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Research Article

Utility and Coverage of Vocational Training of Eco-Friendly Articles

Twinkle[1*], Kusum Rana[2] and Kiran Singh[3]

[1]PhD Scholar, [2]Principal Extension Specialist, [3]Professor

Department of Family Resource Management,

CCS Haryana Agricultural University, Hisar, Haryana, India

*Corresponding Author E-mail: twisangwan@gmail.com

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ABSTRACT

Education plays a crucial role in nation-building of a country. For the overall national development and economic growth of a country, it is imperative that the youth are imparted suitable knowledge and skills. Skill Development is to develop a workforce empowered with the necessary and constantly upgraded skills, knowledge and internationally recognized qualifications to add access to decent employment and ensure India's competitiveness in the dynamic global market. The study was conducted in four villages of Jhajjar and Hisar districts of Haryana state purposively. Ten different eco-friendly and utility articles were prepared and preferences by the experts were taken on the basis of ease in preparing, marketability, cost effective, high utility, latest design and acceptability and finally five items were selected. A batch of enthusiastic and willing 25-30 rural women willing to participate and start their enterprise after acquiring skill by attending vocational training programme on eco-friendly decorative and utility items for home and festivals were selected. Training utility was measured by getting the response on three point continuum i.e. very useful (VU), useful (U) and undecided (UD) with score assigned as 3, 2, 1 respectively. Similarly training coverage was measured with the help of instrument developed for the study and response of trainees were taken on three point continuum i.e. wide coverage (WC), partial coverage (PC), marginal coverage (MC) scores of 3, 2, 1 respectively. Weighted mean score and ranks were used for estimating of data related to utility, coverage, constraint and knowledge. Utility and coverage of subject matter related to various trainings was found to be of high utility and wide coverage by the women respondents. The trainings were found to be very useful with high coverage this was because of the fact that the vocational trainings were specialized to subject matter and thorough practical trainings were imparted. Trainings were imparted through demonstration, lectures and hands-on-experience in order to enable them to prepare items, do their value addition, packaging and explore markets for income generation.

Keywords: *Skill development, Utility, Coverage, Knowledge, Eco-friendly articles.*

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INTRODUCTION

Education plays a crucial role in nation-building of a country. For the overall national development and economic growth of a country, it is imperative that the youth are imparted suitable knowledge and skills. The Indian education system, therefore, aptly recognizes the role of vocational education in academic curriculum. Vocational education or skill-based education, based on occupation and employment, is therefore, need of the hour for each and every country (Kaushik, 2014). The objective of Skill Development is to develop a workforce empowered with the necessary and constantly upgraded skills, knowledge and internationally recognized qualifications to add access to decent employment and ensure India's competitiveness in the dynamic global market. 'Make in India' launched by Hon'ble PM on 25th September, 2014 further aims at increasing the productivity and employability of workers with respect to wages and self-employment both in the organized and the unorganized sectors (Prasad et al., 2017). Skill India, a flagship campaign of Govt. of India was launched on 15th July, 2015 with the main objective to skill the youth of the country in such a way so that they get employment and also improve entrepreneurship. It aims at providing training and skill development to 500 million youth of our country by 2020, covering each and every village.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

The study was conducted in four villages of Jhajjar and Hisar districts of Haryana state purposively. Ukhalchana Kot (V1) and Badhani (V2) villages were selected form Jhajjar and Mangali (V3) and Gawad (V4) villages were selected from Hisar for the present study.

Ten different eco-friendly and utility articles were prepared and preferences by the experts were taken on the basis of ease in preparing, marketability, cost effective, high utility, latest design and acceptability and finally five items were selected.

A batch of enthusiastic and willing 25-30 rural women willing to participate and start their enterprise after acquiring skill by attending vocational training programme on eco-friendly decorative and utility items for home and festivals were selected. Ten different value added eco-friendly decorative and utility items were prepared on the basis of ease and acceptability of respondents and further they were evaluated by 10-15 experts on 3 point continuum scale i.e. most preferred, preferred, least preferred. Finally 5 items with highest ranking were selected for imparting training for rural women. Five days vocational training on eco-friendly decorative and utility items for home and festivals were imparted to women in selected villages through demonstration, lectures and hands-on-experience in order to enable them to prepare items, do their value addition, packaging and explore markets for income generation.

Training utility was measured by getting the response on three point continuum i.e. very useful (VU), useful (U) and undecided (UD) with score assigned as 3, 2, 1 respectively. Similarly training coverage was measured with the help of instrument developed for the study and response of trainees were taken on three point continuum i.e. wide coverage (WC), partial coverage (PC), marginal coverage (MC) scores of 3, 2, 1 respectively. Weighted mean score and ranks were used for estimating of data related to utility, coverage, constraint and knowledge.

RESULTS

Preferences regarding eco-friendly and utility articles for imparting trainings:

Table-1 depicts the preferences by the experts (KVK Scientists, Home Science teachers and housewives) of eco-friendly and utilities items. The results revealed that most preferred item was jute multi-purpose bag with highest rank (Rank I) with weighted mean score of (3.0) followed by jute bottle cover (Rank II) with weighted mean score (2.9), diya and wall hanging both were ranked III with same weighted mean score (2.8). Similarly, the next rank (Rank IV) were given to thali followed by gel candles (Rank V), wax candles (Rank VI), small fancy jute bags (Rank VII), diya holders

(Rank VIII) and last preferred item was underutilized bag (Rank IX). The items were preferred on the basis of marketability, cost effectiveness, ease in preparing, utility etc.

Table 1: Preferences by the experts for imparting trainings

Sr. No.	Items	Most preferred	Preferred	Least Preferred	W.M.S.	Rank
1.	Jute Multi-purpose bag	10	-	-	3.0	I
2.	Jute bottle cover	9	1	-	2.9	II
3.	Small fancy jute bag	4	6	-	2.4	VII
4.	Underutilized bag	-	2	8	1.2	IX
5.	Diya	8	2	-	2.8	III
6.	Diya holder (CD)	3	5	2	2.1	VIII
7.	Thali	7	3	-	2.7	IV
8.	Gel candles	7	2	1	2.6	V
9.	Wax candles	6	3	1	2.5	VI
10.	Wall hanging	8	2	-	2.8	III

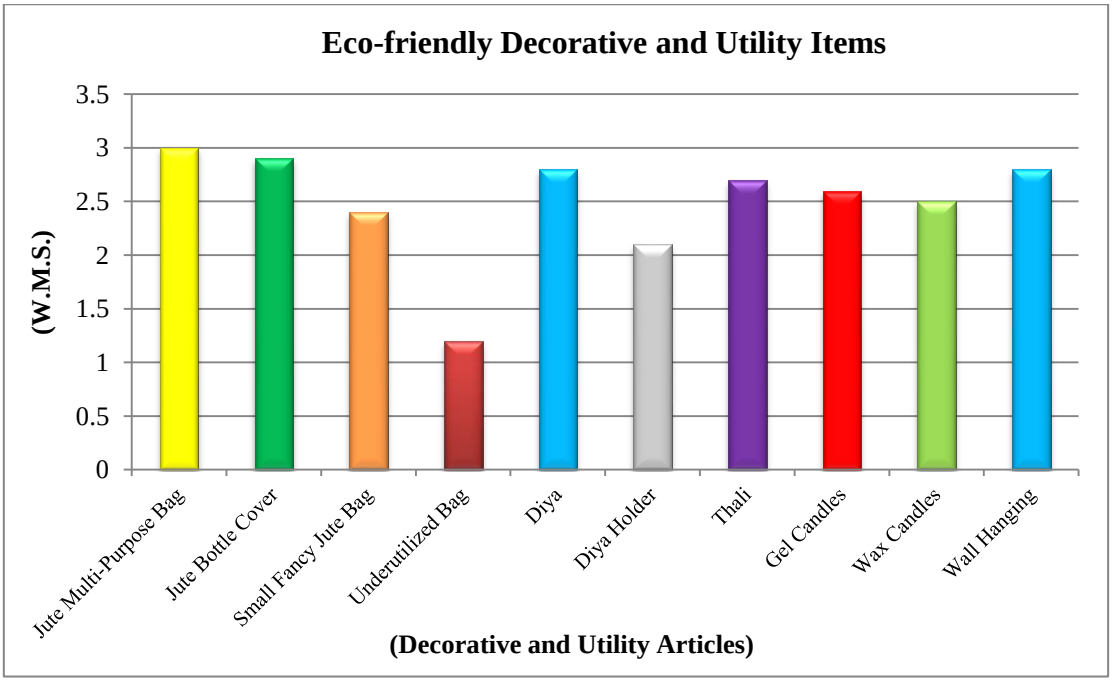

Fig. 1: Preferences regarding eco-friendly and utility items for imparting trainings

Utility of subject matter related to various trainings by respondents:

The data in Table25 indicate that the vocational training programme organized for imparting training on eco-friendly and utility articles were very useful to the respondents. Table-2 point outs that in preparation of eco-friendly items, drafting, cutting and stitching of jute bottle cover were very useful to the respondents with Rank-I followed by decorative thalis (Rank II), drafting, cutting and stitching of jute multi-purpose bags (Rank III), wall hanging (Rank IV), wax and gel candles shared the same rank (Rank V), decorative diya holders (Rank VI). In case of embellishment techniques, use of waste material for embellishment (Rank I), screening of jute bags and use of buttons, sequins, laces, patches etc. (Rank II), stencils of jute items (Rank III), use of paint, varnishes and brushes (Rank IV), embroidery techniques (Rank V). While in case of entrepreneurial education,

procurement of embellishment material was very useful (Rank I), followed by packaging of finished items (Rank II), decision of rate list (Rank III), procurement of raw material (Rank IV), operating machines (Rank V) and marketing of items (Rank VI).

Table 2: Utility of subject matter related to various trainings by respondents

Sr. No.	Parameters	UTILTIY (n=100)				
		VU	U	UD	Overall Utility W.M.S.	Rank
1.	**Preparation of eco-friendly items:**					
	Drafting, cutting and stitching of jute multi-purpose bags	56	29	15	2.41	**III**
	Drafting, cutting and stitching of jute bottle cover	60	31	09	2.51	**I**
	Gel candles	49	22	29	2.20	**V**
	Decorative thalis	61	26	13	2.48	**II**
	Decorative diya holders	41	24	35	2.06	**VI**
	Wall hanging	53	30	17	2.36	**IV**
	Wax candles	47	26	27	2.20	**V**
2.	**Embellishment techniques:**					
	Screening of jute items	53	29	18	2.35	**II**
	Stencils of jute items	47	38	15	2.32	**III**
	Embroidery techniques	42	31	27	2.15	**V**
	Use of buttons, sequins, laces, patches etc.	50	35	15	2.35	**II**
	Use of waste material for embellishment	58	36	06	2.52	**I**
	Use of paint, varnishes and brushes	31	56	13	2.18	**IV**
3.	**Entrepreneurial education:**					
	Operating the machine	48	25	27	2.21	**V**
	Procurement of raw material	45	39	16	2.29	**IV**
	Procurement of embellishment material	52	28	20	2.32	**I**
	Decision of rate list	51	27	22	2.30	**III**
	Packaging of finished items	52	27	21	2.31	**II**
	Marketing of items	42	33	25	2.17	**VI**

***VU= Very Useful, U= Useful, UD= Undecided**

Coverage of subject matter related to various trainings by respondents:

Data in Table-3 indicate that the vocational training programmes organized for imparting skills on eco-friendly and utility articles had wide coverage to the respondents. Table-3 further point outs that in preparation of eco-friendly items, decorative thalis had wide coverage and were ranked first (Rank I), followed by drafting, cutting and stitching of jute bottle cover (Rank II), drafting, cutting and stitching of jute multi-purpose bags (Rank III), wax candles (Rank IV), next rank was shared by gel candles and wall hanging (Rank V), decorative diya holders (Rank VI). In case of embellishment techniques, embroidery techniques had highest coverage (Rank I), stencils of jute items (Rank II), screening of jute items (Rank III), use of waste material for embellishment (Rank IV), use of paint, varnishes and brushes (Rank V) and use of buttons, sequins, laces, patches etc. (Rank VI). Regarding entrepreneurial education, procurement of raw material had widest coverage (Rank I), decision of rate list (Rank II), packaging of finished items (Rank III), operating of machines (Rank IV), marketing of items (Rank V) and procurement of embellishment material (Rank VI).

Table 3: Coverage of subject matter related to various training by the respondents

Sr. No.	Parameters	COVERAGE(n=100)				
		WC	PC	MC	Overall Coverage W.M.S.	Rank
1.	**Preparation of eco-friendly items:**					
	Drafting, cutting and stitching of jute multi-purpose bags	52	25	23	2.29	**III**
	Drafting, cutting and stitching of jute bottle cover	54	23	23	2.31	**II**
	Gel candles	44	34	22	2.22	**V**
	Decorative thalis	53	26	21	2.32	**I**
	Decorative diya holders	47	32	21	2.14	**VI**
	Wall hanging	47	28	25	2.22	**V**
	Wax candles	45	33	22	2.23	**IV**
2.	**Embellishment techniques:**					
	Screening of jute items	49	31	20	2.29	**III**
	Stencils of jute items	51	28	21	2.30	**II**
	Embroidery techniques	53	26	21	2.32	**I**
	Use of buttons, sequins, laces, patches etc.	47	24	29	2.18	**VI**
	Use of waste material for embellishment	51	23	26	2.25	**IV**
	Use of paint, varnishes and brushes	46	27	27	2.19	**V**
3.	**Entrepreneurial education:**					
	Operating the machine	46	23	31	2.15	**IV**
	Procurement of raw material	50	28	22	2.28	**I**
	Procurement of embellishment material	42	22	36	2.06	**VI**
	Decision of rate list	47	29	24	2.23	**II**
	Packaging of finished items	45	25	30	2.18	**III**
	Marketing of items	42	23	35	2.07	**V**

***WD= Wide Coverage, PC= Partial Coverage, MC= Marginal Coverage**

CONCLUSION

Among all the ten eco-friendly and utility articles prepared for imparting vocational trainings to women respondents the five items like Jute multi-purpose bags (Rank I), Jute bottle cover (Rank II), Diya sets (Rank III), Thali (Rank IV), Gel candles (Rank V) were finally selected for imparting 5 days trainings to enthusiastic and willing rural women in a batch of 25. Utility and coverage of subject matter related to various trainings was found to be of high utility and wide coverage by the women respondents. The trainings were found to be very useful with high coverage this was because of the fact that the vocational trainings were specialized to subject matter and thorough practical trainings were imparted. Trainings were imparted through demonstration, lectures and hands-on-experience in order to enable them to prepare items, do their value addition, packaging and explore markets for income generation. Utility and coverage of subject matter related to various trainings was found to be of high utility and wide coverage by the women respondents.

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