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### Symbolic adoption of cutting and tailoring trainings organized for scheduled caste women

**Kiran Bala and Vinita Jain**

#### Abstract

KVKs impart trainings and education with a view to raise the level of knowledge, attitudinal changes and testing and transferring of recommended improved farm and home technologies so as to bridge the gap between production and productivity and also to increase self-employment opportunities among the farming community especially to rural women. Therefore, the present study has been planned with the objectives to assess the impact of trainings on scheduled caste women and to measure the symbolic adoption of women respondents for cutting and tailoring. Sufficient gain in knowledge after exposing to cutting and tailoring trainings was recorded for sub-components viz, designing, cutting, stitching, surface enrichment, machine care and operation, entrepreneurial education and precautions. The respondents succeeded in change their attitude at post-exposure level in all the training and acquired high level skill on all the aspects of cutting and tailoring. Most of the respondents (68.89%) had acquired high level skill after exposure to training. Most of the respondents (42.50%) had medium symbolic adoption cutting and tailoring. Overall impact of trainings was of medium level (55.55%).

**Keywords:** Knowledge, attitude, skill, symbolic adoption and overall impact

#### Introduction

Empowerment in the context of women's development is way of defining, challenging and overcoming barriers in a women's life through which she increases her ability to shape her life and environment. It has been realized in last few years that the wide spread poverty and stunt economic growth cannot be rectified unless gainful sustainable economic activity in women are encouraged. Thus, it is natural that women need special attention and focus.

Cutting and tailoring is one of the avenues for self-employment which require less of basic and technical education, minimum infrastructure and moderate financial needs. Clothing construction is a technical accomplishment, which requires knowledge of fabrics, principle of clothing construction and skills involved in it. Proficiency in the art of cutting and tailoring is an essential pre-requisite in clothing construction, it is very important to know the techniques of cutting and tailoring for producing attractive garments. Cutting and tailoring is very common in almost every Indian household and girls learn this art from their elders.

Despite limited women welfare programmes much headway could not be achieved because of the fact that majority of rural women are illiterate and deprived of exposure to mass media and outside world that is why their knowledge is limited to traditional practices.

KVKs impart trainings and education with a view to raise the level of knowledge, attitudinal changes and testing and transferring of recommended improved farm and home technologies so as to bridge the gap between production and productivity and also to increase self employment opportunities among the farming community especially to rural women. KVK not only motivate them for starting their enterprises but also help them to be empowered. Therefore, the present study has been planned with the following objectives:

1. To assess the impact of trainings on scheduled caste women.
2. To measure the symbolic adoption of women respondents for cutting and tailoring.

#### Methodology

The study was conducted in Hisar district of Haryana state purposively. Hisar district was selected purposively as KVK Sadalpur is organizing training for scheduled caste women at regular intervals.

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Hisar, Adampur and Hansi blocks were selected purposively for the present study. Hisar from Hisar block, Sadaplur from Adampur block and Hansi from Hansi block were selected for imparting training to Scheduled caste women by Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sadalpur. Therefore, three trainings imparted by home scientist of Krishi Vigyan Kendra, Sadalpur were finally selected for the present study and comprising of 30 scheduled caste women each for the present study. Thus total sample of respondents was 90 trainees haled from different villages of Hisar district for the cutting and tailoring training. Impact of training was assessed in terms of gain in knowledge, change in attitude, skill acquisition and symbolic adoption. A well structured interview schedule was constructed for data collection on the basis of objectives. The collected data was quantified and interpreted by using suitable statistical tools such as frequency, percentage, weighted mean score, rank and paired 't' test.

**Results and discussion**

Impact of training of respondents was assessed in terms of knowledge, attitude, skill and adoption. Per- exposure and post exposure mean scores and t-test was computed for cutting and tailoring in all the blocks of Hisar district which are presented as under.

**Gain in knowledge of women respondents on cutting and tailoring in all the blocks of Hisar districts**

Pre exposure and post-exposure mean scores and 't' test was computed for all the sub-components of cutting and tailoring in all the blocks of Hisar which are presented in Table 1. Sufficient gain in knowledge regarding cutting and stitching training was recorded for sub-components of training viz; designing, cutting, stitching, surface enrichment, machine care and operation, entrepreneurial education and precautions in pooled sample. It may, therefore be concluded that women succeeded in acquiring knowledge after exposure to training on cutting and stitching. It was statistically significant at 5% level of significance. Similar conclusions were arrived at by Jain and Verma (2007) [5] revealed that significant change in knowledge regarding all the selected messages of animal husbandry practices was observed in all the selected districts of Haryana State. The better impact on change in knowledge may be due to the fact that success of training programme depends on adoption of appropriate training methodology and training need of participants by Manju (2009) [6], Yadav (2009) [10] and Yadav (2013) [11].

**Table 1:** Knowledge of women regarding cutting and tailoring

Sr. No.	Components	Pre-Exposure (Mean Score)	Post-Exposure (Mean Score)	Gain in Knowledge (Mean Score)	t value N=90
1.	Designing	02.36	03.13	0.77	09.61*
2.	Cutting	06.62	11.06	04.44	15.02*
3.	Stitching	06.52	10.99	04.47	15.41*
4.	Surface enrichments	04.29	05.89	01.60	10.67*
5.	Machine care and operation	08.33	13.48	05.15	15.74*
6.	Entrepreneurial education	02.07	03.14	01.07	10.70*
7.	Precautions	11.53	18.67	07.14	24.62*

\*Significant at 0.05 level of significance

**Change in attitude of women respondents for cutting and tailoring**

Change in attitude of respondents regarding cutting and stitching in Hisar, Hansi and Sadalpur was assessed through pre and post exposure mean score and 't' test. Pre-exposure and post-exposure mean score and 't' test were computed for all the sub component of the cutting and tailoring and have been presented in Table-2.

It is evident from the Table-2 that respondents succeeded in

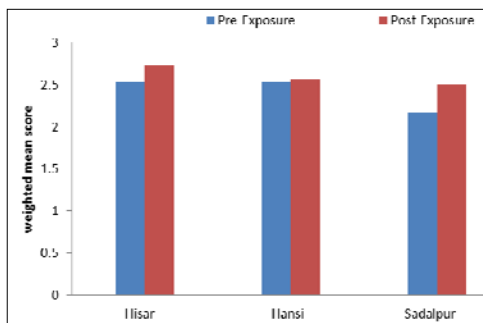
changing their attitude at post exposure level in all three trainings. It was observed that change in attitude was recorded in Hisar, Hansi and Sadalpur after exposing them to training in cutting and tailoring. It was statistically significant at 5% level of significance.

It can be concluded that respondents had changed their attitude when exposed to training on cutting and tailoring. Finding of Deepti (2008) [2], Nutan (2009) [7] and Gita (2010) [3] are in line with the finding of present study.

**Table 2:** Change in attitude of women related to cutting and tailoring

	Pre-Exposure (Mean Score)	Post-Exposure (Mean Score)	Change in attitude (Mean Score)	t value n=30
Hisar	2.53	2.73	0.20	5.22*
Hansi	2.53	2.57	0.04	4.11*
Sadalpur	2.17	2.50	0.33	3.00

\*Significant at 0.05 level of significance



**Fig. 1:** Change in attitude of women related to cutting and tailoring

**Skill acquisition of respondents for cutting and tailoring**

Skill acquisition of respondents for cutting and tailoring in Hisar, Hansi, Sadalpur and pooled sample was assessed through pre and post exposure mean score for cutting and tailoring was calculated in frequency, percentage and have been presented in Table- 3. The data point out that most of the respondents (56.67%) were having medium skill acquisition followed by low

(36.67%) and high skill acquisition (6.67%) at pre exposure stage in Hisar. After exposing them to training 73.33 per cent of the respondents acquired high skill followed by medium skill acquisition (26.67%) respectively in Hisar.

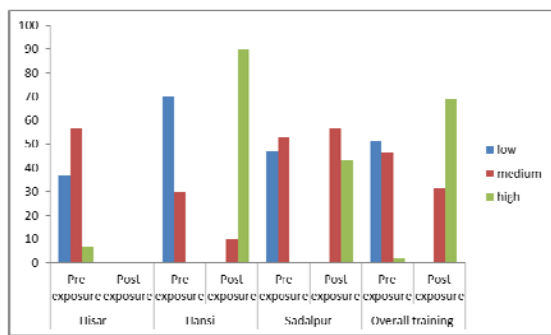
In Hansi, 70.00 per cent of the respondents were having low

skill acquisition followed by medium (30%) at pre exposure stage. However, at post exposure of training majority of the respondents of Hansi (90%) acquired high level skills followed by medium skill (10%). In Sadalpur 53 per cent of the respondents were having medium skill acquisition followed by low (47%) at pre exposure stage. However, at post exposure of training more than half of respondents (56.67%) acquired medium level skill acquisition followed by high skill acquisition (43.33%).

The similar trend was observed in pooled sample also. Thus it can be inferred that women acquired skill when they were exposed to training.

**Table 3:** Skill acquisition of women respondents for cutting and tailoring

Categories and scores	Hisar n=30 f (%)		Hansi n=30 f (%)		Sadalpur n=30 f (%)		Overall training N=90 f (%)	
	Pre exposure	Post exposure	Pre exposure	Post exposure	Pre exposure	Post exposure	Pre exposure	Post exposure
Low (16-21)	11(36.67)	-	21(70.00)	-	14(47.00)	-	46(51.11)	-
Medium (22-27)	17(56.66)	08(26.67)	09(30.00)	03(10.00)	16(53.00)	17(56.67)	42(46.67)	28(31.11)
High (28-32)	02(6.67)	22(73.33)	-	27(90.00)	-	13(43.33)	02(2.22)	62(68.89)



**Fig. 2:** Skill acquisition of women respondents for cutting and tailoring

**Impact Assessment Index of women respondents for cutting and tailoring**

Impact assessment index of cutting and tailoring training is given in Table-4. It clearly indicates that the calculated impact was found to be 44.20 per cent which is of moderate level. Thus, it may be inferred that women respondents after exposure to training acquired knowledge and change their attitude to the extent which was less than 66 per cent but of moderate level. Similar results were also arrived at by Deepthi (2008)<sup>[2]</sup> and Yadav (2013)<sup>[11]</sup>.

**Table 4:** Impact Assessment Index of women respondents for cutting and tailoring

Knowledge/ Attitude	(3)	Medium (2)	Low (1)	Total n=90
Highly favourable (3)	9(3×3)81	6(3×2)36	8(3×1)24	23
Favourable (2)	16(2×3)96	10(2×2)40	12(2×1)24	38
Not favourable (1)	9(1×3)27	10(1×2)20	10(1×1)10	29
Total	34	26	30	90

$$IAI = \frac{\sum Fi \times ci}{N \times X \times Y} \times 100$$

$$= \frac{81+36+24+96+40+24+27+20+10}{90 \times 3 \times 3} \times 100$$

IAI = 44.20 % (Moderate)

**Symbolic adoption of women respondents for cutting and tailoring**

Data were collected developed for measurement of symbolic

adoption of cutting and tailoring for income generation. Data presented in Table 5 shows that 40.00 per cent respondents of Hisar had medium symbolic adoption followed by high (26.67%) and low (33.33%) symbolic adoption. In case of Hansi 46.67 per cent of the respondents had medium symbolic adoption followed by high symbolic adoption (30%) and low (23.33%) symbolic adoption.

In Sadalpur, 56.67 per cent of respondents had medium symbolic adoption followed by low (23.33%) and high (20%) symbolic adoption. In case of pooled sample, 38.89 per cent per cent of respondents had medium symbolic adoption followed by low (36.67%) and high (24.22%) symbolic adoption respectively.

**Table 5:** Symbolic adoption of women respondents on cutting and tailoring

Categories and scores	Hisar n=30		Hansi n=30		Sadalpur n=30		Total N=90	
	f	%	f	%	f	%	f	%
High (13-16)	8	26.67	9	30.00	6	20.00	22	24.44
Medium (9-12)	12	40.00	14	46.67	17	56.67	35	38.89
Low (5-8)	10	33.33	7	23.33	7	23.33	33	36.67

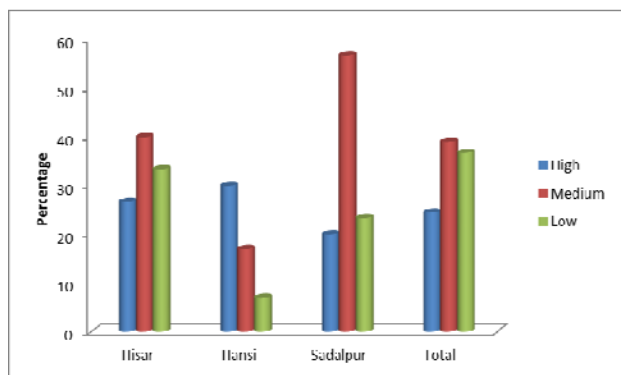


Fig. 3: Symbolic adoption of women respondents on cutting and tailoring

Finding of the present study showed that respondents succeeded in acquiring skill with respect to all aspects of cutting and tailoring. This reflects interactive and effective learning situation by providing step by step procedure along with lectures in a friendly environment in simple language for better comprehension. Findings of the present study are in conformity with those of Akansha (2006) [1], Shivakumara (2008) [7], Manju (2009) [6] and Tayal (2012) [8] also reported that 80 per cent of the respondents acquired vermicompost production skills by undergoing the training.

**Overall impact of training**

Table 6 shows overall impact of training. Overall impact of training was measured in term of knowledge, attitude, decision-making, skill and adoption. It is clear from table that overall impact was found medium (55.55%) followed by low (27.78%) and high (16.67%) respectively in all three trainings.

Table 6: Overall impact of Cutting and tailoring N=90

Categories and scores	Frequency	Percentage
Low (114-126)	25	27.78
Medium (127-139)	50	55.55
High (140-152)	15	16.67

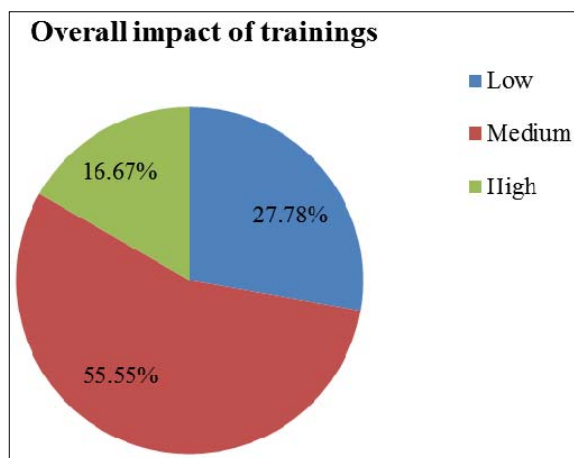


Fig. 4: Overall impact of Cutting and tailoring

**Conclusion**

Sufficient gain in knowledge and change in attitude was recorded for all components of cutting and tailoring. Skill acquisition of respondents was of high level. The impact assessment index of training programme in terms of gain in

knowledge and change in attitude were of moderate level. Symbolic adoption was of medium level. Overall impact of trainings was of medium level.

**Suggestion**

- Continuous planned efforts and follow up action should be organized for reinforcement of learnt behavior. Whereas women may be encouraged more and more for adoption of cutting and tailoring training as an enterprise.
- More of the families were unaware about the provision of bank loan for starting various income generating activities, it is therefore suggested to organize special lectures and training in the villages by government extension agencies and NGOs.
- Most of the respondents perceived lack of economic and marketing facilities for sale of cutting and tailoring so it is suggested to establish such cooperative units/societies of goods from one village to another etc.

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