

1 **CONSTRAINTS AND FACTORS ASSOCIATION WITH FOOD** 2 **PROCESSING TRAINING AS PERCEIVED BY SC WOMEN** 3 **OF HARYANA**

4 **ABSTRACT**

5 The improved food processing word is highly fragmented as it widely comprises of the sub
6 segment like fruit and vegetables preservation, pickling of seasonal vegetables, milk and milk
7 products, **b**aking. The present study was an attempt to find out the extent of adoption of food
8 processing and preservation technique were being followed by the rural women. The present study
9 was conducted in seven villages namely Dhanakurd, Ramayan and Beer Hansi from Hansi-I block,
10 Ludas and Patan from Hisar-II block, Sulakhni and Balawas from Hisar-I block covered under the
11 project were selected purposively. The overall findings of the study in under social constraints, it can
12 be clear that respondents had no time for attending village function and indicated as important
13 constraints. In technical constraints lack of difficult technique was perceived as main constraint.
14 Under social and personal constraints storage of time was observed as main constraint of the
15 respondents. Under economic constraint lack of finance for the purchase of raw material was observed
16 as main constraint faced by the respondents. It can be inferred from the results that personal variables
17 like family type and family size, economic variable including income of the family had significant
18 association with knowledge, attitude and skill acquisition of the respondents for training on food
19 processing. Among psychological variables entrepreneurial motivation and risk orientation had
20 significant association with knowledge of the respondents. Localite sources were found to had
21 significant impact with knowledge, attitude and skill acquisition on food processing training.

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23 **Key words:** Food processing, Constraints, Knowledge, Attitude, Skill

24 **INTRODUCTION**

25 The Scheduled Castes comprise about 16.6 percent of India's population (According Census, 2011).
26 Haryana stand at fifth position having largest scheduled caste population with the total population
27 40.91 lakhs of scheduled caste, consisting 19.35% of the state population and about 78% of the
28 scheduled caste population lives in rural areas. Scheduled caste constitutes the weakest and poorest
29 section of society. For the upliftment of the scheduled caste both central and state government have
30 taken great interest for capacity building of scheduled caste women in different areas in order to
31 make them self-reliant.

32 The scheduled castes and scheduled tribes are disadvantaged both socially and economically although
33 they have been well protected and secured by constitutional provisions and enactment and state
34 governments have implemented several poverty alleviation programmes during different plan periods.
35 The paper endeavours to analyse the food processing industry in its current form in India. It will
36 primarily focus on S&T issues related to food processing industry. The paper looks into the various
37 challenges faced by the industry, and the future prospects of sector, the employment generation

capability of industry, and the skills possessed by the workforce; it also deals with various public sector initiatives implemented through various policies, programmes and schemes of government.

The heavy work load of household, health problems, lack of motivation from family and society, high cost, repayment of loans and electricity problems were the major constraints faced by the respondents in adoption of improved practices. (Deepti , 2008).

The improved food processing word is highly fragmented as it widely comprises of the sub segment like fruit and vegetables, milk and milk products, grain processing, meat and poultry, alcoholic beverages, packaged or convenience food and packaged drinks.

In order to ensure availability of food throughout the year, they should be processed and preserved and kept for a longer period. In this matter, role of farm women in household food security is vital and unique. Women alone are responsible for the method adopted for nutritional security of household particularly food processing and preservation. The nutritional status of family members are influenced by the specific knowledge, attitude, beliefs and values possessed by them.

The present study was an attempt to find out the constraints of food processing and preservation techniques were being followed by the rural women.

METHODOLOGY

Food processing trainings include two trainings each in processing of milk and milk products, pickling of seasonal vegetables and preservation of fruits and vegetable and one training on baking. Thus a total of seven trainings were conducted during 2008-2015. A total of 155 scheduled caste women were covered under the trainings on food processing. All the available beneficiaries covered under the trainings on food processing with at least 100 trainees were to be selected thus 104 respondents were available and formed the sample of the study. Constraints in the present context was defined as any condition or situation which impede, hinder, restrict or limit the participation of women in various aspects of entrepreneurial activities. Constraints were divided into five broad categories as economic, market, technological, social and personal. A well-structured interview schedule was constructed for data collection. The collected data was quantified and interpreted by using suitable statistical tools such as mean score, rank and Chi-square (χ^2) test.

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

Constraints faced by trainees

Constraints perceived by the respondents for adoption

This section deals with the problems and constraints perceived by the respondents in adoption of the training at food processing of commercial level. The constraints were categorized into economic, market, technological, social and personal and environmental.

The finding presented in Table-1 revealed that under economic constraints, lack of finance for the purchase of raw material and lack of knowledge about loaning facilities were ranked Ist and IInd

respectively and perceived by the respondents as main constraints followed by considering food processing as less profitable venture at IIIrd rank.

In marketing constraints, majority of the respondents perceived lack of marketing skills (MS 1.58) as the main constraints followed by inability to compete with big companies. The problem of marketing, transportation and lack of technical knowledge and finance were also reported by Akansha (2006)

Under technological constraints, difficult technique (MS 1.35) was rated at Ist rank followed by lack of knowledge in handling of pickles and lack of knowledge about equipment sanitation.

Table 1: Constraints of respondents faced during and after training

Sr. No.	Constraints	Pickling of seasonal vegetables	Fruit and vegetable preservation	Baking	Processing of milk and milk products	Pickling of seasonal vegetables	Rank
		Mean Score					
1.	Economic Constraint						
	Lack of finance for the purchase of raw material	1.83	1.85	1.90	1.80	1.88	I
	Lack of knowledge about loaning facilities	1.67	1.25	1.80	1.70	1.54	II
	Less profitable venture	1.5	1.1	1.40	1.50	1.32	III
2.	Market Constraint						
	Lack of marketing skills	1.5	1.55	1.60	1.70	1.58	I
	Inability to compete with big companies	1.42	1.35	1.50	1.60	1.44	II
3.	Technological Constraint						
	Lack of knowledge in handling of pickles	1.33	1.05	1.30	1.70	1.29	II
	Difficult technique	1.42	1.35	1.10	1.50	1.35	I
	Lack of knowledge about equipment sanitation	1.25	1.30	1.20	1.10	1.23	III
4.	Social & personal Constraint						
	Shortage of time	1.67	1.90	1.90	1.90	1.85	I
	Lack of cooperation family members	1.75	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.70	II
	Lack of interest	1.17	1.05	1.10	1.0	1.08	IV
	Interference by neighbours	1.58	1.60	1.80	1.70	1.65	III

As far as social and personal constraints are concerned, the data in table revealed that shortage of time (MS 1.85), lack of cooperation of family members (MS 1.70), lack of interest (MS1.08), and interference by neighbors were the main constraints perceived by the respondents in adoption of food processing as an enterprise at commercial level.

Factors association with food processing training

Association of independents variables with knowledge of the respondents:

Table 2 reveals that the association of independents variable with knowledge of respondents regarding all the trainings. Among personal variable i.e. family income, family type and family size

were significantly associated with knowledge at 5% level of significance. Other variables like age, occupation and landholding were not significantly associated with knowledge. Knowledge of the respondents was significantly associated with psychological variables like entrepreneurial motivation and risk orientation and with communication variables like localite sources. No significant association was found between psychological variables like change proneness and communication variable like cosmopolite source and mass media exposure.

Table 2: Association of independents variables with knowledge of the respondents

Sr. No.	Attribute	Chi-square(χ^2)			
		Pickling of seasonal vegetables	Fruit and vegetable preservation	Baking	Processing of milk and milk products
1	Personal variables				
i	Age	4.81	6.94	5.27	4.43
ii	Annual Income	12.85*	14.89*	10.98*	15.48*
iii	Family type	11.78*	11.01*	15.11*	13.95*
iv	Family Size	12.69 *	16.33*	11.78*	11.06*
v	Occupation	7.41	9.46	8.37	7.73
vi	Land holding	8.73	10.01	8.04	6.47
2	Psychological variables				
i	Entrepreneurial motivation	26.03*	21.31*	25.13*	19.81*
ii	Change proneness	11.02	10.72	10.99	8.07
iii	Risk orientation	14.77*	15.81*	13.97*	14.08*
3.	Communication variables				
i	Localite	12.74*	14.41*	14.87*	13.98*
ii	Cosmopolite source	7.67	10.08	8.98	10.74
iii	Mass media exposure	9.57	8.35	8.93	7.29

5% level of significance

Association of independents variables with attitude of respondents:

Table 3 revealed the association of independent variables with attitude of respondents regarding all the trainings. Among personal variables family type and family income and family size were significantly associated with attitude at 5% level of significance. Other variables like age and family occupation and family education status were not significantly associated with attitude of the respondents regarding food processing trainings. Attitude of the respondents was significantly associated with psychological variables like entrepreneurial motivation and change proneness and with communication variables like localite sources. No significantly associated was found between psychological variables like risk orientation and communication variable like cosmopolite source and mass media exposure.

109 **Table 3: Association of independents variables with attitude of the respondents**

Sr. No.	Attribute	Chi-square(χ^2)			
		Pickling of seasonal vegetables	Fruit and vegetable preservation	Baking	Processing of milk and milk products
1	Personal variables				
i	Age	6.06	8.76	9.32	6.37
ii	Family type	10.95*	14.04*	12.04*	11.05*
iii	Family Size	12.76 *	10.81 *	16.94*	14.61*
iv	Land holding	7.76	9.84	8.68	9.23
v	Family education status	6.62	7.84	6.25	8.08
vi	Occupation	6.33	6.41	4.15	5.15
vii	Annual income	11.84*	13.11*	11.43*	12.48*
2	Psychological Variables				
i	Entrepreneurial motivation	20.19*	19.04*	29.33*	27.04*
ii	Risk orientation	9.14	10.72	9.96	10.01
iii	Change proneness	13.56*	12.09*	13.76*	14.02*
3.	Communication variables				
i	Localite	12.79*	12.66 *	13.07*	12.19*
ii	Cosmopolite source	6.89	7.65	5.60	6.99
iii	Mass media exposure	5.84	6.02	4.03	6.81

110 5% level of significance

111 **Association of independents variables with skill of the respondents:**

112 Table 4 reveals that the association of independents variable with skill of respondents
 113 regarding all the trainings. Among personal variable i.e. family type and family size was significantly
 114 associated with knowledge at 5% level of significance. Other variable like occupation, age, education
 115 and land holding were not significantly associated with skill. No significant association was found
 116 between psychological variables like risk orientation and communication variable like cosmopolite
 117 source and mass media exposure. Skill of the respondents was significantly associated with
 118 psychological variables like entrepreneurial motivation and change proneness, communication
 119 variables like localite source.

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125 **Table 4: Association of independents variables with skill of the respondents**

Sr. No.	Attribute	Chi-square(χ^2)			
		Pickling of seasonal vegetables	Fruit and vegetable preservation	Baking	Processing of milk and milk products
1	Personal variables				
i	Age	3.61	5.01	6.16	3.81
ii	Family size	10.55*	12.72*	12.55*	11.94*
iii	Family type	2.12*	11.00*	9.58*	11.01*
iv	Family education status	7.54	9.08	7.69	6.04
v	Land holding	8.03	7.80	5.14	5.97
2	Psychological variables				
i	entrepreneurial motivation	20.19*	19.04*	29.33*	27.04*
ii	Risk orientation	9.14	10.72	9.96	10.01
iii	Change proneness	13.43*	16.62*	14.03*	13.86*
3.	Communication variables				
i	Localite	13.69*	15.76 *	12.17*	13.28*
ii	Cosmopolite source	6.98	8.66	6.80	7.99
iii	Mass media exposure	5.94	7.72	5.96	6.83

126 5% level of significance

127 **Conclusion: -**

128 On the basis of the study it can be concluded that under social constraints, it can be clear that
 129 respondents had no time for attending village function and indicated as important constraints. In
 130 technical constraints lack of difficult technique was perceived as main constraint. Under social and
 131 personal constraints storage of time was observed as main constraint of the respondents. Under
 132 economic constraint lack of finance for the purchase of raw material was observed main constraint of
 133 the respondents. The study it can be inferred that personal variables like family type and family size,
 134 economic variable including income of the family had significant association with knowledge, attitude
 135 and skill acquisition of the respondents for training on food processing.

136 Among psychological variables entrepreneurial motivation and risk orientation had significant
 137 association with knowledge of the respondents while entrepreneurial motivation and change
 138 proneness with attitude and skill of the respondents for the food processing. Localite sources were
 139 found to have significant impact with knowledge, attitude and skill acquisition on food processing.

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Recommendations

- Most of the respondents were poorly satisfied with the duration of trainings for all the training programmes, therefore the duration of the training should be increased but the training hours should be reduced so that the respondents may learn the skill sufficiently as well as can take care of their family.
- All the trainings are a feasible enterprise and very much suitable for rural SC women to practice and empower them economically and socially. So the NGOs, extension agencies should enhance capacity of SC rural women by organizing them into groups and providing them necessary training and support in these areas so that they can start own income generating activity. Most of the respondents were unaware about the provision of bank loan for starting various income generating activities, it is therefore recommended to organize special training/ awareness campaign in the villages.

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