



# **Impact of Vocational Training Courses Conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Punjab on Establishing an Enterprise**

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## **Authors' contributions**

*This work was carried out in collaboration between all authors. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.*

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## **ABSTRACT**

The attempts were made to assess the impact of vocational training courses conducted by Krishi Vigyan Kendras of Punjab on establishing an enterprise. All thirty long duration vocational training courses conducted by the Krishi Vigyan Kendras namely Bathinda, Ferozpur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur and SBS Nagar from 2009-2013 were taken up for the study. A sample of 140 trainees was drawn by applying probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling method and data were collected personally from the selected trainees by using an interview schedule. The findings of the study revealed that the highest adoption status was achieved by value added household products & preparation and garment construction & enrichment training courses with 1.44 & 1.36 mean scores respectively. The lowest mean score of Management of family resources (0.68) and fabric painting & preparation of household products (0.62) indicated the low adoption status of these training courses. Major reasons for non-establishment of an enterprise after receiving training from KVKs as reported by the highest percentage of trainees were financial constraints and high cost of equipments. It can be concluded that the marketing components and linkages related to establishing an enterprise

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should be an integral part of the vocational training programme. KVKs should provide suitable facilities in the form of resource centre to their trainees for reducing the cost of initial set up of enterprise.

*Keywords: Vocational training; annual income and enterprise.*

## 1. INTRODUCTION

During fifth five Year plan, the Indian Council of Agriculture Research (ICAR) introduced an advanced project by establishing *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* in the country for imparting vocational training to farmers, farm women, rural youth and its field level extension functionaries [1]. *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* are working under the administrative control and technical support of Directorate of Extension Education and State Agricultural University (SAU). *Krishi Vigyan Kendra* (Farm Science Centers) is an innovative science-based institution. The success of *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* is dependent upon the excellence of upskilling and training which helps people to develop self-reliance and maximizing their inherent potential and endeavor. *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* are acting as an information hub for the farmers or rural people [2]. The two main components of *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* training courses are the “skill training” and “need based training”. It provides initial training and continuing professional development to each individual and also helps to develop knowledge, skill and attitude about a particular form of employment among its trainees [3]. These vocational training courses help in income generation and establishing an enterprise to its trainees. It also provides flexible working hours according to the needs of home makers.

Entrepreneurship amongst women has been a recent concern. The emergence of women entrepreneurs and their contribution to the national economy is quite visible in India. Women Entrepreneurs may be defined as the women or a group of women who initiate, organise and operate a business enterprise. Women Entrepreneurs can not only contribute to the GDP, but can also play a key role in addressing societal challenges. The number of women entrepreneurs in India is relatively low due to their dual responsibility; traditional social norms and the established patriarchal structure mean that these women entrepreneurs have limited exposure to the outside world.

Hence, keeping this fact in view and importance of establishing an enterprise in mind the present

paper entitled ‘Impact of vocational training courses conducted by *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* of Punjab on establishing an enterprise’ was prepared with the following objective:

### 1.1 Objective

1. To assess the impact of vocational training courses of KVKs on establishing an enterprise in Punjab.
2. To find out the reasons of non-establishment of the enterprises by the trainees.
3. To develop a training module on best practices for the trainer.

### 1.2 Significance of the Study

The *Krishi Vigyan Kendra* is mainly concerned with imparting need based and vocational training to the farmers, farm women and farm youth. The prime aim of the study is to study the overall adoption status of various practices/technologies imparted during various training programme organized by the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*. The findings of the study will throw light on the impact of the training in terms of adoption status of practices imparted under various training courses at *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*. The study will also explore the reasons of adoption, non-adoption and discontinuance of each practice imparted under respective training course. Findings of the study will serve as a feedback for the administrators, extension scientists and trainers of the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* for to rectifying the weakness and shortcomings in planning and organization of future training programmes.

## 2. MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in purposively selected five *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* namely Bathinda, Ferozpur, Gurdaspur, Hoshiarpur and *Saheed Bhagat Singh* Nagar of Punjab state. These *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* represent the different Agro-climatic zones and Socio cultural divisions. All thirty long duration vocational training courses conducted by the selected *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*

from 2009-2013 were taken up for the study. The list of total 556 women trainees who had attended the selected vocational training courses organized during year 2009-2013 was procured from selected KVKs. Twenty five per cent of trainees were proportionately selected from each vocational training course, representing all selected training courses and the year. A sample of 140 trainees out of 556 women trainees was drawn for the study by applying probability proportional to size (PPS) sampling method. The data were collected personally from the respondents (women trainees) by the researcher through previously developed interview schedule. The impact of vocational training courses was assessed in terms of adoption status of the training course after receiving training from *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*.

### 3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### 3.1 Adoption Status of Different Vocational Training Courses

Mean score of the training course indicated its adoption status. The data in Table 1 revealed that the highest adoption status was achieved by value added household products & preparation and garment construction & enrichment training with 1.44 & 1.33 mean scores respectively, followed by 'Food & Nutrition' (1.24), 'Early childhood care and education'(0.97), 'Phulkari making'(0.95) and 'Income generating activities for empowering rural women'(0.85).

Further, the lowest mean score of Management of family resources (0.68) and fabric painting & preparation of household products (0.65) indicated the low adoption stats of these training courses.

#### 3.2 Level of Use of Training Courses Conducted by *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*

The data presented in Table 2 indicated the number of enterprises established by the selected trainees. It was surprising to notice that 87.86 per cent trainees who received training from *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* did not start any enterprise.

Only 12.14 per cent trainees were using the received training for establishing an enterprise. The findings are in line with [4]. They found that a only 13.3 per cent had adopted these training at the enterprise level.

#### 3.3 Reasons for Establishing, Non-establishing and Discontinuance of the Enterprise after Receiving Training from *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*

##### i) Reasons for establishing and discontinuance of an enterprise

The data presented in Table 3 revealed that only seventeen trainees from four KVKs i.e. *Saheed Bhagat Singh* Nagar, Bathinda, Ferozepur and Gurdaspur had started their enterprises while two trainees out of the seventeen trainees have discontinued the enterprise due to unavoidable family problem and health problem. Those trainees, who continued the enterprise till the date, were asked for the reasons for establishing an enterprise and the responses obtained are in Table 3.

Hundred per cent trainees reported all the reason listed for establishing an enterprise i.e. personal interest, encouragement by *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* expert during training, training provide employment to them, financial support by the family, it helped to make women financially independent and raising their standard of living etc.

In case of discontinuance of an enterprise, only two trainees had discontinued the enterprise after its establishment. Reasons revealed by them were the unavoidable family problem and severe health problem.

##### ii) Reasons of non establishment of an enterprise

Data inferred in Table 4 concluded that majority (87.86%) of the selected trainees were not started any enterprise after receiving training from the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*. They were using it at household level only. Major reasons for non-establishment of an enterprise as reported by the trainees (47.15%) were financial constraints and high cost of equipments (33.33%). The findings are in line with the results of [5], he found that major problems for establishing the enterprise were non-availability of long-term finance and proper marketing. They were financially weak and were unable to start an enterprise although majority of them were interested in it.

Twenty nine per cent of trainees got married just after the completion of their training and their

in-laws didn't allow them to start an enterprise. In other words, they were unable to start and sustain their enterprise because they got married. Similar findings of the study were reported by Nazir et al. [6]. They revealed that few of the women respondents discontinued their enterprise after adoption just because they got married and were not allowed by their in-laws to continue with their enterprise.

While 27.64 per cent and 26.02 per cent trainees stated that non cooperation from the family and unwillingness of the family to spare money on a new business were the major reasons for not starting an enterprise, whereas reason for 20.33 per cent was the lack of proper guidance to start an enterprise by the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* and the family. Other reasons that were quoted by the trainees for not establishing an enterprise were lack of technical know-how (16.26%), lack of awareness (13.82%), lack of confidence (13.01%), didn't want extra burden (8.13%), health problem (8.13%) and 3.25 per cent for each unprofitable due to limited income and adopted practices didn't provide any additional income. These findings are in conformity with the observations of [7], they reported that the attitude of women towards entrepreneurial option was regressive due to lack of information and experience which makes it very difficult for them to select the location, market the product and tackle other production related problems.

When the data were viewed KVK wise, the financial constraint was the major reason for not starting an enterprise as reported by the trainees of KVK Gurdaspur (60.00%), Ferozepur (56.25%) and Bathinda (50.00%).

It can be concluded that most of the trainees were financially weak and due to financial constraints they were unable to start an enterprise.

### 3.4 Annual Increase in Income of the Respondents after Starting an Enterprise

The trainees were asked about the increase in their annual income by starting an enterprise after the completion of their training course at *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*. The data in Table 5 revealed that maximum annual increase was found in stitching followed by value addition, *Phulkari* making and Fabric painting. The findings are in line with [6]. They revealed that training of KVK on cutting and tailoring had increased the economic status of the trainees as well as their families.

It can be concluded that adoption of practices imparted under different training courses had increased the income of the trainees. The results are also supported by Sharma [8] she concluded that after getting training from *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* in Punjab, women had increased their income by adopting improved practices.

**Table 1. Adoption status of different vocational training courses**

Name of vocational training courses	No. of practices imparted under each training course	Total of mean scores of all practices of each training course	Mean score of training
Value added household products preparation	6	8.63	$\frac{8.63}{6} = 1.44$
Garment Construction & Enrichment	11	14.6	$\frac{14.6}{11} = 1.33$
Food & Nutrition	22	27.25	$\frac{27.25}{22} = 1.24$
Early childhood care & education	9	8.75	$\frac{8.75}{9} = 0.97$
<i>Phulkari</i> making	6	5.72	$\frac{5.72}{6} = 0.95$
Income generating activities for empowering rural women	5	4.25	$\frac{4.25}{5} = 0.85$
Management of family resources	21	14.39	$\frac{14.39}{21} = 0.68$
Fabric painting & preparation of household products	17	11.09	$\frac{11.09}{16} = 0.65$

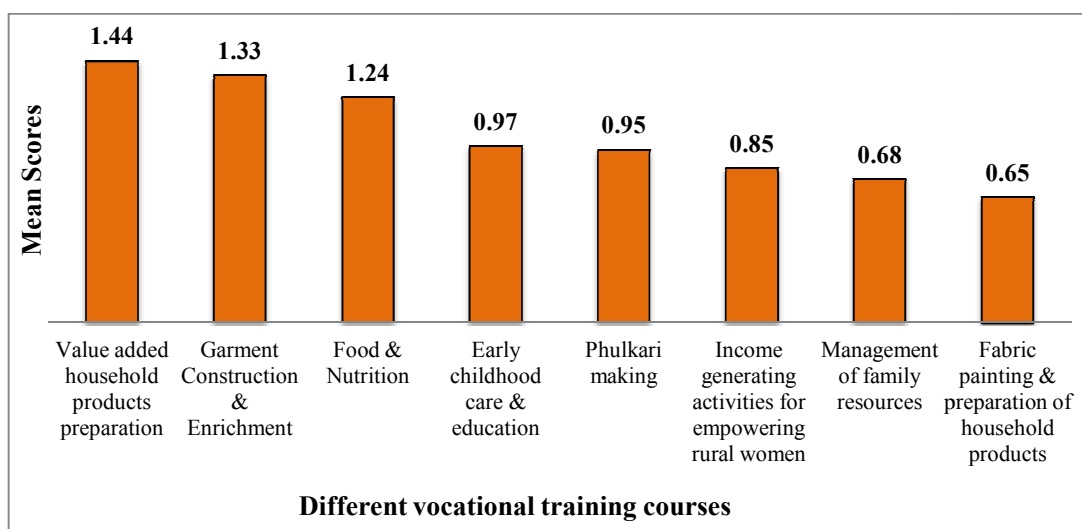


Fig. 1. Adoption status of different vocational training courses

Table 2. Distribution of the respondents according to the establishment of an enterprise after receiving training from the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*

Level of use	n=140					
	Hoshiarpur (n <sub>1</sub> =50)	SBS Nagar (n <sub>2</sub> =36)	Gurdaspur (n <sub>3</sub> =21)	Ferozepur (n <sub>4</sub> =17)	Bathinda (n <sub>5</sub> =16)	Total f (%)
	f (%)	f (%)	f (%)	f (%)	f (%)	
Establish enterprise	-	9 (25.00)	1 (4.76)	1 (5.88)	6 (37.5)	17 (12.14)
Not establish enterprise	50 (100)	27 (75.00)	20 (95.24)	16 (94.12)	10 (62.5)	123 (87.86)

Table 3. Reasons for establishment and discontinuance of an enterprise after receiving training from the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras*

Reasons for establishment of an enterprise (n <sub>1</sub> =15)	n=17				
	SBS Nagar (n <sub>1.1</sub> =9)	Gurdaspur (n <sub>2.1</sub> =1)	Ferozepur (n <sub>3.1</sub> =1)	Bathinda (n <sub>4.1</sub> =6)	Total f (%)
	f (%)	f (%)	f (%)	f (%)	
Personal interest	9(100)	1(100)	1(100)	4 (100)	15 (100)
Encouragement during training	9(100)	1(100)	1 (100)	4 (100)	15 (100)
Provide employment to others	9(100)	1(100)	1(100)	4 (100)	15 (100)
Financial support to the family	9(100)	1(100)	1(100)	4 (100)	15 (100)
To become financially independent	9(100)	1(100)	1(100)	4 (100)	15 (100)
Augment of the standard of living	9(100)	1(100)	1(100)	4 (100)	15 (100)
Create jobs for others	9(100)	1(100)	1(100)	4 (100)	15 (100)
Build confidence and self reliance					
Reasons for discontinuance of an enterprise (n <sub>2</sub> =2)					
Health and family problem	-	-	-	2 (100)	2 (100)

\*Multiple response

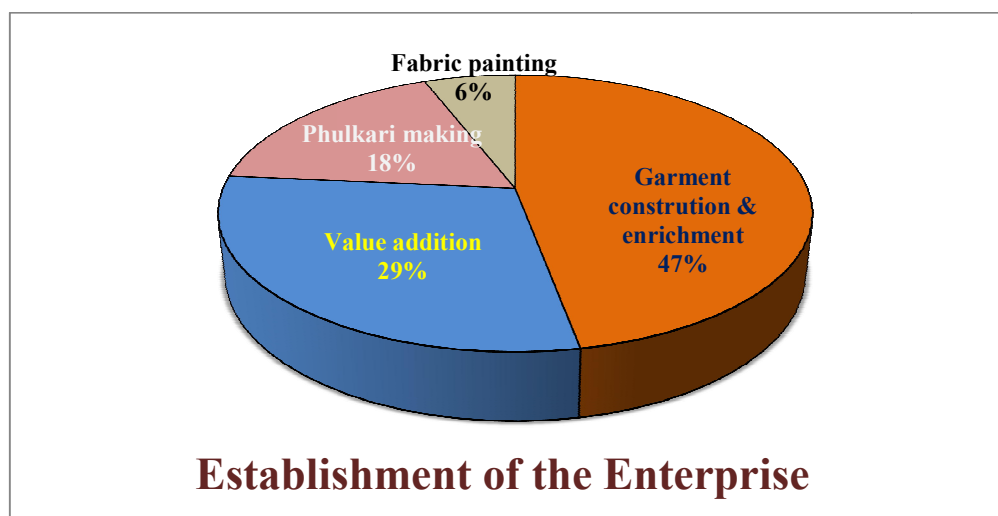
**Table 4. Reasons for non establishment of an enterprise after receiving training from the *Krishi Vigyan Kendras***

Reasons	n=123						Ranking
	Hoshiarpur	SBS Nagar	Gurdaspur	Ferozepur	Bathinda	Total	
	(n <sub>1</sub> =50) f (%)	(n <sub>2</sub> =27) f (%)	(n <sub>3</sub> =20) f (%)	(n <sub>4</sub> =16) f (%)	(n <sub>5</sub> =10) f (%)	f (%)	
Financial Constraint	18 (36.00)	14 (51.85)	12 (60.00)	9 (56.25)	5 (50.00)	58 (47.15)	1
High material cost to start the enterprise	15 (30.00)	12 (44.44)	10 (50.00)	2 (12.5)	2 (20.00)	41 (33.33)	3
Lack of proper guidance	2 (4.00)	10 (37.04)	9 (45.00)	3 (18.75)	1 (10.00)	25 (20.33)	7
Lack of confidence	-	7 (25.93)	7 (35.00)	1 (6.25)	1 (10.00)	16 (13.01)	10
Non-cooperation from the family	10 (20.00)	10 (37.04)	6 (30.00)	7 (43.75)	1 (10.00)	34 (27.64)	5
Shortage of time	12 (24.00)	9 (33.33)	12 (60.00)	13(81.25)	3 (30.00)	49 (39.84)	2
Lack of awareness	-	6 (22.22)	5 (25.00)	4 (25.00)	2 (20.00)	17 (13.82)	9
Health problem	2 (4.00)	-	1 (5.00)	7 (43.75)	-	10 (8.13)	11.5
Family doesn't want to spend money	9 (18.00)	10 (37.04)	6 (30.00)	6 (37.5)	1 (10.00)	32 (26.02)	6
Unprofitable due to limited income	-	1 (3.70)	1 (5.00)	2 (12.5)	-	4 (3.25)	13.5
Practices adopted do not provide additional income	1 (2.00)	-	1 (5.00)	2 (12.5)	-	4 (3.25)	13.5
Lack of technical know how	1 (2.00)	7 (25.93)	9 (45.00)	2 (12.5)	1 (10.00)	20 (16.26)	8
Don't want extra burden	1 (2.00)	1 (3.70)	-	8 (50.00)	-	10 (8.13)	11.5
Got Married	29 (58.00)	3 (11.11)	1 (5.00)	1 (6.25)	2 (20.00)	36 (29.27)	4

\*Multiple Response

**Table 5. Annual increase in income of the respondent after starting an enterprise**

Name of the vocational training courses	<i>Krishi Vigyan Kendras</i>				Total (%)
	SBS Nagar (n <sub>1</sub> =36) f	Gurdaspur (n <sub>2</sub> =21) f	Ferozepur (n <sub>3</sub> =17) f	Bathinda (n <sub>4</sub> =16) f	
<b>Stitching (n<sub>1</sub>=8) (Rs.)</b>					
Less than 60000	1	-	1	3	5 (29.41)
60001-120000	-	-	-	2	2 (11.76)
120001-180000	-	-	-	1	1 (5.88)
<b>Value addition (n<sub>2</sub>=5)</b>					
1000-4000	3	-	-	-	3 (17.65)
4001-8000	-	-	-	-	
8001-12000	2	-	-	-	2 (11.76)
<b>Phulkari making (n<sub>3</sub>=3)</b>					
1000-6000	1	-	-	-	1 (5.88)
6001-12000	1	-	-	-	1 (5.88)
12001-18000	1	-	-	-	1 (5.88)
<b>Fabric painting &amp; preparation of household products (n<sub>4</sub>=1)</b>					
24000	-	1	-	-	1 (5.88)

**Fig. 2. Total number of enterprises established**

#### 4. CONCLUSIONS

Management of family resources had the low adoption status. Management of family resources is the need of hour. Therefore, there is need to explore the reasons for non-adoption and discontinuance of the recommended practices imparted under this course. Major reasons for non-establishment of an enterprise as reported by the trainees were financial constraints and high cost of equipments. Therefore, marketing components and linkages related to establishing

an enterprise should be an integral part of the vocational training programme. KVKs should provide suitable facilities in the form of resource centre to their trainees for reducing the cost of initial set up of enterprise. The study was limited to the those trained women who had received the training course from session 2009-2013 at selected *Krishi Vigyan Kendra* of Punjab State only. The conclusions are based on the data provided by the respondents. Therefore, the validity and reliability of data depend upon the honesty with which information was provided by

the respondents. A comparative study on *Krishi Vigyan Kendras* of different states can be planned.

### COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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