



Effectiveness of modules in socio-economic upliftment of low income group rural families

■ Upasana Singh*, Sudesh Gandhi¹, Pragati Singh and R.K. Dular²

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tepla, AMBALA (HARYANA) INDIA

¹Department of Family Resource Management, Chaudhary Charan Singh Haryana Agricultural University, HISAR (HARYANA) INDIA

²Krishi Vigyan Kendra, GURDASPUR (PUNJAB) INDIA

(Email: upasanarathie@rediffmail.com, sggandhi3@gmail.com, harिताग्रिम@gmail.com, rkdular@gmail.com)

ARTICLE INFO :

Received : 30.03.2016

Accepted : 25.05.2016

KEY WORDS :

Upliftment, Socio-economic,
Low income group, Rural families

HOW TO CITE THIS ARTICLE :

Singh, Upasana, Gandhi, Sudesh, Singh, Pragati and Dular, R.K. (2016). Effectiveness of modules in socio-economic upliftment of low income group rural families. *Adv. Res. J. Soc. Sci.*, 7 (1): 142-145, DOI: 10.15740/HAS/ARJSS/7.1/142-145.

*Author for correspondence

ABSTRACT

In rural areas, low productivity of human labor, low output efficiency is a direct result of technological deprivation and lack of awareness regarding various skill based and economically viable small enterprises especially in low income group families. In India it is the prime focus point for the central government to launch various schemes in coming years for the people having low income so that India can achieve its Vision 2020 in time. Efforts are being made to develop various modules for use, which require large-scale popularization to reach the rural families for raising their income. An attempt has been made by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tepla, Ambala to develop suitable module and to provide entrepreneurial skills to the rural families through module who, in turn, could use this knowledge to earn their livelihood and improve the socio-economic status of a family. The present paper attempts to study the effectiveness of modules on socio-economic upliftment of low income group rural families. Trials were conducted on a sample size of 20 LIG rural families (10 in each Module). Module-I consisted of enterprises like: Back-yard Poultry, Goatary, Kitchen Gardening with Vermi-compost and Milch animals (Buffaloes). Module-II included Back-yard Poultry, Milch animals (Buffaloes) and Stitching, Embroidery with Craft work. Small economical package was provided to selected families. Technologies selected for assessment and refinement were skill oriented trainings on Stitching and Embroidery, Kitchen Gardening, Feed for Milch Animals and Back-yard Poultry birds, Low-cost *Khudda* (Poultry House) and distribution of birds etc. Results revealed an active participation of farm women in the above trainings. Income generation from different enterprises was assessed as; Stitching and Embroidery (Rs. 600/-p.m.), BYP (Rs. 60-70 p.m.), Kitchen Gardens and Vermi-compost (Rs. 40/- p.m.). Conclusively, Module-II was found to be better with performance indicator for income generation of Rs. 1344/- p.m. from BYP, dairy and stitching, embroidery along with craft work and improved the socio-economic status of LIG families. Hence, there is a greater need to popularize modules and impart necessary skills so that technology adoption is favored at large-scale for uplifting the socio-economic status of low income group rural families.

INTRODUCTION

Women in rural India play a major role in shaping the country's economy through their active participation in agriculture. At present, the women work force in agriculture and allied sectors is estimated at about 61 million which amounts to about 30 per cent of the total rural worker in the country. Studies have shown that Indian women work for about 14-16 hours a day to carry out the most arduous activities on farm and at home. The average area possessed by female headed household was only 0.58 ha, as per 43rd round NSS report, as against 1.18 of all rural households. About 25 per cent female headed household are usually unemployed. A higher percentage of unemployed women worker and lower land holding is an indication of their poor economic status. One of the main reasons of economic backwardness of rural women is their poor education.

Considerable work has been done to develop agriculture with major emphasis on technical and economic achievement. Very little attention has been focused on socio-cultural development especially gender issues. Important gender issues involved are often ignored. As a result, the technology development and transfer programmes have generally been carried out on the assumption that the technologies are either-neutral or the men are the main users and decision makers (Castillo, 1985). Women have quite different technological needs than men due to their different level of education, experiences, skills, physical stamina etc. Therefore, technology design if not relevant to the user's needs then transfer programmes will be ineffective unless these differences are recognized and acted upon.

In rural areas, low productivity of human labour, low output efficiency is a direct result of technological deprivation and lack of awareness regarding various skill based and economically viable small enterprises especially in low income group families. In India it is the prime focus point for the central government to launch various schemes in coming years for the people having low income so that India can achieve its Vision 2020 in time. Efforts are being made to develop various modules for use, which require large-scale popularization to reach the rural families for raising their income. An attempt has been made by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Tepla, Ambala to develop suitable module and to provide entrepreneurial skills to the rural families through module who, in turn,

could use this knowledge to earn their livelihood and improve the socio-economic status of a family. Keeping in view of the above present study was conducted with following specific objectives:

- To provide entrepreneurial skills to rural families.
- To develop suitable module for socio-economic development of the family.

MATERIAL AND METHODS

Krishi Vigyan Kendra conducted On Farm Trials (OFTs) in two villages of one block in Ambala district during the years 2006-08 with an aim to find out effectiveness of two different modules on socio-economic upliftment of low income group rural families. Trials were conducted on a sample size of 20 rural families *i.e.*, 10 in each module. Two modules were formulated by keeping in mind the women involvement in various household activities in villages which might be selected for small enterprises, thereby, raising income and social status of farm women.



Fig. A : Module-I Back-yard poultry, goatary, kitchen gardening with vermicomposting, milch animals (Buffaloes)



Fig. B : Module-II Backyard poultry, milch animals, stitching and embroidery with craft work

From a total sample of 20 rural families, 10 each were selected randomly in each module by keeping in mind the involvement of farm women in various income generating household tasks. To improve skill and knowledge of farm women about enterprises in two modules, various vocational trainings were organised and imparted on Stitching and Embroidery and Craft work, Back-yard Poultry, Goatary, Kitchen gardening, Dairy farming.

At the end of training programme, Back-yard Poultry birds (5 birds each women), vegetable seeds and worms were provided to farm women to start small enterprises. In case of milch animals, milk collection centre of Vita Plant was established in village where selling of milk was done by farm women (having atleast 2 milch animals) to get remunerative price of surplus milk. So after providing

small economical package to selected families in different modules (*i.e.*, Vegetables Seeds, Worms, BYP birds, Vocational Trainings etc.) a survey was conducted to study the effectiveness of two different modules on socio-economic upliftment of low income group rural families.

Technology selected for assessment and source of technology :

Technology selected in two modules for assessment :

Module-I:

- Skill oriented training on Back-yard Poultry, Goatary, Dairy and Kitchen gardening with Vermi-compost.
- With distribution of BYP birds to each farm women (*i.e.*, 5 birds each to 10 women) income generated from small enterprises per month.
- Remunerative price of surplus milk by establishment of Vita Milk Collection Centre.
- With distribution of seeds for Kitchen garden, nutritional and economics benefit of respondents.

Module-II:

- Distribution of BYP birds (5 birds each women) and income from enterprises.
- Remunerative price of surplus milk by establishment of milk collection centre.
- Income generated from stitching of garments and selling craft items. Skill based trainings were imparted.

Source of technology :

- BYP concept from IVRI, Izatnagar (Bareilly) and birds purchased from Central Poultry Development Organization, Chandigarh.
- Milk Collection Centre established with the help of Vita Dairy Plant, Ambala city.

Data collection :

Acceptability for the adoption of technology by rural women was studied after two months of its introduction. Data were collected regarding income generated per month from small enterprises and effectiveness of the two modules in raising socio-economic status of families.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The findings of the present study as well as relevant discussion have been presented under following heads :

Table 1 : Parameters assessed for income generation			
Module - I		Module - II	
Performance indicator	Income (per month)	Performance indicator	Income (per month)
BYP	Rs. 68/-	BYP	Rs. 63/-
Goat	Rs. 125/-	Buffaloes	Rs. 682/-
Kitchen garden with vermi-compost	Rs. 40/-	Stitching and embroidery with craft works	Rs. 600/-
Buffaloes	Rs. 708/-		
Total income	Rs. 941/-p.m.		Rs.1344/-p.m.

Socio-economic status of the selected families :

Prior to discussion on the main findings of the study, it would be appropriate to have deep insight about the profile of the respondents so that the findings of the study can best be interposed in the right perspective. Results revealed that maximum number of women were illiterate (60%) followed by the above primary education (35%). A large number of respondents were belonging to joint family system (80%). Moreover, majority of the respondents belonging to SC caste were having low income.

Effectiveness of modules for income generation :

Results revealed an active participation of farm women in skill based trainings on Stitching and Embroidery, Craft items, Dairy, BYP etc. Performance of two modules for income generation is given in Table 1.

Module II showed good results in improving socio-economic status of rural families :

Grouped enterprises in module II were effective in gaining income of farm women and their family.

Results revealed that with adoption of small economical package in modules, income generation from different enterprises was assessed as Stitching Embroidery (Rs. 600/p.m.), BYP (Rs. 60-70/p.m.), Dairy (Rs. 600-700/p.m.), Kitchen gardening (Rs. 40/p.m.) and goatary (Rs.125/p.m).

As module-II was found better on performance indicator of income generation of Rs. 1344/p.m. from Dairy, BYP and Stitching, Embroidery with Craft work and improved socio-economic status of LIG families.

Constraints identified :

- Distribution of small sample of BYP birds (5 birds to each family) affected in getting results in time. Mortality of birds reduced flock sizes.

- Longer duration required to obtain results from BYP and Goatry

Farm women participation and their reaction :

- Active participation of farmers in skill development training *i.e.*, Stitching embroidery and craft, BYP, dairy, kitchen gardening etc.
- Exposure visit and interaction with progressive unit of farm women.
- Selling of milk to milk collection centre of vita plant.
- Selling of eggs (BYP) in village @ Rs. 5-10/- each egg.
- Improve nutritional status and health of family by consuming vegetables of kitchen garden

Conclusion :

An active participation of farm women was observed in the skill oriented trainings. Module-II was found to be better with performance indicator for income generation of Rs. 1344/- p.m. from BYP, dairy and stitching, embroidery along with craft work and improved the socio-economic status of LIG families in comparison to Module-I consisting of enterprises like Back-yard Poultry, Goatary, Kitchen Gardening with Vermi-compost and Milch animals.

Hence, there is a greater need to popularize modules and impart necessary skills to rural women so that technology adoption is favoured at large scale for uplifting the socio-economic status of low income group rural families.

REFERENCES

Castillo, G.T. (1985). Women in rice farming system. IARI, Manila, Phillipins. Training Manual of the National Agricultural Technology Project on Empowerment of Women in Agriculture on Women Friendly Agricultural Technologies. January 22-24,2002.CIAE Bhopal, pp.12.

