Research Article

PERCEPTION OF PASSED OUT GRADUATES TOWARDS READY PROGRAMME FOR ENTREPRENEURSHIP DEVELOPMENT

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Abstract- In the present era of globalisation and technological advancement, skill development is an important tool to increase the efficiency and quality of labour for improved productivity and economic growth. In the same context READY programme has been introduced to reorient the graduates of agriculture and allied sciences with entrepreneurial skill for ensuring and assuring employability. The present study was conducted among 45 passed out graduates (2017-18) by randomly selected two colleges of JNKVV(Jabalpur) to know their perception towards READY programme for entrepreneurship development. The study revealed that majority of the respondents perceived medium level of effectiveness of READY programme. Technical skill is one of the major competency developed during the programme whereas exposure visits to different Universities, incubation units and Institutes should be given more focus to boost up self-entrepreneurship suggested by the respondents.

Keywords- READY, Perception

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INTRODUCTION

Development of nation mainly depends on the quality of human resource that it possesses not on the quantity. As a result of which various programme based on skill development initiated at various part of the country at various level. Honourable Prime Minister of India, Shri Narendra Modi quoted "If we have to promote the development of our country then our mission has to be 'skill development' and 'Skilled India'. Millions and Millions of Indian youth should acquire the skills which could contribute towards making India a modern country."

On that note, The Hon'ble Prime Minister of India launched the Student READY programme on 25 July 2015. The term READY refers to "Rural Entrepreneurship Awareness Development Yojana". It aims to provide rural entrepreneurship awareness, practical exposure in real life situation in rural agriculture and creating awareness to undergraduate students about practical agriculture and allied sciences(Annon.2016). The programme will help in building confidence, skill and to acquire Indigenous Technical Knowledge(ITK) of the locality and thereby, preparing the pass-out for self-employment. It also aims to provide opportunities to acquire hands-on-experience and entrepreneurial skills through experiential learning modules. This is a step towards "Earn while Learn".

The major components proposed by Fifth Deans committee for carrying out READY programme are Rural Agricultural Work Experience, In-Plant Training / Agro Industrial attachment, Experiential Learning Programme (ELP), Hands-On-Training (HOT) in Agriculture and student Projects. Therefore, the following study was conducted among forty-five students of two colleges of Agriculture of JNKVV(Jabalpur) to know the perception of students towards READY programme.

Methodology

The study was conducted through online survey. JNKVV(Jabalpur) has seven constituent colleges. The survey questionnaire had been sent to passed out 68 students of two randomly selected Colleges of Agriculture namely Ganjbasoda

and Waraseoni of batch 2017-18, who have undergone through READY programme. Among them 45 students replied. The questionnaire was of multiple choice question based on their course to know their perception and they were asked to score in a five-point continuum ranging Strongly Agree [5]; Agree [4]; Undecided [3]; Disagree [2]; Strongly Disagree [1] as they perceived. The structured schedule was of 12 items towards READY programme. The total score of each respondent ranges between 60 to 12. The perception was categorized into low, medium and high by using mean and standard deviation.

Table-1 Perception of graduates towards effectiveness of READY programme for entrepreneurship development

Category	Frequency	Percentage	
Low	10	22.22	
Medium	29	6444	
High	6	13.33	
Total	45	100	

Mean: 48.31 S.D: 6.77

A critical examination of [Table-1] concluded that majority of the respondents (64.44%) perceived medium level of effectiveness followed by low (22.22%) and high (13.33%) towards READY programme.

Entrepreneurial skills

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Entrepreneurial skills developed under READY programme perceived by the respondents are presented in table 2 indicated that technical skill (95.55%) and social networking (95.55%) were the most important skills developed followed by communication skill (93.33%) and business skill (93.33%), Planning (91.11%) was ranked third.

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Leadership (88.88%) was next in the order of important skill followed by creative thinking (86.66%), time management (84.44%), risk bearing ability (75.55%), self-confidence (68.88%), decision making (53.33%), Listening skill (48.88%) and problem solving (33.33%). Negotiation (26.66%) and locus of control (22.22%)were last in the order of entrepreneurial skills developed under READY programme.

Table-2 Distribution of respondents on the basis of entrepreneurial skills developed under READY programme

SN	Factors	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Communication skill	42	93.33	II
2	Listening skill	22	48.88	Х
3	Self confidence	31	68.88	VIII
4	Negotiation	12	26.66	XII
5	Leadership	40	88.88	IV
6	Technical skill	43	95.55	I
7	Creative thinking/Innovation	39	86.66	V
8	Problem solving	15	33.33	ΧI
9	Decision making	24	53.33	IX
10	Locus of control	10	22.22	XIII
11	Planning	41	91.11	III
12	Business knowledge (Sales,Marketing,Finance)	42	93.33	II
13	Risk Bearing ability	34	75.55	VII
14	Time Management	38	84.44	VI
15	Social Networking	43	95.55	I

Suggestions

Suggestions to boost up self-entrepreneurship among graduates were identified and presented in table 3. Exposure visits to different Universities, incubation units and institutes (100%) was ranked first followed by arranging more interaction with entrepreneurs (97.77%). Creating entrepreneurship development cell (95.55%) is next in the order of suggestion followed by calling ex-students who established themselves as entrepreneurs (91.11%), collaboration with various entrepreneurship development support agencies (86.66%), calling nearby entrepreneurs as speakers (75.55%), More focus on documentation, project proposal and report making (71.11%) and arranging more entrepreneurship development modules (60%). Include more syllabus on entrepreneurship development (Adding one more Subject on Entrepreneurship Development (44.44%) and to give more project work/ assignments on Entrepreneurship Development (11.11%) were ranked last.

Conclusion

The result of above study showed medium level of effectiveness of READY programme among students. This indicates that there is a need for concentrated action in a few key areas for proficiency in certain skills like negotiation, internal

locus of control etc. to ensure the skill formation in a demand driven manner. Knowledge and skill are the two powerful tools of economic growth. To impart knowledge our education system has put effort from initial only but to impart skill we are focusing now. Therefore, if READY curriculum for skill development reoriented by incorporating the students' suggestions like exposure visits, interaction with the entrepreneurs etc., on a continuing basis will surely meet the expected demands of the outcome.

Application of research: Entrepreneurial skills will be effectively developed by giving focus on the required area of given study.

Research Category: Research Paper

Abbreviations: READY

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Table-3 Distribution of respondents on the basis of suggestions to boost up self-entrepreneurship

S.No	Factors	Frequency	Percentage	Rank
1	Arranging more Entrepreneurship Development modules	27	60	VIII
2	Arranging more Interaction with Entrepreneurs	44	97.77	II
3	Collaboration with Various Entrepreneurship Development support Agencies	39	86.66	V
4	Creating Entrepreneurship Development Cell	43	95.55	III
5	Give more project work/ assignments on Entrepreneurship Development	5	11.11	X
6	Include more syllabus on Entrepreneurship Development (Adding one more Subject on Entrepreneurship Development)	20	44.44	IX
7	Exposure Visits to different Universities,Incubationunits,Institutes etc	45	100	I
8	More focus on documentation, project proposal and report making	32	71.11	VII
9	Calling ex-students who established themselves as entrepreneurs	41	91.11	IV
10	Calling nearby entrepreneurs as speakers	34	75.55	VI