



Research Article

## Constraints faced by the experts working at KVKs'

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**SUMMARY :** The expert system can play a major role in the dissemination and adoption of useful knowledge for agriculture. Some constraints perceived by experts working at KVKs, create problem for transfer of technology. Hence, the study was carried out with an objective to know the constraints faced by the experts working at KVKs' and to seek the suggestions to overcome the constraints. The study was made the Department of Extension Education, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari (Gujarat) during the year 2009-2010. Pre-structured questionnaire was used for data collection. It was observed that non-availability of vehicle for on campus training (67.30 per cent) was the main constraint perceived by the expert working at KVKs' and followed by lack of co-operation from colleagues (64.42 per cent), multifarious duty (59.63 per cent), and non-availability of need based and location specific research (55.77 per cent). The suggestions to overcome the constraints mentioned by the experts were availability of vehicle for on and off campus for training (63.46 per cent) organization of multifarious activities based on need and time (58.63 per cent) and recommendations on location specific conditions (57.79 per cent).

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**Key Words :**

Constraints, Experts and KVKs'

### **BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES**

Expert system can be a major tool for agricultural information dissemination for technology transfer from scientists to agricultural extension workers, different group of farmers, and private investors. Thus the expert system can play a major role in the dissemination and adoption of useful knowledge leading to economic growth and higher standard of living. They are not only the vehicles to apply experts' knowledge to particular problems, but they are potentially powerful learning resources also to help users to develop their own expertise (Ganeshan, 2003).

The expert system can be replicated in community development and can be kept at different KVKs' which can spread their wings to cover a major part of the country (Islam *et al.*, 2005).

This system technique has been emerging for the last two decades and its application has proliferated into the agricultural domain in a number of sub-areas like crop management with respect to time and method of application of irrigation,

fertilizer, etc. In short, they are excellent tools for transferring agricultural technology (Ramasubramanian, 2006).

In the present day, main functions of the KVKs' are to conduct training programmes, on-farm testing (OFT), Front line demonstration (FLD), and technology refinement. In the year 2008-09, KVKs' refined 520 technologies at 2,044 locations with 20,002 OFTs and 75,825 FLDs including various crops, livestock's and fishery. Moreover, 51,774 training programme were organized with 12,42,000 farmers, including rural youths while, 2,64,485 extension programme were organized involving 8,069,061 farmers, through which 5,102 improved livestock strains of dairy animals, piglets, goat, sheep were produced. In addition 2,258 demonstrations were also organized on various tools and implements related to tillage operation (Anonymous, 2008-2009). Hence, the present investigation was undertaken with an objective to study the constraints faced by the experts working at KVKs' and to seek the suggestions to overcome the constraints.

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## RESOURCES AND METHODS

Present investigation was undertaken in Dept. of Extension Education, Navsari Agricultural University, Navsari (Gujarat) during the year 2009-2010. Bearing in mind, the strength of SAUs, governments and non-government organization, the ICAR, New Delhi sanctioned 12 KVKs' to SAUs, 12 KVKs' to NGOs, while one was kept under ICAR. Considering the executing agency, attachment with SAUs and available working force at KVKs', all the KVKs' were purposely selected for the present study. Pre-structured questionnaire was used for data collection for this study.

## OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The reorganized KVKs' have been aimed at timely and speedy dissemination of latest agricultural technology to the farmers' fields. The experts of KVKs' serve as a link between research stations and farmers. They learn and updated their technical know how about latest agricultural developments from the research scientists via formal activities. For effective and efficient working at KVKs', the experts may experience several constraints. The information regarding constraints experienced in role perception and role performance by the experts working at KVKs' was gathered through open ended

questions. The opinions were collected and classified. The frequency of each constraint was converted into percentage and lastly ranked in ascending order. The data in context are presented in Table 1.

The data presented in Table 1 clearly indicate that the non-availability of vehicle for on campus training (67.30 per cent) was main constraint perceived by expert working at KVKs' and rank first, followed by the lack of co-operation from colleagues (64.42 per cent), multifarious duties (59.63 per cent), non-availability of need based and location specific research (55.77 per cent) insufficient funds to provide mini kits for demonstration (53.84 per cent) complex administrative procedure in sanction (51.92 per cent) poor linkage with SAUs scientists (49.04 per cent) lack of materials to arrange skill oriented training (48.70 per cent) insufficient audio-visual equipments (46.15 per cent) and inadequate fund for stationery used in publication (42.30 per cent).

The constraints affecting the job performance of experts were studied and discussed. To overcome the same constraints, the valuable suggestions were offered to improve their role perception and role performance. The information regarding suggestion offered by the experts to improve their role perception and role performance were gathered through open ended questions. The opinion in these regards were

**Table 1: Distribution of constraints perceived by experts working at KVKs'**

				(n=104)
Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	%	Rank
1.	Non-availability of vehicle for on campus training	70	67.30	I
2.	Insufficient funds to provide mini kits for demonstration	56	53.84	V
3.	Complex administrative procedure for sanction	54	51.92	VI
4.	Multifarious duties	62	59.63	III
5.	Inadequate fund for stationery used in publication	44	42.30	X
6.	Insufficient audiovisual equipments	48	46.15	IX
7.	Lack of materials to arrange skill oriented training	50	48.70	VIII
8.	Lack of co-operation from colleagues	67	64.22	II
9.	Non-availability of need based and location specific research	58	55.77	IV
10.	Poor linkage with SAUs scientists	57	49.04	VII

**Table 2 : Distribution of suggestions to overcome the constraints**

				(n=104)
Sr. No.	Constraints	Frequency	%	Rank
1.	Availability of vehicle for on and off campus training	66	63.46	I
2.	Sufficient fund should be provided in timely	57	54.81	V
3.	Simplification in administrative works	54	51.92	VI
4.	Multifarious activities based on need and time	61	58.63	II
5.	Available of required stationery	42	40.38	IX
6.	Good quality audio-visual material to be purchased	46	44.23	VIII
7.	Availability of skill oriented material in time	48	46.15	VII
8.	Authority should develop mutual understanding in staff	58	55.76	IV
9.	Location specific recommendation to be made	60	57.79	III
10.	Linkage should be strengthened	38	36.53	X

collected and classified. The frequency of each suggestion was converted into percentage and lastly ranked in ascending order. The data regarding suggestions to overcome the constraints are presented in Table 2.

The data of Table 2 clearly indicate that the suggestions to overcome the constraints mentioned by the experts were for the availability of vehicle for on and off campus training (63.46 per cent) ranked first followed by organizing multifarious activities on need and time based (58.63 per cent) and location specific recommendation should be made (57.79 per cent).

It was also considered essential that the authority should develop mutual understanding in staff (55.76 per cent), sufficient fund should be provided timely (54.81 per cent), simplification in administrative works (51.92 per cent) availability of skill oriented material in time (46.15 per cent) availability of good quality audio-visual material (44.23 per cent) availability of required stationery (40.38 per cent) and linkage should be strengthened (36.53 per cent).

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