

International Journal of Pharmacognosy and Pharmaceutical Sciences



ISSN Print: 2706-7009
ISSN Online: 2706-7017
IJPPS 2022; 4(2): 32-34
www.pharmacognosyjournal.net
Received: 14-07-2022
Accepted: 18-08-2022

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To estimate the rural youth with their extent of participation in agricultural activities in Bhanupratappur (Chhattisgarh)

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DOI: <https://doi.org/10.33545/27067009.2022.v4.i2a.44>

Abstract

India is an agriculturally dominated country or it will not be wrong to say that India lives in villages. Primary occupation of villagers is still agriculture and its allied ventures. India is a young country and rural youth constitutes about 41% of total population of India. In the present scenario the interest of rural people especially rural youth is declining towards agriculture. According to population census 2011, India had total youth population of 325.2 million, which is 35% of the total population. India is an agriculturally dominated country or it will not be wrong to say that India lives in villages. Primary occupation of villagers is still agriculture and its allied ventures. India is a young country and rural youth constitutes about 41% of total population of India. Out of this, about 70% were rural youth and remaining 30% were urban youth. As majority of the youth comes from rural areas, they are considered as the nation builders of tomorrow. This important section of the rural population can respond to the needs of country only if they are offered fruitful opportunities for growing up as useful citizens. The present study was carried out in purposively selected Bhanupratappur block of kanker district (C.G.). A stratified random sampling procedure was followed in order to obtain the appropriate sample of rural youth. The total sample size was 70. The dependent variable was participation of rural youth in agricultural activities.

Keywords: Youth, rural, development, participation and agricultural activities

Introduction

Youth have been playing quite a significant role in almost every country of the world as they possess zeal and vigor, necessary to create opportunities for the national development. As psychologists said youth process dynamic energies, creative activity and adventurous spirit, they undergo physiological and psychological changes as they grow so the development of youth determines the development of the country. India both before and after independence witnessed emergence of youth as a potential force, to reckon with involvement of youth in national developmental activities is felt significantly relevant because of their boundless energy and innate idealism, which could give a positive direction in improving the quality of life. The government of India has been organizing planned and systematic programmers for the development of Indian youth for their participation in national development. India is a country where majority of population live in rural areas, therefore the place of youth class is more important in future of the country. In society their roles are more important in construction and adoption of new social values. The development and harnessing of the talents and energies of youth towards constructive work is of greater importance than any other efforts. According to the youths, marketing of farm produce was associated with numerous problems, including low prices (59.3%), bad road network (37%) and poor/lack of storage facilities (13%). In spite of these challenges, youths have assets such as good literacy levels (50%) and access to agricultural information among others. In terms of food security, 70% of youths reported that they had adequate stock of food to feed on throughout the year, while 30% said they did not have enough stock for the year, leading to hunger.

Methodology

A separate list of rural youth (between the age of 18-35) was prepared for total of 70 rural youths of 7 selected villages. The data gathered for the study was qualitative as well as

quantitative. Data was interpreted in percent terms and qualitative data was tabulated on the basis of approved classification method are correlation coefficient and percentage. There are about 109 villages in Bhanupratappur C.D. block, this way a total of 7 villages (tedaikondal, bhaisakanhar, bheriya, basla, mulla, solegaon and chogel) were selected for this study. The villages were selected purposively on the basis of maximum availability of youth farmers in the villages. The climate of the district is of predominantly a "Monsoon type". May is the hottest month and December is the coolest month. Annual average rainfall in the district is 1492 mm, 90% of which falls during the period from June to October. Within the district, the Kanker and Charama blocks have a predominantly dry climate, whereas that of Bhanupratappur is of the wet type.

Result and Discussion

The Table 1. Socio-personal and socio-economic characteristics of rural youth Indicate that out of 70 respondents, 57.14 percent were found to be in ST, 21.42 percent were found to be in SC, 21.42 percent were found to

be in OBC and general. The majority of them were up to illiterate 55.57 percent, can read and write 22.85 percent and were found to be primary 11.4 percent in while remaining of them finally meddle school and H.S 10 percent. 41.67 percent family medium, 32.85 percent family small and 25.71 percent family big. Shows that 51.42 percent respondents were had kachha type of house, 28.57 percent of them had mixed house and 20 percent belonged to pakka house. 52.85 percent of the respondents had medium of land holding, 41.42 percent had had small size and large size remaining 5.714 percent of land holding. 52.85 percent belonged to only farming, 38.57 percent had farming with another job and 08.57 percent had more than two job with farming. About 62.85 percent of the rural youth had low contact with any extension agents mean while 34.28 percent had medium, 2.85 percent had high contact with extension agents. That the majority of the rural youth had 64.28 percentage social participation, while followed by 18.57 Percentage one medium social participation and 17.14 percentage No social participation.

Table 1: Distribution of respondents according to their extent of participation in agricultural activities

Variable	No	%
Caste category		
Schedule tribe (ST)	40	57.14
Schedule caste (SC)	15	21.42
Other backward caste (OBC)	09	12.85
General	06	8.57
Education		
Illiterate	39	55.71
Can read and write	16	22.85
Primary	08	11.4
Middle	7	10
high school and above	00	00
Size of family		
Small	23	32.85
Medium	29	41.42
Big	18	25.71
Type of house		
Kachha	36	51.42
Pakka	14	20.00
Mixed	20	28.57
Size of land holding		
Small	29	41.42
Medium	37	52.85
Big	04	5.714
Type of occupation		
One occupation	37	52.85
Two occupations	27	38.57
More than two occupations	6	08.57
Contact with extension agents		
Low (up to 4)	44	62.85
Medium (4 to 12)	24	34.28
High (above 12)	02	2.85
Social participation		
No member in any organization	12	17.14
Member of one to two organization	45	64.28
Member of more than Two organization	13	18.57

Extent of participation in overall agricultural activities

The data concerning the extent of participation of rural youth in overall agricultural activities is compiled in Table 2. Out of the total 70 rural youth, 41.42 percent had

moderate level of participation and 30 percent rural youth who had high level of participation. However, there were 12.85 percent had low level of participation in agricultural activities.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their extent of participation in overall agricultural activities

S. No.	Caste	Frequency	Percentage
01	Low (up to 11)	21	30
02	Medium (11 to 23)	29	41.42
03	High (above 23)	09	12.85

Note: Figures in parentheses show the percentage

Relationship between socio-economic profile of the rural youth with their extent of participation in agricultural activities

To study the relationship of socio- personal and economical characteristics of rural youth with their extent of participation in agricultural activities, the values of correlation coefficients were calculated and were presented in the Table 3. The table depicts the variables viz. cast, education, family size, type of house, size of land holding, occupation, contact with extension agents and social participation. The feasibility of the 0.05 level on the border of participation in agricultural activities was found to be significant, while type of house was significant at 0.01 level of significance. But size of family, was did not any association with the extent of association. The positive association of education, cast, occupation, indicating that these were playing decisively and positively in ushering the extent of participation in agricultural activities.

Table 3: Correlation coefficient of profile characteristics of the rural youth with their extent of participation in agricultural activities

S. No.	Characteristics	Correlation coefficient (r)
1	Caste	0.2549*
2	Education	0.2771*
3	Size of family	-0.0089 NS
4	Type of house	0.0582NS
5	Size of Land Holding	0.2849*
6	Occupation	0.4249*
7	Contact with extension agents	0.2375*
8	Social participation	0.3406*

** = 0.01 level of significance

NS = non-significance

* = 0.05 level of significance

Conclusion

During the study, it was found that there was favorable attitude of maximum rural youth about participation in agricultural activities. Although youth have desirable qualities that can promote agriculture, most of them have strong indifference towards it. Around all variables had significant association with participation on rural youth in agriculture activity. Only family type and size of house type and comfortable assets found to be non-significant.

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