

Chapter-5

KVK: The Features and Functions

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5.1 Special features

Some of the special features of the KVK need to be kept in view in its management. These are :

- The training courses, in order to be relevant, should be based on a deliberate attempt to identify the training needs. This may be accomplished by using selected Participatory Rural Appraisal tools or conducting a scientific survey, group interviews, and personal visits. The survey, being a time consuming task, the help of sister institutions such as Agricultural University, Research Institute etc. may be sought. Encouraging postgraduate research studies by the students of Agricultural Extension and Agricultural Economics may generate useful information with respect to identifying technological gaps and related training needs.
- In order to benefit larger number of farmers and farm women, attempts should be made to organize a large number of short courses of one day to one week duration and only limited number of long duration courses. The on-campus long duration courses should be focused on
- Young farmers, both boys and girls with special emphasis on school dropouts.
- In order to impart skill training by providing work experience, it is essential to develop ideal training facilities such as farms of various sizes consistent to the farm sizes of the area, farm workshop, livestock demonstration units etc. The trainers should be involved in and responsible for developing and maintaining these facilities. The creation and maintenance of these facilities should also provide the opportunities to the trainers for making performance observations of the

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ISBN: 978-81-930585-6-5

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crops and animals and thus have the trial of the efficacy of the recommended technology on the farmers' fields. In addition, the facilitators/ teachers/ trainers must prepare themselves before a particular training course is started so that the facilitation/ teaching/ training job could be performed through interactive method.

- The Krishi Vigyan Kendra would have no uniform syllabus; the courses will vary according to the local requirements and the specific needs of the targeted groups. While for most of the short courses, course outlines, lesson plans, and other related details have to be worked out, for some of the long duration courses viz., three months course on poultry management, the same syllabus may continue for some more time for the similar interest groups. Each KVK must maintain a guard file for the outlines of all the short and long duration courses.
- The vocational training courses should prepare the practicing farmers to adopt modern agricultural technologies and the farmers /school-drop-outs for scientific farming or for self employment on their own forms or in an agro-based industries.
- The KVK is broad based and therefore composite in nature both in respect of subject matter and the audience (trainees).
- A farmer as a practitioner has to deal with all the inter-related subjects (agronomy, plant protection, soil and water management, livestock production, fruit and vegetable production etc.).
- In order to multiply training courses, the human resource of the progressive farmers, as trainers have to be explored and utilized. Each Kendra should identify such experienced farmers as Honorary Training Associates and attach a small group of young farmers (3 to 5) at one time at his farm with him for special skill training. Effective supervision of such teaching-learning situations by the teachers of the Kendra would be imperative.
- The district, normally an operational area of a KVK being large in size, may be covered in a phased manner. Some small but crucial courses, however, may be organized for the participants coming from all over the district.

- In order to be effective, the Kendra must develop and maintain functional linkages with allied institutions. Follow-up action and the supply of inputs could be ensured by developing very close linkages with the government departments, lead bank, cooperative and other institutions.
- Inter and intra institutional linkages and frequent interactions on KVK programmes and progress are crucial. The Scientific Advisory Committee (earlier Local Management Committee) of the KVK should play a pivotal role in this respect. Timely holding of meeting of this committee is essential in order to develop good linkages with other departments and institutions.
- Follow-up of the training courses and other programmes would be essential and can be realized by way of organizing "Ex-trainees Meet", regular visit to villages, interaction with the beneficiaries of the programmes and on-the-spot guidance as well as by correspondence. Supporting agencies may be encouraged to take effective follow-up programmes to harness the benefit of training courses and other programmes organized in the KVK.
- Concurrent and periodical evaluation of the performance of the courses and the trainers should be an in-built design of the Kendra.
- The frontline demonstrations should be planned and laid down on only selected technologies which are relevant for the district and which can facilitate learning in the training session in the KVK.
- On-farm trials or on-farm testing need to be conducted with a view to solve the most important and widely spread problems of the farmers of the district.

5.2 KVK: THE GOVERNANCE

5.2.1 Authority and Monitoring System

Authority of the KVKs is vested in the Indian Council of Agricultural Research, having its headquarters at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi-110001. The Council is a Society registered under the Societies Registration Act, 1860 of India. The society has, subject to such restrictions as the Government of India may impose and subject to such guidelines as the

Government of India may issue from time to time in this behalf, full authority to perform all acts and issue such directions as may be considered necessary, incidental or conducive to the attainment of the objects enunciated in the scheme of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra.

The Director General, ICAR and Secretary, Department of Agricultural Research and Education, Government of India, is the Principal Executive of the Council. He is supported by eight Deputy Director Generals including a Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension) who is responsible for implementation of the agricultural extension programmes in the country and giving advice to him on all policy issues related to extension programmes. The Secretary, ICAR helps in administrative and legal matters.

The Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension) is the head of the Agricultural Extension Division of the Council, which is one of the eight divisions. This division is responsible for coordination of frontline extension education programmes of the ICAR at national level. The Deputy Director General (AE) is assisted by three Assistant Director Generals, two Principal Scientists, two Senior Scientists, two Technical Officers, an Under Secretary, two Section Officers and Section staff.

There are 8 Zonal Coordinating Units located in 8 Zones of the country. Each Zonal Coordinating Unit is headed by a Zonal Coordinator/project Director two Senior Scientists, two Scientists, a Technical Officer, an Asstt. Fin. & Accounts Officer and other office staff.

Co-ordination and monitoring functions at the zonal level is being performed by the Zonal Co-coordinator/ project Director with the help of scientists and technical officers through inspection/visit to the Project Centers review of the progress reports, state level group meetings and zonal workshops held annually. Guidance, supervision, and HRD functions are performed by the Zonal Co-coordinators/ project Directors through organization of special orientation/training courses at the level, visits and on the spot guidance to the KVK Scientists at the Project Centers and training of KVK scientists in various institutions within and outside country.

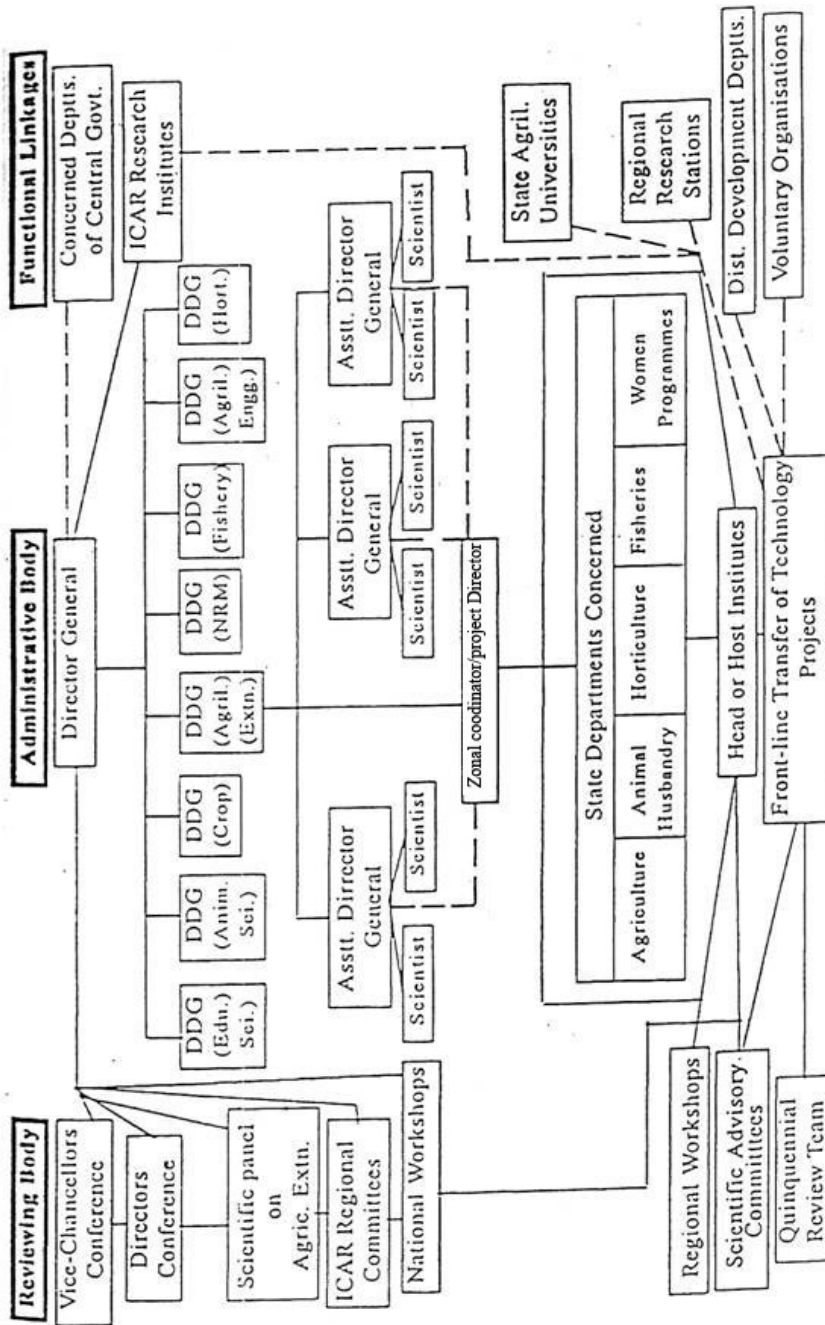


Fig. A. Organisational set up of ICAR Extension

The Grantee/ host institution has to provide overall supervision of the programme in the KVK. The training Organiser/ programme coordinator of the Krishi Vigyan Kendra is the principal executive officer of the respective Kendra. The scientific, technical and supporting staff of the Kendra are on the cadre of the respective host institution and therefore, their service conditions are guided by its statutes and personnel policies.

5.3 Organizational structure of KVK

Each KVK shall be headed by a Training Organiser/programme coordinator who will be selected preferably from the discipline of Agril. Extension or Agronomy, six Training Associates in the area of Agronomy (if Head is not from the discipline of Agronomy), Horticulture, Veterinary Science/ Animal Science, Soil Science, Home Science, Agril. Extension (if head is not from the discipline of Agril. Extension), Entomology/Pathology and Fisheries/Agril. Engineering/ Plant Breeding; three Training Asstts. (a Farm Manager, a Computer Operator/ Programmer and another in a more important thrust area); two administrative and four supporting staff including two drivers.

Table 1.1: The Headquarter and area of operation of each zone

Zone No.	Headquarter	Area of operation
1.	Punjab Agril. University, Ludhiana (Punjab)	Jammu & Kashmir, Punjab, Haryana, Himachal Pradesh and Delhi.
2.	NBSS & LUP Campus, Sector-2, Block-DK, Bidhan Nagar, Salt Lake Calcutta (West Bengal)	Bihar, West Bengal and Andaman & Nicobar Islands.
3.	ICAR Research Complex for NEH Region, Barapani, Umroi Road, Shillong (Meghalaya)	Assam and Other NEH States/ Union Territories.

4.	Directorate of Extension, CS Azad University of Agric. & Technology, Kanpur (UP)	Uttar Pradesh
5.	CRIDA Complex, Santoshnagar, Hyderabad (AP)	Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra.
6.	CAZRI, Jodhpur (Rajasthan)	Gujarat, Rajasthan, and Dadar and Nagar Haveli.
7.	JNKW, Jabalpur (MP)	Madhya Pradesh and Orissa
8.	NDPJ Southern Regional Station, Adugodi, Bangalore (Karnataka)	Karnataka, Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Goa and Pondicherry.

5.4 Funding

KVK is centrally sponsored scheme. The scheme has been funded on 100 per cent basis by the ICAR. According to the Seventh Five Year Plan, this project will be financed on a hundred per cent by the ICAR for the first five year and in Second five year the expenditure will be shared on a 50:50 basis by the ICAR and the concerned state Governments/ state Agricultural universities. After ten years, the state Government if required to support fully. In addition, the complementing institution is required to provide at least 50 acres of well developed farm, basic municipal facilities and some infrastructure facilities, if available at the site.

A LMC (Local Management Committee)/SAC (Scientific Advisory Committee) is constituted in each KVK for assessing, reviewing and guiding the training programme of the Kendra. This committee comprises across-section of the scientific and farming communities, both governmental and non-Governmental who are directly or indirectly involved in the process of agricultural training, production and rural development. This committee meets twice in a year and devotes maximum

time in reviewing the progress and finalizing the future strategy of the training and follow-up extension activities.

5.5 Progress and Achievements

The KVKs/ TTCs are at different stages of development depending upon the facilities they inherited from the host institutions and the resources made available from the project. However, the KVKs normally start functioning and organizing training courses the moment the staff is appointed. The courses are arranged in the village (off-campus), mostly of one-day duration. Residential courses are started gradually as and when the physical facilities are developed at the campus.

Many courses are organized in collaboration with the sister institutions in the area combining scientists of the KVK and the physical facilities of the sister institutions. In the absence of buildings and classrooms, the concept of 'Meadow School' of the Late Tarabal Modak is followed.

The achievement of the KVKs is measured in terms of

- (i) Training courses organized
- (ii) number of beneficiaries
- (iii) Follow-up of field extension activities organized and
- (iv) The impact of these activities on the farming community in general and agricultural production in particular.

In these training courses stress is laid on quality training. The training of farmers through work experience has been relatively slow. The follow-up extension activities and advisory services have been given equal importance to give meaning to the training lessons. The experience shows that one KVK can train about 3000 farmers and farm women, and can organize related extension activities every year. This implied that KVK would take over 50 years to cover the entire potential farming community of the respective district through long and short duration courses.