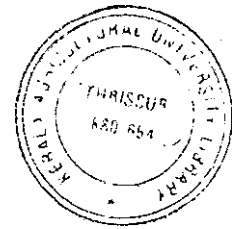


**ROLE OF NON GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANISATIONS (NGOs) IN
EMPOWERMENT OF FARMERS**

BY

JYOTHISH MANNAMBETH



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**THESIS
SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT
FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE
(AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION)
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY**

**DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE
VELLAYANI
THIRUVANANTHAPURAM**

2000

DECLARATION

I hereby declare that this thesis entitled "**Role of non governmental organisations (NGOs) in empowerment of farmers**" is a bonafide record of research work done by me during the course of research and that the thesis has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, diploma, associate ship, fellowship or other similar title of any other university or society.

Vellayani

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CERTIFICATE

Certified that the thesis titled “ **Role of non governmental organisations (NGOs) in empowerment of farmers**” is a record of research work done independently by **Sri. Jyothish Mannambeth** under my guidance and supervision and that it has not previously formed the basis for the award of any degree, fellowship or associateship to him.

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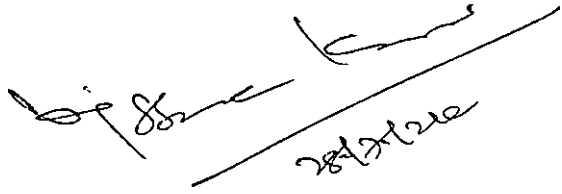
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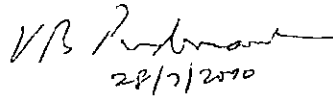
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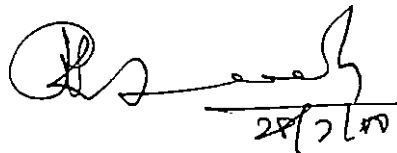
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

I gratefully acknowledge the inspiring guidance, constructive criticism, constant encouragement and enduring patience of Dr.N. Kishore Kumar, Asst professor, Dept of extension and Chairman of the advisory committee, extended to me during the entire course of my study.

My profound gratitude is placed on record to Dr. G. B. Pillai, Prof &Head Dept of Extension for his valuable suggestions and unfailing interest at all stages of this work

I gratefully express my thanks to Dr. V.B. Padmanabhan and Dr. Vijaya raghava Kumar for their valuable guidance and help.

I express my profound thanks to all the teaching and non teaching staff of Dept. of Agrl. Extension for the whole hearted co-operation and encouragement through out the course of the study.

I express my thanks to the office bearers of the NGOs selected for study for providing information to make this study a success.

Jyothish Mannambeth

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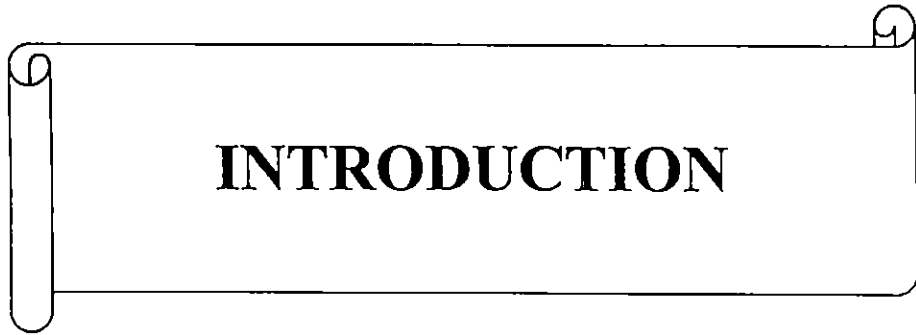
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INTRODUCTION

INTRODUCTION

Agricultural programmes implemented through government machinery with much fanfare could not bring about many changes in the rural sector as far as the development aspects are concerned. There is a gap existing between the governmental purpose and administrative performance.

The government machinery could not change with the changing needs of the rural poor. Also they were not in close contact with the rural poor.

In this scenario, the works of many NGOs working in rural areas attracts attention of development thinkers. They could more or less achieve fairly good results and facilitators in organising and motivating the rural poor to articulate their needs.

Although social welfare covers a wider spectrum of human service activities, they have not received the attention they deserve. In the early 1970s, an interest in the rural development and the poverty grew, many development practitioners and theorists started turning

their attention to the role of NGOs in the development process (Sinaga, 1993).

In the recent years, NGOs have increased considerably in number, acquired greater importance and significance and put up many new experiments in the field of rural development. Because governmental organisations have not been able to reach the people, particularly the rural poor in regard to development at the desired level (Dhillion and Hansara, 1995).

Any organisation whether it is governmental or non-governmental cannot give constant push to the under privileged towards development. It is impractical since the effort requires awesome resources and man power. So the under privileged or the farmers have to equip themselves otherwise empower themselves to achieve better things in their life.

The empowerment approach aims at equipping the rural people with ways and means of improving their conditions (Srinath, 1992).

Empowerment is encouraging and allowing individuals to take personal responsibility for improving the way they do their jobs and contribute the goals. It requires the creation of a culture, which both encourages people at all levels to feel they can make a difference and

help them to acquire the confidence and the skill to do so (Carver, 1995).

Noted voluntary activities through NGOs could empower people in Kerala especially in Kannur district, viz., Kunnothuparamba, Kalliassery, Chapparapadavu etc. (Kerala Planning Board, 1997).

Need of the study

The Government machinery could not become popular with the duty of rural development. There is a gap existing between the purpose and performance. Many of the programs were not based on the felt needs of the rural poor. The government machinery could not change with the changing needs of the people who are drown trodden.

In this scenario, many NGOs working in rural areas could bring about attractive results. They could act as an agent of change through people participation. They could more or less achieve fairly good results as facilitators in organising and motivating the rural poor to articulate their needs.

So the need of the study is to analyse closely the functioning of NGOs and to study the way they are empowering the farmers.

Thus the present study was taken up with the following objectives.

- 1) To study the dimensions of empowerment of farmers.
- 2) To identify the role of NGOs in empowerment of farmers.
- 3) To study the extent of people's participation in
Voluntary activities
- 4) To develop a strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs

Scope of the study

The success of rural development depends upon the active participation and willing co-operation of the rural people through self-help organisation and voluntary agencies. In the recent years, voluntary-agencies has acquired greater importance and significance than before because the administration has not been able to reach the people especially the poor and weaker sections.

They have been able to make their presence felt at the local and national level. At the same time many voluntary activities have failed due to lack of step-wise procedure or lack of co-ordination of activities. So there is a need to explore the activities of successful NGOs and to evolve a step-wise procedure or guidelines, which would help other NGOs to empower farmers through their voluntary activities.

Limitations of the study

The present study was undertaken by a single researcher as a part of the requirement of Master's degree program and hence the limitation of time and resources restricted the exploration of the area in a greater depth and in a more comprehensive manner. Consequently the researcher was unable to operate the study in all parts of the state. This limitation has narrowed down the scope of generalising the result. Since the study was based on the expressed opinion of the respondents, it may not be free from their individual bias and prejudices. Moreover the study of this kind has not been undertaken earlier. So there was a dearth of relevant findings and supporting literature, which could give guidance to the researcher. No human effort is free from limitations. This study is no exception. However, sincere attempts have been made to accomplish the objectives and utmost care has been taken to make the study as objective as possible.

Presentation of the study

The thesis is divided into five chapters. The first chapter deals with the introduction detailing the need of the study. In the second chapter, the review of literature in the subject area and conceptual model developed for the study are furnished. The third chapter is devoted to the methodology used in the research work including the operationalisation of the concept, measurement

procedures of the variables, techniques of data collection and statistical procedures used for the study. The fourth chapter deals with the results and the discussion of the investigation. The fifth chapter gives the summary of the entire study emphasising the salient findings.

The references, appendices and abstract of the thesis are given at the end.



REVIEW OF LITERATURE

CHAPTER II

REVIEW OF LITERATURE

This chapter deals with review of the pertinent research studies, which enabled a researcher to develop a better understanding of the problem under research. The literatures related to the study are presented under the following sub heads.

2.1 Concept of Non-Governmental Organisation

2.2 Concept of role of NGOs

2.3 Concept of empowerment

2.4 Dimensions of empowerment

2.4.1 Age

2.4.2 Socio economic status

2.4.3 Scientific- orientation

2.4.4 Innovativeness

2.4.5 Information seeking behaviour

2.4.6 Participation in decision- making

2.4.7 Self confidence

2.4.8 Management orientation

2.4.9 Achievement motivation

2.4.10 Leadership

2.4.11 Economic motivation

2.4.12 Level of aspiration

- 2.4.13 Self -concept
- 2.4.14 Risk bearing capacity
- 2.4.15 Social participation
- 2.4.16 Cosmopolitaness
- 2.4.17 Attitude
- 2.5 Concept of participation
- 2.6 Extent of people participation

2.1 Concept of Non Governmental Organisation

Planning process in voluntary organisation is time consuming as well as needed a lot of revision, once implementation begins. What succeeds with one group may fail with another group (Ramamoorthy, 1985).

NGOs are superior to official agencies in three respects (i) their workers can be more sincerely devoted to the task of reducing the sufferings of the poor than the governmental staff (ii) they are able to produce better rapport than the government staff (iii) they are not born by rigid bureaucratic rules. They are flexible and adaptive to the needs each situation brings with it (Kumar, 1995).

In the early 1970s as interest in the rural development and the problem of poverty grew, many development practitioners and

theorists started turning their attention to the role of Non Governmental Organisation (NGOs) in the development process. The term NGO was initially coined during the first developmental decade (1960's) and popularised by a UN document during the second half of 1970's (Sinaga, 1993).

Anandharajkumar (1995) states that there is no definition of NGO which is authentic and universal. Voluntarism is the basis on which an NGO or a Voluntary Organisation function. In this context one can say that Voluntary Organisations or an NGO denotes an organisation whether its workers are paid or unpaid, which is initiated and governed by its own members without external control.

Voluntary action involves planning and implementation of the same via group. Voluntary action is problem oriented and participation of the affected people in problem solving is part of its methodology. The group initiating this action may work formally or informally. When it works formally it is known as Voluntary Organisation or an NGO. They are registered under one of the following acts (i) Societies Registration Act, 1860 (ii) Indian Trust Act, 1882 (iii) The Co-operative Societies Act, 1904 (iv) The Joint Companies Act, 1956 (Philip, 1995).

2.2 Concept of role of NGOs

It lends itself to another related issue of the need for NGOs to develop a dynamic relationship with the government. While their contribution has been well accepted and rewarded as evidenced from the 7th and 8th plans, yet their very presence evokes suspicion and hostility. Because the innovative works they are engaged in does not always tend itself to quantification of results or to conform in matters of financial detail- because the NGOs have seldom subjected their goals and achievement to evaluation (Ramaswamy, 1991)

Voluntary action stimulated and promoted by voluntary agencies engaged in development play a significant role at the grass root level in the Indian social milieu; the success of rural development depends upon the active participation of the people through self help organisation. The voluntary organisations involve people in the developmental process and relate themselves to working with people. This means that their main plan is the generation of self confidence, self help and independence among the people of the community in which they operate. They substantiate the efforts of government with regard to provisions of social welfare through rural development programs planned for this purpose (Anandharajkumar, 1995).

Sadguru Water Development Foundation(SWDF), through its watershed management programs, has been able to prevent soil erosion, out migration, unemployment etc. Similarly the Chipko movement in UttarPradesh, by not allowing felling of trees, has brought into sharp focus the fuel, fodder and water crisis affecting women (Dhavan 1995).

Voluntary organisations play constructive role in rural development viz; identification of potential beneficiaries, ensuring people's participation, implementing programs, acting as a link between people and government, demonstrating the use of local resources, training and motivation at the grass root level, educating the rural poor etc (Dhillon and Hansra, 1995).

The main role of voluntary organisations involved in the cause of forest development is regeneration of forests and rebuilding the tribal community. The voluntary sector is not homogeneous but has a great variety. Some voluntary organisations view afforestation as a source of income generation of environment and others as part of community building. So the success also depends on the approach of the voluntary agencies (Girijesh,1995).

The first and the crucial role, which voluntary agencies can play is that of a catalyst in the empowerment of the poor. This should be preceded by education, awareness building and conscientation

with a view to empower them; breaking the culture of silence and dependence and to put the deprived sections on a foundation of individuals and collective self reliance with the purpose of transferring them from passive recipients of doles to active participants in the process of development (Maithani, 1995).

Recently, with the revival and strengthening of panchayathiraj institutions- consequent upon the constitution- the NGOs role has become more significant. They can function as facilitators over a range of issues(Malik,1995).

Voluntary organisations are bold to experiment with new methods and approaches. They have successfully organised people to fight injustice and exploitation (Phillip ,1995).

Kerala Sasthra Sahithya Parishad (KSSP) keep vigil as an alert watch dog on such issues and had spearheaded a number of effective resistance movements against projects with disastrous consequences, marketing of harmful and banned drugs, deforestation or exploitation of the vulnerable and the poor. It goes much beyond the politics behind issues affecting the society (Sushama,1995).

2.3 Concept of empowerment

Empowerment means increasing competitiveness and profitability by enhancing the value of the contribution of the people in the Organisation, work group or team (Scott and Jaffe, 1991).

Empowerment is creating circumstances where people can use their faculties and abilities at maximum level in pursuit of common goals both human and profit oriented. Empowerment may reveal sources of managerial talent, which were previously unrecognised, creating circumstances in which that talent can flourish (Osbaldeston, 1993).

Empowerment is finding new ways to concentrate power in the hands of the people who need it to get the job done - putting authority, responsibility, resources and rights at the most appropriate level for each task (Clutterbuck, 1995).

2.4 Dimensions of empowerment

2.4.1 Age

Dipali (1979) stated that lower age group of respondents were in high participation score range in agricultural operations than other groups.

Singh and Chander (1983) reported that age was found to exercise non-significant effect on women's participation in decision making.

Perumal and Uthayakumar (1984) revealed that age had no significant relationship with the performance of contact farmers.

2.4.2 Socio economic status

Chapin (1928) defined socio-economic status as the position an individual or a family occupies with reference to the prevailing average standards of cultural possessions, effective income, material possessions and participation in the group activities of the community.

Belcher (1951) found that the material possession items tended to be more staple indicators of socio-economic status than those dealing with social participation or cultural possessions.

Haque and Sirohi (1986) opined that family size and number of working members also determined the standard of living.

Lalitha and Sharada (1988) reported that those families not entirely dependent on wages have a higher standard of living.

Pawar *et al.*, (1991) reported that socio-economic status of tribal population in rural India has witnessed change at a snail's space since independence.

Ramachandran (1992) observed that the socio-economic status of the participant farmers differed significantly from the non-participant farmers.

2.4.3 Scientific orientation

Somasundaram (1976) reported a positive and significant association between scientific orientation and adoption behavior.

Kamarudeen (1981) found significant positive relationship between scientific orientation and attitude of farmers towards the demonstrated agricultural practices.

Anithakumari (1989) reported that forty five to fifty per cent of farmers were below the mean scientific orientation score of the respective group.

Raji (1991) and Sangeetha (1997) found that the majority of the respondents had high scientific orientation.

2.4.4 Innovativeness

Ravichandran (1980) reported that innovativeness was negatively and non-significantly associated with adoption of registered sugarcane growers.

Sajeevchandran (1989) observed that there was significant and positive relationship with education and innovativeness.

Menon (1995) observed that innovativeness had contributed to the changing farming conditions and continues to raise the performance level of farmers. Thus a modern farmer who is innovative is willing to change his believes, attitudes and ways of acting in response to new challenges and developments.

2.4.5 Information seeking behaviour

Progressive farmers acted as credible source of information (Sandhu, 1970).

Supe (1971) indicated that written words had positive and significant association with rational behaviour in decision making process of improved practices.

Several researchers had reported that progressiveness of farmers were characterized by frequent external agency contact (Dande, 1972; Dwarakinath *et al.*, 1975; Bhaskaran, 1978; Shilaja, 1981; Jaleel, 1992).

Venkidusamy (1977) reported that mass media exposure had significant relationship with the adoption among small farmers.

Palaniswamy (1978) reported that media participation had significant and positive correlation with extent of adoption among *malli* growers and have non-significant relationship among *mullai* growers.

According to Dharmaraja and Samuel (1982) majority of marginal farmers (75 per cent) and small farmers (65 per cent) possessed medium level of mass media exposure.

Raghavacharyulu (1983) analysed that mass media exposure influenced the entrepreneurial behaviour of small farmers.

Saradmoni (1983) opined that farmers in land owning households were aware of the radio programmes for farmers and listen to them.

Porchezian (1991) found that information seeking behaviour was non-significantly related to the entrepreneurial behaviour of farmers.

Pradeepkumar (1993) reported that mass media exposure was positively and significantly related with the extent of participation in agricultural and allied fields.

2.4.6 Participation in decision making

Deacon and Firebaugh (1981) stated decision making as a process of making decision involves a subjective aspects and an objective or resource aspect. Decision making is the process through which the subjective and objective evaluation takes place and the decision is a form of value.

Padmanabhan (1981) observed in his study, fifty seven per cent of male respondents were involved in decision making with farmers. Corresponding figure in the case of female agricultural labourers was eight per cent. He also pointed out that efficient male labourers were more involved in decision making. He observed a significant positive relationship between participation in decision making and efficiency of agricultural labourers.

Hegade (1982) stated that women participation in economic decision making was a vital means by which their economic dependency and social inequality could be removed. Their participation in decision making resulted in increasing the employment opportunity for women, increasing the produce and income level of community, reducing the exploitative elements in the economic system, a co-operativising, marketing and distribution.

According to Nandapurkar (1982) decision making is the degree to which an individual justifies by selection of most efficient means from among the available alternatives based on scientific criteria for achieving maximum economic profit.

2.4.7 Self confidence

Khare (1976) opined that confidence would play an important role in the success of a creator or innovator.

Pandayaraj (1978) found a positive and significant relationship between self confidence and communication behaviour of Junior Agricultural Officers in Kerala.

Joseph (1983), Nizamudeen (1996), Varma (1996) and Sangeetha (1997) reported a good majority of respondents belonged to high group with respect to self confidence.

2.4.8 Management orientation

Ramachandran (1992) observed that management orientation showed positive and significant relationship with the adoption of recommended practices by the participant farmers.

Menon (1995) defined management orientation as the degree to which a farmer is oriented towards scientific farm management comprising planning, production and marketing functions of farm enterprises. He observed that management orientation is one determinant of modernity which grooms and refines individual in areas of planning, production and marketing. Worthiness of a

practice, its relative advantage and trialability is made known to the farmer only by proper orientation towards management.

2.4.9 Achievement motivation

Mc Clelland (1961) stated that achievement motivation is the desire to do well not so much for the sake of social recognition or prestige, but to attain an inner feeling of personal accomplishment.

Grunig (1970) while studying communication and economic decision- making process of Colombian peasants indicated that problem solving, economic rationality as a decision criterion, adoption and achievement motivation were high.

Devi and Reddy (1984) reported that achievement motivation had no relation with role expectation and role performance of rural women in farm activities.

Hussain (1994) observed that 59 per cent of the respondent coconut climbers were having low achievement motivation with the remaining 41 per cent having high achievement motivation.

2.4.10 Leadership

Rogers and Olmstead (1957) defined leadership as an activity in which effort is made to influence people to co-operate in achieving a goal viewed by the group as desirable.

Fair Child(1967) defined leadership as the act of organising and directing interests and activities to a group of persons as associated in some projects or enterprise by a person who develops their co-operation through security and maintaining their more or less voluntary approval of the ends and methods proposed and adopted in their association.

Shilaja(1981) found that different types of leaders whose characteristics were studied did not differ significantly with their age.

Leadership expresses very clearly that fact of social interaction among members of a group (Bhatia,1971)

2.4.11 Economic motivation

Babu (1984) observed a non-significant association of economic motivation with economic performance of grape growers.

Tylor (1991) reported that economic motivation had positive association with labour productivity.

Hussain (1994) observed that only thirty seven per cent of the respondents had high economic motivation. Majority (63 per cent) of the respondents was coming under low motivation group.

Nizamudeen (1996) and Varma (1996) found that majority of the respondent farmers had high economic motivation.

Senthamarai (1996) revealed that forty three per cent of the respondents had low level of economic motivation followed by medium (32 per cent) and high (25 per cent).

2.4.12 Level of aspiration

Lewin (1951) defined level of aspiration as the degree of difficulty of the goal towards which a person is striving.

Wilkening and Bharadwaj (1968) indicated that involvement of husbands and wives in farm, home and family is influenced by their task involvement and aspirations.

Padmanabhan (1981) in his study revealed that majority of the agricultural labourers had very low level of aspiration.

Seema (1986) defined aspiration as the degree to which the individual sets his goals realistically in relation to his physical and mental attributes and in accordance with his environment.

Shilaja (1990) in her study found that majority of the respondent labourers were having high level of aspiration.

Hussain (1994) observed that the distribution of respondents were almost equal in the high and low level of aspiration group.

2.4.13 Self concept

Mc Auley (1976) defined self concepts as the conglomerate of perception of one as about oneself, it may contain in correct picture and its development is continual.

Robbins and James (1976) explained self concept as those perception of ourselves that we have acquired through our interaction with others and that have been validated by our experiences.

Joseph (1983) found significant and positive relationship between self-concept and communication effectiveness of village level agricultural demonstrators.

2.4.14 Risk bearing capacity

Jaleel (1992) and Gangadharan (1993) reported positive and significant relationship between risk orientation and adoption.

Rajkumar (1992) found a non-significant relationship between risk orientation and adoption.

Varma (1996) in her study on self employment among farm women reported that majority of the respondents (63 per cent) belong to high group with respect to risk bearing capacity.

2.4.15 Social participation

Sharma and Singh (1970) stated that social participation is not a discriminating factor in the extent of participation of women in farm operation.

Renukaradhya (1983) reported that majority of the trained farmers had high social participation.

Gowda (1980) reported that variation in ragi productivity of small and marginal farmers was influenced by social participation.

Shilaja (1990) observed that majority of the female agricultural labourers were having low social participation.

Hussain (1994) revealed that 62 per cent of the coconut climbers had low social participation and 38 per cent had high social participation.

Thomas (1998) observed that there was a positive and significant correlation existing between social participation and participation of farmwomen in watershed management.

2.4.16 Cosmopolitaness

Sumathy (1987) reported that majority of the respondent coffee growers were highly cosmopolite.

Sabapathi (1988) observed that those who are economically motivated may try to improve their farming practices by acquiring knowledge from localite or cosmopolite sources.

Shilaja (1990) in her study found that majority of the women agricultural labourers were having low cosmopolite orientation.

Ramachandran (1992) observed that there was no significant difference between participant and non- participant farmers in rice minikit trials in the case of cosmopolitaness.

Hussain (1994) observed that an overwhelming majority of the respondents belong to high cosmopolite orientation group, whereas thirty-eight per cent of the respondents had low cosmopolite orientation.

Nizamudeen (1996) inferred that fifty per cent of the respondent farmers belonged to high and low groups with respect to cosmopolitaness.

2.4.17 Attitude

Thurstone (1946) defined attitude as the degree of positive or negative effect associated with some psychological object towards which people can differ in varying degrees.

According to Kretch and Kretchfield (1948) attitude is a function of perception.

Finely *et al.* (1955) says that efficiency of workers would be more if positive attitude towards work were encouraged.

Clifford and Richard (1971) defined attitude as a learned orientation or disposition towards an object or situation which provide a tendency to respondent favourably or unfavorably, to the object or situation.

Porter *et al.* (1974) stated that for effective performance, favourable attitude is a pre requisite.

Padmanabhan (1981) observed that a great majority (more than 90 per cent) of agricultural labourers had favourable attitude towards their profession.

2.5 Concept of participation

Participation is the voluntary involvement of people in any enterprise. It is operationalised as the social experience shared by individuals and groups who live in definite social relations to each other in the society.

Ookley (1987) highlighted the very different ways in which the word participation is used. Participation can describe attempts to encourage rural people to collaborate with programmes which has already been devised; it can cover activities of the community development type in which community involvement is sought as the means of ensuring the survival of a project; it can be applied to

initiatives to facilitate the formation of peoples organisations as a means by which the poor people will gain a voice in decision making and it may be seen as in essence a process by which empowerment (both economic and political) of hitherto powerless people is achieved. Participation is however generally understood as a process and not as some kind of static end product of development.

According to Saiyadain (1988) participation refers to sharing in an appropriate way the decision making power with subordinates.

Mishra (1994) stated that the term participation has three conditions. Participation means co-operation, taking part in something, the mere presence, even silent presence of individuals or representatives of an organisation at different levels. According to him participation can be direct or indirect, passive/active and it is one of the important techniques to achieve the desired goal.

In general, participation is regarded as value in it self and a means by which the society can tap and maximise the use of human and material resources for the benefit of its citizen. The extent and quality of participation at individual level amounts to the participation at social level. On this process of participation how far the farmers take part in the planning and implementation

of different agricultural development programmes implemented and nature of involvement. These aspects are of much concern since the success of any development programme depends mainly on the extent of participation of the people.

2.6 Extent of people participation

Extent of participation means the extent of actual involvement of people both physical and mental, in different stages of a programme.

According to Nandal (1972) participation of people in the planning process at different stages of decision- making, decision implementation and evaluation is needed for the success of planning.

Jayavelu (1980) found that lack of knowledge about the economics of the development programme might result in the non participation of the people in it.

Acasio (1982) observed that factors consistently and significantly related to rural women's participation in development programmes were education, length of involvement in development programmes, frequency of involvement in programmes activities

and incentives for participation, programmes to be accomplished and accommodated.

Sekhar and Perumal (1988) observed that there was a positive correlation exists between farm broadcasting about the utility of an agricultural development programme and thereafter the involvement of people in it.

According to Arora (1993) the success of any development measure is determined by the effectiveness of the administrative system.

Muthuraman and Gadevar (1993) opined that participatory client oriented research is a step towards empowerment and a way of enabling farmers to organise themselves.

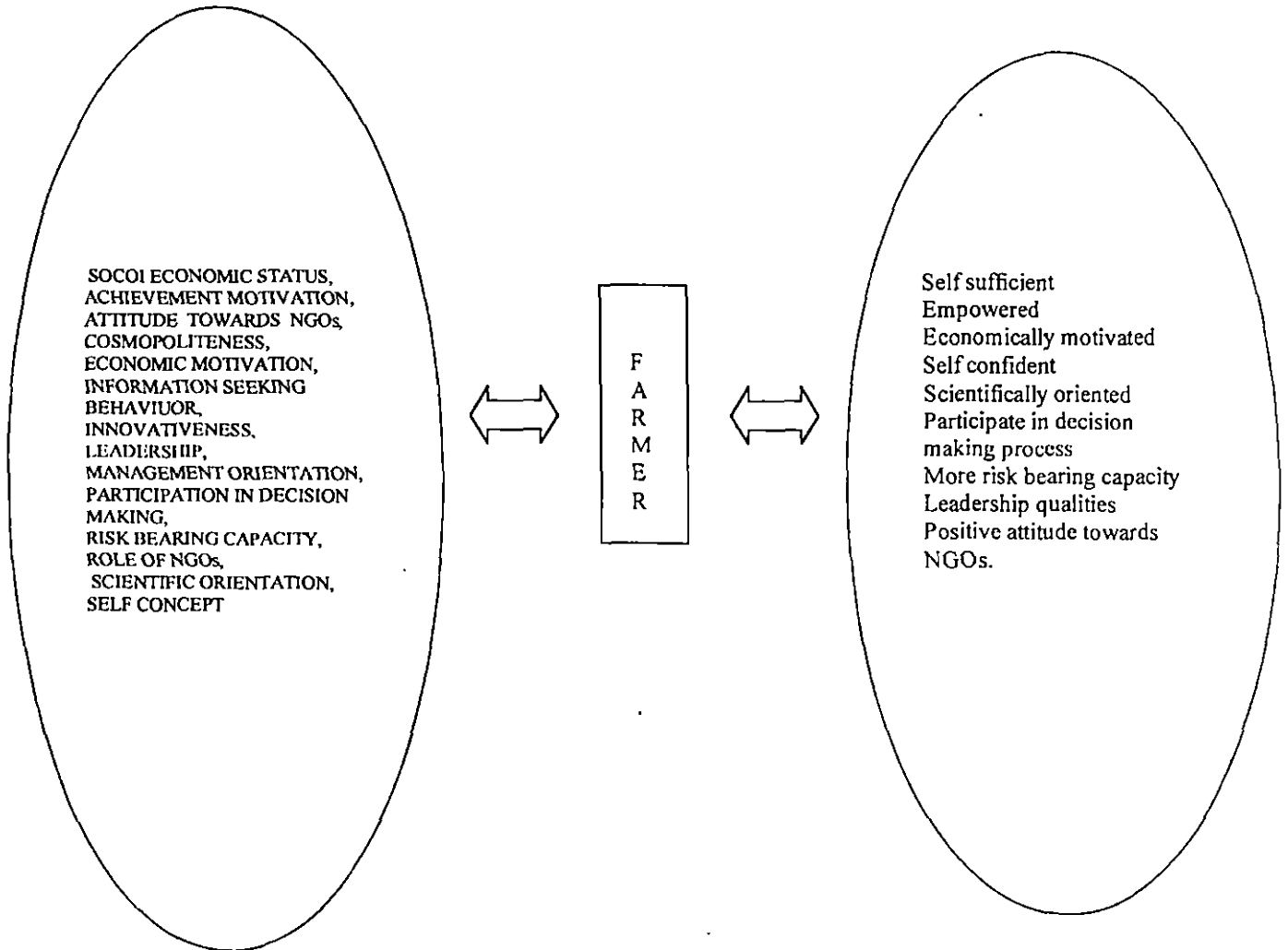
Pradeepkumar (1993) reported that more than 50 per cent of respondents of educated unemployed youth had high level of extent of participation in agriculture.

Tripati (1993) stated that in India, popular participation has been secured within the institutional framework.

Sivalingaiah *et al.*, (1996) observed that 68 per cent of the small farm youth had high participation in farm activities, while

**DIMENSIONS OF
EMPOWERMENT**

**EMPOWERMENT
OUT PUT**



Conceptual model of the study

high per cent (42 per cent) of the big farm youth had low participation.

State planing board of Kerala (1996) reported that only through decentralisation of power we could ensure the participation of people in various developmental activities.

Nataraju and Channegowda (1997) observed that the most important problems which contributed to the low extent of participation of low farmers, marginal farmers and agricultural labourers in development activities were attributed to the lack of knowledge about extension activities conducted in the area, lack of free time to participate in extension activities and lack of resources.

Nita and Kunru (1977) observed that in spite of high involvement of tribal women in animal husbandry activities their participation in decision making in those activities is limited.

Singh (1997) opined that sixty per cent of the women respondents actively participated in post harvest operations at a higher level, and eighteen percent fall in the low level category. Increasingly enough none of the respondents had a very low level of participation conforming that woman is an asset in post harvest operations.

Shajuthomas (1998) concluded that participation of farm women in planning and management of watershed was found very poor.

Veluswamy and Manoharan (1998) found that majority of beneficiaries participated in all activities of NGOs. Situation survey was the activity in which more participation was found, followed by selecting problems for action and analysing the situation. Problem assessment and prioritising problem were the activities seen in fourth and fifth places respectively.



METHODOLOGY

CHAPTER III

METHODOLOGY

This chapter deals with the methods and procedures followed in the study, which are presented under the following sub headings.

- 3.1. Locale of study
- 3.2. Sampling procedure
- 3.3. Operationalisation and measurement of variable
- 3.4. Constraints faced by NGOs
- 3.5. Data collection procedure
- 3.6. Statistical tools used in the study

3.1. Locale of study

Government of Kerala, Planning Board reported that Kannur district has maximum number of functional NGOs. It was confirmed by consulting with the Department of Agriculture. So Kannur district was selected as the locale of study..

3.2. Sampling Procedure

3.2.1. Selection of NGOs

As per the report of Kerala Planning Board and Department of Agriculture, Kerala, ten NGOs were selected randomly from among the two hundred functional NGOs functioning in Kannur district. The selected NGOs were as follows

1. Kalliassery Vikasana Samithi (Kalliassery Panchayath)
2. Kunnothuparamba Grampanchayath Jalasamrakshana Samithi (Kunnothuparamba Panchayath)
3. Chapparapadavu Jaiva vyvidhya samrakshana samithy (Chapparapadavu Panchayath)
4. Kerala Veterinary Service Association – Animal husbandry Progemme in Peringom Vayakara Panchayath.
5. Pappinissery Mriga Samrakshana Vikasana Samithi. (Pappinissery Panchayath)
6. Mayyil Haritha Sangom (Mayyil Panchayath)
7. Payam Patasekhara Samithi (Payam Panchayath).
8. Nallur Patasekhara Samithi (Muzhakkunnu Panchayath)
9. Moyyam cheppanool Haritha Sangom (Kurumathur Panchayath)
10. F.I.E.C (Sreekandapuram Panchayath)

3.2.2. SELECTION OF RESPONDENTS

From each of the selected NGOs, a total number of ten beneficiaries (those who were actively involved in NGO activities) and ten non beneficiaries (from the same locality) were randomly selected. Thus, a total of hundred beneficiaries and hundred non-beneficiaries were selected from the ten NGOs.

3.3. Operationalisation and measurement of variable.

The variables (dimensions of empowerment) considered for the study are presented below. The dimensions were selected based on the judges rating, discussion with experts in the field and with the scientists in the department of Agricultural Extension of Kerala Agricultural University. The relevancy score of judges rating is given in the appendix.

- 3.3.1. Age
- 3.3.2. Socio-economic status
- 3.3.3. Scientific orientation
- 3.3.4. Innovativeness
- 3.3.5. Information seeking behaviour

- 3.3.6. Participation in decision making
- 3.3.7. Self confidence
- 3.3.8. Management orientation
- 3.3.9. Achievement motivation
- 3.3.10. Leadership
- 3.3.11. Economic motivation
- 3.3.12. Level of aspiration
- 3.3.13. Self concept
- 3.3.14. Risk bearing capacity
- 3.3.15. Social participation
- 3.3.16. Cosmopolitaness
- 3.3.17. Attitude towards NGOs
- 3.3.18. Dimensions of empowerment
- 3.3.19. Role of NGOs
- 3.3.20. Extent of people participation
- 3.3.21. Status after associating with NGOs

3.3.1. Age

Age is operationalised in terms of completed years.

3.3.2 Socio- economic status

Socio-economic status is operationally defined as the position of the farmer with reference to the prevailing education, material possession and affective income. In order to measure socio-

economic status, the scale developed by Venkataramaiah (1983) was used with some modification.

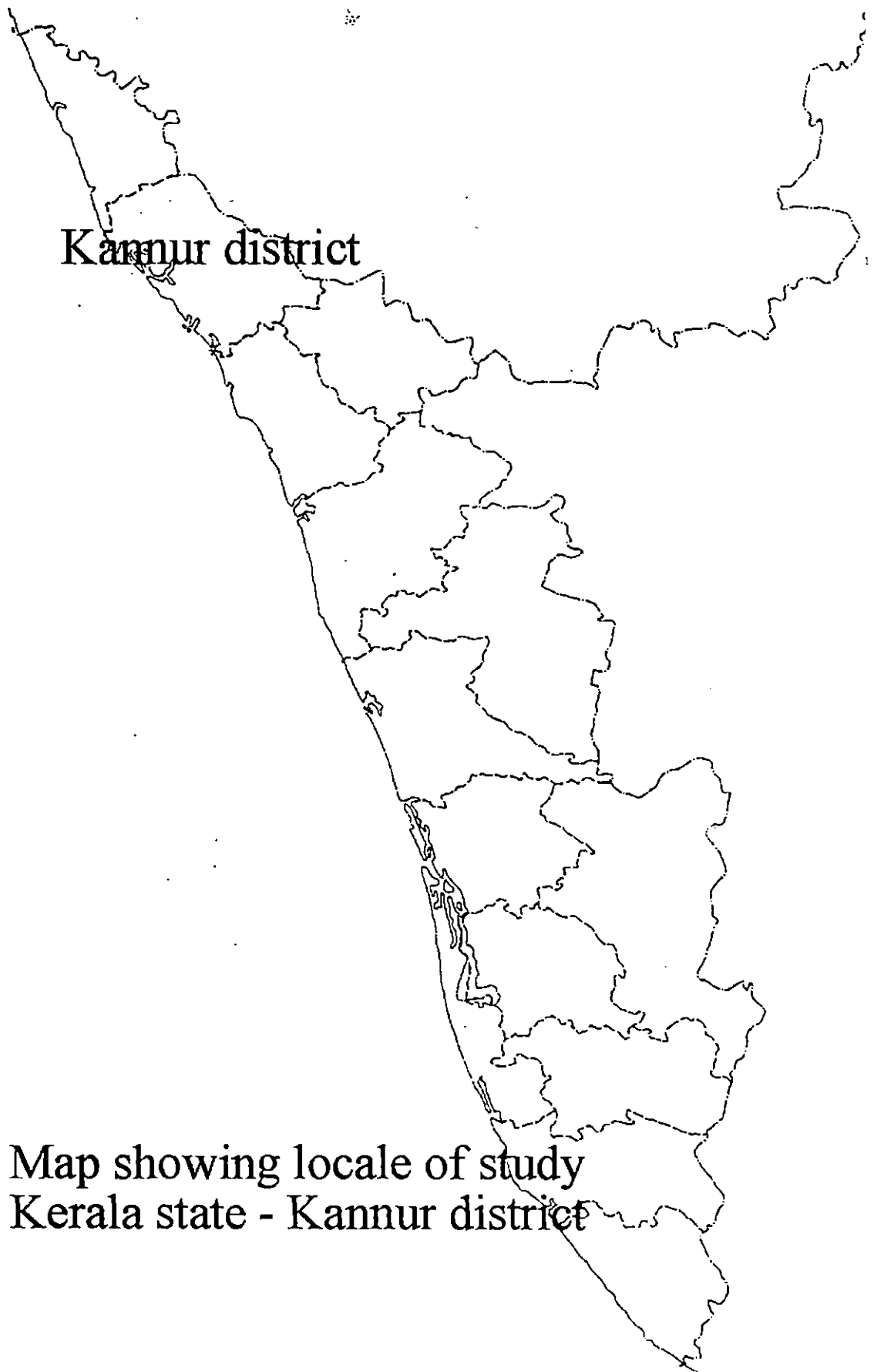
The scale consists of four items. The items are educational status, occupational status, land holding and annual income. The scoring was as follows.

1. Educational status.

ITEM	SCORE
Illiterate	0
Can read only	1
Can read and write	2
Primary	3
Secondary	4
College and above	5

2. Occupational status

ITEM	SCORE
No occupation	0
Labourer	1
Farming	2
Govt /Pvt / Independent profession	3



Kannur district

**Map showing locale of study
Kerala state - Kannur district**

3.Land holding

ITEM	SCORE
No land	0
Less than one acre	1
1 to 5 acres	2
More than 5 acres	3

4. Annual Income

ITEM	SCORE
Below 5000	1
5001 to 25000	2
25000 to 50000	3
50000 to 1 lakh	4
1 lakh and above	5

The total score was obtained by summing up the score obtained for educational status, occupational status, land holding and annual income.

3.3.3. Scientific Orientation

Scientific orientation is operationally defined as the degree to which a farmer is relatively ready to adopt scientific ideas.

In this study, scientific orientation was measured by using the scale developed by Supe (1969). His scale consisted of six statements of which one was negative. Responses were collected on a five-point continuum with score as follows.

ITEM	SCORE
Strongly Agree	5
Agree	4
Undecided	3
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	1

The pattern was reversed for negative items. The total score obtained by each respondent was considered as the score of his scientific orientation.

3.3.4 Innovativeness

Innovativeness is operationally defined as the degree to which a farmer is relatively earlier in adopting new ideas than the other members of his social system.

In this study, innovativeness was measured using the scale developed by Prasad (1979) with slight modification. This scale consists of eight statements, of which the first four statements were

positive and the rest negative. The responses were collected on a 3 point continuum and the score were given as Yes – 2, Undecided-1 , and No – 0, for positive items and scoring pattern reversed for negative items.

The total score for the eight statements were taken as the score for innovativeness of the individual respondent

3.3.5. Information seeking Behaviour

Information seeking behaviour refers to the degree to which different information sources were utilised by the farmers for getting information.

In the present study, it was defined as the different information sources like radio, news paper, television, farm journals, scientific and research articles, popular articles etc are utilised by the farmers for getting information.

It was measured by a scale developed by Sivaprasad (1997). It was measured using a continuum of 'regularly', 'sometimes' and 'never' with a score of 2 , 1 and 0. The sum total of the score obtained for each item form the score of a respondent.

3.3.6. Participation in decision making

Participation in decision making is operationally defined as the extent of involvement of a farmer in selecting the most efficient means from among the available alternatives.

For measuring participation in decision making, the scale developed by Padmanabhan (1981) was used, which contained positive and negative statements. The responses were collected in a 3 point continuum namely 'most often', 'sometimes' and 'never'. The scoring pattern for negative statements were 2, 1 and 0 respectively. The score was reversed in the case of negative statements. The sum total of the score was calculated by summing up the individual scores.

3.3.7. Self confidence

It is operationally defined as the extent of feeling about one's own powers, abilities and resourcefulness to perform any activity which the farmer desires to undertake.

The variable was measured using the scale developed by Pandyaraj (1978) for measuring the level of self confidence. The scale consists of eight items. The respondents were asked to state their response in a five point continuum ranging from strongly agree to strongly disagree. The scoring method was as follows for positive

statement. The scoring pattern was reversed in the case of negative statements. Total score was obtained by summing up the score.

ITEM	SCORE
Strongly Agree	5
Agree	4
Undecided	3
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	1

3.3.8. Management Orientation

This is operationalised as the degree to which a farmer is oriented towards scientific farm management comprising planning, production and marketing functions of farm enterprises.

Management orientation was measured using the scale developed by Samantha (1977). The scale consisted of 18 statements, 6 statements each for planning, production and marketing orientation. The respondents were asked to state their agreement or disagreement to each of the statements and scores of 1 and 0 were assigned respectively considering whether the statements were positive or negative. The management orientation score was obtained by summation of the scores for all the 18 statements.

3.3.9. Achievement Motivation

Achievement motivation is defined as the desire for excellence in order to attain a sense of personal accomplishments.

Achievement motivation scale developed by Singh (1974) was used for measuring the variable. It is a six-item scale with five alternative responses to each item. The scoring was done using the method of summated rating. The total score was obtained and then the respondents were grouped into low group and high group.

3.3.10. Leadership

Leadership is operationally defined as the ability of a person to influence people to co-operate in achieving a goal.

The leadership quality of the farmer was measured by schedule developed for this purpose. The scale consists of 7 positive statements. It was measured using a 5 point continuum. The scoring pattern was as follows. The total score was obtained by summing up the scores on individual items.

ITEM	SCORE
Always	5
Often	4
Sometimes	3
Seldom	2
Never	1

3.3.11. Economic motivation

Economic motivation is operationally defined as an individuals orientation towards maximum economic gains.

The scale developed by Supe (1969) and modified by Natarajan (1985) was used for measuring the economic motivation in the study.

The scale consists of 6 statements of which include both positive and negative statements. A dichotomous pattern of response (agree, disagree) was followed. The scoring procedure was as follows. The total score was obtained by summing up the individual respondent.

RESPONSE	Agree	Disagree
Positive Statement	2	1
Negative statement	1	2

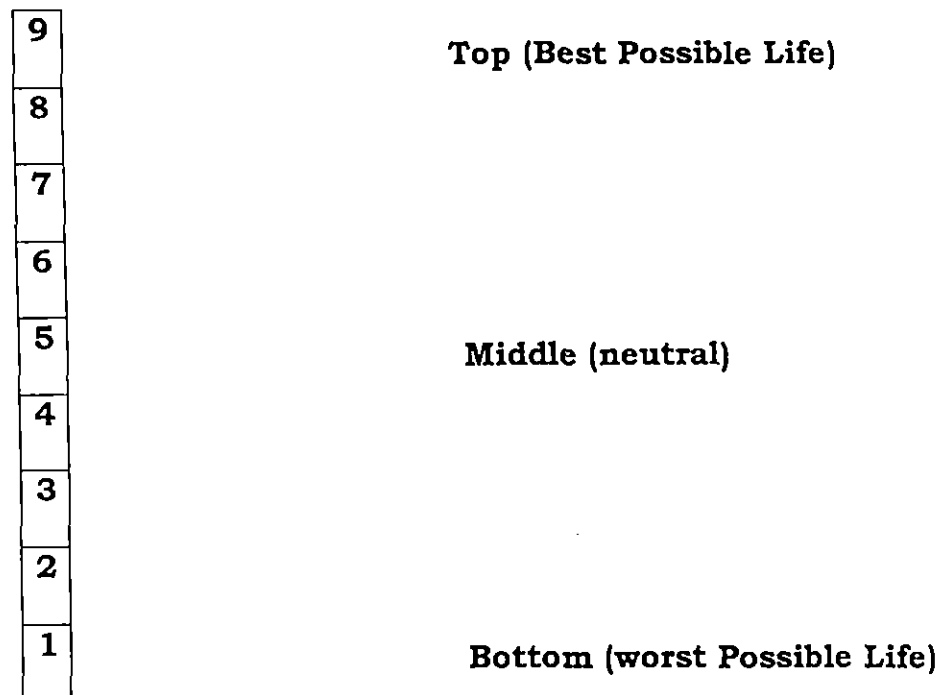
3.3.12. Level of aspiration

Level of aspiration is operationally defined as the future level of achievement in his job, which he is expecting based on the knowledge about the level of past performance.

In this study, level of aspiration was measured using the self anchoring striving scale developed by Cantril (1965), A figure of ladder with 9 steps as given below.

The respondents were asked to indicate the step in the ladder which they felt as standing at present (at the time of study), where they were 5 years ago, and where they would stand 5 years from now (from the period of study).The summed up score was taken as level of

aspiration of the respondents



3.3.13. Self concept

Self-concept refers to the set of cognition and feelings that a farmer has about him as a farmer.

In the present study, self concept was measured by using the scale developed by Joseph (1983) with slight modification. The scale consisted of eight statements. The statements were rated on a five point continuum. The scoring pattern was as follows.

For negative statements, scoring pattern was reversed. The total score for each of the respondents was worked out by summing up the score on all the items. The possible score ranges from 8 to 40.

ITEM	SCORE
Strongly Agree	5
Agree	4
Undecided	3
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	1

3.3.14. Risk bearing capacity

Risk bearing capacity is operationalised as the degree to which a farmer is oriented towards encountering risk and uncertainty and has courage to face problems in agriculture.

. The scale developed by Supe (1969) was adopted for the study.

There were six statements and the scoring procedure was as follows

ITEM	SCORE
Strongly Agree	5
Agree	4
Undecided	3
Disagree	2
Strongly Disagree	1

The scoring was reversed in the case of negative statements. The scores obtained for the statements were summed up to obtain the individual score on risk bearing capacity. The possible score range is from 6 to 30.

3.3.15. Social participation

Social participation refers to the extent and nature of participation or involvement of youth in formal organisation either as a member or as an office bearer.

In the present study, social participation was defined as the degree of involvement of the respondent in social organisation as a member or as an office bearer. In the present study, the scale developed by Sivaprasad (1997) was used with some modification. The following scoring pattern was adopted.

Membership				Extent of participation			
Past		Present		Regul arly	Occasio nally	Rarely	Never
Member	Office Bearer	Mem ber	Office Bearer	3	2	1	0
1	2	1	2				

The total score of the respondent was obtained by adding all the scores obtained by him on all the individual item.

3.3.16. Cosmopolitaness

Rogers and Swenning (1969) referred cosmopolitaness as the extent of contact with outside village such as visiting the nearest town, the purpose of visiting and the membership in organisation and outside the village.

Scoring procedure developed by Desai (1981) and used by Nelson (1992) with slight modification was adopted in the study. The scoring procedure was as follows.

Frequency of visit	Score
2 or more times in a week	5
Once in a week	4
Once in 15 days	3
Once in a month	2
Occasionally	1
Never	0

Purpose of visit	Score
All visits relating to agriculture	5
Some visit relating to agriculture	4
Personal or domestic matters	3
Entertainment	2
Other purpose	1
No purpose	0

Cosmopolite score of an individual was obtained by adding the scores obtained by him in all the aspects. The possible cosmopolite score ranges from 0 to 10.

3.3.17. Attitude towards NGOs

Attitude is operationally defined as the degree of positive or negative effect towards the activities of NGOs

The attitude towards NGOs was measured using an attitude scale developed by Indubhaskar (1997) following Likerts summated rating techniques.

The scale was administered to the respondents on a five point continuum with scores of 5,4,3,2,1 for positive statements and reversed in negative statements. The score obtained for all statements were added to get the total score.

3.3.18. Dimensions of empowerment

Dimensions of empowerment is operationally defined as the characters that contribute to the empowerment of farmers.

In the first stage, pearson's correlation analysis was done to find out the correlation between the dependant variable (empowerment) and independent variables.

In the second stage, backward regression analysis was done to find out the best linear relationship between dependant and

independent variable. The method terminated when no more variables are eligible for inclusion or removal.

In the third step, mean empowerment score for beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries were compared to see whether there was any significant difference between beneficiaries and non beneficiaries.

3.3.19. Role of NGOs

Role of NGOs is operationally defined as the activities undertaken by NGOs to improve the living condition of farmers.

Discussion with the experts, reviewing the literature on role of NGOs and discussion with the functional NGOs, an exhaustive list of role played by NGOs was prepared. Considering the general activities of NGOs in Kerala state and especially in Kannur district, a fifteen item schedule was constructed with scoring pattern as 'yes' or 'no'. A score of 1 was given to 'Yes' and 0 to 'No'. The possible score ranges from 0 to 15.

3.3.20. Extent of people participation

Extent of people participation is operationlised as the extent of actual involvement of people both physical and mental, in different stages of a programme.

For measuring extent of people participation, an exhaustive list of situations in which farmers have to participate was prepared with consulting NGOs and experts in the field. From the list of stages of participation, a schedule was developed with 7 items. Scoring was done on a three point continuum (In all meetings, some and none). The scoring pattern was 2,1 and 0 respectively.

3.3.21. Status after associating with NGOs

A schedule was developed for measuring the improvement of farmers after associating with the NGO activities with consulting experts in the field and the functional NGOs. A 10-item schedule was developed with a continuum of scoring as 'yes' or 'no'. The scoring pattern was 1 and 0 respectively. The possible score range was from 0 to 10.

3.4. Constraints faced by NGOs

For studying the constraints faced by NGOs, a discussion was conducted with functional NGOs, experts in the field and reviewing relevant literature. Based on the study, an eleven item schedule was developed. For scoring, a four point continuum with 'most important', 'important', 'less important' and 'least important' was developed. Their choice was marked in the schedule.

3.5. Data collection procedure

Data were collected using a pre-tested structured interview schedule prepared for this purpose. Primary data were collected from ten beneficiaries and ten non beneficiaries from each selected NGO. Thus data were collected from a total of 200 farmers.

Details regarding the NGOs were collected using structured pre-tested interview schedule and personal interview with the office bearers as well as from secondary data.

3.6. Statistical methods used

3.6.1. Mean, Median and Mode

The arithmetic mean \bar{x} is the quotient that results when sum of all items in the series is divided by number of items.

$$\bar{X} = \sum X / N, \text{ where}$$

$$\bar{X} = \text{mean}, \quad \sum X = \text{sum of scores on individual items.}$$

$$N = \text{number of items.}$$

The calculated means were used in the categorisation of respondents and to find the mean score obtained for beneficiaries and non beneficiaries.

Median is the measure of central tendency, the value above and below half the cases fall. Mode is the most frequently occurring value.

3.6.2. Frequency and percentage

The data were subjected to and interpreted in terms of frequency and percentage. Using frequency, data was categorised into low, middle and high category to distinguish between the different categories of both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. Percentage was calculated to find the where the majority of the respondents fall.

3.6.3. Correlation analysis

The correlation coefficient (r_{xy}) was computed to find out the degree of relationship between empowerment and various dimensions of empowerment .

$$r_{xy} = P_{xy} / \sigma_x * \sigma_y$$

P_{xy} = covariance between x and y

σ_x = Standard deviation of the distribution of x

σ_y = Standard deviation of the distribution of y



RESULT & DISCUSSION

CHAPTER IV

RESULT AND DISCUSSION

The result and discussion of the study are presented in the following subheading.

4.1. Variables selected for study

- 4.1.1. Age
- 4.1.2. socio economic status
- 4.1.3. scientific orientation
- 4.1.4. Innovativeness
- 4.1.5. Information seeking behaviour
- 4.1.6. Participation in decision making
- 4.1.7. Self confidence
- 4.1.8. Management orientation
- 4.1.9. Achievement motivation
- 4.1.10. Leadership
- 4.1.11. Economic motivation
- 4.1.12. Level of aspiration
- 4.1.13. Self concept
- 4.1.14. Risk bearing capacity

- 4.1.15. Social participation
- 4.1.16. Cosmo politeness
- 4.1.17. Attitude towards NGOs
- 4.2. Dimensions of empowerment of farmers
- 4.3. Role of NGOs in empowerment of farmers
- 4.4. Extent of people's participation
- 4.5. Status of the farmers after associating with the NGOs
- 4.6. Constraints faced by NGOs
- 4.7. Strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs

4.1 Variables selected for study

4.1.1. Age

The beneficiary and non beneficiary farmers were grouped into young , middle aged and old aged to have a better understanding about the involvement of age group (Table 1). Fifty one percent of the beneficiaries were in the young age group. Only eighteen percent were in the old age group. Among the non beneficiaries there were twenty nine farmers in the young group and thirty three farmers in the middle age group. There were thirty eight farmers in the aged group. Thus, it is clear that young people are more involved in voluntary activities. So any programme that aims at voluntary activities should mainly focus the young farmers. The vitality and good health of the young farmers would have helped them to actively engage in voluntary activities.

Table 1. Table showing distribution of beneficiary farmers in various age groups

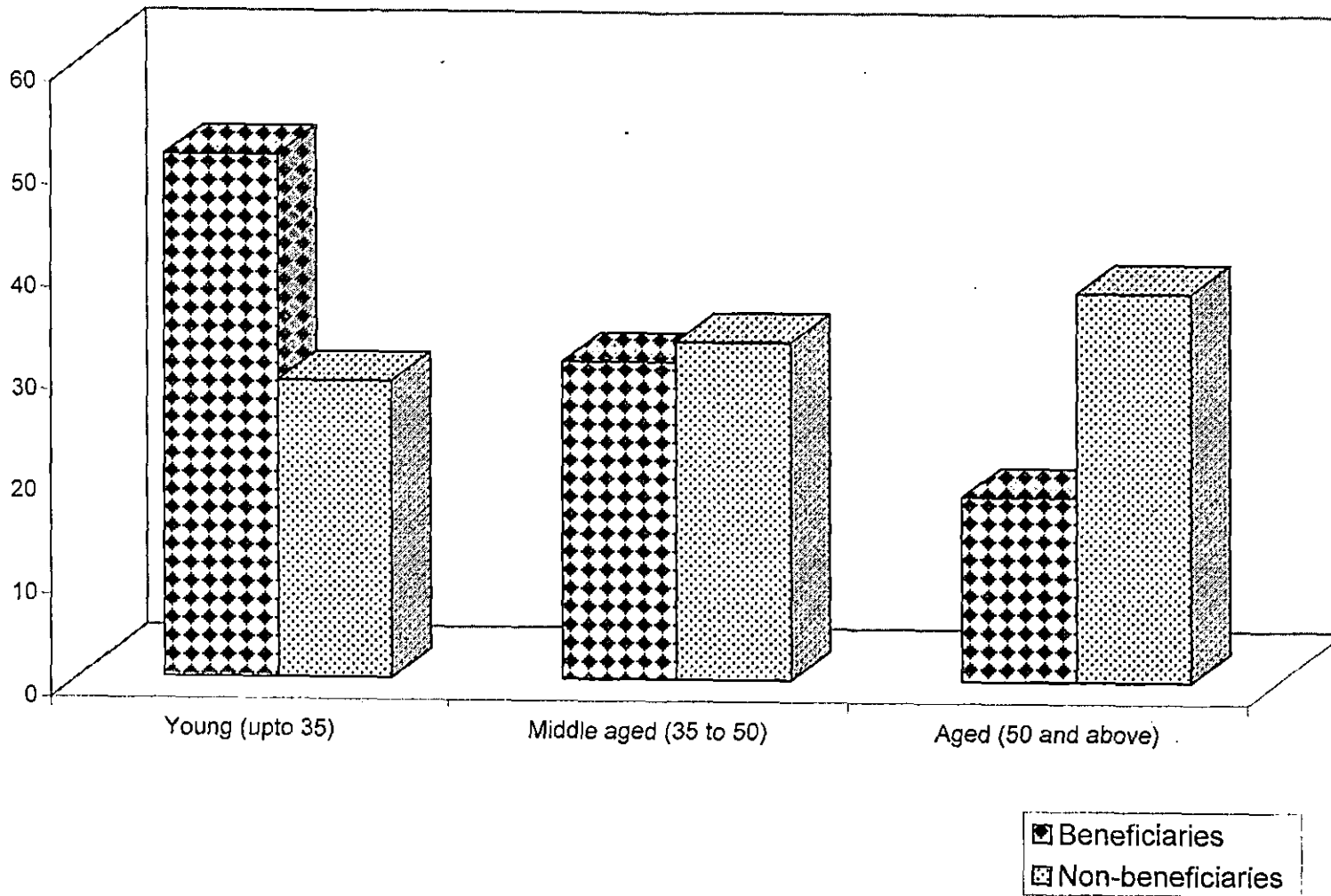
Age group	Frequency of beneficiaries	Frequency of non beneficiaries
Young (upto 35)	51	29
Middle aged (35 to 50)	31	33
Aged (50 and above)	18	38

4.1.2. Socio economic status

Among the beneficiaries, respondents were distributed almost equally in both low group and high group (Table2). Fifty four percent in the low group and forty six percent in the high group. But among the non beneficiaries seventy seven percent of the farmers belong to low group. There were only thirty three percent farmers in the high group. This indicate that the farmers associated with NGO activities are better in socio economic status compared to non beneficiaries. Otherwise the association with the voluntary organisation would have helped the beneficiary farmers to improve their socio economic status.

While reviewing the status of the farmer after associating with the NGOs, sixty one percent of the farmers have opined that their farm production has increased (Table26). The increase in farm production would increases the income level. Annual income of the respondent is a

Fig. 3 Figure showing the distribution of beneficiary farmers and non-beneficiary farmers in various age group



component of socio economic status and the increases in income had definitely improved the socio economic status of the farmer.

Table 2. Category of farmers based on the Socio- economic status

Category	Beneficiaries	Non- beneficiaries
Mean score	8	7
1 – 8(low group)	54	77
9 – 16(high group)	46	33

It is in conformity with the result of Ramachandran (1992) that the socio economic status of the participant farmers differed significantly from the non participant farmers.

4.1.3. Scientific orientation

From the table, (Table.3) it is seen that there were twenty three beneficiaries belong to high group, but only nine among the non beneficiaries. In the low group, there were only seven respondents in the beneficiary group, but there were twenty seven respondents in the non beneficiary group. The distribution in the middle group was almost similar.

The very low frequency of beneficiaries in the low group indicate that the farmers associated with NGOs had very good scientific

orientation. Scientific orientation means knowledge about scientific agriculture. Teaching scientific agriculture was perceived as one of the main role of NGOs in the field of agriculture. While comparing the distribution of beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries, it was evident that the beneficiaries are more scientifically oriented.

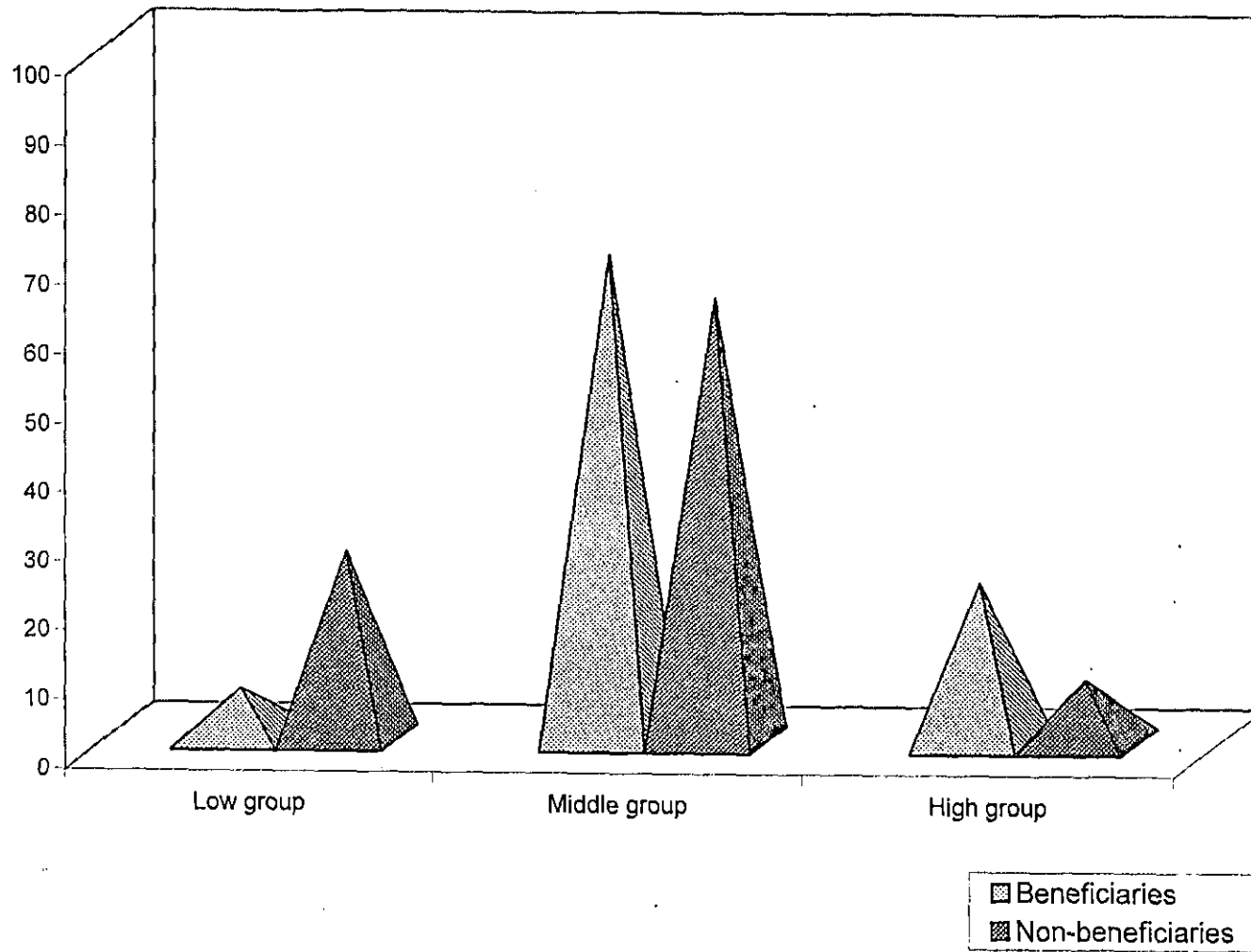
Table 3. Category of respondents based on score of scientific orientation

Category	Frequency of beneficiaries	Frequency of non beneficiaries
Mean score	21	17
Low group (6 -14)	7	27
Middle group (15 - 23)	70	64
High group (24 - 30)	23	9

From the mean score also it is clear that the beneficiaries have more scientific orientation. The mean score of the beneficiaries was twenty-one but the non beneficiaries have only seventeen. The result agrees with the result of Kamarudeen (1981).

While reviewing the status of the farmers after associating with NGOs, sixty four percent of the farmers opined that they learned scientific agriculture through the association of NGOs (Table 26).

Fig. 4 Figure showing category of respondents based on score of scientific orientation



4.1.4. Innovativeness

Among the beneficiaries, fifty nine percent of the farmers were in the low group and forty one percent in the high group (table 8). It is inferred that the involvement in NGO activities could not bring about substantial result in the case of innovativeness. But when compared to non-beneficiaries, majority of the respondents (86 percent) belong to low group. So a comparison with non-beneficiaries reveals that beneficiaries were far better in the case of innovativeness.

Table 4. Distribution of respondents based on the
Score of innovativeness

Score	Frequency of beneficiaries	Frequency of non beneficiaries
Mean score	8.00	6.28
0 – 8 (Low group)	59	86
9 –16 (High Group)	41	14

Even though beneficiaries were better, generally the innovativeness of the respondents were poor. Majority of the beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries were in the low group. It indicate that activities in the future should focus on building up innovativeness of the farmers. Innovativeness is considered as one of the main psychological characters that contribute

to empowerment. A farmer should be innovative to face any adverse situation since the agriculture is subjected to nature and the marketing condition may change at any time.

The result tally with the result of Menon (1995) that innovativeness had contributed to the changing farming conditions and continues to raise the performance level of farmers. Thus, a modern farmer who is innovative is willing to change his beliefs, attitudes and ways of acting in response to new challenges and development

4.1.5. **Information seeking behaviour**

Information seeking behaviour of beneficiaries was found better when compared to non beneficiaries (table 9).

From the results, it is seen that the proportion of respondents who use radio as a source of information was decreasing. Among the beneficiaries, forty percent did not use radio at all. Forty two percent of the non beneficiaries also do not hear to radio. Thirty two percent of the beneficiaries use radio regularly compared to twenty percent among non beneficiaries. Radio is still one of the best media that provide relevant and latest news on agriculture.

The agricultural news in the morning from the Kannur FM station was noted for its relevancy and importance. In this study, only around one third of the respondents regularly hear to radio. Hence majority of the

farmers were missing a very important source of information. One of the reasons would be the popularity given to television nowadays.

Table 5. Table showing the information seeking behaviour of respondents

A. Mass media contact							
Sl. No	Media	R		O		N	
		B	NB	B	NB	B	NB
1	Radio	32	20	28	38	40	42
2	News Paper	56	40	16	32	28	28
3	Television	36	31	34	28	30	41
4	Farm magazine	19	8	28	12	53	80
5	Research Journals	6	2	10	3	84	95
B. Formal personnel sources							
1	Agri. Officer	22	18	42	20	36	62
2	Agri. Assistant	32	20	40	28	28	52
3	Agri. Scientist	4	2	8	3	88	95
C. Informal personnel sources							
1	Friends and relative	14	20	42	12	44	68
2	Fellow farmers	32	20	20	18	48	62
3	Progressive farmers	20	12	52	28	28	60
4	Local leaders	10	8	22	12	68	80
D. Commercial sources							
1	Fertilizer dealers	40	28	32	30	28	42
2	Pesticide dealers	38	20	27	16	35	64
3	Co-operate officials	6	2	10	4	84	94
4	Bank personnel	8	1	7	3	85	96
E. Other sources							
1	Exhibition / Melas	10	2	16	8	74	90
2	Group Meetings	16	8	24	12	60	80
3	Training	18	7	32	8	50	85
4	Demonstrations	6	2	8	3	86	95
5	Seminars	14	6	26	12	60	82

R - Regularly, O - Occasionally, N - Never

B - Beneficiaries, NB - Non beneficiaries

Review of news papers was more with beneficiaries (56 percent) compared to non beneficiaries (40 percent). Review of farm magazine was very poor for both beneficiaries (19 percent) and non beneficiaries (8 percent). Among the beneficiaries fifty three percent never reviewed farm magazines for getting information on agriculture. The frequency of non beneficiaries was eighty percent .

The use of research journal was also very poor for both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. Research journals were not all available to them. Farmers are not expected review research journals. Hence from the low usage, it is difficult to come to any conclusion.

In the case of formal personnel sources, less than half of the respondents had regular and occasional contact for the non beneficiaries, but majority of the beneficiaries were having regular and occasional contact with agricultural officer and agricultural assistants. The case is same with informal personnel sources also.

In the case of other sources, exhibitions, group meetings, trainings, demonstrations and seminars do not contribute much to both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries.

4.1.6. Participation in decision making

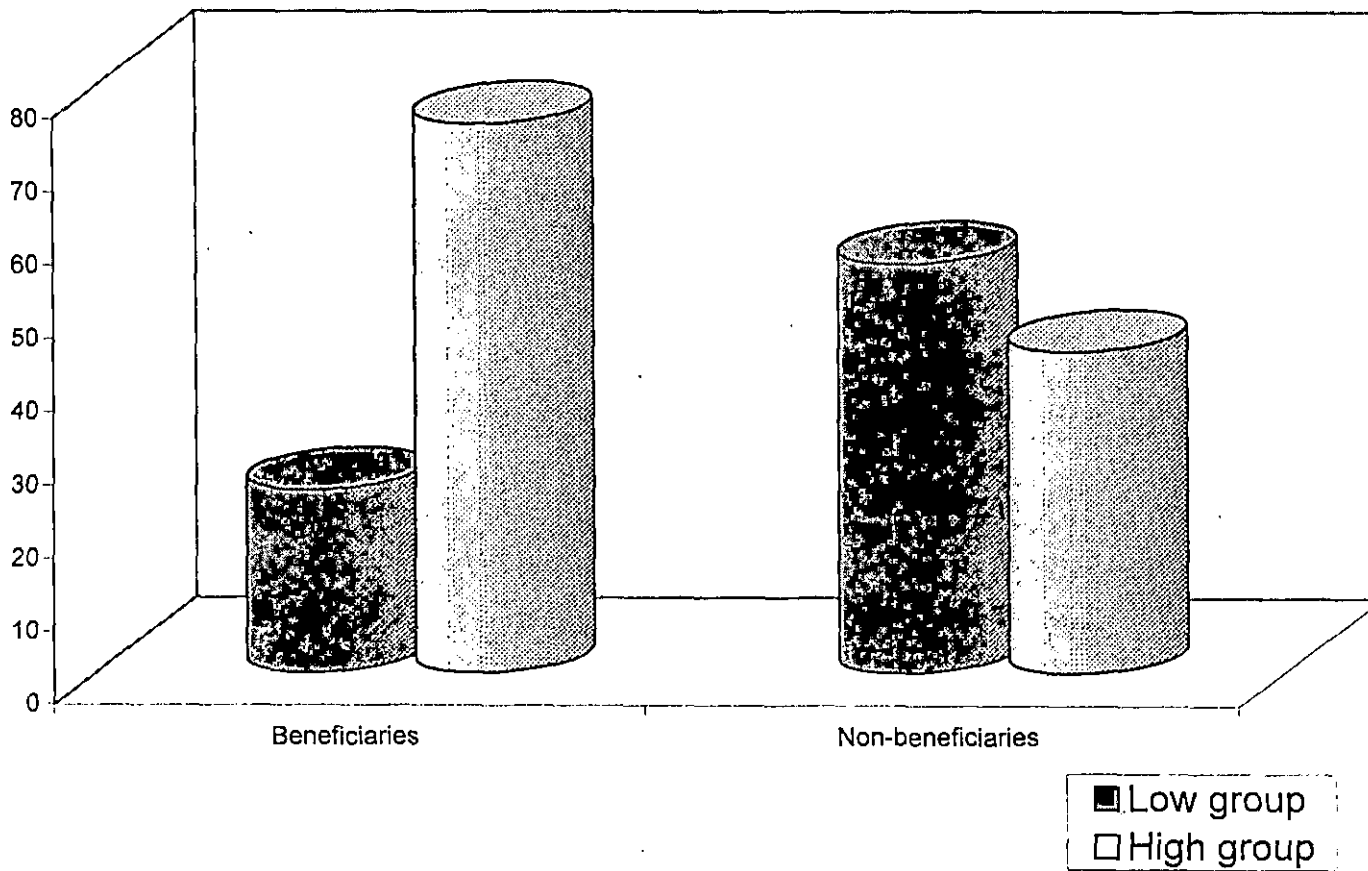
Table 6. Table showing category of respondents on participation in decision making

Score	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean score	14	12
low group (0 -12)	25	56
High group (13 - 24)	75	44

The non beneficiaries were almost equally distributed in both low group and high group (table 10). But seventy five percent of the beneficiaries belong to high group. There was good participation on the part of beneficiaries in taking proper decisions at proper time. This was evident from the personal interview with the NGOs. The scoring pattern also confirms the opinion of NGOs. The mean score was also more with beneficiaries.

Participation in decision making is a good psychological character that is the basis for co-operation among the farmers. If a person has obtained high score, he would definitely help his fellow farmers in deciding matters. As agriculture is subjected to nature and considering the prevailing uncertainty, the farmers have to take many decisions at the proper time. So, most of the time he needs valuable advises to take decisions at the proper time. So a farmer who participate in decision

Fig. 5 Figure showing category of respondents based on score in participation in decision making



making either at the farmer level or at the organisational level is an asset to any farmers group.

4.1.7. Self confidence

The scoring pattern on self-confidence also reveals that majority (75 percent) of the beneficiaries were having high self-confidence. But the non beneficiaries were distributed almost equally in both the groups. The mean score also tells that beneficiaries have more self confidence.

Table 7. Classification of respondents based on self confidence score

Category	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	28	25
Low group (8 -24)	24	45
High group (25 - 40)	76	55

The result tally with the results of Joseph (1983), Nizamudeen (1996), Varma (1996) and Sangeetha (1997). They reported that a good majority of the respondents belonged to high group with respect to self-confidence.

4.1.8. Management orientation

A good majority of the beneficiaries belonged to high group (82 percent). This shows that farmers associated with NGO's were having great skill in management orientation, that would be one of the reasons for success of the voluntary activities. The management orientation includes planning orientation, production orientation and marketing orientation. A person with great management orientation means he can manage all the aspects of agriculture whether it is planning of crops to be raised, practices to be followed in the production of inputs or marketing of the produce.

Table 8. Category of respondents based on management orientation score

Category	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	11.6	9.2
Low group (0-9)	18	62
High group (10-18)	82	38

The distribution of respondents among non beneficiaries were more in low group (table 12). The distribution of respondents in both beneficiaries and non-beneficiaries shows a clear demarcation. The management orientation level of beneficiaries were significantly high

compared with non beneficiaries. The result tally with the findings of Ramachandran (1992).

4.1.9. Achievement motivation

The distribution of beneficiary respondents shows that majority of the farmers were having high achievement motivation (table 9).

Table 9. Distribution of respondents based on the score of achievement motivation.

Category	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	21.32	17.9
Low group (6-28)	24	55
High group(19-30)	76	45

Majority of the non beneficiaries (55 percent) were in the low group. It is inferred that farmers associated with NGOs were having more achievement motivation compared to non-beneficiary farmers. Achievement motivation is one of the factors that encourage a farmer to achieve more in his or her life. If a person is having this character, he has a natural eager to know more things in his life and build up a better life. From the results it is clear that the activity of voluntary organisations have improved the achievement motivation of the farmers.

4.1.10. Leadership

The distribution of beneficiaries in low group and high group were almost equal (table 10). Majority of the non beneficiaries belonged to low group (77 percent).

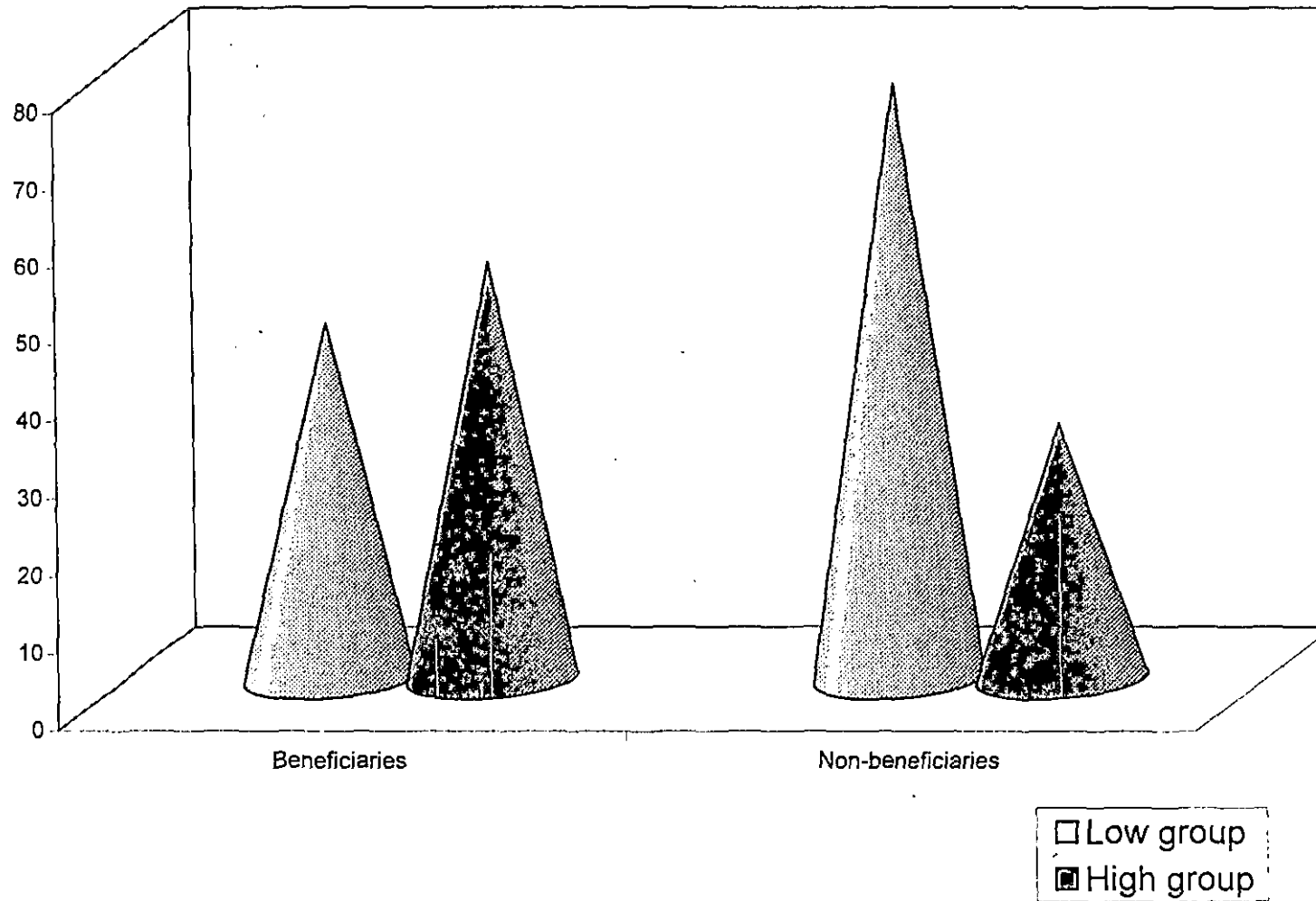
Table 10. Comparison of leadership qualities
of respondents

Category	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	23	19
Low group (7-21)	46	77
High group(21-35)	54	33

The comparison of mean score reveals that beneficiaries were having more leadership qualities than non beneficiaries. While reviewing the status of the farmer after associating with the NGOs, sixty six farmers opined that their leadership qualities have improved (Table--).

Definitely the farmers who were office bearers of the NGOs had high leadership qualities. It was evident from the personnel interview with the office bearers. They had shown great leadership qualities in making the voluntary activities successful.

Fig. 6 Figure showing comparison of leadership qualities of respondents



4.1.11. Economic motivation

Table 11 reveals that majority (60 percent) of the beneficiaries were having high economic motivation. On the contrary twelve percent of the non beneficiaries were having high economic motivation. The result tally with the findings of Nizamudeen (1996) and Varma (1996).

Table 11. Table showing the distribution of respondents based on economic motivation score

Score	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	8.65	7.02
Low group (6-8)	46	88
High group(9-12)	60	12

4.1.12. Level of aspiration

The study reveals that fifty percent of the beneficiaries were having medium level of aspiration. Thirty four percent of the beneficiaries were having low level of aspiration. Frequency in the high group is very less in both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries . Majority of the farmers were having low and medium level of aspiration in both the groups. But comparatively level of aspiration was more with the beneficiaries.

Table 12. Category of farmers based on level of aspiration score

Category	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	13	12
Low group(3-11)	34	50
Middle group(12-19)	50	43
High group(20-27)	16	7

4.1.13. Self concept

Majority of the beneficiaries (77 percent) were having high self confidence compared to fifty five percent among non beneficiaries. A comparison of the mean score also reveals that beneficiary farmers were having high self concept . The result tally with the findings of Joseph (1983).

Table 13. category of respondents based on self concept score

Score	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	28	25
Low group (8-24)	23	45
High group(25-40)	77	55

A farmer with good self concept means he is having some good traits like interest in people and things happening around him, active in solving cultivation problems, courteous in dealing with other farmers eager to learn more on all subjects. The result of the study shows the great majority of the beneficiaries in high group. Among the non-beneficiaries, a little above the half of the respondents belong to high group. Hence it is inferred that majority of the respondents feel themselves as capable of solving problems in agriculture. More than an ability it is a mental state and is a very good achievement. The activities of NGOs would have helped the farmers to develop such a state.

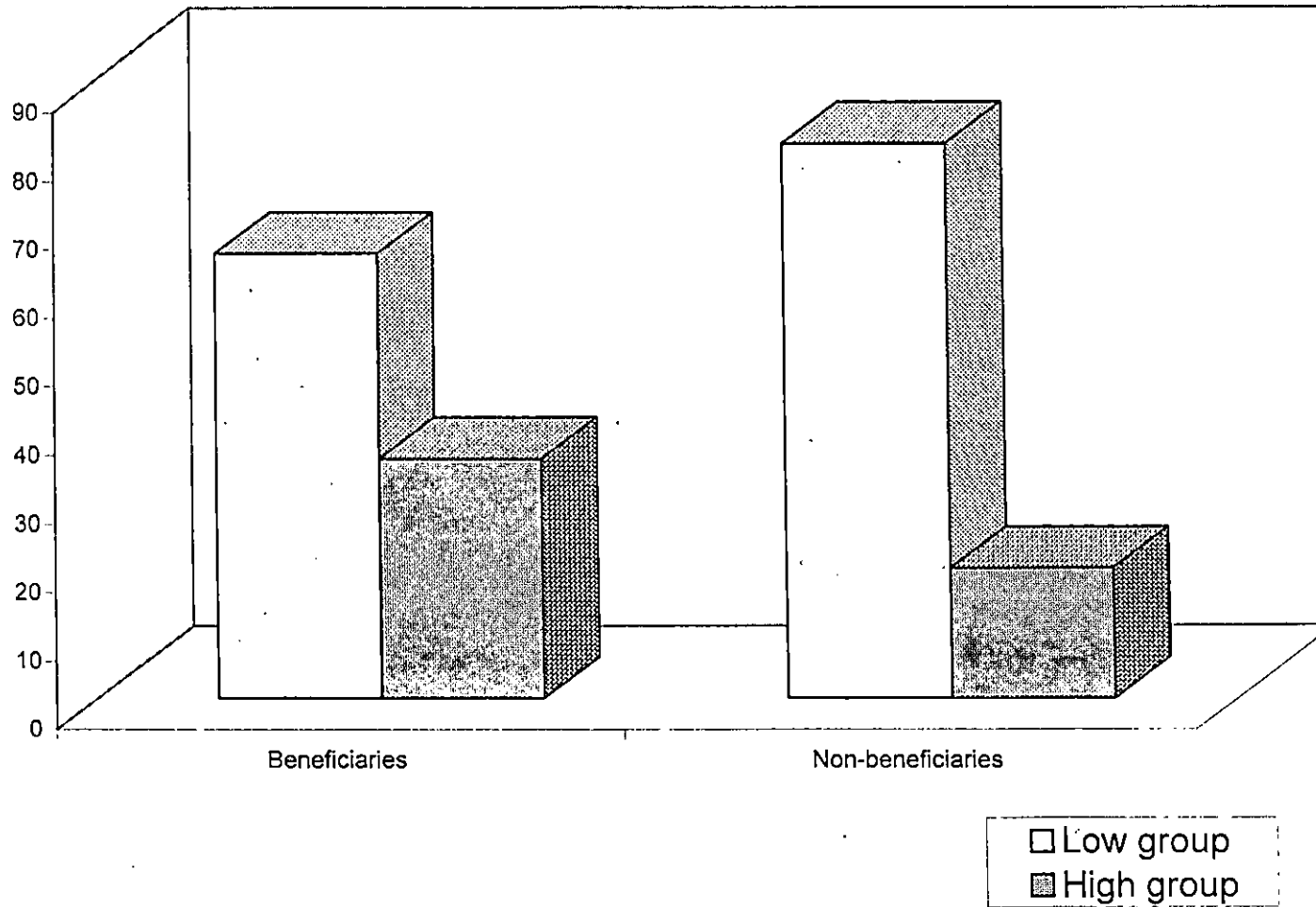
4.1.14. Risk bearing capacity

Majority of the beneficiaries and non beneficiaries belong to low group in the case of risk bearing capacity. Table 18 shows that 65 percent of the beneficiaries and 81 percent of the non beneficiaries belong to low group.

Table 14. Classification of respondents based on score of risk bearing capacity

Score	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	16.81	13.5
Low group (6-18)	65	81
High group(19-30)	35	19

Fig. 7 Figure showing classificaiton of respondents based on score of risk bearing capacity



From the analysis of mean value, beneficiaries were having more risk bearing capacity compared to non beneficiaries.

The result tally with the findings of Jaleel (1992) and Gangadharan (1993). They reported positive and significant relationship between risk bearing capacity and adoption

4.1.15. Social participation

The analysis of the table 15 & table 16 revealed that generally social participation was more with beneficiaries. Membership in various organisation and extent of participation was more with beneficiaries.

Table 15. Frequency of beneficiaries in social participation

Sl No	Organisation	Membership				participation			
		Past		Present		Reg	Occ	Rar	nev
		M	O	M	O				
1	Panchayath	12	8	17	8	15	9	5	0
2	Krishi Bhavan	18	7	12	6	18	8	4	0
3	Karshika Samithies	52	10	57	8	40	32	10	18
4	Farmers discussion group	18	2	14	7	12	10	10	0
5	Political Party	32	13	45	10	50	20	7	0
6	Religious group	30	7	38	2	18	20	17	13
7	Ayalkoottam	100	12	100	16	40	30	18	12

M – member, O –Office bearer, Reg – Regularly, Rar - Rarely
Occ – Occasionally, Nev - Never

Table 16. Frequency of non beneficiaries in social participation

Sl No	Organisation	Membership				participation			
		Past		Present		Reg	Occ	Rar	nev
		M	O	M	O				
1	Panchayath	4	3	10	8	6	7	1	0
2	Krishi Bhavan	10	2	8	4	6	10	2	-
3	Karshika Samithies	8	4	8	3	5	8	1	2
4	Farmers discussion group	16	3	10	4	8	10	2	6
5	Political Party	18	6	32	8	20	18	6	6
6	Religious group	22	8	24	6	18	8	8	12
7	Ayalkoottam	100	8	100	12	35	38	10	17

M – member, O –Office bearer, Reg – Regularly, Rar - Rarely

Occ – Occasionally, Nev – Never

4.1.16. Cosmo politeness

The cosmopolite behaviour of the respondents revealed that both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries were having high cosmopolite orientation . But a comparison of the frequency of beneficiaries and non beneficiaries revealed that beneficiaries were having more cosmopoliteness. Forty percent of the beneficiaries visit the nearest town two or more times in a week and for thirty two percent of the beneficiaries, all visits are related to agriculture. See table 17 & table 18.

Table 17. Cosmopolite behaviour of respondents

Sl.No.	Particulars	Frequency of beneficiaries	Frequency of non beneficiaries
1	Two or more times in a week	40	30
2	Once a week	32	12
3	Once in 15 days	7	18
4	Once in a month	10	30
5	Occasionally	11	10
6	Never	0	0

Table 18. Cosmopoliteness – Frequency table of purpose of visit

Sl.No.	Particulars	Frequency of beneficiaries	Frequency of non beneficiaries
1	All visits relating to agriculture	32	22
2	Some relating to agriculture	34	16
3	Personel or domestic purpose	18	38
4	Entertainment	8	20
5	Other purpose	8	4
6	No purpose	0	0

4.1.17. Attitude towards NGOs

The comparison of the mean score on attitude shows that (Table19) beneficiaries who were associated with NGO activities were having good and positive attitude towards NGOs . The attitude score was less with non beneficiaries

Among the beneficiaries, 80 percent belonged to middle group and twelve percent belonged to high group and among the non beneficiaries there were only one person in the high group and forty nine percent in the middle group. The farmers associated with NGOs were having positive opinion towards the activities of NGOs.

Table 19. Distribution of respondents based on attitude towards NGOs

Score	Beneficiaries	Non beneficiaries
Mean	41.68	33.29
Low group (14-32)	8	50
Middle group(33-51)	80	49
High group(52-70)	12	1

The positive attitude of the beneficiaries would have helped them to participate in the activities of NGOs. Fifty percent of the non beneficiaries

are having low attitude towards NGOs. And the rest falls in the middle group. The number of persons with high attitude towards NGOs were only one indicate the low attitude of non beneficiaries.

4.2. Dimensions of empowerment

In the first step, the pearson's correlation analysis was done to find out the variables those have significant relationship with empowerment. The result of pearson's correlation showed that there is positive and significant relation ship existing between empowerment and selected variables at 1 percent level of significance except age and level of aspiration (Table 20).

In the second step, step wise backward regression analysis was done to identify the dimensions of empowerment . The identified variables, regression coefficient and t.value are shown in the Table21. Achievement motivation , attitude towards NGOs, Cosmo politeness, economic motivation, information seeking behaviour, innovativeness, leadership, level of aspiration, management orientation, participation in decision making, risk bearing capacity, role of NGOs, scientific orientation, self confidence, self concept and socio economic status were identified as dimensions of empowerment from the regression analysis.

Table 20. Correlation analysis showing the linear relationship
between selected variables and empowerment

Variables	Correlation with empowerment
Achievement motivation	0.875**
Attitude towards NGOs	0.469**
Cosmo politeness	0.770**
Economic motivation	0.504**
Information seeking behaviour	0.761**
Leadership	0.833**
Level of aspiration	0.181
Management orientation	0.680**
Participation in decision making	0.647**
Risk bearing capacity	0.710**
Role of NGOs	0.803**
Scientific orientation	0.839**
Self concept	0.771**
Self confidence	0.809**
Socio economic status	0.578**

** Significant at 1% level

Table 21. Regression analysis showing the different dimensions of empowerment

Variables	Unstandardised coefficients		Standardised coefficients	t. value
	B	Standard Error		
Achievement motivation	0.970	0.472	0.073	2.053
Attitude towards NGOs	0.833	0.203	0.063	4.095
Cosmopolitaness	1.397	0.257	0.145	5.434
Economic motivation	0.893	0.268	0.071	3.335
Information seeking behaviour	1.086	0.458	0.065	2.373
Innovativeness	1.152	0.274	0.090	4.201
Leadership	1.686	0.396	0.128	4.258
Level of aspiration	1.072	0.120	0.129	8.966
Management orientation	1.210	0.275	0.090	4.405
Participation in decision making	0.958	0.223	0.100	4.288
Risk bearing capacity	0.620	0.264	0.059	2.347
Role of NGOs	1.123	0.289	0.114	3.885
Scientific orientation	1.362	0.389	0.116	3.497
Self concept	1.554	0.384	0.107	4.046
Self confidence	0.668	0.398	0.052	1.667
Socio economic status	8.860	0.229	0.063	3.760

After regression and correlation analysis, the following variables were selected as dimensions of empowerment .

1. Achievement motivation
2. attitude towards NGOs
3. cosmopolitaness
4. economic motivation
5. information seeking behaviour
6. innovativeness
7. leadership
8. management orientation
9. participation in decision making
10. risk bearing capacity
11. role of NGOs
12. scientific orientation
13. self concept
14. socio economic status

The following variables were excluded form the list of dimensions of empowerment after correlation and regression analysis as these variables were not having positive and significant relationship with empowerment score.

The excluded variables were

1. Age of respondents
2. Social participation
3. Status after associating with NGOs

4. Extent of people's participation

5. Level of aspiration

In the next step, the mean empowerment of score of beneficiaries (those who were associated with NGOs) and non beneficiaries were compared. (table 23.). Empowerment score was the total score obtained for all the variables. The beneficiaries were having a mean score of 302, but the non beneficiaries obtained a mean score of 249 only.

Table 22. Table showing the empowerment score of respondents

Respondents	Empowerment Score		
	Mean	Minimum Score	Maximum Score
Beneficiaries	302	198	410
Non Beneficiaries	249	150	391

A cross sectional analysis of the empowerment score revealed that the majority of the beneficiaries and non beneficiaries belong to middle category (Table 23). There were thirty one respondents in the low empowerment score category among non-beneficiaries, but there were only two farmers in the beneficiary category. In the high empowerment score category, there were forty six respondents among beneficiaries, but only fifteen respondents in the non beneficiary group. The table clearly shows that empowerment is more with farmers who have associated with NGOs. There were too little farmers in the low empowerment group among

beneficiaries. The NGO activities have equipped the farmers with more powers. Ninety eight percent of the farmers among the beneficiaries belong to middle and high group.

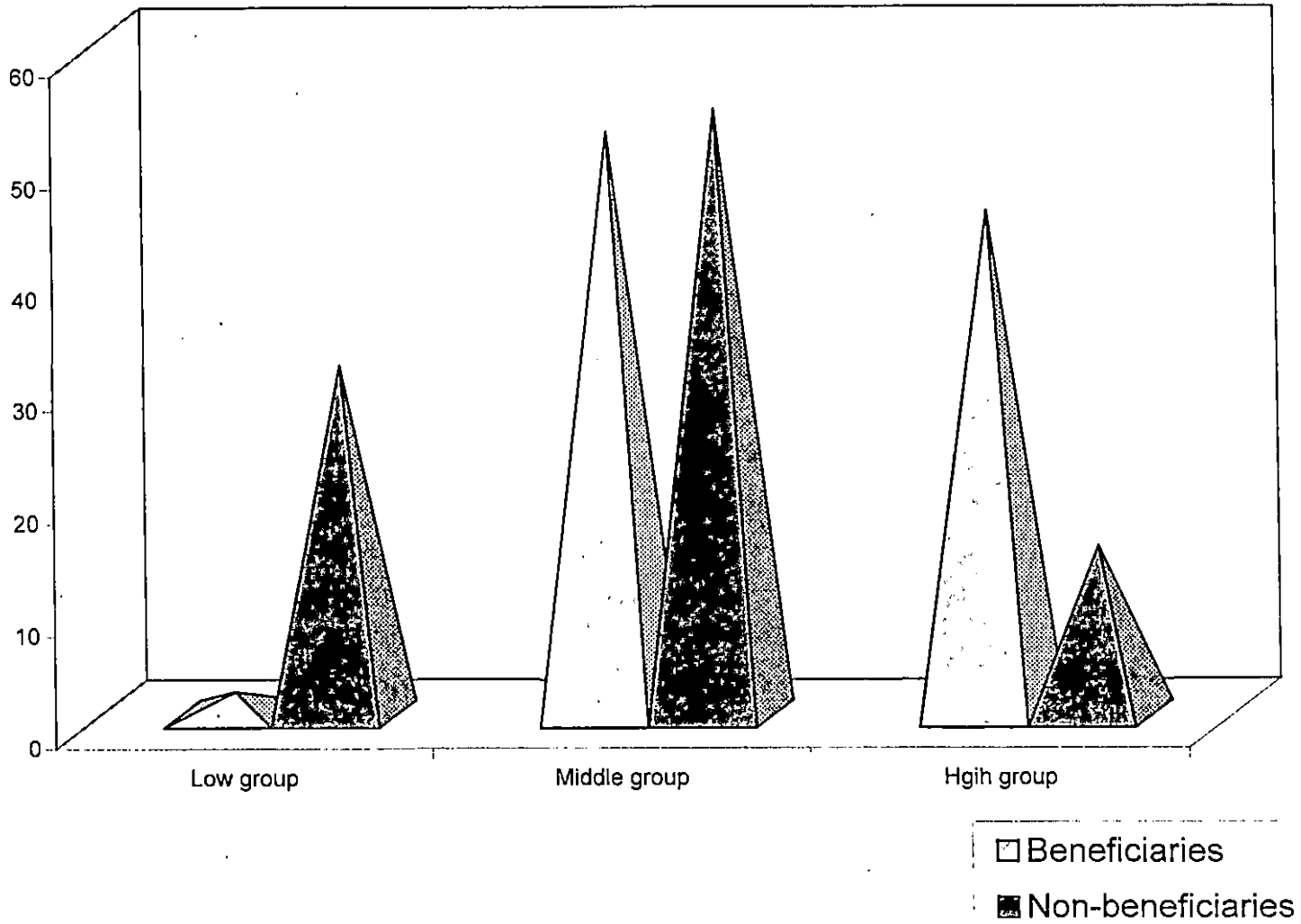
Table 23. Classification of respondents based on empowerment score

Empowerment Score	Beneficiaries	Non Beneficiaries
Mean Score	302	249.
150 –225 (Low group)	2	31
226 – 300 (Middle group)	52	54
301 – 425 (High group)	46	15

4.3. Role of NGOs in empowerment of farmers

Role of NGOs is the specific activities undertaken by an NGO with the view that it should benefit the farmers in improving their life in the prevailing conditions. On analysing the perception of farmers about the role of NGOs, the beneficiaries' perception about role of NGOs were more compared to non beneficiaries. From the scoring pattern (table 24) the frequency of beneficiaries was more in all the statements. Majority of the roles were considered as important by the beneficiaries. A positive attitude has been developed among the beneficiaries regarding the roles played by NGOs in empowerment of farmer.

Fig. 8 Figure showing category of respondents based on empowerment score



Eighty five percent of the beneficiary farmers opined that NGOs build confidence among farmers. The maximum score was obtained for this role. But among the non beneficiaries, fifty eight percent of the farmers agreed to this. Seventy nine percent of the beneficiaries agreed that the NGOs work for co-operation among farmers. On the contrary, fifty four percent of the non beneficiaries agreed to this.

Seventy eight percent of the beneficiaries agreed that NGOs fight against social evils is a role of NGO. Seventy seven percent of the beneficiaries commented that NGOs promote sustainable agriculture. Seventy six percent of the farmers opined that NGOs educate farmers. Seventy five percent of the beneficiary farmers opined that NGOs persuade to take part in decision making process.

Another role of NGOs is that they provide new information. Seventy two percent of the beneficiary farmers realised this as a role played by NGOs. Seventy percent of the farmers identified promotion on appropriate technology is a role played by NGOs. Sixty nine percent of the beneficiaries commented that identification of resources is a role of NGOs

Table 24. Role of NGOs as perceived by respondents

Sl. No.	Roles	Beneficiaries		Non Beneficiaries	
		Yes	No	Yes	No
1	NGOs organise group meetings regularly	61	39	40	60
2	They persuade to participate in the meetings	66	34	35	65
3	They conduct trainings regularly	48	52	38	62
4	Persuade to take part in decision making process	76	24	39	61
5	They represent all sections of people	52	48	42	58
6	NGOs promote appropriate technology	70	30	49	51
7	NGOs help farmers to avail credit	37	64	28	72
8	NGOs help farmers for marketing their produce.	40	60	29	71
9	NGOs provide new information	72	28	42	58
10	They educate farmers	76	24	52	48
11	They fight against social evils	78	22	50	50
12	NGOs help in identifying resources	69	31	52	48
13	They build confidence among farmers	85	14	58	42
14	They work for co-operation among farmers	79	21	54	46
15	They promote sustainable agricultural practices	77	22	68	32

. Sixty six percent of the farmers agreed that NGOs persuade them to participating in meetings. NGOs organise group meetings was identified as a role by sixty one beneficiaries. Fifty two percent of the beneficiaries agreed that they represent all sections. Only forty eight beneficiaries agreed that the NGOs conduct trainings regularly. Lowest score was obtained for the role of marketing.

Majority of the beneficiaries identified all the roles as important. But the scoring was less with most of the non beneficiaries. The least score was obtained for availing credit by NGOs. Hence all the studied roles were more or less important.

4.4. Extent of people participation

The extent of people's participation was found more with beneficiaries as this would be one of the reason for success of all the voluntary activities undertaken by the selected NGOs.

In participation in identifying problems, twenty two percent of the beneficiaries did not attend any meeting, but forty two percent of the non beneficiaries did not attend any of the meetings. The non participation of non beneficiaries were more compared to beneficiaries.

In the case of participation in decision making process, 38 percent of the beneficiaries participated in all meetings, But only 24 percent attended all the meetings.

Table 25. Details of participation of respondents in various activities

Sl.No.	Details of Participation	All meetings		Some		None	
		B	NB	B	NB	B	NB
1	Participation in identifying Problems	30	20	48	38	22	42
2	Participation in decision making	38	24	41	40	21	36
3	Participation in identifying resources	22	18	30	32	48	50
4	Participation in project formulation	40	30	28	22	32	48
5	Project implementation- Initial stage	36	28	38	26	26	46
6	Project implementation- Ongoing stage	37	27	37	28	26	45
7	Project implementation-Final stage	30	25	38	33	32	42
8	In post implementation stage	28	18	40	10	32	72
9	Participation in evaluation	28	18	24	28	48	64

B – beneficiaries, N B – non-beneficiaries

The involvement of both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries were more or less equal in the case of participation in identifying resources. In the case of project formulation, sixty eight percent of the beneficiary farmers participated in all or some meetings and fifty two percent of the non beneficiaries in all or some meetings.

Seventy four percent of the beneficiaries participated in all or some meetings in the case of initial project implementation stage. The frequency for the non beneficiaries was fifty four percent only. In the ongoing stage, participation of the beneficiaries was seventy four percent and fifty five percent for non beneficiaries. In the final stage, participation of the beneficiaries was sixty eight percent and fifty eight percent for non beneficiaries.

Regular attendance in post implementation stage was poor in both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries. In the case of evaluation of the projects implemented also participation was poor in the case of both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries.

On an average more than half of the beneficiaries had participated in all or some meetings at all the stages. This is a major achievement as far a people oriented programme is concerned.

4.5. Status of the farmer after associating with NGOs

For sixty one percent of the farmers, the association with NGO activities could help in increasing their agricultural production. Fifty four percent of the farmers learned scientific agriculture and sixty nine percent of the farmers could improve their information seeking behavior.

Table 26. Status of the farmer after associating with NGOs

Sl. No.	Criteria	Response (yes)	Response (no)
1	Farm production has increased	61	39
2	Learned scientific agriculture	54	36
3	Mass media contact increased	69	31
4	Are you more self confident today	68	32
5	Helped to plan the crops in advance	51	49
6	Improved the leadership qualities	66	34
7	More economically motivated	50	50
8	Risk bearing capacity has increased	68	32
9	Social participation has increased	70	30
10	Cosmopolite behaviour has increased	32	68

Sixty eight percent of the farmers are more self confident today and fifty one percent plan cultivation of crops in advance. Sixty six percent of the farmers improved their leadership qualities after joining the NGO

movement. Seventy percent of the farmers could improve their social participation but only thirty two percent of the beneficiary farmers could improve their cosmopolite behaviour.

All the selected NGOs were successful in the activities they had under taken. So the beneficiaries or the farmers associated with was considered to improve their skills in all respects. The status of the farmer after associating with NGOs shows that majority of the farmers had improved in many aspects.

4.6. Constraints faced by NGOs

The activities of the selected NGOs were studied in detail to evolve a strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs. The constraints faced by the NGOs in general are shown in table 27.

From the table it is inferred that lack of involvement from the beneficiary side was not a most important problem. Only one NGO has opined that lack of involvement is an important problem.

Of the ten, five NGOs have opined that lack of involvement is least important. It is due to the higher involvement of farmers that the voluntary activities had succeeded. So involvement of the beneficiaries is one of the most important factor that makes a voluntary work successful.

Lack of group activity and co-operation among villagers is also not an important factor felt by the NGOs. Six NGOs have opined that it was not an important problem for them. The group activity and co-operation among the villagers have contributed to the success of the programme. Lack of evaluation was a major constraint faced by NGOs

Table 27. Constraints faced by NGOs

Sl. No.	Constraints faced by NGOs	Most Imp	Imp	Less Imp	Least Imp
1	Lack of involvement of farmers	1	2	2	5
2	Lack of group activity and co-operation	1	1	2	6
3	Lack of evaluation	6	2	1	1
4	Lack of follow up	5	1	2	2
5	Lack of leisure time among farmers	3	2	3	2
6	Lack of financial support	5	2	2	1
7	Non co-operation from govt. side	6	2	1	1
8	Complex filings of caste and religion	2	1	4	3
9	Negative attitude among villagers	1	2	3	4
10	Negative attitude of other agencies	0	1	2	7
11	Political interference	4	3	2	1

4.8. Strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs

Rural development has become the primary concern of the developing countries. The problem of rural development is an enormous one covering all sections of the rural society. The very vastness of the problem and constraints like limited resources faced by the developing countries necessitates the possibility of voluntary action in rural development. The success of development depends on the active participation through self help organisation and voluntary agencies.

In recent years, voluntary agencies have acquired greater importance and significance than before because the administration has not been able to reach the people especially the poor and weaker sections. They have been able to make their presence felt from the local to national level.

Certain NGOs working in the rural areas could bring about attractive result. But this is not the case with all NGOs. For an NGO to succeed in their activities, they have to work earnestly knowing the secrets of voluntarism. Success does not mean that the activities are well noted down, but it has to change the basic nature of the rural people both mentally and physically to equip with the challenging conditions. Otherwise the people should be empowered to face any challenge in life.

4.8.1. Steps for improving the functioning of NGOs

Considering the mode of functioning and the problems of the selected NGOs while dealing and interacting with people, it becomes necessary to strengthen them to a great extent so as to enable them to discharge their role in an efficient and effective way. The following suggestions should be taken into consideration while strengthening them.

1) Special efforts should be made to strengthen and promote voluntary organisations in those areas where they are weak and do not exist.

2) The government should streamline and simplify the system of grant-in-aid to the NGOs.

3) They should develop appropriate strategy for recruitment, retention and training of staff.

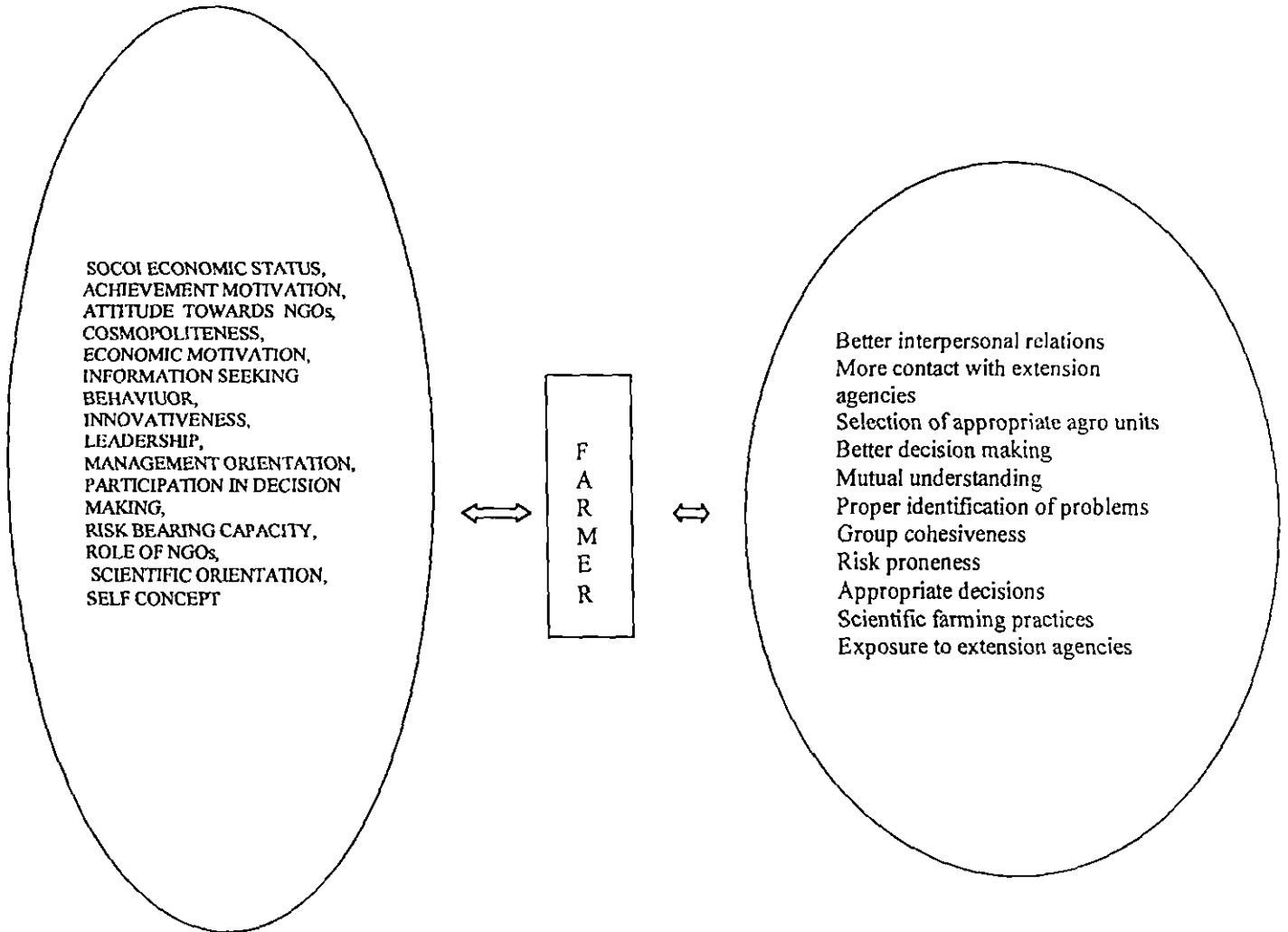
4) The attitude of the government towards voluntary organisations should be encouraging and helpful for their healthy growth and allround development.

5) They should remain in constant touch with academic institutes operating at state and national levels to keep abreast of the latest developments in the field of agriculture and rural development.

6) Their programmes and achievements should be properly documented and widely publicised through the radio, television and the press so that people can read, understand and evaluate their performance.

**DIMENSIONS OF
EMPOWERMENT**

**EMPOWERMENT
OUT PUT**



EMPERICAL MODEL OF THE STUDY

7) The industrial and business houses, professionals and academicians should promote voluntary effort and demonstrate their commitment in this regard.

8) They should make sincere efforts to improve their organisational structure and develop competence in problem solving , motivating, educating and sensitising the people.

9) They should establish rapport with government departments and local people and treat them as equal partners.

10) NGOs should not lose their identity and independence by becoming agents of government through grand-in-aid.

11) They should have faith in the people they are serving and that faith should be communicated to them.

12) There should be a coordination between NGOs working in the same field and same locality.

13) NGOs should be given a free hand to experimenting new approaches, and strategies.

4.8.2. Strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs

The operational strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs should focus on involving people from very beginning in the planning and implementation of the projects. The steps involved in an exercise in participatory development are time consuming and patience testing.

Before considering the plan for development that will have an impact on the lives of poor , it is necessary to do adequate preparatory work. The preparatory work will include contacting the people, involving those who are to benefit in a consideration of what their needs are, collecting some basic data, assessing the needs of the people and securing community support base for the development initiative. It is important that the plan is directed towards fulfilling needs felt and expressed by people and which are of major importance to them.

The best way to find what people want and what they see as possible solution to their problem is to approach them and ask them. It is also the way for creating awareness and willingness among people to take part in any action that follows. But in order to know what people want and what they feel as likely solution of their problem. It is necessary to establish first a common ground of understanding with the people through mutual respect, warm and cordial behaviour and impartial attitude. There is bound to be conflicting interest in the conflicting community. It requires skill, sincerity and undisputed integrity to bring about unreserved commences in development particularly for the greater benefit of the farming community. What ever the difficulties, it is important to ensure steadfast community support for any development project.

Once the rapport is established with the people, the next step is to collect- with the help of people themselves- some basic data about the

community profile, characteristics of the area, resource and constraints in the development of the existing and potential resources. Once the data are collected and needs and potential assessed, it is necessary to involve people in discussing the issues arising out of the information and to set priorities for development. The process enables the people to work collectively, makes them better informed of what is what in their area and thus help in building up a support base which is essential for sustaining the development initiative.

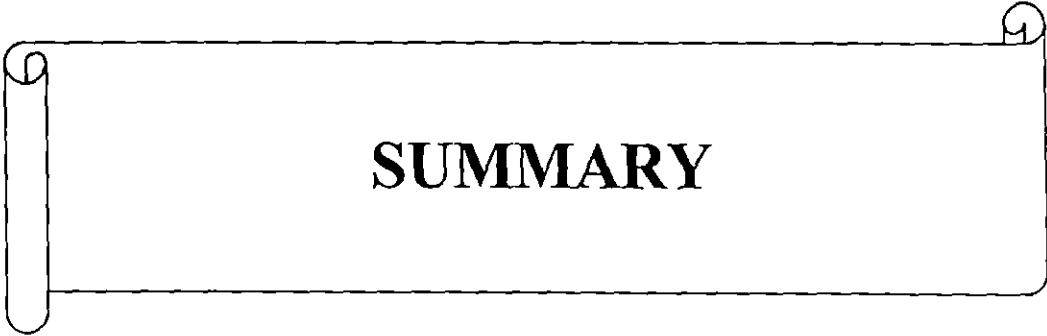
It would be more helpful in organise people in subgroups or working group along with local technical personnel of development agencies to workout a plan of development for each priority area identified after the discussion. This will lead to greater and active participation of the people, encourage local responsibility, bring about better relation ship, between development personnel and people and specification of roles of individuals, committees etc in planning and execution of development activities. The working group should in fact design the activities and schemes in each priority area which in effect means firming up ideas into a concrete programme of action.

The first thing required by each group is to define precisely what specific goals are to be achieved through the organised action directed to meet certain needs identified by them. This is extremely important because the success and failure of the attempted action will be judged on twwhether or not the stated objectives have been fulfilled. Whenever

possible the objectives and results expected from the development effort should be stated in concrete terms.

Once the objectives are specified, the next step that follows is to look for the means for achieving the objectives. This will call for listing of resources needed to accomplish the tasks. This also include deciding the method by which the objectives are sought to be achieved. The whole thing to be visualised as a step by step learning process. Initially take up few activities to meet some immediate needs of the community. Complete them and build confidence and experience of the people. Take the next step and think of more tasks as experience grows.

The ultimate role of an NGO is to empower farmers or people to take up all challenges in future with ease and self confidence, there by finding a solution themselves to the burning issues.



SUMMARY

SUMMARY

Most of the developmental programmes that were implemented as a part of the normal developmental process could not bring about much change in the life of farmers. There always existed a gap between governmental purpose and administrative performance. The government machinery could not change with the changing needs of the rural poor.

In this situation, many NGOs working in rural areas could achieve more or less fairly good results and facilitated in organising and motivating the rural poor to articulate their needs. The voluntary organisation or an NGO denotes an organisation whether its workers are paid or unpaid, which is initiated and governed by its own members without external control.

This study was undertaken to find out the dimensions of empowerment of farmers through NGOs. The specific objectives of the study were,

1. To study the dimensions of empowerment of farmers through NGOs
2. To identify the role of NGOs in empowerment of farmers.
3. To study the extent of people participation in voluntary activities
4. To develop a strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs

Kannur district was selected as the locale of study as more number of functional NGOs were reported from the district. A total of ten NGOs were

randomly selected from the list of two hundred functional NGOs. Ten beneficiaries and ten non beneficiaries were randomly selected from each NGO. Thus a total of two hundred respondents were selected for conducting this study.

Nineteen variables were selected for identifying dimensions of empowerment through judges rating and discussion with experts. The variables selected for the study were age, socio economic status, scientific orientation, innovativeness, information seeking behaviour, participation in decision making, self confidence, management orientation, achievement motivation, leadership, economic motivation, level of aspiration, self concept, risk bearing capacity, social participation, cosmopolitaness, role of NGOs, extent of people participation and attitude towards NGOs.

Suitable measuring procedure or scales were used to measure the variables under study. Data were collected through a pre tested interview schedule from the respondents. Data were collected from the NGOs through a pre tested interview schedule and through personnel interview with the office bearers.

In statistical analysis, mean, mode, median, frequency and percentage, pearson's correlation analysis and stepwise back ward regression analysis was done to identify the dimensions of empowerment and to classify the data.

The result of the study are summarised and presented below.

In the age group of beneficiaries, majority of the farmers were in the young age group (51 percent). Farmers in the aged group was found very less. So majority if the farmers associates with the NGO activities were young. The beneficiary farmers were better compared to non beneficiaries in the case of socio economic status. The beneficiaries were distributed almost equally in both low group and high group, but majority of the non beneficiaries fall in the low group.

The scientific orientation was more with beneficiaries. The distribution of beneficiaries and non beneficiaries were almost uqal in the middle group but in the low group non beneficiaries were more. Similar result was obtained for innovativeness of the respondents also.

The analysis of information seeking behaviour of respondents reveals that the beneficiaries are comparatively better. Majority of the farmers were having regular or occasional contact with mass media except farm magazines and research journals. Review of farm magazines was found very less with both beneficiaries and non beneficiaries.

Participation in decision making, self confidence, management orientation, leadership qualities, economic motivation, level of aspiration and risk bearing capacity were found more with beneficiaries. In achievement motivation and self concept, score of beneficiaries were found high compared to non beneficiaries. The social participation of the

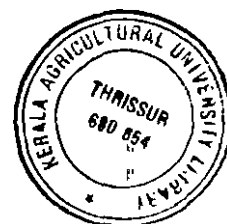
beneficiaries was also comparatively more with beneficiaries. But social participation was not up to that expected.

Cosmopolitanism was slightly more with beneficiaries. But on analysis of the status of the farmer after associating with NGOs, only thirty two beneficiaries out of the hundred agree that their cosmopolitan nature has improved after associating with NGOs. The farmers associated with NGOs had a better attitude towards NGOs.

Regarding the role of NGOs, majority of the farmers agree with the roles identified through discussion with NGOs and through expert opinion. Perception of beneficiary farmers about the role of NGOs were significantly more compared to non beneficiaries.

The extent people participation was comparatively more with beneficiaries. Participation of beneficiaries in different stages of activities showed that they are better compared to non beneficiaries.

While reviewing the status of the farmers after associating with NGOs, majority of the farmers agreed that their condition had improved after involving in the voluntary activities. In the case of constraints faced by NGOs, lack of evaluation and non co-operation from the government side was considered as most important constraint. The next important constraints were lack of follow up and lack of financial support.



Nineteen variables were selected for identification of dimension of empowerment. Pearson's Correlation analysis and a step wise back ward regression analysis were done to to identify the dimensions of empowerment. The fourteen variables identified are mentioned below. Achievement motivation, attitude towards NGOs, cosmopolitaness, economic motivation, information seeking behaviour, innovativeness, leadership, management orientation, participation in decision making, risk bearing capacity, role of NGOs, scientific orientation, self concept and socio economic status were identified as dimensions of empowerment. Age of the respondents, social participation, status after associating with NGOs, extent of people participation and level of aspiration were excluded from the list of variables.

Perception about role of NGOs were more with beneficiaries. Majority of the beneficiaries agreed with the role played by NGOs. Extent of participation in various activities were also more with beneficiaries. While reviewing the status after associating with the NGOs, majority of the beneficiaries agreed that their status have improved considerably after associating with the NGOs.

Among the constraints faced by NGOs, lack of evaluation, Non co-operation from the government side and lack of financial support were considered as most important. While planning and implemented programmes through NGOs all the identified dimensions should be taken

into account to make the farmers empowered. Empowerment should be the ultimate objective of any voluntary activity as an empowered farmer can manage any difficult situation with considerable ease with out external help.

Strategy for improving the functioning of NGOs require efforts from the government side, development of appropriate strategy for training and retention of staff, a constant touch with academic institutes, properly documented programmes, independent works, coordination between NGOs and experimenting with new ideas.

Strategy for empowerment of farmers through NGOs should aim at participatory development. The first step in empowerment approach is adequate preparatory work including collection of basic data, assessing the needs of the people etc. The other steps include creating awareness in the people, establishing a rapport with the people, identification of resources, organising people in subgroups, defining goals and achieving objectives.

Implications of the study

The NGOs working in the agricultural and developmental sector can plan their activities considering the dimensions of empowerment and strategy for empowerment.

The training authorities can impart more motivational training programmes through NGOs considering the strategy and steps for empowerment.

Implications for future research

A detailed study incorporating more dimensions and objectives can be done to arrive at more helpful hints for the NGOs working in the rural areas.

Successful and non successful NGOs can be selected and conducted a case studies for coming at more elaborate results.

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APPENDICES

**PROFILE CHARACTERS OF THE
SELECTED NGOs**

1. Kalliassery Vikasana Samithi (Kalliassery Panchayath)

The voluntary activities in Kalliassery Panchayath has resulted in making Kalliassey a model of development. The voluntary activities in Kalliassery had attracted the attention of development thinkers and planners. One of the reference Panchayath for implementing people's campaign in Kerala was Kalliassery.

The activities started in 1993 with the formation of a society named Kalliassery vikasana samithi. One of the main contributions of the organisation is the concept of 'ayalkoottam'. It is the group of people inhabiting in a particular locality in a ward of Panchayath. In the Kerala government's people's campaign, ayalkoottam is the basic unit of development.

Even though panchayathiraj and municipal acts were passed, the planners had little idea about how to efficiently implement the local self government.

The studies and activities conducted in Kaliassery gave a clear cut idea about detailed planning procedure to beneficiaries followed at the

grass root level. Noted achievement of the activities was the high participation of people at the grass root level. Main agricultural activities conducted were resource mapping of the Panchayath, water conservation activities, vegetable cultivation by women's group, floriculture, fisheries repair of existing ponds and rivers etc.

The success of the activities point to the best leadership of the organisation and great involvement of people at local level.

4.5.2.Kunnothuparamba Jala Samrakshana Samithy.

This organisation was noted for the soil and water conservation activities carried out with participation of farmers at the local level. The unecological development had resulted in disappearance of ponds and rivers from the Panchayath. So the farmers had to face great stress for water.

In this scenario, people came forward and formed the society. They started educating people about the need of soil and water conservation .They got very good response as it was the felt need of the people. In the first stage they formed committees at all the levels. In the second stage , they conducted campaign and study classes. The organisation supplied vegetable seed packets and planted 25000 tree seedlings along the length and breadth of the Panchayath. At the end of rainy season the farmers constructed check dams across the rivers. As a result of the soil and water conservation activities, the water level of the area increased

substantially. Seeing the result, farmers themselves started doing soil and water conservation activities.

4.5.3. Chapparapadavu Jaiva Vyvidhya Samrakshana Samithi

Chapparapadavu is a noted Panchayath for noted voluntary activities. This Panchayath had entered in the good books of Kerala Planning board. Chapparapadavu river flows through the heart of the Panchayath. When the river was under threat, people formed an organisation to protect the biodiversity of the river. They surveyed the existing biodiversity of the river and submitted the report to planning commission. They constructed check dams along the river to conserve the most needed irrigation water with the help of local people.

4.5.4 Kerala Veterinary service association. Animal husbandry programme in Peringom Vayakkara Panchayath.

With the help of local farmers the association conducted many noted animal husbandry programmes. The Noted activities were field survey, operation rabies, establishment of model fodder grass plots, field clinic etc.

4.5.5. Pappinisserry Mrigasamrakshana samithi.

The organisation was formed to help the dairy farmers to control the spread of anthrax disease of cattle. Noted activities were done to control the disease. They conducted a cattle census, which attracted wide attention. The entire census was done in a single day through out the Panchayath.

4.5.6. Mayyil Haritha Sangom.

This was registered under the Kerala state agricultural department under the vegetable cultivation scheme. The farmers under this organisation could bring hectares of uncultivated land under vegetable cultivation. The organisation had won best Haritha sangom award of Kerala state in 1999.

4.5.7. Nallur Patasekhara Samithi

An oraganisaion registered under Kerala agricultural dept.,in Muzhakkunnu Panchayath could bring the entire paddy land in a particular patasekharam under paddy cultivation profitably. Earlier the cultivation was at loss. They managed it with mechanisation and scientific agriculture.

farmers. In the annual meeting of the organisation, they conduct exhibitions and melas in a festive atmosphere.

4.5.8. . Payam Patasekhara Samithi

The samithi was registered under Kerala agricultural department. Their main achievement was mechanisation in paddy cultivation. Mechanisation turned paddy cultivation into a profitable farming business. They own all types of machineries for paddy cultivation and processing.

4.5.9. Moyyam Cheppanool Harithasangom

It is also registered under Kerala agricultural department. The Organisation brought extensive area of land under vegetable cultivation. Many unemployed youth were turned to vegetable cultivation as a result of the activity of the organisation.

4.5.10. FIEC (sreekandapuram Panchayath)

An Independent voluntary organisation believing in empowerment of farmers through training. Their main activity is conducting training to farmers. In the annual meeting of the organisation, they conduct exhibitions and melas in a festive atmosphere.

From

Dr. N. Kishore Kumar
Asst. Professor (senior Grade)
Dept of Agrl. Extension
College of Agriculture
Vellayani

Sir,

Mr. Jyothish Mannambeth is my student and doing P.G. research in ' Role of Non Governmental Organisation in empowerment of farmers'. The dimensions of empowerment as identified by the student is attached along with. So I request you to judge whether the dimensions are relevant or not.

Yours faithfully

Vellayani
18-6-1998

Dr. N. Kishore Kumar

Name of the student : Jyothish Mannambeth

Title to the Thesis : Role of non-governmental organisations in empowerment
of farmers

Objectives of the study :

1. To study the dimensions of empowerment
2. To study the role of NGOs in empowerment of farmers
3. To study the extent of peoples' participation
4. To develop a strategy for empowerment of farmers

Dimensions of empowerment as identified by the student is listed below.
Please mark your choice whether the dimensions are most relevant, relevant or
not relevant.

1. Innovativeness : Rogers and Shoemaker (1971) defined innovativeness as
the degree to which an individual is relatively earlier in adopting new ideas
rather than other members of a social system.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

2. Attitude : Dahama (1970) opined that attitudes are learned response and
they are always formal in relation to objects, ideas and persons. They play an
important role in determining human behaviour.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

3. Entrepreneurial behaviour : Gaikwad (1925) Entrepreneurs are persons
with initiative, drive and hard work.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

4. Self confidence : According Pandyaraj (1978), self confidence is the belief
of an individual in his or her abilities.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

5. Job efficiency : The ability of a farmer to produce a given level of output at
low cost.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

6. Cosmopolitaness : Refers to the farmer's extent of contact with the out side villegers and nearest town, purpose of visit is membership in organisation out side the village.

Most relavant / relavant / not relavant

7. Contact with extension agency : Refers to the degree to which the respondent contact the extension agency to get information on agricultural and non-agricultural aspects.

Most relavant / relavant / not relavant

8. Credit orientation : Refers to the favourable and positive attitude of the respondent towards obtaining credit from institutions and other sources.

Most relavant / relavant / not relavant

9. Management orientation : Defined as the degree to which the farmer is oriented towards the scientific management of an enterprise in Agriculture.

Most relavant / relavant / not relavant

10. Socio economic status : The position or status of the farmer in the society in terms of his occupation, land holding, education, socio political participation, possessions, house, house hold and annual income.

Most relavant / relavant / not relavant

11. Economic motivation : Profit maximisation and relative value placed by a farmer on economic ends.

Most relavant / relavant / not relavant

12. Social participation : Refers to the degree of involvement of the farmer in social organisations as a member or as an office bearer and the regularity in attending the activities of the organisation.

Most relavant / relavant / not relavant

13. Mass media contact : Refers to the extent to which a respondent is exposed to different mass media communications such as radio, TV, print media etc.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

14. Information seeking behaviour : The extent to which a farmer seeks information regarding various cultivation practices from different communication sources.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

15. Motivation : It is a process of initiating a conscious and purposeful action.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

16. Leadership : It is the process of influencing the behaviour of the individuals in a given situation on situations.

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

17. Risk bearing ability :

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

18. Aspiration :

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

19. Participation for decision making :

Most relevant / relevant / not relevant

Please list out any other dimensions or characters which is important regarding this study.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.
- 4.

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE
Department of Agricultural Extension
College of Agriculture, Vellayani

- I. Name and address :
- II. Age and sex :
- III. Name of the NGO in which you are beneficiary :
- Socio Economic Status**
- IV. Educational status : Illiterate / can read only / can read and write / Primary / Secondary / College and above
- V. Occupational status : No occupation / labour / farming business / Govt / Pvt / independent profession
- VI. Land holding : No land / less than one acre / 1 to 5 acres / more than 5 acres.
- VII. Annual income : Below 5000 / 5001 to 25000 / 25000 to 50000 / 50000 and 1 lakh / above 1 lakh

VIII. Scientific orientation

1	New methods of farming give better results to a farmer than the old methods	SA	A	UD	DA	SDA
2	The way of farming by own forefathers is the best way of farming today					
3	Even a farmer with a lot of farming experience should use new methods of farming					
4	A good farmer experiments with new ideas of farming					
5	Though it takes time for a farmer to learn new methods in farming, it is worth the efforts					
6	Traditional methods of farming have to be changed in order to raise the living of a farmer					

9. Innovativeness :

1	Do you want to learn new ways of farming	YES	UD	NO
2	If the Agri Extension worker gives a talk on improved cultivation aspects, would you attend			
3	If the government helps you to establish a farm else where, would you accept			
4	Do you want to change your way of life			
5	A farmer should try to farm, the way his parents did			
6	Do you want your sons to be farmers			
7	It is better to enjoy today and let tomorrow take care of itself			
8	a man's future is in the hands of God			

X Information Seeking Behaviour :

A. Mass media contact :

1	Radio	Regularly	Occasionally	Never
2	News paper			
3	Television			
4	Farm magazine			
5	Research journals			

XII Self confidence

	Always	Most often	Often	Regularly	Never
1) I feel no obstacle can stop me from achieving my final goals					
2) I am generally confident of my own ability					
3) I am bothered by the feeling that I cannot compete with others					
4) I am not interested to do things at my own initiative					
5) I usually work out things for myself rather than get some one to show me					
6) I get discouraged easily					
7) Life is a stranger for me most of the time					
8) I find myself worrying about something on other					

XIII Management Orientation

A. Planning orientation

		Agree	Disagree
1	Each year one should think afresh about the crops to be cultivated		
2	It is not necessary to make prior decision about the variety of the crop to be cultivated		
3	The amount of seed, fertilizer and plant protection chemicals needed for raising a crop should be assessed before cultivation		
4	It is not necessary to think ahead of the cost involved in raising a crop		
5	One need not consult any agricultural expert for crop planning		
6	It is possible to increase the yield through farm production plan		

B. Production orientation

		Agree	Disagree
1	Timely planting of a crop ensure good yield		
2	One should use as much fertilizer as he likes		
3	Determining fertilizer dose by soil testing saves money		
4	For timely weed control, one should know suitable herbicide		
5	Seed rate should be given as recommended by specialists		
6	With low water rates, one should use as much irrigation water as available		

C. Market orientation

		Agree	Disagree
1	Market news is not useful to farmer		
2	A farmer can get good price by grading his produce		
3	Ware houses can help the farmer to get better price for his produce		
4	One should sell his produce to the nearest market irrespective of the price		
5	A farmer can get better price by processing his produce		
6	One should grow these crops with more market demand		

XIV Achievement motivation

1	Success brings relief and further determination and not just feelings	SA	A	UD	DA	SDA
---	---	----	---	----	----	-----

2	How true it is to say that your efforts are directed towards	Quite natural	Not true	Not sure	Fairly true	Quite true
---	--	---------------	----------	----------	-------------	------------

3	How often do you seek opportunity to excel	Hardly always	Seldom	About half the time	Frequently	Ready always
---	--	---------------	--------	---------------------	------------	--------------

4	Would you hesitate to undertake something that might lead to your failure	Hardly always	Seldom	About half the time	Frequently	Ready always
---	---	---------------	--------	---------------------	------------	--------------

5	How many situations do you avoid in which you may be exposed to evaluation	Most	Many	Some	Few	Very few
---	--	------	------	------	-----	----------

6	In how many spheres do you think you will succeed in doing as well as you can	Most	Many	Some	Few	Very few
---	---	------	------	------	-----	----------

XV Leadership

1	Listen patiently to what other say	Always	Often	Some times	Seldom	Never
2	Encourage others to raise questions					
3	Initiates discussion					
4	Illustrates a point by example and anecdote					
5	Summarises points made					
6	Analyse and evaluates the problem					
7	Talks in pervasive tone with moderate pitch and with proper gesture					

XVI Economic motivation

1	One should work hard for economic profit	Agree	Disagree
2	Though everything in life cannot be achieved through money, it is a critical factors for good living		
3	All I want from my job is to make just a reasonable living for my family		
4	I would work had without rest in order to earn maximum money to earn the family		
5	In addition to my routine farm practices, I like to take up some other enterprises to earn more money		
6	Self employment is important to me to earn reasonable amount and not to be dependent on any body		

XVII Level of aspiration

Here is a picture of a ladder. The top of the ladder represents the best possible life for you, the bottom the worst possible life and the middle neutral. After reading the following questions carefully, please select a number from the ladder

- 1) Where on the ladder do you feel personally stand at present ()
- 2) Where on the ladder would you say five years ago ()
- 3) Where on the ladder you think you would be five years from now ()

9	Top (best possible life)
8	
7	
6	
5	Middle (Neutral)
4	
3	
2	
1	Bottom (Worst possible life)

XVIII Self concept

Here are some statements. Please give your degree of consensus to each of the following statements.

		SA	A	UD	DA	SDA
1	I am interested in the people and things happening around me					
2	I am active in solving the cultivation problem					
3	I am systematic in all my activities so that I can finish the work in time					
4	I am determined to achieve my goal as a farmer					
5	I am a person who believe that every experience, bitter or sweet is good					
6	I am not courteous in my dealings with other farmers					
7	I am eager to learn more on all subjects					
8	I am not capable to easily adjusting to new situations					

XIX Risk bearing capacity

		SA	A	UD	DA	SDA
1	A farmer should grow a large number of crops to avoid greater risks involved in growing one or 2 crops					
2	A farmer should rather take care of crops in making a big project then to be content with a smaller, but less risky profit					
3	A farmer who is willing to take greater risk than the average farmer usually does it better financially					
4	It is good for a farmer to take risks within he know his chances of success are high					
5	It is better for a farmer not to try farming, unless most other farmers have used it with success					
6	Trying an entirely new method for a farmer involves greater risks, but is worth					

XX Social participation

Sl. NO		Membership				Extent of participation			
		Past		Present		Regularly	Occasional ly	Rarely	Never
1	Panchayat	Member	Office bearer	Mem- ber	Office bearer				
2	Krishi bhavan								
3	Karshika samithies								
4	Farmers discussion group								
5	Distinct features like M.L.A, MP etc								
6	Others								

XXI Cosmopoliteness

A. Please indicate how frequently you visit the nearest town and the purpose of the visit

Sl. No.	Particulars
1	Two or more times in a week
2	Once a week
3	Once in 15 days
4	Once in a month
5	Occasionally
6	Never

B. Purpose of visit

Sl. No.	Particulars
1	All visits relating to agriculture
2	Some relating to agriculture
3	Personal or domestic matters
4	Entertainment
5	Other purpose
6	No purpose

XX II	ATTITUDE TOWARDS NGOs	SA	A	UD	D	SD
1	NGOs give priority for social services					
2	The workers of NGOs are concerned with their income only					
3	NGOs give emphasis to programs for rural women and there by help rural women to improve their living condition.					
4	While considering the assistance from govt. , there is no need to involve in voluntary activities.					
5	NGOs help people to achieve self sufficiency through their activities					
6	The activities of NGOs does not reach the poor people.					
7	NGOs can solve many of the complex problems in society					
8	NGO workers are honest and work for the betterment of society					
9	NGOs could not do much while considering the achievements of government in rural development.					
10	The trainings given by NGOs help unemployed youth to get self employed					
11	The main aim of NGOs are to get foreign money					
12	NGO workers are more sincere and honest compared to government servants					
13	NGOs plan programmes based on the felt needs of the people					
14	NGOs spread the message of child care and vaccinations					

Part - B

1. Name of the NGO :
2. Registered in the year :
3. President / chairman :
4. Secretary / Director :
5. Total number of members :
6. Objectives of the organisation :

◆

◆

◆

◆

◆

◆

7. major activities carried out in last 5 years :

◆

◆

◆

◆

◆

◆

◆

8. Successful activities

◆

◆

◆

◆

◆

◆

9. Reasons for success :

a		MT	Inp	Less Inp	Least Inp
b					
c					
d					
e					
f					
g					
h					
h					
i					
j					
k					
l					

10. Short comings of the programmes

a		MI	Imp	Less Imp	Least Imp
b					
c					
d					
e					
f					
g					
h					
i					
j					
k					
l					

11. Constraints faced by NGO workers :

		MI	Imp	Less Imp	Least Imp
a	Lack of involvement from the beneficiary side				
b	Lack of group activity and co-operation among villages				
c	Lack of evaluation				
d	Lack of follow up				
e	Lack of leisure time among the villagers				
f	Lack of financial support				
g	Non-co-operation from the Government side				
h	Complex filings of caste & religion				
i	Negative attitude among villagers				
j	Negative attitude and non-co-operation of other developmental agencies				
k	Political interference				
l					
j					
k					
l					

12. Other relevant details

Role of NGOs

1	NGOs organise group meetings regularly	Yes	No
2	They persuade farmers to participate in the meetings		
3	They conduct trainings regularly		
4	Persuade farmers to take part in decision making process		
5	They represent all section of people		
6	NGOs promote appropriate technology		
7	NGOs help farmers to avail credit		
8	NGOs help farmers for marketing their produce		
9	NGOs provide new information		
10	They educate farmers		
11	They fight against social evils		
12	NGOs help in identifying resources of a particular area		
13	They build confidence among farmers		
14	They work for co-operation among farmers		
15	They promote sustainable agricultural development		

Extent of people's participation

Sl. No		In all meetings	Some	None
1	Participation in identifying problems			
2	Participation in decision making			
3	Participation in identifying resources			
4	Participation in project formulation			
5	Project implementation	Initial stage		
		Ongoing stage		
		Final stage		
6	Participation in post implementation stage			
7	Participation in evaluation of the project implemented			
8				
9				

Status of the farmer after associating with the NGO

1	Farm production has increased	Yes	No
2	Learned scientific agriculture		
3	Mass media contact and information seeking behaviour increased		
4	Are you more self confident today		
5	Helped to plan the cultivation of crops in advance		
6	Helped to improve the leadership qualities		
7	More economically motivated		
8	Risk bearing capacity has increased		
9	Social participation has increased		
10	Cosmopolite behaviour has improved		

**ROLE OF NON GOVERNMENTAL
ORGANISATIONS (NGOs) IN
EMPOWERMENT OF FARMERS**

**BY
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**ABSTRACT OF THE THESIS
SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT OF THE REQUIREMENT
FOR THE DEGREE OF
MASTER OF SCIENCE IN AGRICULTURE
(AGRICULTURAL EXTENSION)
FACULTY OF AGRICULTURE
KERALA AGRICULTURAL UNIVERSITY**

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THIRUVANANTHAPURAM
2000**

ABSTRACT

Developmental programmes implemented through government machinery could not bring about much changes in the rural sector as far as the developmental aspects are concerned. At the same time, many of the NGOs working in the rural areas could bring about attractive results. So a study was undertaken to identify the dimensions of empowerment of farmers through NGOs, to study the roles played by NGOs, to study the extent of people participation and to develop a strategy for empowerment of farmers. Kannur district was selected as the locale of study and ten functional NGOs were randomly selected. From each NGO, ten beneficiaries and ten non beneficiaries were selected as respondents. Data was collected using structured pre tested interview schedule. Nineteen variables were selected for the study and from that fourteen variables identifies as dimensions of empowerment. The beneficiaries were found better compared to non beneficiaries in almost all the variables studied. The perception about the role of NGOs were more with the beneficiaries than non beneficiaries. Extent of participation in the various activities were also more with beneficiary farmers. Lack of evaluation, Non co-operation from the government side and lack of financial support and lack of follow up were the main constraints faced by NGOs. The steps for strengthening NGOs include effort from government side, training of staff, constant touch with academic institutes properly documented programmes, coordination between NGOs and experimenting with new ideas. Strategy for empwermnt of farmers aims at collection of data, assessing needs, creating awareness, establishing rapport, identification of resources, organising people in subgroups, defining goals and achieving objectives.