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Research Note

Infrastructural Facilities Development in Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Rajasthan-A Comparative Assessment

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Agriculture is the main stay of India's economy on which 70 percent of total population depends directly. Role of agricultural information in the production of food grains has been always critical, because farmer's are always want of new information/ technical know how. In this regard Govt. of India and States Government launched several transfer of technology programmes through which new advances in agricultural could be conveyed to farmers effectively.

To reduce this gap ICAR has also launched several TOT programmes and Krishi Vigyan kendra is one such schemes started in 1974. These Kendras are the grass-root level vocational training institutions designed for bridging the gap between the available technique at one end and their application for increased production at the other. The KVK project is sponsored by the ICAR and is implemented by (i) ICAR Research Institutions, (ii) State Agricultural Universities (SAUs) and (iii) Reputed Voluntary Organisations. Presently Majority of these are run by State Agricultural Universities followed by NGO and Research Institutes of ICAR. It has become a matter of common observation that while the KVK being run by NGOs are, by and large doing well, the performance of those under the ICAR Institutes and SAUs is relatively poor. This situation warrants a critical look into factors that make for the differences in performance of KVKs managed by ICAR Institutes, SAU, NGOs, so that necessary of believe measures may be taken to import the performance of KVKs. This necessitates empirical studies on the working of KVKs on a continuing basis. According, present study entitled "Training programmes of Krishi Vigyan Kendras in Rajasthan. An Analytical Study" was undertaken with specific objective "To Study the infrastructural facilities of Selected KVKs and its impact on their performance".

METHODOLOGY

The present study was undertaken by selecting Krishi Vigyan Kendras functioning in Rajasthan. The Rajasthan State was purposively scheduled as the setting for the present study as it is the only state which has a KVK in each district under different host institutions. The selection of KVKs for the study was based as their year of establishment, location, accessibility, host institute under which they are working. As per these criteria, four Krishi Vigyan Kendras were selected.

1.	ICAR Research Institute	KVK, CAZRI, Jodhpur
2.	NGO (Non-Governmental Organization)	Vidhya Bhawan KVK, Badgaon, Udaipur
3.	SAU (RAU, Bikaner)	1. KVK, Fatehpur-Shekhawati 2. KVK, Banswara

As per need of objectives of the study, the data were collected through in questionnaire Containing lists of items based on ICAR norms for starting a Krishi Vigyan Kendra. In accordance with norms, an index of infrastructural facilities was developed. The facility index was categorized into four sub-areas and weight age was awarded as per item available.The developed facilities of selected KVKs were recorded against the respective sub-heads.

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RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

For effective functioning of the institution, infrastructural facilities are pre-requisite. Better the facilities; more is the amount of work and achievement of targets. The facility index was categorized into four sub-areas namely buildings, land development, demonstration units, and equipment, machinery, vehicle. A summary of progress of infrastructural facilities developed at selected KVKs has been given in Table -1.

Sl.No.	Particulars	Krishi Vigyan Kendras			
A.	**Buildings**	**A**	**B**	**C**	**D**
1.	Office of training organizer	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	Office room	☐	☐	☐	☐
3	Class room (training hall)	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.	Room for Training Associates/Assistants	☐	☐	☐	☐
5.	Library –cum-information hall	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.	Laboratories	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.	Store	☐	☐	☐	☑
8.	Farmer's hostel	☐	☐	☑	☐
9.	Engineering workshop	☑	-	☑	☐
10.	Staff quarters	☐	☐	☐	☐
B.	**Land development**				
1.	Total land area (20ha)	☐	☐	☑	☑
2.	Area covered in building (2 ha)	☐	☐	☑	☑
3.	Area under demonstrations units (as per norms)	☐	☐	☑	☑
4.	Area under irrigation (total/half)	☑	☐	☑	☐
5.	Plain topography of land	☐	☐	☐	☐
6.	Boundary of farm	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.	Fertility status of soil (good)	☑	☐	☐	☐
8.	Irrigation channel (pucca)	☑	☐	☐	☐
9.	Land plotting	☐	☐	☑	☐
10.	Internal road/farm road	☑	☐	☑	☑
C.	**Demonstrations units**	☐	☐	☐	☐
1.	Crop unit	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	Horticulture unit	☐	☐	☑	☐
3.	Dairy unit	☐	☐	☑	☐
4.	Home science unit (lab)	☐	☐	☑	☐
5.	Fodder unit	☐	☐	☑	☐
6.	Fish farming unit	☑	☑	☑	☑
7.	Audio- visual unit	☐	☐	☐	☑
8.	Exhibition unit	☐	☐	☐	☐
9.	Poultry- unit	☑	☐	☑	☑
10.	Bee keeping/rabbitary/mushroom/vermin-culture/sericulture	☑	☐	☑	☐
D.	**Equipments, machinery, vehicle etc.**				
1.	Tractor	☐	☐	☐	☐
2.	Harrow	☐	☐	☐	☐
3.	Seed drill	☐	☐	☐	☐
4.	Thresher	☑	☐	☑	☐
5.	Sprayers	☑	☐	☐	☐

6.	Dusters	☐	☐	☐	☐
7.	Tubewell/ pumpset (diesel/electric)	☐	☐	☐	☐
8.	Jeep /mini bus	☐	☐	☐	☐
9.	Motorcycle	☑	☐	☑	☐
10.	Sprinkler/drip irrigation system	☐	☐	☐	☑
	Total facility	28/40	39/40	23/40	30/40

* KVK-A, Jodhpur, ICAR ☐ = Available KVK-B, Udaipur, NGO ☑ = Not available
KVK-C, Fatehpur, SAU KVK-D, Banswara, SAU

From Table 1, it is evident that the facilities developed, in selected KVKs were not alike and differ among one another. The score from the table 1 clearly indicates that KVK-B (KVK, Badagaon) a NGO-KVK got highest points in the facilities developed among selected KVKs, followed by RAU, KVK-2 (KVK, Banswara) 30/40.

When the score of individual KVK was converted into index, the difference in infrastructural facilities developed at KVKs become clearer Table 2.

Table 2. Infrastructural facilities index KVK wise.

Sl. No.	Krishi Vigyan Kendra	Facility index	Rank
1.	CAZRI, Jodhpur (ICAR)	70.00	III
2.	Badagaon, Udaipur (NGO)	97.50	I
3.	Fatehpur- Shekhawati (SAU)	57.50	IV
4.	Banswara (SAU)	75.00	II

From the above table, it is clear that KVK, Badgaon, Udaipur run by a NGO stood first in terms of infrastructural facilities developed. It got 97.50 point in facility index. This was followed by a SAU KVK, Banswara with 75 points, CAZRI KVK (ICAR) with 70 point and SAU KVK Fatehpur-shekhawati with 57.50 points, respectively. The results concluded that KVKs run by NGOs were better equipped than the KVK run by ICAR and SAUs. The reason lies in the fact that the NGOs KVKs are also getting additional fund from other sources in addition to fund from sponsoring agency. It is pertinent to report here that NGO KVK was run by Vidhya Bhawan Society, Udaipur, a NGO of repute, having broad network and international funding source. This might be the reason for better facilities of this KVK. This KVK was also involved in social work in additional to the KVK works. The results emphasized the need for better infrastructural facilities to all KVKs for the effective performance.

CONCLUSION

It is emphasized that better infrastructural facilities helped KVK trainers to organize effective trainings. Among the selected KVKs, NGO KVK stood first in terms of infrastructural facilities developed. It was followed by SAU KVK and ICAR KVK. There is an urgent need for better infrastructural facilities to all KVKs for effective performance.

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