

International Journal of Agriculture Extension and Social Development

Volume 9; Issue 9; September 2026; Page No. 103-108

Received: 14-06-2026

Accepted: 18-07-2026

Indexed Journal

Peer Reviewed Journal

Vocational training needs of tribal women for self-reliance

¹HK Desai, ²JD Desai and ³Payal Vihariya

¹Scientist (Agriculture Extension), Krishi Vigyan Kendra, AAU, Arnej, Gujarat, India

²Associate Professor, Extension Education Institute, AAU, Anand, Gujarat, India

³Assistant Professor, Department of Extension Education, AAU, Anand, Gujarat, India

DOI: <https://www.doi.org/10.33545/26180723.2026.v9.i9b.4174>

Corresponding Author: HK Desai

Abstract

Vocational education and training are an important drive to address poverty reduction by improving employability, productivity, and helping sustainable development and inclusive growth for women empowerment. It facilitates a cycle of high productivity, increased employment opportunities, income growth and development. The present study was conducted in operational area of Tribal Research cum Training Center of Dahod district. Multistage random sampling techniques were used for selection of talukas, villages and respondents for the studies. Five talukas viz. Garbada, Dhanpur, Devgad Baria, Limkheda and Dahod were selected for the study. Four villages were selected randomly from each taluka, and 15 tribal women were randomly selected from each village, thus making the total sample of 300 tribal women. Training on stitching and tailoring, makeup and beautician training, value addition on maize, mehndi designing, value addition on fruit and vegetable, handmade embroidery product, modern dairy farm nutrition and management, value addition on ragi/finger millet, advances in poultry nutrition and feed technology and value addition on soybean was the very most important vocational training need of tribal women of Dahod district. Additional revenue generation and value-added product making was the most important components of vocational training program for the tribal women of Dahod district followed by advance aspect of agriculture and allied sector component. Major constraints faced by tribal women in participation of vocational training programmes were, lack of awareness about vocational training programmes, less co-operation and motivation from parents, new beginners facing financial difficulties, Difficult to attained long term (more than 3 days) training programmes, Limited choice of trades for females and Lack of self-motivation were ranked first to sixth respectively. suggestion given by tribal women to overcome the constraints were, awareness campaigns should be carried out in society about the importance vocational education, offered frequently short duration vocational training programme, provide adequate loan facility on timely, Parents and teachers should encourage students to develop a positive attitude towards vocational programme, Create job opportunity for tribal women and Frequent contact between officials were ranked first to sixth respectively.

Keywords: Vocational, training, need, tribal, women

Introduction

Vocational education and training are an important drive to address poverty reduction by improving employability, productivity, and helping sustainable development and inclusive growth for women empowerment. It facilitates a cycle of high productivity, increased employment opportunities, income growth and development. On the other hand, from a development perspective, investing in the education and training of females has the highest rate of return of any possible investment in developing countries; educated mothers having fewer children invest more in the health & education of each child thereby raising the productivity of future generations, increasing their income, and generating sustainable growth. Training needs of the tribal women refers to one's need for gaining knowledge and skills on different aspects for self-reliance. Effective training programs designed for tribal people in carrying out their income generating assets for better livelihood will go a long way in their required daily expenditure. Hence, it is necessary to have a complete understanding of the needs of the tribal

people before launching training programme. Need based training programme acts as a catalyst for increasing the motivational level of trainees who in turn try to put their sincere efforts to learn and gain maximum from training programme. It can thus be assumed that training need identification acts as a foundation pillar of training and helps in prioritizing the training areas for groups of trainees. Considering these facts present study was conducted with the objective to assess Vocational training needs of tribal women for self-reliance in Dahod district.

Objectives

1. To study profile of tribal women of Dahod district
2. To assess training needs of tribal women about vocational programmes
3. To identify major constraints faced by tribal women in participation of vocational training programmes
4. To explore suggestions from the tribal women to overcome the constraints faced by tribal women in participation of vocational training programmes

Methodology

The present study was conducted in operational area of Tribal Research cum Training Center of Dahod district. Multistage random sampling techniques were used for selection of talukas, villages and respondents for the studies. Five talukas viz. Garbada, Dhanpur, Devgad Baria, Limkheda and Dahod were selected for the study. Four villages were selected randomly from each Taluka, and 15 tribal women were randomly selected from each village, thus making the total sample of 300 tribal women. A well-structured interview schedule was prepared considering the objectives. A survey method of inquiry was used for data collection.

Research Design: Exploratory research design was used for study

Statistical techniques were used in study

1. Percentage
2. Mean
3. Weighted score (WS)

In this study, the farmer's responses were collected in a 3–point continuum scale as Very Important (VI), Important (I)

and Not Important (NI) by assigning scores 3, 2 and 1 respectively. The results were calculated as weighted score for each of the thrust area identified for the training.

$$\frac{(\text{No. of VI} \times 3) + (\text{No. of I} \times 2) + (\text{No. of NI} \times 1)}{\text{Total No. of VI + I + NI}}$$

Total No. of VI + I + NI

VI = Very Important, I = Important and NI = Not Important

Weighted Score ranged from 1 to 6.

Results and Discussion

Profile of tribal farm women

With a view to analyzing the important characteristics in relation to socio economic status of the tribal women, various personal, socio-economic and situational characteristics of the respondents viz. age, family type and size, education, social participation, land holding, annual income, types of house, occupation, mass media exposure, Extension contact, number of animal, farming experience were included in this study. In this investigation, these characteristics have been studied, and results are presented as below.

Table 1: Profile of tribal farm women of Dahod district n=300

Sr. No.	Socio-economic characteristics	Number	Percentage
A	Age		
	Young (up to 35 year)	203	67.66
	Middle (35 to 50 year)	57	19.00
	Old (above 50 year)	40	13.34
B	Type of family		
	Nuclear Family	87	29.00
	Joint Family	213	71.00
C	Size of the family		
	Small size (up to 5 members)	62	20.67
	Medium size (6 to 8 members)	83	27.66
	Large size (more than 8 members)	155	51.67
D	Education		
	Illiterate	24	08.00
	Primary	39	13.00
	Secondary	113	37.66
	Higher Secondary	96	32.00
	Graduate or Post Graduate	28	09.34
E	Social Participation		
	No Membership	81	27.00
	Membership in one organization	219	73.00
	Membership in more than one organization	00	00.00
	Membership along with position holding	00	00.00
F	Size of land holding		
	Marginal (up to 1.0 ha)	174	58.00
	Small (1.01 ha to 2.0 ha)	126	42.00
	Medium (2.01 ha to 4.0 ha)	00	00.00
	Large (above 4.0 ha)	00	00.00
G	Annual income		
	Up to Rs. 50,000/-	00	00.00
	Rs. 50,001/- to Rs. 75,000/-	123	41.00
	Rs. 75,001/- to Rs. 1,00,000/-	147	49.00
	Above Rs. 1,00,000/-	30	10.00
H	Type of house		
	Kacha	57	19.00
	Mix	176	58.66
	Pakka	67	22.34
I	Occupation		
	Agriculture + Animal husbandry	203	67.67
	Agriculture + Labor work + Animal husbandry	97	32.33

	Agriculture + Animal husbandry + Business	00	00.00
J	Mass media exposure		
	No Exposure of mass media (Agriculture and allied activity)	178	59.33
	T. V	27	09.00
	News Paper	23	07.67
	Magazine	00	00.00
	Mobile phone	72	24.00
K	Extension contacts		
	Gram sevak	106	35.34
	Agriculture officer	00	00.00
	livestock inspector	194	64.66
	Veterinary doctor	00	00.00
	Agricultural scientist	00	00.00
L	Number of Animal		
	Up to 7 animals	205	68.33
	7 to 15 animals	79	26.34
	Above 15 animals	16	05.33
M	Farming experience		
	Up to 10 years	182	60.66
	Above 10 years	118	39.34

The data presented in Table-1, revealed that,

Age:	Majority of tribal women belong to young age group followed by middle age group and old age group.
Types of Family:	More than two third tribal women were lived in joint family.
Size of the family:	More than half of the tribal women have large size of family members i.e. above 8 members followed by medium size of family members i.e. in between 6 to 8 members and small size of family members i.e. up to 5 members.
Education:	More than two third tribal women have secondary to higher secondary level of education.
Social Participation:	Nearly three fourth of tribal women have membership in one organization followed by 27.00 per cent of tribal women have no membership in any organization.
Land holding:	Majority of tribal women have marginal size of land holding followed by small size of land holding.
Annual Income:	Nearly half of the tribal women had Rs. 75,001/- to Rs. 1,00,000/- annual income followed by 41.00 per cent tribal farm women had Rs. 50,001/- to Rs. 75,000/- annual income.
Type of house:	Majority of tribal farm women have mix type of houses.
Occupation:	More than two third tribal farm women have agriculture with animal husbandry as main occupation followed by nearly one third tribal farm women have Agriculture + Labor work + Animal husbandry as main occupation.
Mass media exposure:	Majority of tribal women were didn't Exposure of mass media (Agriculture and allied activity) followed by 24.00 per cent, 09.00 per cent and 07.67 per cent exposure by Mobile phone, T.V and newspaper respectively.
Extension contacts:	Nearly two third tribal women were extension contact with livestock inspector followed by 35.34 per cent extension contact with Gram.
Number of Animal:	More than two third tribal farm women have Up to 7 no. of animal followed by 26.34 per cent have 7 to 15 no. of animal and 05.33 per cent tribal women had above 15 no. of animal.
Farming experience:	Majority of tribal women have more up to 10 years' experience under agriculture and allied activities.

Training needs of tribal women about vocational programmes

The major training needs components identified for the study were additional revenue generation, making value added

product and advance aspect of agricultural and allied sector etc. Training needs of the farmers are presented in the form of weighted scores in Tables 2 to 5. Weighted Scores in the range of 1 – 3 were ranked within each discipline.

Table 2: Distribution of respondents according to vocational training needs on additional revenue generation

Sr. No	Additional revenue generation	n =300					Avg. weighted scores
		VI	I	NI	weighted scores	Rank	
1	Stitching and tailoring	213	56	31	2.61	I	2.21
2	Mehndi designing	191	63	46	2.48	III	
3	Makeup and beautician training	204	58	38	2.55	II	
4	Jewellery designing	106	81	113	1.98	X	
5	Knitting (wool)	98	84	118	1.93	XI	
6	Soft toy making	181	56	63	2.39	V	
7	Pottery and clay classes	89	76	135	1.85	XII	
8	Bamboo/cane products making	84	79	137	1.82	XIII	
9	Paper bag / packet making	123	69	108	2.05	IX	
10	Khajuri brooms making	156	84	60	2.32	VI	
11	handmade embroidery product	185	67	48	2.46	IV	
12	Candle making	128	71	101	2.09	VIII	
13	Rakhi making	134	77	89	2.15	VII	

Data presented in table 2 revealed that training on stitching and tailoring, makeup and beautician training, mehndi designing, handmade embroidery product and soft toy making was the most important training need of tribal women in additional revenue generation component and were ranked one to fifth respectively followed by khajuri brooms making, rakhi making, candle making, paper bag / packet making,

jewellery designing, knitting (wool), pottery and clay classes and bamboo/cane products making was important training need of tribal women and were ranked sixth to thirteen respectively. Probable reason behind most important vocational trainings on additional revenue generation becomes good opportunity for tribal women for self-reliance on grassroots level.

Table 3: Distribution of respondents according to vocational training needs on making value added products

Sr. No	Making value added products	n =300					Avg. weighted scores
		VI	I	NI	Weighted scores	Rank	
1	value addition on Mahua (oil, sukhadi, chhiki)	147	78	75	2.24	V	2.19
2	Value addition on Maize (chevdo, chpis, dhokla)	198	56	46	2.51	I	
3	Value addition on soybean (tofu, milk, namkin)	168	64	68	2.33	IV	
4	Value addition on Ragi/Finger millet (Ragi Laddoo, Cake, Namkin)	182	53	65	2.39	III	
5	value addition on fruit and vegetable (Pickles, chutney, sauces, paste, puree and ketchup)	189	62	49	2.47	II	
6	Value addition on Bamboo shoots (Pickles and vegetables)	79	56	165	1.71	VIII	
7	Value addition on Tesu phool / kesudo (colour)	98	73	129	1.90	VII	
8	value addition on cow dung (Diyas, name plate, flower pots, sticks)	106	84	110	1.99	VI	

Data presented in Table 3 revealed that training on value addition on maize, value addition on fruit and vegetable, value addition on ragi/finger millet, value addition on soybean and value addition on mahua was the most important training need of tribal women in value added product component and were ranked first to fifth respectively followed by value addition on cow dung, value addition on

tesu phool and Value addition on bamboo shoots was important training need of tribal women and were ranked sixth to eighth respectively. Probable reason behind most important vocational trainings on value added product making, which can reduce malnutrition problems in tribal areas and also become opportunity to established small scale enterprise.

Table 4: Distribution of respondents according to vocational training needs on advance aspect of agriculture and allied sector

Sr. No	Advance aspect of agricultural & allied sector	n =300					Avg. weighted scores
		VI	I	NI	weighted scores	Rank	
1	Commercial floriculture (marigold, rose)	104	78	118	1.95	V	2.04
2	Advances in poultry nutrition and feed Technology	161	83	56	2.35	II	
3	Modern dairy farm nutrition and management	178	64	58	2.40	I	
4	Advanced organic farming	86	53	96	1.53	VIII	
5	Introduction to farm Management	94	62	144	1.83	VI	
6	On-Farm production of bio- fertilizer (Jivamrut, Bijamrut, vermicompost)	79	56	165	1.71	VII	
7	Commercial goat farming	152	84	64	2.29	III	
8	Kitchen gardening	134	94	72	2.21	IV	

Data presented in Table 4 shows that under advance aspect of agricultural & allied sector component, Modern dairy farm nutrition and management, Advances in poultry nutrition and feed Technology, Commercial goat farming, Kitchen gardening and Commercial floriculture (marigold, rose) was the most important training need of tribal women and were ranked first to fifth respectively followed by Introduction to farm Management, On-Farm production of bio- fertilizer (Jivamrut, Bijamrut and vermicompost) and Advanced organic farming was important training need of tribal women in advance aspect of agricultural & allied sector component and were ranked sixth to eighth respectively.

Data presented in Fig 1 revealed that additional revenue generation and making value added product was the most important components of vocational training program for the tribal women of Dahod district followed by advance aspect of agriculture and allied sector component.

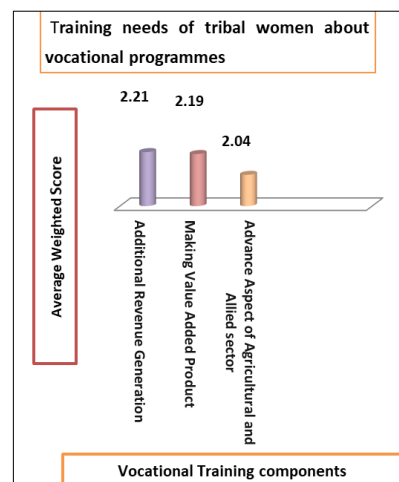


Fig 1: Components wise training needs on vocational programmes

Table 5: Overall training needs of tribal women about vocational programmes

Sr. No	Vocational training needs	n =300				
		VI	I	NI	Weighted scores	Rank
1	Stitching and tailoring	213	56	31	2.61	I
2	Makeup and beautician training	204	58	38	2.55	II
3	Value addition on Maize (chevdo, chpis, dhokla)	198	56	46	2.51	III
4	Mehndi designing	191	63	46	2.48	IV
5	Value addition on fruit and vegetables (Pickles, chutney, sauces, paste, puree and ketchup)	189	62	49	2.47	V
6	Handmade embroidery product	185	67	48	2.46	VI
7	Modern dairy farm nutrition and management	178	64	58	2.40	VII
8	Value addition on Ragi/Finger millet (Ragi Laddoo, Cake, Namkin)	182	53	65	2.39	VIII
9	Advances in poultry nutrition and feed Technology	161	83	56	2.35	IX
10	Value addition on soybean (tofu, milk, khakhra, namkin)	168	64	68	2.33	IV

Data presented in Table 5 revealed that training on stitching and tailoring, makeup and beautician training, value addition on maize, mehndi designing, value addition on fruit and vegetable, handmade embroidery product, modern dairy farm nutrition and management, value addition on ragi/finger

millet, advances in poultry nutrition and feed technology and value addition on soybean was the very most important vocational training need of tribal women of Dahod district and were ranked first to tenth respectively.

Table 6: Major constraints faced by tribal women in participation of vocational training programmes n =300

No.	Major constraints	F	%	Rank
1	Less co-operation and motivation from parents	184	61.33	II
2	Lack of awareness about vocational training programmes	197	65.67	I
3	New beginners facing financial difficulties	178	59.33	III
4	Difficult to participate long term (more than 3 days) training programmes	169	56.34	IV
5	Limited choice of trades for tribal women	162	54.00	V
6	Lack of self-motivation	145	48.33	VI

Data presented in Table 6 shows that major constraints faced by tribal women in participation of vocational training programmes were, lack of awareness about vocational training programmes, less co-operation and motivation from

parents, new beginners facing financial difficulties, Difficult to attained long term (more than 3 days) training programmes, Limited choice of trades for females and Lack of self-motivation were ranked first to sixth respectively.

Table 7: Explore suggestions from the tribal women to overcome the constraints n = 300

No.	Suggestions	F	%	Rank
1	Awareness campaigns should be carried out in society about the importance vocational education	216	72.00	I
2	Provide adequate loan facility on timely	205	68.33	III
3	Parents and teachers should encourage students to develop a positive attitude towards vocational programme	192	64.00	IV
4	Offered frequently short duration vocational training programme	209	69.34	II
5	Create job opportunity for tribal women	183	61.00	V
6	Frequent contact between officials	176	58.67	VI

Data presented in Table 7 shows that suggestion given by tribal women to overcome the constraints were, awareness campaigns should be carried out in society about the importance vocational education, offered frequently short duration vocational training programme, provide adequate loan facility on timely, Parents and teachers should encourage students to develop a positive attitude towards vocational programme, Create job opportunity for tribal women and Frequent contact between officials were ranked first to sixth respectively.

Conclusion

It could be concluded from the study that majority of tribal women belong to young age group, joint type of family with large size of members in family. Majority of them are secondary to higher secondary level of education, membership with one organization. Further, majority of the tribal women had marginal size of land holding, mix and kacha type of house and annual income between `50,000 to

`75,000. Most of the tribal women had Agriculture + Animal husbandry as main occupation, less exposure of mass media and extension contact and up to 10 years farming experience. Training on stitching and tailoring, makeup and beautician training, value addition on maize, mehndi designing, value addition on fruit and vegetable, handmade embroidery product, modern dairy farm nutrition and management, value addition on ragi/finger millet, advances in poultry nutrition and feed technology and value addition on soybean was the very most important vocational training need of tribal women of Dahod district. Additional revenue generation and value-added product making was the most important components of vocational training program for the tribal women of Dahod district followed by advance aspect of agriculture and allied sector component. Major constraints faced by tribal women in participation of vocational training programmes were, lack of awareness about vocational training programmes, less co-operation and motivation from parents, new beginners facing financial difficulties, Difficult to attained long term (more

than 3 days) training programmes, Limited choice of trades for females and Lack of self-motivation were ranked first to sixth respectively. suggestion given by tribal women to overcome the constraints were, awareness campaigns should be carried out in society about the importance vocational education, offered frequently short duration vocational training programme, provide adequate loan facility on timely, Parents and teachers should encourage students to develop a positive attitude towards vocational programme, Create job opportunity for tribal women and Frequent contact between officials were ranked first to sixth respectively.

Message

Vocational trainings on additional revenue generation and value addition were the most important training need components of the tribal women of Dahod district. Hence, it is advisable to conduct more planned vocational training programmes related to income generation (stitching and tailoring, makeup and beautician, mehndi designing and in the value addition components (value addition on maize, value addition on fruit and vegetable, value addition on ragi/finger millet) with more practical oriented approaches. Also, this type of vocational training programmes creates good opportunity for tribal women to established small scale enterprise and reduce malnutrition problems in tribal area.

References

1. Fatema K. Training needs of the farm women in increasing homestead agricultural production in the project villages of BAU Extension Center. Mymensingh, Bangladesh: Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Bangladesh Agricultural University; 2008. 58 p.
2. Karim M, Hossin MD. Analysis of farmers' agricultural knowledge in sugarcane cultivation. Bangladesh J Agril Eco. 2000;23(2):68-69.
3. Mondal H. Women in rice post harvest activities and their training needs in Kaligong Upazilla of Lalmonirhat District under RDRS. Mymensingh, Bangladesh: Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Bangladesh Agricultural University; 2006. 87 p.
4. Rurarm J. Essay on Garo society. Birishiri, Netrakona, Bangladesh: Garo National Council of Bangladesh; 2002. 11 p.
5. Smallholder Agricultural Project. Baseline survey report of Jhenaigati Upazila. Dhaka, Bangladesh: Department of Agricultural Extension, Ministry of Agriculture; 2007. 15 p.
6. Shaha BK. Knowledge and training needs of the farmers for System of Rice Intensification Programme of CARE-RDS in Sherpur District. Mymensingh, Bangladesh: Department of Agricultural Extension Education, Bangladesh Agricultural University; 2003. p. 56.
7. Desai HK, Patel GJ, Makani AY. Training needs of tribal farmers in agriculture Gujarat. J Ext Educ. 2021 Dec;32(1).