Research Article

FACTORS AFFECTING TRAINING NEEDS OF RURAL YOUNG GIRLS IN SELECTED VOCATIONS IN UDHAM SINGH NAGAR DISTRICT OF UTTARAKHAND

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Abstract- The present study was conducted in Udham Singh Nagar District of Uttarakhand, with the objective of, factors affecting training needs of rural young girls in selected vocations. For this, one hundred twenty rural young girls were selected and information was collected with the help of observation and pre-structured interview schedule and data was analysed with the appropriate statistical tools as; frequency, percentage and mean and results were drawn from it. The findings of the study revealed that majority of respondents were of young age (22-26 years), unmarried, had education qualification up to intermediate level and belonged to medium size nuclear family. They had medium level of achievement motivation, occupational aspiration.

Keywords- Training Needs, Selected Vocations, Rural Young Girls

Introduction

India has the largest youth population in the world i.e. 460 million (CIA World factbook, 2012). Out of 66% of youth population in India, about 70% are from rural areas. Rural youth faces the problem of unemployment and underemployment due to lower level of education and skill. Rate of increase in unemployment per year is 10.7% (CIA world fact book, 2012). Among the rural youth, rural young girls constitute sizable proportion of population and are most disadvantaged group in the society. Rural girls as compared to their male counterparts lagged behind due to their inability to avail opportunities for higher education and better career options. There are many socio-cultural barriers faced by them such as early marriage, male dominance and limited mobility etc, which hamper their growth and development. In rural areas males still opt for self-employment but girls remained untouched with this benefit as they are not allowed to move out of the house and made completely dependent on male members of the family. Presently most of the urban as well as rural young girls have been influenced by mass media and social media to a greater extent. Moreover, literacy rate has also increased which resulted in raising their aspirations to become self-dependent. Their aspirations can be fulfilled by channelizing their abilities and guiding them to opt certain vocations which are of their interest. If these rural girls are trained, they can bring miracle for the nation by contributing in the development.

Methodology

The study was conducted in Udham Singh Nagar district of Uttarakhand. Four villages namely Basantipur, Chitranjanpur No. 1, Chitranjanpur No.2, and Haridaspur were selected on the basis of considerable population of young girls reside in the villages and have regular and constant linkages with community radio station of Pantnagar. The young girls residing in selected villages constituted the respondents of the study. From each village, 30 per cent young girls in the age group of 18-30 years residing in the village permanently were selected randomly using chit method of Simple Random Sampling without Sampling.

Results and Discussion

On the basis of extensive review of literature and discussion with the experts, personal and socio-psychological variables namely age, education, marital status, family size, family type, occupational aspirations, and achievement motivation etc. were selected. The data on these characteristics were analyzed and presented in following tables with an object to draw a general picture of the rural young girls.

1. Age

It is evident from the below [Table-1] that majority of the respondents (57.50 per cent) were found in the category of young age followed by respondents in their very young age (32.50 per cent). Only 10 per cent of the respondents were in their mature age. The findings confirmed earlier study carried out by [9] who also stated that one third of the respondents belonged to young age category.
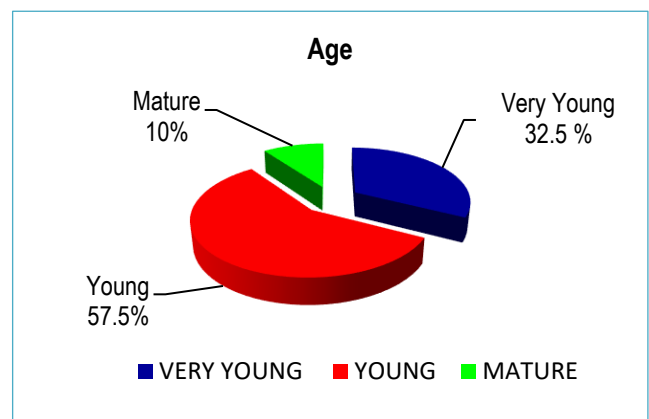

Fig-1 Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Age composition

Table-1 *Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Age composition (n=120)*

Sl.No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Very Young (Less than 22 yrs.)	39	32.50
2	Young (22-26 yrs.)	69	57.5
3	Mature (More than 26 yrs.)7	12	10.00

2. Education

It is clearly showed that most of the respondents (37.5 per cent) had education up to intermediate level followed by graduation and above (24.16 per cent) [Table-2]. The findings of the study are in line with the study conducted by [8] who mentioned that most of the respondents studied up to intermediate level. While 18.33 per cent of the respondents had education up to middle level followed by primary level of education (12.5 per cent). Only five per cent of the respondents were illiterate and few i.e., 1.66 and 0.83 could read only and read and write only respectively.

Table-2 *Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Educational status (n=120)*

Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1.	Illiterate	6	5
2.	Can read only	2	1.66
3.	Can read and write	1	0.83
4.	Primary	15	12.5
5.	Middle	22	18.33
6.	Intermediate	45	37.5
7.	Graduate and above	29	24.16

The results showed that most of the respondents had education up to intermediate level and sizable number had education up to graduation and above. This showed that respondents of the study area were very much interested in their studies. In this present context parents of the young girls were more careful about the studies.
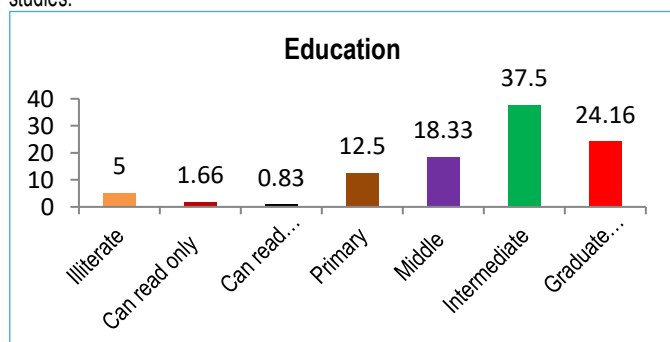

Fig-2 Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Educational status

3. Family size

It is clear from the [Table-3] that most of the respondents (57.5 per cent) had medium size families followed by small size (24.16 per cent) and large size families (18.33 per cent).

Table-3 Distribution of respondents according to Family size (n=120)

Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Small (less than 6)	29	24.16
2	Medium (6 to 11)	69	57.5
3	Large (more than11)	22	18.33

The probable cause for high percentage of medium size family might be due to the realization of the benefits of less numbers of family members in terms of running the family, fewer responsibilities, space for oneself. It might be due to the changing attitude of members in modern progressive system from an old traditional system.
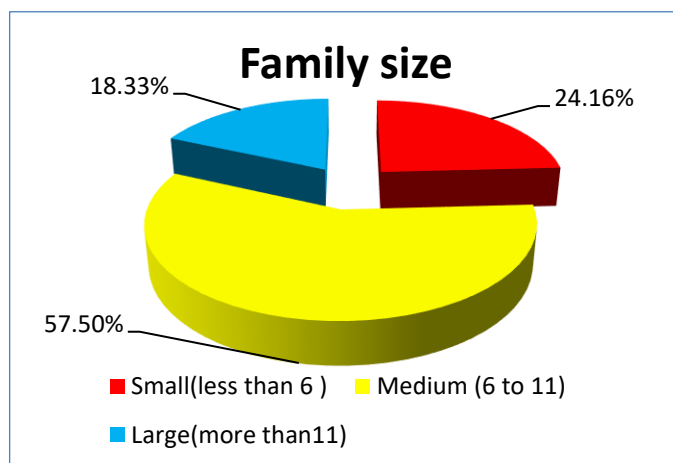

Fig-3 Distribution of respondents according to Family size

4. Marital status

It is clear from the [Table-4] that majority of the respondents (64.16 per cent) were unmarried followed by 35.83 per cent respondents who were married. None of the respondents were found widowed or divorced / separated. The findings are in line with the study conducted by [2] who also reported that most of the young girls were unmarried. The probable reason could be that most of the girls wanted to become independent before marriage. They have desire to start their own business so that they also can provide economic support to their family.

Table-4 Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Marital status (n=120)

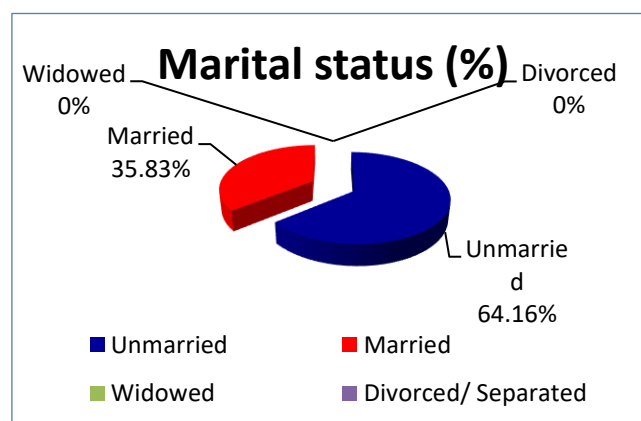| Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Unmarried	77	64.16
2	Married	43	35.83

Fig-4 Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Marital status

5. Family type

It is clearly depicted that majority of the respondents (66.33 per cent) come under nuclear family followed by joint family (35 per cent) [Table-5]. The findings are in line with studies conducted by [1, 6] where majority of the respondents belonged to nuclear family. It has been seen that even in rural areas the joint family system is gradually disappearing.

Table-5 Distribution of respondents according to Family type (n=120)

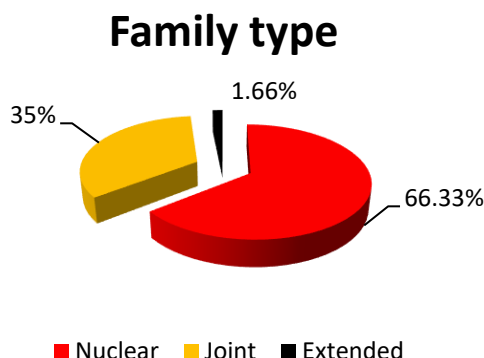| Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Nuclear	76	66.33
2	Joint	42	35
3	Extended	2	1.66

Fig- 5 Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Family type

6. Achievement Motivation

It depicted that nearly half of the respondents (50.83 per cent) had medium level of achievement motivation followed by 36.66 per cent respondents with low level of achievement motivation and only 12.5 per cent had high level of achievement motivation [Table-6].

Table-6 *Distribution of respondents according to level of Achievement motivation (n=120)*

Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low (less than 25)	44	36.66
2	Medium (25 to 29)	61	50.83
3	High (more than 29)	15	12.5

The results of the study are in line with [10] who also concluded that the school going girls had desire to achieve something than the non-school going married girls who were rigid and did not have desire to gain something.
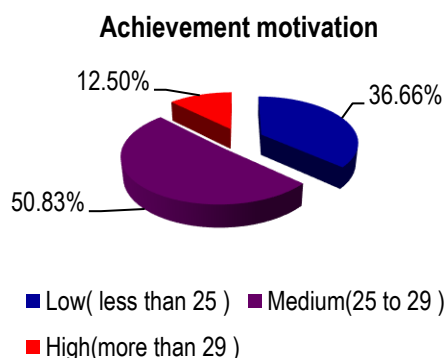

Fig-6 Distribution of respondents on the basis of their level of Achievement Motivation

7. Occupational Aspirations

The results in [Table-7] indicates that little above 80 per cent of the respondents (82.5 per cent) had medium level of occupational aspirations. Nearly equal number of respondents had high (9.16 per cent) and low (8.33 per cent) level of occupational aspirations.

Table-7 Distribution of respondents according to Occupational aspirations (n=120)

Sl. No.	Category	Frequency	Percentage
1	Low (less than 14)	10	8.33
2	Medium (14 to 19)	99	82.5
3	High (more than 19)	11	9.16

The occupational aspirations of the respondents calculated through WMS are presented in the [Table-8]. It is inferred from the data that most preferred occupation was being Entrepreneur (1.74) followed Fashion designer (1.71). Third

preference was given to Teaching as a profession (1.54) whereas doctor and Beautician had fourth rank followed by Engineer (1.44). The other occupational preferences mentioned were Agriculture Officer (1.30), IAS (1.22), Singer (1.20), clerk (1.10), Gram Secretary (1.04) and Pharmacist (1.01). Results of the study are in line with the studies conducted by [3, 4, 5, 7] who also reported that majority of the respondents had medium level of occupational aspirations and most of the girls had a desire to become an entrepreneur.
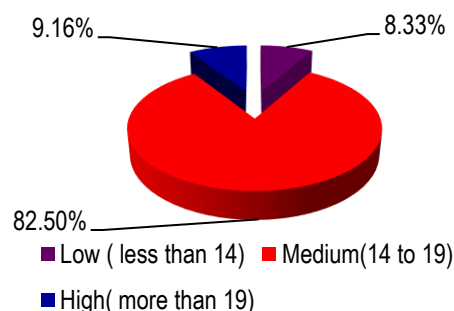

Fig- 7 Distribution of respondents on the basis of their Occupational aspirations

Table-8 Occupational preferences of the respondents

| Sl. No.	Source	Most preferred		preferred		Not preferred		Calculated weighted mean score(WMS)
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
1	Teacher	26	21.6	13	10.8	81	67.5	1.54
2	Agriculture Officer	11	9.16	15	12.5	94	78.3	1.30
3	Clerk	1	0.83	12	10	107	89.1	1.11
4	Pharmacist	0	0	2	1.66	118	98.3	1.01
5	Gram Secretary	1	0.83	3	2.5	116	96.6	1.04
6	Doctor	25	20.8	6	5	89	74.1	1.46
7	IAS	10	8.33	7	5.83	103	85.8	1.22
8	Engineer	23	19.1	7	5.83	90	75	1.44
9	Entrepreneur	36	30	17	14.16	67	55.8	1.74
10	Fashion designer	31	25.8	24	20	65	54.16	1.71
11	Beautician	31	25.8	24	20	65	54.16	1.46
12	Singer	9	7.5	7	5.83	104	86.6	1.20
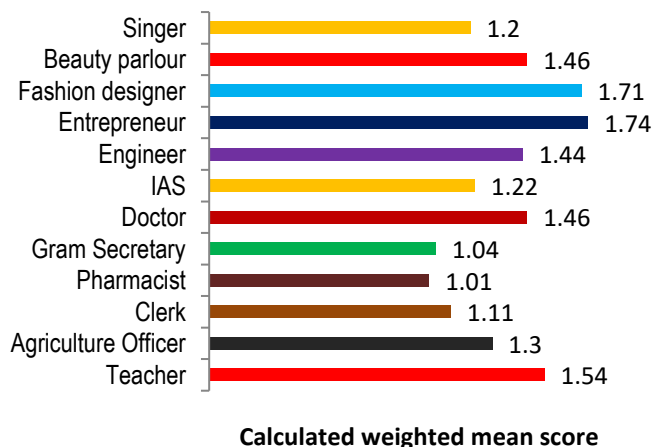
Fig-8 Occupational preferences of the respondents

Conclusion

Young girls are the chief human resource for advancement and key agents of social change, economic development and vocational alteration. Rural young girls' skills and talent should be appropriately tapped and harnessed to contribute significantly to rural economy. This can only be possible if there is in depth understanding about their profile characteristics and training needs. Need based training programmes can act as a medium for enhancing the motivational level of girls who are in need of vocational training.

Application of Research

The data generated on profile of rural young girls will enable the training institutes to plan training on identified characteristics on which they lagged behind. The study will help training institutes in formulating policies and programmes for young girls in rural areas at grass root level.

Research Category: Policies and programmes for young girls in rural areas

Abbreviation:
CIA: Central Intelligence Agency

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