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## "Role of KVK's in the Empowerment of Farmers in Vibharbh Region with Special Reference to Yavatmal & Washim District"

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### Abstract :

This research study is mainly focuses on KVK's role and importance in the agricultural development and farmer's empowerment in Vidharbha region specially in Yavatmal & Washim district. KVK's prime goal is agricultural growth. For this, it is playing an important role in refinement & dissemination of agricultural technology. Thus, KVK's is brought dynamic conversion in farming from traditional farming into modern farming in Yavatmal & Washim district. It has played an important role in increasing agricultural production and income that positively effects on development of agriculture sector and on farmers empowerment. This study will become helpful to make awareness among farmers (non-beneficiaries of KVK's) about services of KVK's and its impact in the development of agriculture sector in Vidharbha region. .

**Key Words:** KVK's, Agriculture sector, Farmers empowerment

### Introduction:

India is an agricultural country. Agriculture has been doing in India from thousands of years. Indian agriculture sector has made incredible improvement because of developed and used of innovative technology, used of improved seeds, irrigation, soil conservation techniques, harvesting technology, electric pump, diesel pump, etc. But if we see the historical background of every developing country then we found agriculture sector plays a very vital role in the process of development of their economy. It is occupied approximately forty three percent of the India's geographical area. The net sown area occupied 141.6 million hectares out of total 328.7 million hectares of geographical area & 63.6 million hectares occupied by the net irrigated area. It contributes near about twenty five percent in the national income of India with providing employment to near about sixty five percent of whole population of nation & it is most significant part of Indian economy.

Agriculture is the main occupation of India from thousands of the year & it contributes near about 13.9% of the India's GDP with allied sectors during the year 2013-14. Agricultural exports represent a 5<sup>th</sup> of the total exports of the nation. India is the leading producer in the pulses, rice, wheat, vegetables, cotton, sugarcane, in spice products, etc. It helps towards food security and India has on 74 ranks in terms of food security out of 113 chief countries. Agriculture sector contributes in the overall economic growth through agricultural exports, solves the problem of growing demand of food, domestic savings, employment, foreign commercial investment, etc.

### Agriculture sector in Maharashtra:

The Maharashtra state is one of the richest state in terms of per capita income and the 2<sup>nd</sup> largest state in the country in terms of population & its total population is 11.24 crore according to census 2011, that is 9.3% of the total population of the country. The GSDP means Gross State Domestic Product is estimated at Rs. 15,10,132 crore at current prices for the year 2013-14, 88.7% contributes by both Industry & Services sector & 11.3% contributes by Agriculture and Allied sector to the GSDP. Agriculture is the mainstay of the state of Maharashtra. It is the main occupation of the people. There is total 308 lakh hectares land in Maharashtra. Out of that there is 231 Lakh ha. land under cultivation & 52.1 lakh ha. land has under forest. The major crops grown in the state of Maharashtra are jowar, millet, wheat, arhar, moong, urad, gram, rice & other pulses. The Maharashtra state is a major producer of oilseeds such as groundnut, soybean and sunflower are the main oil seed crops. Further that, the state's significant cash crops grown are cotton, turmeric, sugarcane and vegetables as well as the state has an area of 10.91 lakh hectares under various fruit crops such as banana, orange, mango, cashew and grape etc. The area gained by Maharashtra is 5% of the total land area of India. The state of Maharashtra has a 720 km long coastline.



Close to the coast is Sahyadri and to the north is the Satpura Mountain. The region is considered fertile as it flows through rivers. The state has a total of 9 climatic zones. In this climatic zone, variation in land and rainfall is observed. Different cropping systems are applied in different climatic zones, depending on weather and rainfall as well as soil types.

The Vidarbha region of eastern Maharashtra comprises 11 districts of the Nagpur and Amravati divisions. These include Nagpur, Gadchiroli, Wardha, Chandrapur, Bhandara, Gondia, Amravati, Akola, Washim, Yavatmal & Buldhana. This area is 31.6% of the total area and 21.3% of the total population of Maharashtra. In Vidarbha region major crops grown are Sorghum, Cotton, Wheat, Sugarcane, Gram, Maize, Grapes, Millet, Banana, Papaya, Groundnut, Pomegranate, Orange, Soyabean.

#### Research Methodology:

The researcher used both primary data and secondary data for this research study.

**Primary Data:** It is collected through well-structured questionnaire.

**Secondary Data:** It is collected through the various types of sources like research papers, books, articles, magazines, journals, newspapers, internet, etc.

#### Objectives of the Study:

- 1) To know the KVK's role in the empowerment of farmers in Vidharbha region.
- 2) To know the importance of KVK's in agriculture sector in Vidharbha region.

#### Hypothesis of the Study:

1.  $H_0$ : KVK's not playing a vital role in the empowerment of farmers.

$H_1$ : KVK's play a vital role in the empowerment of farmers

**Sample Design:** The researcher used Convenience sampling method for data collection. There are 14 KVK's in Vidharbha region out of total 47 KVK's in the state of Maharashtra. The researcher has selected 02 KVK's conveniently from 14 KVK's in Vidharbha region for sample study.

Table no. 1.1 Sample Design

Name of Region	Name of KVK in Districts (with establishment year)	Selected KVK	Total Beneficiary	Selected Sample (0.1% of total Beneficiary)
Vidharbha	Nagpur (1994)	-----		
	Gadchiroli (2004)			
	Wardha (1976)	-----		
	Chandrapur (1999)	-----		
	Bhandara (2002)	-----		
	Godia (2004)	-----		
	Amravati (1995)	-----		
	Amravati (1995)	-----		
	Akola (2010)	-----		
	Washim (1994)	Washim(1994)	42172	42
	Yavatmal (2004)	Yavatmal(2004)	29707	30
	Yavatmal (2016)	-----		
	Buldana (1994)	-----		
Buldana (2010)	-----			
<b>Total</b>	<b>14 KVK</b>	<b>02 KVK</b>	<b>71879</b>	<b>72</b>

#### Importance of the Study:

The importance of this study is to overview and analyzes the role of KVK's & its impact on the empowerment of farmers as well as on development of agriculture sector. The importance of this study is to KVK providing services to farmers, women and youth & trained them in vocational activity and committed to serve our farming community, generating employment, self-employment & entrepreneurship. This study will helpful to make awareness about above mentioned things among the farmers.

#### Scope & Limitations of the study:



Period of this research study is for the year 2004-2005 to 2013-2014. In this research study the researcher only observes & analyzes the role of KVK's in the empowerment of farmers in the Vidharbha region with special reference to Yavatmal & Washim district.

### **Introduction of KVK's:**

Agriculture sector is playing a very significant role in the development of Indian economy. It is provide employments & source of livelihood to near about 68 percent of rural people. Also it contributes mostly in total national income of India. If we see previous condition in 1947 at the time of Independence of India, farmers were followed conventional methods of farming, that time found lack of research & technology, developed inputs, etc and by it affects farmers were got low productivity. It becomes unaided to farmers for good surviving. If we make comparisons of our nation agricultural production with other developed countries then it's found very less. Agriculture is the main occupation of India & when the crisis was came in 1960 then it mainly depends on food production. Therefore India was imports food production from other countries. But from this crisis, the condition become start to change in India. There was need to increase food grains production immediately as much as possible & by the lot of efforts of Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR), National Seeds Corporation & State Seeds Corporation came into existence a new agricultural strategy/method with the purpose to improve agriculture sector & to be become self-dependent, self-sufficient in the food grain production. And this strategy was called as HYVP means High Yielding Varieties Programme which is properly known as **Green Revolution**.

Agricultural innovation, agricultural research & technology are the major factor in developing countries for rising production and national income with farmer's empowerments. For this purpose, ICAR has established Krishi Vigyan Kendra as an endeavor to educate farmers in new technologies and methods of crop production & dairy development, quick transfer of technology to the farmer's field. The ICAR means Indian Council of Agricultural Research is an autonomous organization works under the Department of Agricultural Research and Education (DARE), Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India. The ICAR is providing 100% financial aid to the KVKs. It also encourages hosting institutions, funding agencies such as national organizations, international organizations & state government for financial aid to the KVKs.

**KVK's prime goal is agricultural growth and in this research study, the researcher found that the KVK's of Yavatmal & Washim districts are providing lots of services for enhancing farmer's agricultural production and income that effects on farmers empowerment in the district. KVK's are providing services as vocational training at the grass root level to farmers, farmwomen, and rural youth with emphasize on "learning by doing" for generating self-employment, entrepreneurship. It organized demo units, training, on farm testing, other extensive activity like Krishi Pradarshini, Kisan Meal, Shivar Pheri, Field Day, guidance about seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, harvesting from KVK's, World Food Day, World women Day, Vaccination camp, Extension Literature like Folders, Booklets & Popular Articles and also telecast video shows, radio talk & TV shows. Also it is providing services like ATIC Room, Diagnostic Services, Crop Cafeteria at KVK campus, Market Information Center, Soil & Water Testing Lab, Kisan Mobile Advisory Service (KMAS), Weather Information & Connectivity with farmers, Agriculture Book Library for farmers, Agriculture technology information Center, Vocational training for self-employment, Soil & water conservation management services, Enhanced productivity, Enhance income & reduced cost, Increase agricultural knowledge, Create habit of saving & investment, Developed standard of living, Developed entrepreneurial skill, Guidance & promotion for TTC & SHG groups. KVKs were motivates to rural youth for modern farming and creates self-employment among them. These all services help to creating & rapid adoption of new agricultural technology among the farmers, farm women & rural youth.**

**Table no. 1.2 Farmer's opinion about their agricultural production & income increased through the services of KVK's**

Sr. No.	Respondents opinion	No. of respondent	%
1.	Agree	66	91.67
2.	Disagree	01	1.39
3.	Neutral	05	6.94



Total	72	100
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Source: Field survey (2016-17)

The researcher disclosed that the maximum 66 (91.67%) respondents were found agree about their agricultural production & income were increased through the services of KVK's. The 01 (1.39%) and the minimum 05 (6.94%) respondents were found disagree & neutral about their agricultural production & income were increased through the services of KVK's. It is clear that the majority of respondent's agricultural production & income were increased by using the services of KVK's in Vibharbha region. If we look at the agricultural situation of India from the crisis of 1960 till now, we found that India has achieved self-sufficiency in food grains. KVK is one of the pillars and pillars of this achievement which has been playing a vital role in the refinement and dissemination of agricultural technology and in complete agricultural transmission and its development.

#### Hypothesis Tested:

Table No. 1.3

#### Respondent's opinion about the KVKs play a vital role in the empowerment of farmers

Sr. No.	Respondents opinion	No. of Respondents	%
01.	Strongly Agree	39	54.17
02.	Agree	26	36.11
03.	Strongly disagree	01	1.39
04.	Disagree	04	5.55
05.	Neutral	02	2.78
Total		72	100

Source: Field survey (2016-17)

The researcher disclosed that the maximum 39 (54.17%) and 26 (36.11%) respondents were found 'strongly agree' and 'agree' about the KVKs play a very vital role in the empowerment of farmers respectively. Further that 1 (1.39%) and 4 (5.55%) respondents were found 'strongly disagree' and 'disagree' about the KVKs play a very vital role in the empowerment of farmers respectively. The remaining 2 (2.78%) respondents were found 'neutral' about the KVKs play a very vital role in the empowerment of farmers

It is clear that the total 65 (39+26) means 90.28% respondents were mentioned their opinion as positively about it means it is proof that KVKs play a very vital role in the empowerment of farmers.

#### Conclusion:

KVK's prime goal is agricultural growth. For this, it is playing an important role in refinement & dissemination of agricultural technology. Thus, KVK's is brought dynamic conversion in farming from traditional farming into modern farming in Yavatmal & Washim district. It has played an important role in increasing agricultural production and income, create habit of saving & investment, developed standard of living, increase agricultural knowledge, developed entrepreneurial skill, these all things are positively effects on development of agriculture sector and on farmers empowerment. Therefore, total 90.28% respondents were found positive about KVKs play a vital role in the empowerment of farmers.

#### Suggestions:

- The KVK's should take efforts for raising the number of female as well as male beneficiaries.
- The ICAR should establish Krishi Vigyan Kendra at every taluka level of Yavatmal & Washim district.

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