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### RESEARCH ARTICLE

#### IMPACT OF SERVICES PROVIDED BY KRISHIBHAVAN ON THE FARMERS

Lijina Vayalambrom and Sishina O.C

Assistant Professor, Government Arts and Science College Nadapuram.

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#### Abstract

India is currently known as the global agricultural power house. Agriculture provides food, fodder, employment opportunities and business. Panchayats and Municipalities in a state establish Krishibhavans to improve the production and productivity of crops through implementation of various government schemes. Each Krishi bhavan consists of agriculture officers and agriculture employees. In each state Krishi bhavans was established to support and endure the active functioning of agriculture department at the grassroots level. Krishibhavan provides highly productive modern variety seeds, plant protection devices and formulate programs and policies relating to credit to farmers. This department provides subsidies and provisions of insurance to reduce risk in the cultivation. The objective of the present study was to determine the factors which helps to channelize the agricultural information for farming community and also compare the services provided by Krishi bhavans at panchayath and municipality. The study has revealed that most of the sample respondents are unaware of the facilities of Krishi bhavan. Krishibhavans at Municipality give better benefits to farmers compared to panchayath Krishi bhavan.

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#### Introduction:-

Agriculture is the main activity of the Indian economy. In agricultural field relevant and appropriate information is essential for agriculture community to have right decision. Updated relevant information helps the farming community to increase the agricultural production and productivity. For implementing government schemes for agricultural sector Krishi bhavans was established in the year 1987. Krishi bhavan, an undertaking by the Department of Agriculture in various states deals with the preparation and execution of several activities to increase the production and productivity of various food and cash crops in Kerala. It undertakes activities among different cultivators to promote scientific methods of cultivation and plant protection etc. Krishibhavans provides information related to agriculture, education and training are three important functions of Krishibhavan. It also arranges the supply of highbred seeds, materials, pesticides and insecticides to farmers and formulate program and policies relating to credit to farmers. This department provides subsidies and provisions of insurance to reduce risk in the cultivation. Government has implemented various schemes for farmers like crop insurance scheme, contingency program to meet natural calamities and pests and diseases, integrated horticulture development program etc. Krishi bhavan helps to deliver these facilities to farmers.

**Corresponding Author:- Lijina Vayalambrom**

Address:- Assistant Professor, Government Arts and Science College Nadapuram.

Krishibhavan is essential for rural development of every Panchayath. So, conducting a study about the impact of services provided by Krishi bhavan on farmers is of great importance. The present study is being carried out to understand the necessity and requirements of Krishi bhavan services to farmers residing at municipality and panchayat. The study is conducted in Panoor Municipality and Thrippankottur Panchayat in Kannur district of Kerala. There are 40 wards in Panoor Municipality and 80 wards in Thrippankottur Panchayat, from which 25 farmers from Panchayath and 25 farmers from Municipality selected as samples by using random sampling method.

### Review of Literature:-

#### Manjusha jayapalan, NP, Kumari Sushama, (2006),

The study observed that farmers do use improved farm practices scientifically. The study discovered that lack of knowledge on improved farm technology. It is imperative to examine farmers knowledge about the bitter ground production towards modern agriculture technology for increasing. The agriculture officer of Kallyoor Krishi bhavan was conducted and got the list of 80 bitter ground growers who farmers were selected who had comparatively maximum area and production in discuss with the technical officer and technical assistance of the Kerala Horticulture Development Programme (KHDP).

#### Chellatlan and Venkataranya, (2009),

This paper tries to analyse the farmers perception on the performance of Krishi bhavans. It was observed that about 35% of beneficiaries opined that the performance of Krishi bhavans was good. The method of contingent valuation and double bounded dichotomous choice model was used to calculate willingness to pay. This study highlighted the possibility of private extension service in Kerala.

#### J Shiby, Aravinda Shetty, (2018 ),

This paper seeks to study and compare the environments in agriculture as moving towards the integration of information and communication technology such as social media. It has created a growing phenomenon for the agricultural use of community interaction sites such as Facebook, to create, engage, and share information among the farmers.

#### PJ Boniface et.al (2019)

The authors of the paper tried to analyze the training needs of planters and cultivators of Kerala. The study highlighted the necessity of importing Information technology focused training to agriculturalists. The suggestions of the study focused on the importance of training and need of appropriate and essential information for expansion of agriculture.

#### Kadeeja Banu CV, MVishnupriya, (2020).

This paper tried to analyze demand of farmers for information applicable to their livelihood. The study tried to examine the importance and use of Krishi Bhavan services by the farmers. The study pointed out that main stream of the respondent's conscious of the functioning of Krishi Bhavan and highlighted those farmers exploiting various services of Krishi bhavan.

### Channels of communication of agricultural information for farming community:

The farmers accumulate ideas about farming activities through numerous ways. The Krishi bhavan formulate various agricultural schemes including crops which are suitable to the region and there by intensifying agricultural development. The Krishi bhavan deliver variety of farming aspects regarding seeds, fertilizers, pesticides, modern equipment, training and facilities available for loan. Farmers acquired information from social media, books, newspapers etc.

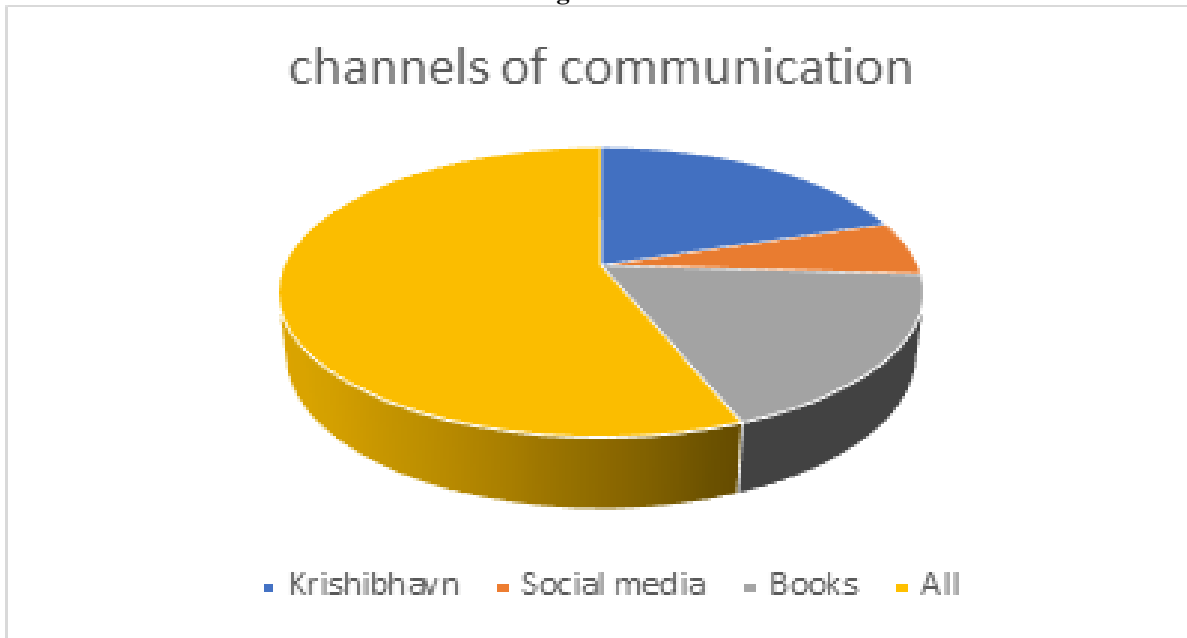
**Table 1.1:-**

Sources of Information	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Krishibhavan	10	20
Social media	3	6
Books	9	18
Above all	28	56
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

Above table revealed that majority of the people access knowledge about agriculture in all sources include Krishibhavan, social media and books. 20 percentage of people get knowledge about agriculture from Krishibhavan only, 18 percentage of people get knowledge from books and only 6 percentage of people depend social media for information.

Figure 1.1:-



**Kinds of Farming**

Table 1.2:-

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Group farming	8	16
Single farming	42	84
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

It can be clear from the table 1.2 that about 50% of the people do farming. But 84 percentage of people do single farming and only 16 percentage of people do group farming.

**Agricultural Pension.**

Table 1.3:-

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Received Agricultural pension	2	4
Not-received Agricultural pension	48	96
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

Above table indicates the status of agricultural pension. 96 percentage of people not received agriculture pension and only 4 percentage of people getting agricultural pension. This fails to invite young generation to participate in farming activities.

**Empowerment Activities**

All over the country Krishibhavans conducted various programs which nourish the farming community. Department of agriculture undertakes various events which will empower the farming community for modern agricultural activities.

**Table 1.4:-** Training on New cropping Techniques.

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Training received	28	56
Training-not received	22	44
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

Table 1.4 shows the empowering activities undertaken by Krishi bhavan. It was found that 56-percentage farmers received training on new cropping techniques from Krishibhavan and 44 percentage of farmers not received training techniques. Krishibhavan should take necessary steps to provide training facilities for all the farmers.

### Land for Farming

**Table 1.5:-**

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Own land	43	86
Hired land	7	14
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

It is revealed that 86 percentage of farmers have own land for farming. Only 14 percentage of persons use hired land for farming. So, it pointed out that most of the people have their own land for farming.

### Dependence on Agriculture

**Table 1.6:-**

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Fully dependence on agriculture	35	70
Partially dependence on agriculture	15	30
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

Table 1.6 depicts 70 percentage of people were fully depended on agriculture and only 30 percentage of people were depending on non-agricultural sector for their living.

### Use of Fertilizers

**Table 1.7:-**

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Chemical Fertilizers	28	56
Bio Fertilizers	22	44
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

Table 1.7 indicates the use of fertilizers for farming activities. About 44 percentage of farmers use bio fertilizers for cultivation and 56 percentage of farmers use chemical fertilizers for cultivation. Krishibhavan should provide information about need of bio fertilizers for cultivation and also should ensure their supply at free or minimal rate.

### Pest Control Measures

**Table 1.8:-**

Category	Number of Respondents	Percentage
Chemical pest control	28	56
Bio pest control	22	44
Total	50	100

Source: Survey Data

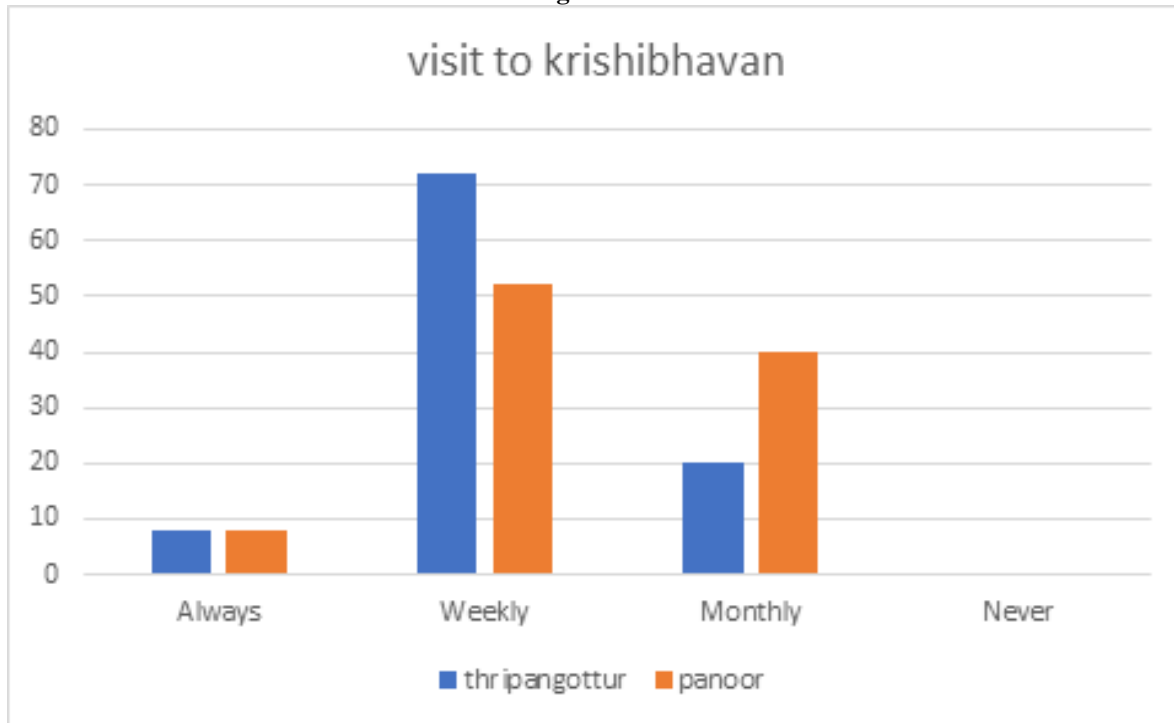
The above table shows that pest control measures undertaken by farmers in their field. The most (56 percentage) of farmers use chemical pest control measures. 44 percentage of farmers use bio pesticides. Krishi bhavans should supply bio pesticide kits for farmers at subsidised rate.

**Visit to Krishibhavan****Table 1.9:-**

Visits	Panchayath (%)	Municipality (%)
Always	2 (8%)	2 (8%)
Weekly	18 (72%)	13(52%)
Monthly	5 (20%)	10(40%)
Never	0 (0%)	0(0%)

Source: Survey Data

Table 1.9 is used for comparison of Krishi bhavan visits by farmers at panchayat and municipality level. It shows that in panchayath majority (72 percentage) of farmers visit Krishi bhavan weekly whereas in municipality 40 percentage of people visit Krishi bhavan monthly. 8 percentage of people regularly visit Krishi bhavan in panchayat and in municipality.

**Figure 1.2:-**

Source: PrimaryData.

**Functioning of Krishibhavan Compared with panchayat level to Municipality****Table 1.10:-**

Category	Panchayath (%)	Municipality (%)
Excellent	2 (8%)	2 (8%)
Very good	12 (48%)	12 (48%)
Good	6 (24%)	11 (44%)
Poor	5 (20%)	0 (0%)
Total	50 (100%)	50 (100%)

Source: Survey Data.

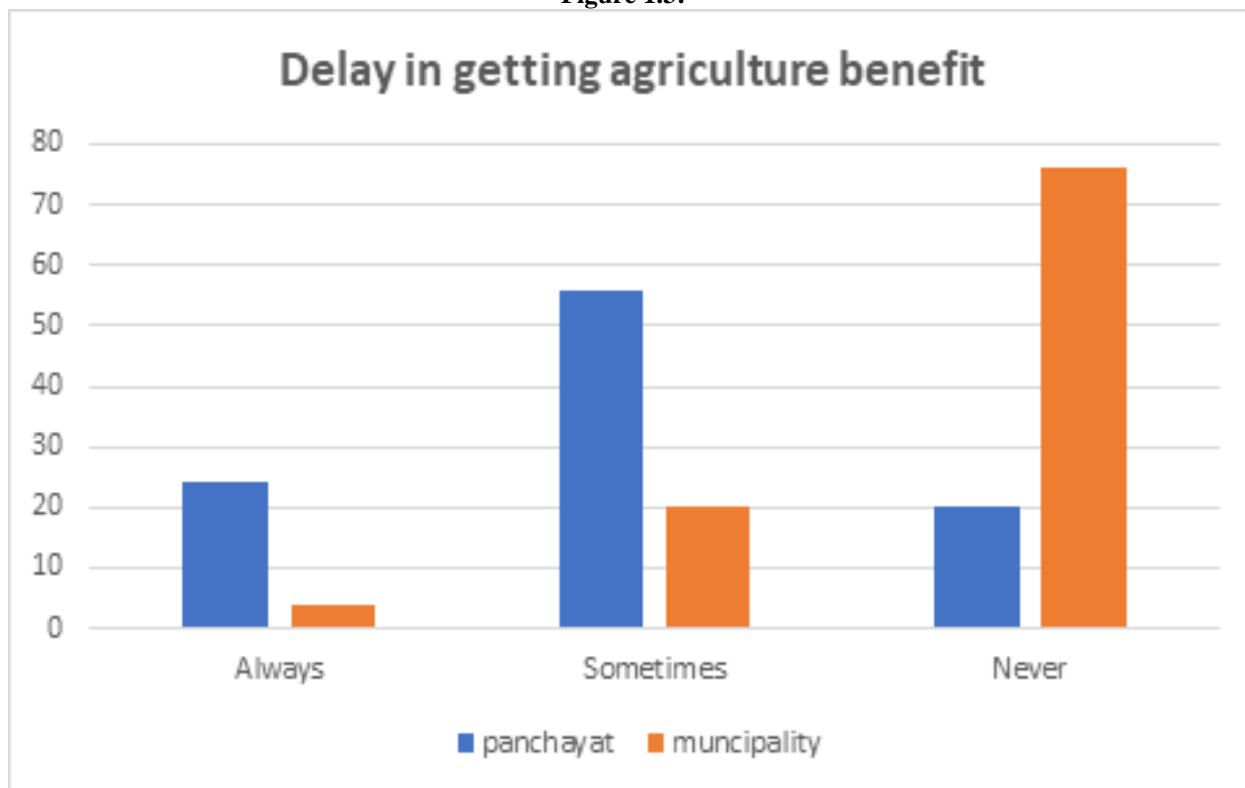
Major percentage of respondents opined that they were satisfied with the functioning of Krishi bhavans located at panchayath and municipality. None of the respondents opined the poor performance of Krishi bhavan in Municipality. Poor performance of Krishi bhavan at panchayath has opined by 20 percentage of respondents.

**Delay in Getting Agricultural Benefit****Table 1.11:-**

Category	Panchayath (%)	Municipality (%)
Always	6 (24%)	1(4%)
Sometimes	14 (56%)	5(20%)
Never	5 (20%)	19(76%)
Total	25 (100%)	25(100%)

Source: Survey Data

The above table made a comparative analysis of the opinion about the delay in getting agriculture benefit of Krishi bhavan. Farmers at Panchayath level opined that (56 percentage) sometimes of delay of getting benefit and 24 percentage pointed out that always delay for getting benefit. In the case of municipality, 76 percentage opined of never delay for getting agriculture benefit.

**Figure 1.3:-**

Source: PrimaryData.

**Satisfaction in the functioning of Krishibhavan****Table 1.12:-**

Satisfaction	Municipality (%)	Panchayat (%)
Excellent	6 (24%)	4 (16%)
Satisfied	10 (40%)	11(44%)
Not satisfied	9 (36%)	10(40%)
Total	25 (100%)	25(100%)

Source: Survey Data

The above table represents the functioning of Krishi bhavan. It shows that 24 percentage of farmers have got excellent satisfaction from municipality Krishi bhavan. In Panchayath it was 16 percentage. About 40 percentage of farmers opined poor performance of Krishi bhavan both at municipality and panchayath.

**Conclusion:-**

Agriculture places an important role in India. Krishibhavan acts as an intermediary role between farmers and department of agriculture. Krishibhavans undertaking and implementing various programs which enrich production and productivity of various food and cash crops. It formulates various activities which promote scientific methods of cultivation and plant protection. Krishibhavans of different states arrange the supply of high yielding variety seeds, plant protection devices, planting materials and formulate policies related to credit to farmers. Krishi bhavans should enrich themselves only by obtaining more funds for distributing among farmers enhance their productivity and made them more efficient in utilizing available resources.

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