

## *Original Research Article*

# **Awareness of the farmers towards Activities of Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY), in Ranchi district of Jharkhand, India.**

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### **ABSTRACT**

The study was conducted in the district of Ranchi to determine the Awareness of respondents towards activities of RKVY on both its beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries. 4 villages under Tamar block were chosen randomly, and a total of 120 respondents (60 beneficiaries and 60 non-beneficiaries) were selected randomly for the study. Data was collected using a pre-structured interview schedule through personnel interviews, and the results were analyzed using appropriate statistical methods. The study found that middle-aged individuals were the largest group among both beneficiaries (71.60%) and non-beneficiaries (46.60%). The majority of respondents had medium landholdings, with (41.60%) being beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries (36.60%) having marginal landholdings. Medium-income individuals were the largest group among beneficiaries (43.30%) and among non-beneficiaries (48.30%). The awareness of farmers towards activities of RKVY on its beneficiaries was found to be at a medium level (43.33%) among beneficiaries and low among non-beneficiaries (63.33%). The study also found that age, education, land holding, annual income, extension contact, social participation, mass media exposure, risk preference and economic motivation were positively and significantly correlated with the awareness of farmers towards activities of RKVY on both its beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries.

*Keywords: Awareness, RKVY scheme, extension contact, social participation, mass media exposure.*

### **1. INTRODUCTION**

Agriculture is the life blood of Indian civilization. The scenario of agriculture over the years depicted that, it is an evergreen occupation for millions of people and feeding the entire nation. Agricultural growth plays an important role in achieving certain national goals, such as reducing rural poverty, providing food and nutritional security, supplying raw materials to major industries such as textiles, earning foreign

exchange, etc. Further, it is also the dominant sector of the Indian economy because more than 60 per cent of the people engaged directly or indirectly in agriculture and it is the mainstay of livelihood for majority of the people, in addition to supporting the growth of other sectors. Nonetheless, growth of non-farm sectors, viz. Secondary and Tertiary can be sustained only when the agricultural sector continues to develop and supply sufficient demand for goods and services. Therefore, sustained growth in

India's agricultural sector is essential for economic development and for maintaining overall stability of the economy. However, despite major part of the workforce being employed in this sector, the contribution of agriculture in Gross Domestic Product (GDP) has registered a steady decline from 51.9 per cent in 1950-51 to 13.9 per cent in 2013-14, at 2004-05 prices (Fig. 1.1). A major cause behind the slow growth in agriculture was attributed to decrease in public investments. While public and private investments were increasing manifold in sectors such as infrastructure, similar investments were not forthcoming in agriculture and allied sectors which led to distress in the community of farmers, especially that of the small and marginal segment (Kalamkar, *et al.*, 2015).

Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) scheme was initiated in 2007 as an umbrella scheme for ensuring holistic development of agriculture and allied sectors by allowing states to choose their own agriculture and allied sector development activities as per the district/state agriculture plan. The scheme has come a long way since its inception and has been implemented across two plan periods (11th and 12th). Till 2013-14, the scheme was implemented as an Additional Central Assistance (ACA) to State Plan Scheme with 100% central assistance. It was converted into a Centrally Sponsored Scheme in 2014-15 also with 100% central assistance. Since 2015-16, the funding pattern of the scheme has been altered in the ratio of 60:40 between Centre and States (90:10 for North Eastern States and Himalayan States). For Union Territories the funding pattern is 100 % central grant. RKVY scheme incentivizes States to increase public investment in Agriculture & allied sectors. Under RKVY, States have been provided flexibility and autonomy for selection, planning approval and execution of projects/programs under the scheme as per their need, priorities and agro-climate requirements. The funds are released to the State Governments/UTs on the basis of

projects approved in the State Level Sanctioning Committee Meeting (SLSC) headed by the Chief Secretary of the concerned State, which is the empowered body to approve projects under the scheme. It is for the State Govt. to further implement the scheme in the State as per its requirement in areas which requires focused attention for increasing production and productivity in the State.

### **Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) in Jharkhand**

RKVY was started in 2007-08 in Jharkhand. From that year to 2014-15, the central government has provided 100% funding to the selected agro-based projects to improve the agriculture situation in Jharkhand. In 2015-16, the assistance has been reduced to 60:40% for Centre and state. Under this scheme, the central government has allocated Rs. 82.65 Crore for Jharkhand in 2016-17, while state share for the same year is Rs. 55.10 Crore. In Jharkhand, in 2015-16, 12 projects with cost of Rs. 123 Crores were proposed. Data on project-wise distribution of proposed cost is not available for 2016-17. For the year 2015-16, crop development is given highest priority both in terms of cost and in terms of number of projects, though project of highest average cost was proposed for cooperatives and cooperation.

## **2. METHODOLOGY**

The present study was conducted in Ranchi district of Jharkhand. Out of blocks in Ranchi district, Tamar block is selected purposively based on maximum number of farmers engaged in RKVY. From the selected block, 4 villages were selected purposively based on maximum number of farmer involved in activities of RKVY. Ex-Post facto design was adopted for the study as it describes the characteristics or phenomena that are being studied.

### 3. RESULT AND DISCUSSION

In table 1, distribution of various independent variables among beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries is observed. In case of age, middle-aged individuals are the largest group among both beneficiaries (71.6%) and non-beneficiaries (46.6%). In case of gender, male individuals are the largest group among both beneficiaries (63.3%) and non-beneficiaries (81.6%). In terms of caste, the largest group among beneficiaries is ST category individuals (55%), while among non-beneficiaries (50%).

In terms of family type, nuclear family type is more among both beneficiaries (71.6%) and non-beneficiaries (63.3%). In terms of marital status, the largest group among both beneficiaries (63.3%) and non-beneficiaries (63.3%) are married. In terms of education, the largest group among both beneficiaries (30%) and non-beneficiaries (33%) has high school education. In terms of occupation, farming + business was the most common occupation among both beneficiaries (41.6%) and in non-beneficiaries (30%). In terms of type of house, cemented houses are more common among beneficiaries (48.30%), among non-beneficiaries (36.6%). In terms of farm power, most common are other farming tools and implements among both beneficiaries (23.3%) and non-beneficiaries (38.3%). In terms of land holding, medium

land holding is the most common category in beneficiaries (41.6%) and non-beneficiaries (36.6%) were having marginal land holding. In terms of annual income, medium income individuals are the largest group among beneficiaries (43.3%), while among non-beneficiaries (48.3%).

In terms of mass media exposure low media ownership is the most common category among beneficiaries (48%), among non-beneficiaries (51.6%). In terms of extension contact, low level of contact is the most common category among both beneficiaries (68.3%) and non-beneficiaries (46.6%). Similarly, in terms of social participation low level of participation is common among both beneficiaries (50%) and non-beneficiaries (50%). In terms of risk orientation, medium risk preference is observed among beneficiaries (41.67%) and among non-beneficiaries medium level is observed (60%). Finally, in economic motivation is same level of medium and low level motivation is observed among most beneficiaries (40%), while it is medium among most non-beneficiaries (46.6%).

**Table 1. Socio-economic profile of the respondents**

S. No.	Independent Variables	Category	Beneficiaries		Non- Beneficiaries	
			Frequency	Percentage	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Age	Young (18-35)	11	18.3%	23	38.3%
		Middle (36-50)	43	71.6%	28	46.6%
		Old (51 & above)	6	10%	9	15%
2.	Gender	Male	38	63.3%	49	81.6%
		Female	22	36.6%	11	18.3%
3.	Caste	Gen.	2	3.3%	3	5%
		OBC	5	8.3%	7	11.6%
		SC	20	33.3%	20	33.3%
		ST	33	55%	30	50%
4.	Family Type	Nuclear	43	71.6%	38	63.3%
		Joint	17	28.3%	22	36.6%
5.	Marital Status	Married	38	63.3%	38	63.3%
		Unmarried	20	33.3%	18	30%
		Divorced	2	3.3%	4	6.6%

6.	Education	Illiterate	13	21.6%	13	21.6%
		Primary school	17	28.3%	12	20%
		High school	18	30%	20	33.3%
		Intermediate	9	15%	11	18.3%
		Graduate	3	3.3%	4	5%
7.	Occupation	Only farming	22	36.6%	22	36.6%
		Farming + Business	25	41.6%	18	30%
		Farming + Service	5	8.3%	7	11.6%
		Farming + Any Other	8	13.3%	13	21.6%
8.	House holding	Hut	9	15%	13	21.6%
		Semi cemented	22	36.6%	25	41.6%
		Cemented	29	48.3%	22	36.6%
9.	Farm power	Bullock	5	8.3%	10	16.6%
		Pump set	19	31.6%	7	11.6%
		Tractor	13	21.6%	4	6.6%
		Thresher	4	6.6%	8	13.3%
		Mould board plough	5	8.3%	8	13.3%
		Others	14	23.3%	23	38.3%
10.	Land holding	Marginal (<1Acre / ha)	5	8.3%	22	36.6%
		Small (1-2 Acre / ha)	17	28.3%	17	28.3%
		Medium (2-3 Acre / ha)	25	41.6%	13	21.6%
		Large (4> Acre / ha)	13	21.6%	8	13.3%
11.	Annual Income	Low (<1 lakh)	14	23.3%	23	38.8%
		Medium ( 1-2 lakh)	26	43.3%	29	48.3%
		High (>3 lakh)	20	33.3%	8	13.3%
12.	Mass Media Exposure	Low	29	48.00%	31	51.6%
		Medium	17	28.00%	21	35.00%
		High	14	23.00%	8	13.33%
13.	Extension contact	Low	41	68.33%	28	46.67%
		Medium	17	28.33%	20	33.33%
		High	1	1.67%	12	20.00%
14.	Social Participation	Low	30	50.00%	30	50.00%
		Medium	25	41.67%	25	41.67%
		High	23	38.33%	5	8.33%
15.	Risk Preference	Low	25	41.67%	11	18.33%
		Medium	22	36.67%	36	60.00%
		High	13	25.00%	11	18.33%
16.	Economic Motivation	Low	24	40.00%	24	40.00%
		Medium	24	40.00%	28	46.67%
		High	12	20.00%	9	15.00%

**Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to their awareness regarding RKVY.**

S. No.	Statement	Beneficiaries			Non- Beneficiaries		
		Fully Aware	Partially Aware	Not Aware	Fully Aware	Partially Aware	Not Aware
1.	Assistance provided for making available certified / HYV seeds.	0 (0.00%)	60 (100%0)	0 (0.00%)	39 (65.00%)	18 (30.00%)	3 (5.00%)
2.	Assistance provided for the purchase of breeder seeds.	26 (43.33%)	34 (56.67%)	0 (0.00%)	14 (23.33%)	18 (30.00%)	28 (46.67%)

3.	Obtaining improved tools, implements & machinery.	14 (23.33%)	26 (43.33%)	20 (33.33%)	0 (0.00%)	35 (58.33%)	25 (41.67%)
4.	Assistance provided for obtaining soil health cards.	1 (1.67%)	13 (21.67%)	46 (76.67%)	7 (11.67%)	9 (15.00%)	44 (73.33%)
5.	Help provided for testing of soil health.	0 (0.00%)	34 (56.67%)	26 (43.33%)	1 (1.67%)	19 (31.67%)	40 (66.67%)
6.	Micro nutrients demonstrations.	12 (20.00%)	47 (78.33%)	1 (1.67%)	3 (5.00%)	26 (43.33%)	31 (51.67%)
7.	Training given for promotion of org. Farming.	13 (21.67%)	47 (78.33%)	0 (0.00%)	0 (0.00%)	19 (31.67%)	41 (68.33%)
8.	Assistance provided for promoting integrated farming system.	25 (41.67%)	0 (0.00%)	35 (58.33%)	0 (0.00%)	8 (13.33%)	52 (86.67%)
9.	Assistance provided for setting up of cold storage, godowns.	0 (0.00%)	60 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	3 (5.00%)	8 (13.33%)	49 (81.67%)
10.	Training given on proper use of fertilizer.	21 (35.00%)	13 (21.67%)	26 (43.33%)	4 (6.67%)	12 (20.00%)	44 (73.33%)
11.	Training given on proper use of fertilizers.	0 (0.00%)	39 (65.00%)	21 (35.00%)	2 (3.33%)	7 (11.67%)	51 (85.00%)
12.	Assistance available for horticulture activities.	0 (0.00%)	60 (100.00%)	0 (0.00%)	7 (11.67%)	2 (3.33%)	51 (85.00%)
13.	Assistance given for animal, poultry & fishery.	0 (0.00%)	40 (66.67%)	20 (33.33%)	6 (10.00%)	3 (3.33%)	51 (85.00%)
14.	Training through farm field schools.	13 (21.67%)	26 (43.33%)	21 (35.00%)	2 (3.33%)	13 (21.67%)	45 (75.00%)
15.	Study tours to research institutes.	12 (20.00%)	0 (0.00%)	48 (80.00%)	1 (1.67%)	34 (56.67%)	25 (41.67%)

It is evident from the tables below that among beneficiaries, 35% of the respondents have low level of awareness about RKVY, 43.33%

of the respondents have medium level of awareness about RKVY and 21.67% of the respondents have high level of awareness

about RKVY. Similarly, among non-beneficiaries, 63.33% of the respondents have low level of awareness about RKVY, 23.33% of the respondents have medium level of

awareness about RKVY, and 13.34% of the respondents have high level of awareness about RKVY.

**Table 3. Overall awareness about RKVY on its beneficiaries and non-Beneficiaries.**

Beneficiaries				Non - Beneficiaries			
S. No.	Category	Freq.	Percentage	S. No.	Category	Freq.	Percentage
1.	Low (24-27)	21	35.00%	1.	Low (17-22)	38	63.33%
2.	Med (28-31)	26	43.33%	2.	Med (23-28)	14	23.33%
3.	High (32-34)	13	21.67%	3.	High (29-33)	8	13.34%
<b>Total</b>		60	100%	<b>Total</b>		60	100%

**Table 4. Association between selected independent variables with dependent variable 'awareness' of farmer towards activities of RKVY.**

Sl. No.	Independent Variable	Correlation coefficient	
		Beneficiaries	Non- Beneficiaries
1.	Age	0.339**	0.228**
2.	Caste	0.079NS	0.037NS
3.	Education	0.745*	0.766*
4.	Occupation	0.079NS	0.097NS
5.	Family size	0.083NS	0.066NS
6.	Type of house	0.812*	0.149**
7.	Land holding	0.785*	0.856*
8.	Annual income	0.710*	0.989*
9.	Extension contacts	0.785*	0.717*
10.	Social participation	0.976*	0.586*
11.	Mass Media Exposure	0.875*	0.986*
12.	Risk preference	0.826*	0.969*
13.	Economic motivation	0.812*	0.361**

\* = 0.01% level of probability, \*\* = 0.05% level of probability, NS = Non-significant

From this above Table no. 4, it can be concluded that independent variable education, type of house, land holding, annual income, extension contact, social participation, mass media exposure, risk

preference and economic motivation were positively and significantly correlated at 0.01 per cent level of probability and age was positively and significantly correlated with awareness of farmers towards activities of

RKVY on its beneficiaries at 0.05% probability. Therefore, null hypothesis was rejected for these variables. Caste, occupation and family size were negatively and not significantly correlated with awareness of RKVY on its beneficiaries.

#### **4. CONCLUSION**

It was concluded that the majority of respondents, both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, were middle-aged and had a high school level of education. Most respondents were part of a nuclear family and owned 2-3 hectares of land. Both groups had moderate levels of extension contact and social participation. The awareness of farmers towards activities of the RKVY on its beneficiaries was observed to be at a medium level and in the case of non-beneficiaries was observed to be at a low level. Moreover, it was found that age, family size, education, house holding, annual income extension contacts, social participation, media ownership, risk preference, and economic motivation were positively and significantly correlated with awareness of farmers towards activities of RKVY. To improve the awareness of farmers towards RKVY, the government should provide subsidized training, demonstrations, infrastructure facilities, and inputs.

## **CONSENT**

As per international standard or university standard, respondents' written consent has been collected and preserved by the author(s).

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