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IMPACT OF TRAINING KNOWLEDGE EMPOERMNENT IN
NATURAL RESOURCE MANAGEMNT IN PMAY-LIFE AT
KOTTAYAM MUNICIPALITY, KERALA

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Abstract -

Over exploitation beyond the resource capability or an imbalanced use not in harmony without long term perspective leads to unabated degradation of the resource base, loss of biodiversity, the decline in total factor productivity in farming systems and environmental deterioration. As a part of Angikaar Campaign Kottayam Municipality had arranged a training programme on environment conservation for PMAY beneficiaries. Level of improvement was assessed before and after the training programme. For data, a collection questionnaire survey was employed. Obtained data were analysed with the support of statistical tools like SPSS software. From the study, we can conclude that there is a significant improvement in the level of knowledge after Angikaar training.

Introduction

Lack of proper housing is an issue all over the world. Government of India (GoI) and Government of Kerala (GoK) has been trying to solve these housing issue from years back. To address the housing issues both GoI and GoK has initiated PMAY-LIFE housing scheme. With shrinking per capita availability of land and water, the prevalent increasing demographic trend is putting further enormous strain on already over-burdened resource base .The knowledge and awareness on these

aspects among the stakeholders will help to develop and sustain the resources, for which training is an important tool. With this idea, training on Natural Resource Management was organized for PMAY-LIFE beneficiaries, and the impact of knowledge empowerment was analysed. Evaluation of a training programme refers to the scientific process of assessment of the changes that have taken place in the attitudes, knowledge and skills among trainees (Paroda, 2000)..

Materials and methods

Training on natural resource management was organized in the three zonals in Kottayam Municipality. The respondents were selected representatives of Kudumbashree members who would serve as trainers for empowering the local people regarding PMAY-LIFE Credit Linked Subsidy Scheme in Kottayam Municipal area. The impact of training on knowledge empowerment of the target group were analysed in three representatives areas ie. Nattokam zonal, Kumaranallor zonal and Thiruvathukkal zone. A well-structured pre-tested questionnaire was prepared for the pre and post training evaluation, Nandi, S., & Gamkhar, S. (2013).

Scoring was done based on the responses taken from the respondents on a five point continuum. The data was analysed using SPSS software.

Knowledge level was operationalised as the quantum of scientific information known to the subject about the aspects on natural resources management. The total knowledge score for each respondent was calculated by the total number of items correctly answered. Knowledge index for each individual respondent was calculated as below (Kumaran and Jayaragavan, 2005).

$$\text{Knowledge Index} = \frac{\text{No. of correct responses}}{\text{Total no.of responses}} \times 100$$

Statistical tools like mean, SD, percentage analysis, correlation, 'F' and 't' tests were used for analysis and interpretation.

Results and conclusion

The data on various parameters were analysed statistically and the results are presented below.

Effect of training on knowledge level of respondents

The effect of training on knowledge level of respondents was analysed and the results are presented in Table 1. It could be noticed that there was a wide difference in the knowledge level between the pre and post training situations in all the three places, Singh, P., & Pattanaik, F. (2019).

Table 1. Change in knowledge level due to training

Training	N	Mean knowledge score			Range in score	
		Before training	After training	Mean score increase(%)	Before training	After training
Nattakom	21	19.86	26.09	31.4	7-31	17-33

Kumaranallor	26	27.50	31.84	15.8	15-33	27-35
Thiruvathukkal	13	24.85	29.15	17.3	15-34	28-35

The highest impact (+31.4%) was at Nattakom, followed by Thruvathukkal (+17.3%) and Kumaranallor (+15.8%). The minimum score recorded in Nattakom in the pre-training situation was 7 which was increased to 17 in the post training situation. The corresponding increase in Kumaranallor and Thiruvathukkal were from 15 to 27 and from 15 to 28 respectively. This clearly brings out the positive impact of training on knowledge level of respondents. Knowledge scores at five different frequency levels (Table 2) also revealed a similar impact.

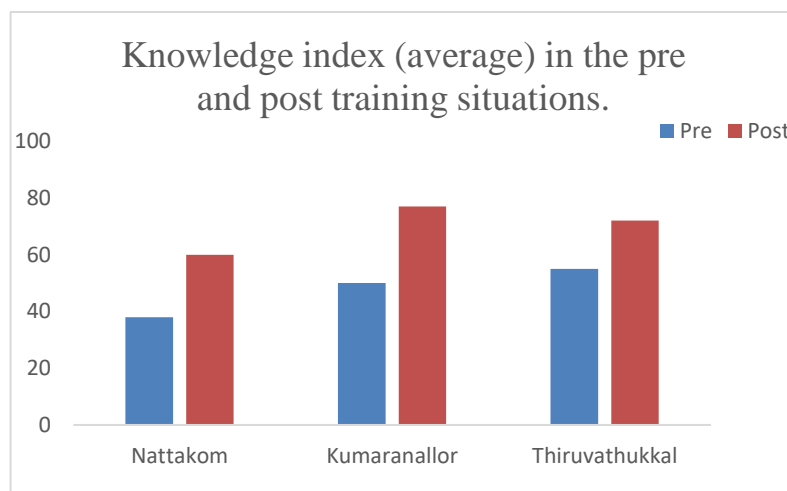
Table 2. Frequency distribution of knowledge scores

Range of score	Nattakom		Kumaranallor		Trivandrum	
	Pre	Post	Pre	Post	Pre	Post
0-1	2(9)	-	-	-	-	-
10-20	9(43)	4(19)	2(8)	-	4(31)	-
20-30	9(43)	13(62)	18(69)	6(23)	6(46)	5(38)
30-400	1(5)	4(19)	6(23)	20(77)	3(23)	8(62)
n	21	21	26	26	13	13

Figures in parentheses indicate percentage

Average knowledge indices calculated based on the scores obtained are presented in Figure 1. The average knowledge scores in the post-training situation were more in all the cases. The maximum variation was noticed in Kumaranallor followed by Trivandrum.

Fig . 1. Knowledge index (average) in the pre and post training situations.



‘t’ test was also conducted to assess the improvement in the knowledge base of the respondents due to training by taking into account the pre and post training scores obtained (Table 3).

Table 3. Paired samples statistics

	Mean		n	Std deviation	Std Error mean
Pair I Nattakom	Post	26.0952	21	4.6894	1.0233
	Pre	20.7619	21	7.2174	1.5750
Pair II Kumaranallor	Post	31.8462	26	2.7378	0.5369
	Pre	27.5000	26	3.9421	0.7731
Pair II Thiruvathukkal	Post	31.8462	13	3.1317	0.8686
	Pre	26.3077	13	6.1696	1.7111

	Paired differences				Lower	Upper	t	df	Sig (2-tailed)
	Mean	Std. Deviation	Std. Error Mean	95% confidence interval of the difference					
Pair I Nattakom	Post Pre	5.3333	2.6895	0.5869	4.1091	6.5576	9.087	20	0.000
Pair II Kumaranallor	Post Pre	4.3462	1.4951	0.2932	3.7423	4.9500	14.822	25	0.000
Pair II Thiruvathukkal	Post Pre	5.5385	3.5500	0.9846	3.3932	7.6837	5.625	12	0.000

From the paired samples t-tables, it could be revealed that 't' value was significant. Hence it could be concluded that the test scores have improved after training. This is true for the three regions.

Relationship of knowledge with capacity building factors

Training is expected to improve the capability of the trainees with respect to personal traits other than knowledge also, Bhat, Z. A. (2014). Correlation among the factors considered are presented in Table 4. All the factors considered here pertain to the post-training situation. It could be noticed that the correlation of self-confidence and managerial ability with knowledge was not significant.

Table 4. Correlation coefficient of variables

Variables	Correlation coefficient (r)		
	Nattakom	Kumaranallor	Thiruvathukkal
Knowledge & self confidence	0.163	-0.197	0.222
Knowledge & Managerial ability	0.132	-0.171	-0.005

Self confidence & Communication skill	0.713*	0.636*	0.817*
Communication skill & Cooperation	0.303	0.034	-0.047
Self confidence & Managerial ability	0.802*	0.614*	0.850*

*Significant at 5% level

The result revealed that knowledge is not an important factor influencing the very important traits of a trainer viz. self-confidence, communication skill and managerial ability. Self-confidence and communication skill as well as self-confidence and managerial ability are highly correlated in all the three locations of training.

This study clearly reveals the positive impact of training and highlights the need for including training in any development planning. The impact need not be similar in different places and hence a clear understanding of the socio-economic status of the respondent trainees will help in achieving training objectives to a considerable extent.

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