

Appraisal of Available Recourses of Deegh Koiran Village : Through PRA Technique

Govind Kumar Choudhary, R. P. Chaudhary, Rekha Singh and A. K. Chaturvedi

Krishi Vigyan Kendra, (Indian Institute of Vegetable Research), Bejwan, Bhadohi
Corresponding Author-drgovindvet2003@gmail.com

Abstract

The study showed that the village does not have any Govt. agencies like Cooperative Societies, Seed and Fertilizer Centre, SHG nor other private and NGO for providing knowledge and inputs supports to the farmers. The farmer using fertilizer as per the traditional knowledge and there were not Soil Health Card facility. The farmers were using imbalance use of fertilizers and totally unaware about the recommended dose of fertilizer for each crops. Seed and fertilizer distributor play a vital role and have a mean score of 0.71 with rank 1st for knowledge gathering through various agencies to support the agriculture and their allied activities followed by the private agencies 0.63 with rank 2nd, KVK (0.56) 3rd, NGO (0.48) 4th, Banaras Hindu University (0.37) 5th and Kisan Call Center (0.21) 6th respectively. Similarly, the farmers using Information Communication Technology (ICT) for decision making in the agricultural activities have mean score like Mobile (1.72) with rank 1st, Television (1.2) rank 2nd, Radio (1.0) rank 3rd, Book (0.81) rank 4th, Mela and Exhibition (0.71) rank 5th, Internet Service (0.65) rank 6th, Computer (0.45) rank 7th and Landline Phone (0.30) rank 8th respectively. Lack of organized marketing, unawareness about the high yielding varieties seeds in cereals and horticultural crops were the major constraint faced by the respondents in PRA study by the KVK Specialist.

Key Words: PRA, ICT, Constraint, Knowledge Level, Perception

Introduction

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) is the process for accessing and ascertaining the local availability of rural resources with the help villagers. The farmers i.e. the participants take a important role in collecting, analyzing, interpreting and presenting information and in this process impart knowledge and development insight to the KVK Scientist. PRA approach embodies a whole range of techniques which when used reveal valuable information/data on the resources and skills existing in the village, wealth structure and dynamics of caste and class. For management of natural resources, participatory Rural Appraisal is conducted to establish rapport with the village community as well as to identify and

define problems for prioritization in the village itself^[1]. It is a way of learning from and with community members to investigate their need assessment, analyze and evaluate constraints and opportunities and find out priorities in the area of agriculture, small scale rural enterprises and any other social and economic development programs addressed to village development^[2]. Based on the principle of listening and learning, PRA is the technique of immediate analysis and survey of village resources for participatory micro-planning and development. Participatory Rural Appraisal is a way of enabling rural people to analyze their living conditions, share the outcomes and plan their activities^[2].

Material and Method

At the initial stage of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercise, a meeting of the villagers along with the Pradhan and progressive farmers was conducted in the village for rapport building. While conducting the meeting, they were made aware of the exercise to be conducted for the development of a plan for the village, farmers' contribution in the exercise and the objectives to be achieved. The key informants were indentified who helped to inform villagers to facilitate participation. The dates and time for conducting Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercise were fixed in consultation with farmers and all the farmers were requested to participate in the exercise. The dates and time was announces at the end of the meeting. On the day of Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) exercise, key informants already identified helped to gather villagers at Panchayat Ghar of the village as per the time already decided. When all the farmers assembled, Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) team members along with farmers participated to understand their habitat pattern and availability of other natural resources.

After completion of the transect walk, all the participants came back to the meeting place. By way of drawing village

Results and Discussion

Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) activity was carried out by preparing maps and collecting information/data of the village for prioritization of the problems as under:

Social and resource map

This is a method of involving local community in preparation of village resource map as perceived by farmers to solicit their participation. Infrastructure, services and other village resources such as agricultural lands, wells, wastelands, cattle population etc. were mapped.

maps and making houses, schools, temples, streets and other infrastructure and resources like crop lands, inhabited land, forests, streams etc. on ground with chalk. To prepared visual presentation of village social system with the facilitation of the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) team^[3]. After lunch, discussions and consultations with social groups existing in the village were held by the PRA team to gather basis village information regarding no. of households, demographic information, major crops and enterprises taken in the village, trends of production and productivity of major crops in the village, demographic distribution of village population. The villagers assembled at the Panchayat Ghar took part in the exercises on wealth ranking, livelihood analysis, problems identification, venn diagram etc. about the village and organized discussions on the activities performed. The activity of the Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) continued after tea break for problem prioritization and matrix ranking. After taking their suggestions, Participatory Rural Appraisal (PRA) report was prepared and presented as project document.

Putting values with stones, leaves, wooden sticks, and local people prepared this drawing by coloring on ground with rangoli powder without much interference of outsiders.

Basic information about village Deegh Koiran:

Village Deegh Koiran lies at distance of 8 Km form Bhadohi and 18 Km from District Headquarters Gyanpur. The village lies in the Panchayat Bhakora, block and Tehsil Bhadohi.

Sl.No.	Resources	Scores	Rank
1.	Seed and fertilizer distributor	0.71	1 st
2.	Private agencies	0.63	2 nd
3.	KVK	0.56	3 rd
4.	NGO	0.48	4 th
5.	Banaras Hindu University	0.37	5 th
6.	Kisan Call Center	0.21	6 th
Information Communication Technology			
1.	Mobile	1.72	1 st
2.	Television	1.2	2 nd
3.	Radio	1.0	3 rd
4.	Book	0.81	4 th
5.	Mela and Exhibition	0.71	5 th
6.	Internet Service	0.65	6 th
7.	Computer	0.45	7 th
8.	Landline Phone	0.30	8 th

A perusal of data incorporated in Table 1 revealed that the total population of village Deegh Koiran is 1009 of which 592 are males and 417 are females. Total

number of farming household in the village is 176. Literary rate of the village was 73 percent. The sex ratio in the village was 1000:880.

Table 1: Demographic information and literacy rate of Village Deegh Koiran

Sl. No.	Parametrs	
1.	Literacy Rate	73%
2.	Sex Ratio (Male : Female)	1000:880

As per distribution of the farming families on the basis of size of land holding in village Deegh Koiran Land Holding (Ha) all the farmers belongs to marginal farmers. The Deegh Koiran village has total geographical area of 50 Hectares of which area under Wheat crop is 22 hectares, paddy is 22 hectares Vegetable 10 hectares, oilseeds is 12 hectares and Sugarcane 5 hactares. 134 numbers of cows majority of them of coss breed and 54 number of buffaloes were reared by the farming families residing in village Deegh Koiran. The village has one panchayat Ghar, one schools, 1 anganwari centers and a ration depot as the basic amenities for the people. There were sufficient modern information and Communication (ICT) tools available in

the village that have frequently been used by the farmers. There were 220 television sets, 1220 mobile phones 13 computers/laptops and 155 persons in the village were found using internet services. There were 2 cars, 260 motorcycles and 402 cycles available in the village as the means of transportation. There were 2 tractors, Cultivator-2, spray pump 22 in the village. Transect walk is the process of PRA to travel across the village from one corner to another along with the villagers for verification and observation of the facts supplies by the villagers during social and resource mapping. By means of interaction in the fields farmers and team of the KVK Scientist got time to discuss the problems and local solutions as farmers are generally using indigenous technologies.

As per the PRA report KVK, Bhadohi has prepared action plan for implementation of agricultural technologies at the farmer's field for

enhancing and promoting the rural economy. It will be proved as an assets for working in village condition.

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