



Research Article

Perception of women about activities of Adarsh Gaon Yojana

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SUMMARY : Adarsh Gaon Yojana has been implemented by the Government of Maharashtra State since 1992 with the aim of overall development of rural people with their active involvement. The study was conducted in Ambadvet village from Mulshi taluka of Pune district. From 458 women a sample of 230 women was selected randomly and data was collected from them by interviewing them personally. The study revealed that large majority of the women had medium level of perception about Adarsh Gaon Yojana. About 17.39 per cent of them had high level of perception.

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BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

Based on Gandhiji's philosophy of planning and philosophy that combines the conservation of nature with supportive social changes for sustainable development Adarsh Gaon Yojana was implemented by Govt. of Maharashtra. The idea was to bring an integrated development of villages in Maharashtra using Ralegan Siddhi as a model. Adarsh Gaon Yojana aims at encouraging the villages to become self sufficient and self-reliant by following the five principles- Nasbandi, Nashabandi, Charaibandi, Kurhadbandi, Shramdan and involving them in the watershed development programme with the assistance of N.G.O. and Govt. Department.

For the successful implementation of programme the participation of villagers is an important aspect. An increasing participation of women, who form half of the society, is extremely vital. The participation of women can be obtained only through creating clear understanding and perception about different aspects of programme. Hence considering the importance of perception, the study entitled perception of women about Adarsh Gaon Yojana was undertaken.

Objective:

To study the perception of women about

activities of Adarsh Gaon Yojana.

RESOURCES AND METHODS

The study was undertaken in a Ambadvet village in Mulshi taluka of Pune district from Maharashtra state. From 458 women a sample of 230 women was selected randomly and data was collected from them by interviewing them personally. Computation of score was carried out for each of the independent and dependent variable. Ex-post facto research design and statistical methods such as percentage, mean and standard deviation were used for the present investigation.

OBSERVATIONS AND ANALYSIS

The observations of the present study as well as relevant analysis have been summarized under the following heads:

Perception of women about the criteria for selection of village under Adarsh Gaon Yojana :

The data from Table 1 showed that all the women had no perception about the criteria for selection of village under Adarsh Gaon Yojana.

KEY WORDS :

Perception, Women,
Adarsh Gaon Yojana

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Table 1 : Perception of women about the criteria for selection of village under Adarsh Gaon Yojana

Sr. No.	Particulars about the statement	Level of perception, number and per cent			Mean score
		Clear	Partial	No	
1.	Location of village in a drought prone area	-	-	230 (100.00)	1.000
2.	Problem of water scarcity	-	-	230 (100.00)	1.000
3.	Irrigated area less than 30 per cent	-	-	230 (100.00)	1.000
4.	Population less than 4000	-	-	230 (100.00)	1.000
				Mean score	1.000

Perception of women about the resolutions taken by the gramsabha for inclusion of village under Adarsh Gaon Yojana:

It was observed from Table 2 that a large majority of the women had clear perception about following the five principles under Adarsh Gaon Yojana (76.09 %) and voluntary contribution of labour in Shramdan (70.43 %). Most of them had partial perception regarding bringing to notice any violation of the five principles and punishment for violating them. However, most of the women studied had no perception about grampanchayat resolution for implementing the programme (99.57 %), formation of village level co-ordination committee (98.69 %) and selection of N.G.O. (95.65 %). About two-third of them had no perception about selection of full time volunteer under Adarsh Gaon Yojana.

Perception of women about watershed development:

The data from table 3 indicated that most (96.09 %) of the women had partial perception about top priority given to

watershed development under Adarsh Gaon Yojana, about half of them had partially perceived that under watershed development soil and water conservation work is done (48.26 %) and it generates employment at local level (51.74 %). However, a large majority of the women had no perception regarding selection of N.G.O. for carrying out the watershed development work (83.04 %) and increase in the water level in wells due to watershed development (62.61 %).

Perception of women regarding the principle of kurhadbandi:

The data from Table 4 showed that most (81.30 %) of the women had clearly perceived that Kurhadbandi prevents unnecessary felling of trees, while about two-third (67.83 %) of them had partial perception that Kurhadbandi facilitate growth of natural vegetation, about half of them partially perceived that growth of trees increases precipitation (53.04 %) and it maintains the natural and ecological balance (50.43 %). Over three-fourth of the women had not perceived that Kurhadbandi increases the ground water level (71.30 %) and

Table 2 : Perception of women about the resolutions taken by the gramsabha for inclusion of village under Adarsh Gaon Yojana

Sr. No.	Particular about the Statement	Level of perception number and per cent			Mean score
		Clear	Partial	No	
1.	Following the five principles.	175 (76.09)	55 (23.91)	-	2.761
2.	Voluntary contribution of labour in Shramdan.	162 (70.43)	68 (29.57)	-	2.704
3.	Selection of Full time volunteer.	24 (10.43)	54 (23.48)	152 (66.09)	1.443
4.	Selection of N.G.O. for village development	7 (3.04)	3 (1.30)	220 (95.65)	1.074
5.	Formation of village level co-ordination committee.	2 (0.87)	1 (0.43)	227 (98.69)	1.022
6.	Grampanchayat resolution for implementing the programme.	-	1 (0.43)	229 (99.57)	1.004
7.	Bringing to notice any violation of the five principles.	1 (0.43)	201 (87.39)	28 (12.17)	1.883
8.	Punishment for violating any of the five principles.	1 (0.43)	217 (94.35)	12 (5.22)	1.952
				Mean Score	1.730

Table 3 : Perception of women about watershed development

Sr. No.	Particular about the statement	Level of perception, number and per cent			Mean Score
		Clear	Partial	No	
1.	Top priority to watershed development	2 (0.87)	221 (96.09)	7 (3.04)	1.978
2.	Watershed development through N.G.O.	3 (1.36)	36 (15.65)	191 (83.04)	1.183
3.	Soil and water conservation work through watershed development	8 (3.48)	111 (48.26)	111 (48.26)	1.552
4.	Increase in water level in the wells due to watershed development.	2 (0.87)	84 (36.52)	144 (62.61)	1.383
5.	Employment at local level through watershed development.	20 (8.70)	119 (51.74)	91 (39.56)	1.691
				Mean score	1.557

also increases natural resources (70.00 %). About half (52.61 %) of the women had not perceived that Kurhadbandi prevents soil erosion.

Perception of women regarding the principle of charaibandi:

It was observed from Table 5 that most (86.52 %) of the women had clearly perceived the meaning of Charaibandi, while majority of them had partially perceived that Charaibandi saves the manpower (68.70 %), animal gets a variety of fodder (67.39 %) and it avoids destruction of crops from stray animals (61.30 %). However, large majority of the women had no perception that Charaibandi increases the groundwater level (83.48 %), increases the utility of grazing animals (81.74 %), prevents the damage to natural resources (76.52 %), and it helps in growing variety of fodder grass (70.00 %). About half (55.22 %) of them had not perceived that Charaibandi prevents soil erosion.

Perception of women regarding the principle of nashabandi:

The data from Table 6 revealed that most (81.74 %) of the women had clearly perceived the meaning of nashabandi, while about half of them had clearly perceived that nashabandi minimizes altercations in the family and villages (56.52 %) and also checks the ill-effects of using intoxicants (53.91 %).

Majority of them had partially perceived that nashabandi makes one aware of his familial responsibilities (74.35 %), helps in utilizing human efficiency (73.04 %) and also saves the expenditure on intoxicants (61.74 %). The considerable large proportion of the women had not perceived that nashabandi establishes a sense of belonging in mutual matters (53.91 %) and nurses the social environment (39.13 %).

Perception of women regarding the principle of nasbandi:

About half of the women had clear perception that Nasbandi limits the size of family (59.13 %) and adopting Nasbandi is a voluntary effort (49.13 %). Majority of the women had partially perceived the aspects of Nasbandi viz. it prevents the division of land and property (79.57 %), helps in judicious use of financial resources (77.39 %), establishes a feeling of love and affection among the family members (62.17 %) and it brings the development in every individual member in the family (61.30 %). Nearly three - fourth (73.48 %) women did not perceived that efficiency of family member is properly utilized and about half of them had no perception that Nasbandi gives boost to national programme of population control (57.39 %) and it helps in avoidance of discords and disputes in the family (51.30 %).

Table 4 : Perception of women regarding the principle of kurhadbandi

Sr. No.	Particulars about the statement	Level of perception, number and per cent			Mean score
		Clear	Partial	No	
1.	Kurhadbandi prevents unnecessary falling of trees	187 (81.30)	43 (18.70)	-	2.813
2.	Kurhadbandi facilitates growth of natural vegetation.	74 (32.17)	156 (67.83)	-	2.322
3.	Natural vegetation prevents soil erosion.	7 (3.04)	102 (44.35)	121 (52.61)	1.504
4.	Growth of trees increases the ground water level.	2 (0.87)	64 (27.83)	164 (71.30)	1.296
5.	Growth of trees increases precipitation.	25 (10.87)	122 (53.04)	83 (36.09)	1.748
6.	Growth of trees maintains ecological and natural balance.	7 (3.04)	116 (50.43)	107 (46.52)	1.565
7.	Kurhadbandi increases natural resources.	17 (0.43)	68 (29.57)	161 (70.00)	1.3504
				Mean score	1.793

Table 5 : Perception of women regarding the principle of charaibandi

Sr. No.	Particulars about the statement	Level of perception, number and per cent			Mean score
		Clear	Partial	No	
1.	Ban on free grazing of animals	199 (86.52)	31 (13.48)	-	2.865
2.	Charaibandi helps in growing variety of fodder grass	-	69 (30.00)	161 (70.00)	1.300
3.	Animal gets a variety of fodder to feed upon	15 (6.52)	155 (67.39)	60 (26.09)	1.804
4.	Growth of grass prevents soil erosion	5 (2.17)	98 (42.61)	127 (55.22)	1.470
5.	Growth of grass prevents damage to natural resources.	-	54 (23.48)	176(76.52)	1.235
6.	Charaibandi avoid destruction of crops by stray animals	77 (33.48)	141 (61.30)	12 (5.22)	2.283
7.	Charaibandi helps in increasing ground water level	-	38 (16.52)	192 (83.48)	1.165
8.	Charaibandi saves manpower spent on cattle grazing.	27 (11.74)	158 (68.70)	45 (19.56)	1.922
9.	Charaibandi increases utility of grazing animals	-	42 (18.26)	188 (81.74)	1.183
10.	Charaibandi increases availability of compost	33 (14.35)	115 (50.00)	82 (35.65)	1.787
				Mean score	1.701

Table 6 : Perception of women regarding the principle of nahsabandi

Sr. No.	Particular about the statement	Level of perception, number and per cent			Mean score
		Clear	Partial	No	
1.	Nashabandi prohibits sale of alcoholic drinks	188 (81.74)	42 (18.26)	-	2.817
2.	Nashabandi saves expenditure on intoxicants	88 (38.26)	142 (61.74)	-	2.383
3.	Nashabandi properly utilizes human efficiency	17 (7.39)	168 (73.04)	45 (19.57)	1.878
4.	Nashabandi makes one aware of his familial responsibilities	59 (25.65)	171 (74.35)	-	2.257
5.	Nashabandi checks the illeffects of using intoxicants	124 (53.91)	106 (46.09)	-	2.539
6.	Nashabandi minimizes altercation in the family and village	130 (56.52)	100 (43.48)	-	2.565
7.	Nashabandi nurses the social environment	31 (13.48)	109 (47.39)	90 (39.13)	1.743
8.	Nashabandi establishes a sense of belonging in mutual matters	23 (10.00)	83 (36.09)	124 (53.91)	1.561
				Mean Score	2.218

Table 7 : Perception of women regarding the principle of nasbandi

Sr. No.	Particular about the statement	Level of perception, number and Percent			Mean score
		Clear	Partial	No	
1.	Carrying out family planning is a voluntary effort	113 (49.13)	107 (46.52)	10 (4.35)	2.448
2.	People are motivated for family planning	58 (25.22)	100 (43.48)	72 (31.30)	1.939
3.	Family planning limits the size of family	136 (59.13)	94 (40.87)	-	2.591
4.	Family planning helps in judicious use of financial resources.	15 (6.52)	178 (77.39)	37 (16.09)	1.904
5.	Family planning gives a boost to national programme of population control	2 (0.87)	96 (41.74)	132(57.39)	1.435
6.	Limited families develops each and every member of the family	24 (10.43)	141 (61.30)	65 (28.26)	1.822
7.	The efficiency of each member is properly utilized by limited families	5 (2.17)	56 (24.35)	169 (73.48)	1.287
8.	Limited families avoids division of land and property resources.	34 (14.78)	183 (79.57)	13 (5.65)	2.091
9.	Small families prevents discords and disputes	17(7.39)	95(41.30)	118 (51.30)	1.561
10.	A feeling of love and affection is established in small families.	33 (14.35)	143(62.17)	54 (23.48)	1.909
				Mean score	1.899

Table 9 : Distribution of women according to their level of perception

Sr. No.	Level of perception	Respondent women	
		Number (n=230)	Per cent
1.	Low (Score upto 93)	27	11.74
2.	Medium (Score 94 to 119)	163	70.87
3.	High (Score 120 and above)	40	17.39
Total		230	100.00

Perception of women regarding the principle of shramdan:

The data from Table 8 revealed that about four-fifth (80.43 %) of the women had clearly perceived that no remuneration is paid for shramdan and about half (50.87 %) of them had clearly perceived that shramdan involves public sanitation and other development activities. Most (80.87 %) of the women had partially perceived that shramdan fetches atmost pride to an individual and about half (55.22 %) of them partially perceived that shramdan gives joy of togetherness. The data further shows that most of the women had no perception that remuneration saved through shramdan is utilized for community welfare (88.70 %) and shramdan saves expenditure on labour (80.87 %). Majority (60.43 %) of them did not perceived that contribution through shramdan gains prestige and half (50.87 %) of them had no perception that shramdan

instills a spirit of co-operation and unity among the villagers.

Overall perception:

Table 9 indicated that large majority (70.87 %) of the women had medium level of perception regarding Adarsh Gaon Yojana. About 17.39 per cent of them had high level of perception. However, 11.74 per cent had low perception towards Adarsh Gaon Yojana.

Conclusion:

- Most of the women had a medium level of perception of Adarsh Gaon Yojana. All of them had no perception regarding criteria for selection of village under Adarsh Gaon Yojana.
- The women had no clear perception of the resolution

taken by gramsabha for inclusion of the village under the programme except the some concerning the five principles of the programme.

- The women had perceived that watershed development as one of the programme under Adarsh Gaon Yojana but did not have detailed knowledge about it.
- Most of them had a clear perception of meaning of Kurhadbandi, Charaiband, Nasbandi, Nashabandi and Shramdan but had no detailed knowledge about the benefits that they and their society would get by following these principles.

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