knitting of muffler and gloves by thirty seven and thirty six per cent of the respondents.

#### Training needs in stitching of different garments:

It is evident from the Table 2 that forty nine per cent

**Table 1: Distribution of the respondents according to their training needs in knitting of different garments (n=100)**

| Knitting of different articles | Most needed (%) | Needed (%) | Not needed (%) | Mean score |
|--------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Knitting of                    |                 |            |                |            |
| Purse                          | 30              | 30         | 40             | 0.90       |
| Gloves                         | 30              | 34         | 36             | 0.84       |
| Head cap                       | 21              | 23         | 56             | 0.65       |
| Head scarf                     | 32              | 35         | 33             | 0.99       |
| Socks                          | 37              | 33         | 30             | 1.07       |
| Muffler                        | 37              | 26         | 37             | 1.00       |
| Sweater                        | 30              | 40         | 30             | 1.00       |

of the respondents reported training need in stitching of female garments followed by stitching of kids garments (38%) and male garments (35%). It can be attributed to the facts that stitching can contribute to their family income. However, low mean score of 0.83 and 0.56 was found in training need of stitching of cushion covers and aprons, respectively. Hence, it can be concluded that there is a need to educate the rural women regarding importance of stitching of cushion covers and aprons so that they can adopt it as an enterprise.

**Table 2: Distribution of the respondents according to their training needs in stitching of different garments (n=100)**

| Stitching of different garments | Most needed (%) | Needed (%) | Not needed (%) | Mean score |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Stitching of:                   |                 |            |                |            |
| Apron                           | 11              | 34         | 55             | 0.56       |
| Cushion covers                  | 18              | 47         | 35             | 0.83       |
| Male garments                   | 35              | 31         | 34             | 1.01       |
| Female garments                 | 49              | 26         | 25             | 1.24       |
| Kids garments                   | 38              | 32         | 30             | 1.08       |

### Training needs for preparation of soaps and detergents:

It is apparent from the data presented in Table 3 that the respondents required relatively more training on preparation of soap, detergents and *Reetha* powder. Preparation of soap was placed at top with training need mean score of 1.59 followed by preparation of detergent and preparation of *Reetha* powder with training mean score of 1.56 and 1.28, respectively.

### Training needs for dyeing, printing and starching of fabrics:

The data presented in Table 4 pertain to the training

**Table 3: Distribution of the respondents according to their training needs for preparation of soaps and detergents (n=100)**

| Sub-items       | Most needed (%) | Needed (%) | Not needed (%) | Mean score |
|-----------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Preparation of: |                 |            |                |            |
| Soap            | 64              | 31         | 5              | 1.59       |
| Detergent       | 61              | 34         | 5              | 1.56       |
| Reetha powder   | 46              | 38         | 16             | 1.28       |

needs of the respondents for dyeing, printing and starching of the fabric. It was found that 47 per cent of the respondents reported dyeing as the most needed training with a mean score of 1.34 followed by printing with a mean score of 1.00. The requirement was low for starching of the fabrics as 55 per cent of the respondents felt no need for this. It can be attributed to the fact that rural people do not prefer such clothes that require this type of finishing.

**Table 4: Distribution of the respondents according to their training needs for dyeing, printing and starching of fabrics (n=100)**

| Sub-items | Most needed (%) | Needed (%) | Not needed (%) | Mean score |
|-----------|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Dyeing    | 47              | 40         | 13             | 1.34       |
| Printing  | 20              | 60         | 20             | 1.00       |
| Starching | 18              | 27         | 55             | 0.91       |

### Training needs for care of different clothes:

The Table 5 shows that the respondents needed the highest training on stain removing from clothes with a mean score of 1.61. However, training requirements on washing and care of clothes was moderate with a mean score of 1.19. This may be due to the reason that they are satisfied with their own traditional method of washing and care of clothes.

**Table 5: Distribution of the respondents according to their training needs for care of different clothes (n=100)**

| Sub-items                             | Most needed (%) | Needed (%) | Not needed (%) | Mean score |
|---------------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Washing and care of different clothes | 40              | 39         | 21             | 1.19       |
| Stain removing from clothes           | 64              | 33         | 3              | 1.61       |
| Home dry- cleaning of clothes         | 27              | 50         | 23             | 1.04       |

**Training needs for different types of embroideries and crocheting:**

It can be seen from Table 6 that respondents indicated more need of training of different types of embroideries with a mean score of 1.10 and forty per cent of the respondents did not find any need of crocheting design training.

**Table 6: Distribution of the respondents according to their training needs for different types of embroideries and crocheting (n=100)**

| Sub-items                       | Most needed (%) | Needed (%) | Not needed (%) | Mean score |
|---------------------------------|-----------------|------------|----------------|------------|
| Different types of embroideries | 35              | 40         | 25             | 1.10       |
| Crocheting design               | 26              | 34         | 40             | 0.86       |

**Training needs related to clothing and textiles:**

It is apparent from the data reported in Table 7 that items on stain removing from the clothes, preparation of soap and preparation of detergent were placed at first, second and third positions, respectively. Rank from 4 to 8 were accorded to dyeing, identification of different types

**Table 7: Relative position of different items of training needs related to clothing and textiles (n=100)**

| Sub-items                                    | Mean score | Rank |
|--|------------|------|
| Stain removing from clothes                  | 1.61       | 1    |
| Preparation of soaps                         | 1.59       | 2    |
| Preparation of detergent                     | 1.56       | 3    |
| Dyeing                                       | 1.34       | 4    |
| Identification of different types of fabrics | 1.34       | 4    |
| Preparation of Reetha powder                 | 1.28       | 5    |
| Washing and care of clothes                  | 1.19       | 6    |
| Home dry cleaning of clothes                 | 1.04       | 7    |
| Printing                                     | 1.00       | 8    |
| Embroideries and crocheting                  | 0.98       | 9    |
| Knitting                                     | 0.92       | 10   |
| Starching                                    | 0.91       | 11   |
| Stitching                                    | 0.78       | 12   |

of fabrics, preparation of *Reetha* powder, washing and care of clothes, and home dry cleaning of clothes, respectively. The bottom two items were related to starching and stitching of clothes. These findings are in tune with Kaur (1984) who reported that rural housewives required more information on stain removing from clothes and method of soap and detergent making.

**Conclusion and Recommendation:**

Lowest mean scores in knitting, stitching and crocheting may be due to the reason that rural women had already engaged in preparation of these articles.

Highest mean scores for stain removing, preparation of soaps and detergents, identification of different types of fabrics and their dyeing methods indicate that rural women are required more training in these sub-areas of clothing and textiles.

Training should be imparted to rural women in the different sub-areas like preparation of soaps and detergent and dyeing of clothes so, that they can adopt these as an enterprise.

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