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Dr. Deepanka
Ex PG Scholar, Department of
Veterinary and Animal
Husbandry Extension, College
of Veterinary Science, and
Animal Husbandry, Pandit
Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu
Chikitsa Vigyan
Vishwavidyalaya Evam, Go
Anusandhan Sansthan,
(DUVASU) Mathura, Uttar
Pradesh, India

Corresponding Author:
Dr. Deepanka
Ex PG Scholar, Department of
Veterinary and Animal
Husbandry Extension, College
of Veterinary Science, and
Animal Husbandry, Pandit
Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Pashu
Chikitsa Vigyan
Vishwavidyalaya Evam, Go
Anusandhan Sansthan,
(DUVASU) Mathura, Uttar
Pradesh, India

Case study: Effect of literacy on social participation

Dr. Deepanka

Abstract

The present study was conducted on 120 women dairy farmers selected from 8 villages of Mathura district to assess the level of entrepreneurial behavior of dairy farmers. The data were collected through pre-tested structured interview schedule by holding personal interview with the dairy farmers during 2016-17. The result revealed that 36.67 per cent were primary, 30.00 per cent were middle level education, 15 per cent were illiterate, 12.5 per cent were secondary passed, 3.3 per cent were higher secondary and just 2.50 per cent were having graduate degree or above educational qualification. In case of social participation the result revealed that 62.50 per cent respondents had no social participation, 25.83 percent had participation in one organization and 11.67 percent had participation in more than one organization. Similar results were found in Lawrence and Ganguli (2012) and Patel (2013). This could be a main reason for medium to low (37.48 percent) participation in any organization. Also due to the presence of less number of self help groups and economic organizations in the study are, 36.50 percent respondents had participation with one or more organization.

Keywords: Education, social participation, dairy farmers, women, primary education, secondary education

Introduction

Education also plays important role in the overall development of human race as it broadens the horizons of the people and simultaneously brings about a change in the knowledge, skills, attitudes and ultimately the behaviour of human beings. It is one of the important elements which effects the growth and economical development of the farmer and its livestock enterprises. Social participation means that those activities in which the participants are involved in for getting source of information, or social organization as a member or office bearer.

Methodology

This study was conducted in Mathura district of Uttar Pradesh which is purposively selected for the study. Mathura geography has a major influence on its climate and topography. Mathura lies between the coordinates 27°41'North latitude and 77° 41 ' East longitudes. This city in Uttar Pradesh is located on the beautiful banks of the river Yamuna. Mathura, popularly known as Brajbhoomi, is 145 km south of the capital city, New Delhi. The holy city is just 50 km from Agra, where the beautiful Taj Mahal is located. Total population of Mathura district is 2,541,894 in which 70.32 per cent rural population and 29.68 per cent urban population and constitutes 1.27 percent of total population of Uttar Pradesh Mathura was an economic hub, located at the junction of important caravan routes. Today, it is a fast expanding city with over 2.5 million residents. Mathura has been divided into four tehsils and ten Blocks with Geographical Area of 3340 Sq Km. Mathura had 89 Nyaya Panchayat 479 Gram Panchayats and 736 Revenue villages. The study was conducted during 2016-2017, to know the personal and socio-economic characteristics and extent of adoption of recommended improved dairy management by the practices by the farmers. 8 villages were selected from the district randomly. From each village 15 respondents were selected on random sampling techniques, thus the total sample constituted for the study was 120. The information was gathered from the respondents personally using pre tested structured interview.

Education

It refers to level of formal education attained by an individual respondent. The scoring was done as per the procedure followed by Somasundaram (1995) [6].

SL. No.	Category	Score
1.	Illiterate	0
2.	Primary	1
3.	Middle	2
4.	Secondary	3
5.	Higher Secondary	4
6.	Graduate and above	5

Social Participation

The respondents were assigned score two for participation in more than one organization, score one for participation in any one organization and zero for no participation. Based on the total score obtained by the respondents, the respondents were classified as follows –

SL. No.	Category	Score
1.	No participation	0
2.	Participation in one organization	1
3.	Participation in more than one organization	2

Results and Discussion

Education

The results presented in Table 1 shows that nearly 36.67 and 30.00 per cent of respondents had primary and middle level of education. It was observed that only 18.30 per cent of respondents were above the secondary education or above educational qualification.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their education (n= 120)

SL. No	Variable	Category	Frequency	Percentage
2.	Education	Illiterate	18	15.00
		Primary	44	36.67
		Middle	36	30.00
		Secondary	15	12.50
		Higher secondary	4	3.33
		Graduate and above	3	2.50

Social participation

The results in Table 2 reveals that 62.50 per cent respondents had no social participation, 25.83 percent had participation in one organization and 11.67 percent were having participation in more than one organization. Absence of self help group and various economic and social organization leads to no social participation of respondents as their source of information is generally personal localite, family members, relatives, friends, and local leaders.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their social participation (n=120)

SL. No.	Variable	Categories	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Social Participation	No participation	75	62.50
		Participation in one organization	31	25.83
		Participation in more than one organization	14	11.67

Conclusion

It was revealed that majority of the respondents have primary to middle level of education but the literacy rate is higher than the average literacy rate of Uttar Pradesh. Women were mainly confined to household activities as dairying is one of the activities which is adopted by the farmers. Their source of information is family members, relatives and successful entrepreneurs of their village only. This could be a main reason for medium to low (37.48 percent) participation in any organization. Also due to the presence of less number of self help groups and economic organizations in the study are, 36.50 percent respondents had participation with one or more organization. Presence of more number of institutes will lead to more social participation.

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