

Extent of Participation of Rural Youth in Rural Development Activities

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Abstract

The present study was conducted in randomly selected Latur district of Marthwada region of Maharashtra state. Two tahsils were selected by lottery method namely, AUSA and Latur. Five villages from each selected tahsil and 10 respondents from selected villages comprises sample of 100 respondents for the present study. The results revealed that overall 57.00 per cent of the rural youth had medium level of participation in different development activities, 26.00 per cent had low participation while 17.00 per cent had high extent of participation rural development activities.

Key words: Extent of participation. Rural youth, Rural development activities

Introduction

The socioeconomic development and prosperity of rural areas depends, to a considerable extent, on the type of youth living in rural areas, because the rural youth have abilities to orient themselves to go along the main stream of the development process^[2]. Development of youth determines the development of community and country as a whole. Youth have been playing quite a significant role in almost every country of the world, as they possess zeal and vigour, necessary to create opportunities for the national development. Youth of today are the adults of tomorrow, youth possess dynamic energy, creative activity and adventurous spirit. So, Government of India introduced many programmes to develop youth socio-economically since independence which has not been resulted to desired level. Hence, this study was conducted to know demographic profile and extent of participation in rural developmental activities.

Material and Methods

The study was conducted during 2016 in Latur district of Maharashtra state. There are ten Tahsil in Latur district viz, Latur, Renapur, AUSA, Nilanga, Shirur (Anantpal), Chakur, Ahemadpur, Jalkot, Udgir, and Deoni out of which Latur and AUSA Tahsils were selected randomly on the basis of lottery system. 10

villages spread over 2 Tahsil, 5 from each were selected randomly for the study. The rural youth (male) with the age group of 15-35 years were considered as the population of the study. 10 respondents from each village were selected randomly from 10 villages to make the total sample size of 100 respondents. The variables were quantified by developing appropriate scoring pattern or by using scale developed by earlier researchers. The statistical tools used for analysis of data were percentage, frequency, mean and standard deviation.

Results and Discussion

Demographic profile of rural youth

The results related to demographic profile of rural youth was studied and presented in Table 1. It was observed from the study that more than half (59.00 %) of respondents are aged between 21 and 29 years while 22.00 per cent above 29 years and only 19.00 per cent below 20 years. Study showed that 26.00 per cent of the respondents had post graduation, equal percent i.e. 20.00 per cent of the respondents were higher secondary education and diploma holder, 16.00 per cent of them were graduated from different field while 12.00 per cent had secondary education and very few (5.00 %) had primary education i. e. upto 5th standard. About 55.00% of the

respondent were Hindu, 28.00% were Muslim while 17.00% of them were Budhist. Data revealed that more than half (58.00 %) of the respondents belongs to joint family and 42.00 per cent belongs to nuclear family. Study indicated that half (49.00 %) of the respondents are belonging to those families which were having 4 to 9 members in family. 34.00 per cent belongs to small family having members up to 4 only. More than 9 members' families were very few i.e. only 17.00 per cent.

The study revealed that more than half (53.00%) of the respondents had annual income 2.07 to 4.27 lakh per year. 28.00 per cent of the respondents had annual income upto 2.07 lakh and 19.00 per cent had annual income above 4.27 lakh per year. The present

study indicated that, majority (68.00 %) of the youths had medium use of sources of information while 20.00 per cent of them had more use of sources of information. Only 12.00 per cent had less use of sources of information for getting the information about different developmental activities. It is observed that that 84.00 per cent of youth had medium level of extension contact followed by 11.00 and 5.00 per cent had high and low extension contact respectively. It was also observed that, majority of (71.00%) of the respondents had medium level of achievement motivation followed by high level of achievement motivation category (20.00%) and the remaining 9.00 per cent of the respondents belonged to low level of achievement motivation category^[1].

Table 1 demographic profile of rural youth N=100

Sl. No.	Category		Frequency	Percentage
1	Age			
	1	Upto 20 years	19	19.00
	2	21 to 29 years	59	59.00
	3	Above 29 years	22	22.00
2	Education			
	1	Primary school (Upto 5 std)	5	5.00
	2	Secondary (6-10 std)	12	12.00
	3	Higher Secondary (11 std – 12 std.)	20	20.00
	4	Diploma	20	20.00
	5	Graduation	16	16.00
	6	Post graduation	26	26.00
3	Religion			
	1	Hindu	55	55.00
	2	Muslim	28	28.00
	3	Buddha	17	17.00
4	Family type			
	1	Nuclear family	42	42.00
	2	Joint family	58	58.00
5	Family size			
	1	Small	34	34.00
	2	Medium	49	49.00
	3	Big	17	17.00
6	Annual income			
	1	Small	28	28.00
	2	Medium	53	53.00
	3	Big	19	19.00
7	Use of sources of information			
	1	Less	12	12.00

	2	Medium	68	68.00
	3	More	20	20.00
8	Extension contacts			
	1	Low	5	5.00
	2	Medium	84	84.00
	3	High	11	11.00
9	Achievement motivation			
	1	Low	9	9.00
	2	Medium	71	71.00
	3	High	20	20.00

Extent of participation of rural youth in rural development activities

Several rural developmental activities were taken up in the village to improve the socio-economic condition of the rural people.

An attempt in the study was made to find out the extent of participation of rural youth in various rural developmental activities.

Table 2 Distribution of the respondents according to their participation in different village development activities

Sl. No.	Rural developmental activities	Regular		Occasional		Never	
		Freq	%	Freq	%	Freq	%
1	Road repair	10	10.00	32	32.00	58	58.00
2	Village sanitation	43	43.00	38	38.00	19	19.00
3	Adult literacy programme	15	15.00	29	29.00	56	56.00
4	Construction of school building	8	8.00	37	37.00	55	55.00
5	Construction of temple	14	14.00	22	22.00	64	64.00
6	Construction of youth club building	17	17.00	38	38.00	45	45.00
7	Construction of community buildings	2	2.00	30	30.00	68	68.00
8	Watershed programmes	4	4.00	25	25.00	71	71.00
9	Family planning campaign	3	3.00	34	34.00	63	63.00
10	Tank/well repair	18	18.00	45	45.00	37	37.00
11	Planting trees	56	56.00	42	42.00	2	2.00
12	Making drainages	45	45.00	37	37.00	18	18.00
13	Social and cultural programmes	80	80.00	15	15.00	5	5.00
14	Health campaign	50	50.00	35	35.00	15	15.00

The results of Table 2 showed that, nearly 80.00 per cent of the respondents were regularly participated in social and cultural programmes (56.00%) followed by planting of trees (52.00%),health campaign 50.00 per cent, making drainage (45.00%) and village sanitation(43.00%) The reason might be that, since, the social and cultural programmes, planting of trees, health campaign, village sanitation were the important activities taken

up by the youth club members oftenly in the village and as a result they might have participated enthusiastically and with more interest^[3].

It was seen that, majority of the respondents had never participated in various rural developmental activities such as water shed programme 71.00 per cent, adult literacy programme (56.00%),construction of community buildings 68.00 per cent, family

planning campaign 63.00 per cent, construction of school buildings 55.00 percent, road repair (58.00%), construction of temple (64.00%) and 45.00 per cent construction of youth club buildings.

The reason might be that, as these were the activities taken up by the state government or gram panchayat in the village by using workers with daily wages. Hence, rural youth thought that, it was not their work

and they did not bother and as a result they did less participate in those activities. If the extension workers want their help they were ready to give it.

Overall extent of participation of rural youth in village development activities

It was also observed that 57.50 per cent and 48.33 per cent of the respondents occasionally participated in tank / well repair and road repair activities.

Table 3 Distribution of the respondents according to their overall participation in different village development activities

Sl No	Extents of participation	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low	26	26.00
2	Medium	57	57.00
3	High	17	17.00
	Total	100	100

The table 3 indicated that, 57.00 per cent of the rural youth had medium level of participation in different development activities, 26.00 per cent had low participation while 17.00 per cent had high extent of participation rural development activities.

Conclusion

1. Majority of rural youth regularly participating in social and cultural programmes and plantation of trees. More

than 60.00 per cent rural youth were never participated in construction of community buildings and watershed programmes.

2. 45.00 per cent were occasionally participated in plantation of trees and 42.00 per cent in tank and well repair activities. Overall more than fifty per cent of respondents were found in medium category of extent of participation in rural development activities.

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