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Constraints Encountered by Rural Youth for Establishment of Agri-Enterprises and Elicit Suggestions to Overcome Them

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Authors' contributions

This work was carried out in collaboration among all authors. Author MDM designed the study, performed the statistical analysis, wrote the protocol, and wrote the first draft of the manuscript. Authors TL and BRM managed the analyses of the study. Authors PLRJP and AVN managed the literature searches. All authors read and approved the final manuscript.

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ABSTRACT

India is with a high level of youth unemployment. Markets have insufficient jobs to absorb young job seekers. The purpose of the study was to identify constraints and suggestions that are faced by the rural youth who are engaged in agri-enterprises. A sample of 240 youth involved in agripreneurshipwasgiven questionnaires. The findings of the study indicated that the youth faced many challenges while establishing their agri-enterprises. The primary constraint faced by rural youth were economic constraints followed by technical constraints, psychological constraints, extension-related constraints, social constraints, and other constraints. The constraints perceived and the suggestions given by the rural youth for the establishment of agri-enterprises to overcome their constraints were observed and depicted.

Keywords: Agri-enterprises; rural youth; constraints; suggestions.

1. INTRODUCTION

asset important vouth developmental agricultural activities. If the talents and abilities are properly nurtured and guided, agriculture will attain sustainable growth. But the participation and interest of the rural youth towards agriculture is in a declining phase in recent years. This is because of the constraints faced by them in farm activities and also migration to urban areas. Through involvement and participation of youth in agriculture is necessary for the economic development of a country the constraints faced by the youth are poorly understood in India. Therefore to address this gap this study aims to assess the constraints faced by rural youth in agripreneurship and the suggestions were given by the rural youth for the establishment of agri-enterprises to overcome their constraints were observed and depicted.

Young people make up 36% of the creation of non-agricultural jobs may not happen in the working population and account for 60% of the short run, as such agriculture and agribusiness areunemployed. The large youth population is likely to continue being a source of employment and India should be seen as an asset for the country's livelihood in the medium to long term especially for development if appropriate human capital investment countries that heavily depend on agriculture. Measuresare taken. The 2008 World Bank "Agriculture for development Rural youth face many hurdles in trying to earn a report" further pointed out the enormous potential of livelihood. Pressure on arable land is high in many parts of agriculture and agribusiness in offering employment ofthe world, making it difficult to start a farm.

1.1 Review of Literature

1.1.1Problems faced by rural youth for establishment of Agri-enterprises

Hiremath [1] reported that the majority (84.17%) of rural youth reported a lack of co-operation from banana growers, followed by a lack of decision-making ability (42.20%) as their problems. In the case of sociopsychological constraints, 52.00 percent reported a lack of risk-bearing ability and lack of social participation (44.80%) as their problems. Phalke and Shaikh (2000) reported that almost all the rural youth opined that their unemployment is due to a lack of irrigation facilities.

Muhammad et al. [2] reported that rural youth had educational, economic, social, and health problems.

Selvi [3] found that the major problems faced by the members regarding the marketability of their products were consumer"s attitude (31.00%) market trend (25.00%) and the interference of agents (22.00%).

Savitha [4] reported that among rural youth males, 81.67 percent of them expressed lack of awareness (about the latest technology, varieties, etc.) as their major problem, followed by lack of improved equipment (40.00%) and lack of training to do a specific activity (35.00%). Concerning rural female youth, 48.33 percent expressed a lack of awareness, and 35.00 percent expressed health problems.

Umeh and Odom [5] revealed that inadequate fund available to the association, non-recognition of youths as partners in rural development by community power brokers, the inability of the youth to resolve internal organizational conflict and crisis as well as the inability of associations to establish a link with donor agencies, lack of good leadership and lack of social amenities in the rural areas.

Virimai and Wilfred [6] found that rural entrepreneurs still face challenges such as lack of technical and business skills, shortage and high cost of raw materials, inaccessible and unreliable communication and transport services, and limited access to finance and sustainable markets. Rural entrepreneurs have various opportunities in the form of increasing Government commitment to land reforms and rural development, support from small business development institutions, and the creation of networks and partnerships with other rural and urban entrepreneurs.

Saxena [7] revealed that the shortage of finance and raw materials are the main problems faced by rural entrepreneurs. Most of the rural entrepreneurs face peculiar problems like illiteracy, fear of risk, lack of training and experience, limited purchasing power, and competition from urban entrepreneurs.

Angaitkar et al. [8] found that the majority (86.66%) of youth had the problem of the lower price of farm produce, 82.50 percent had the problem of lack of irrigation water for cultivation, 75.83 percent had the problem of lack of hybrid

seeds for sowing, 70.00 percent had the problem of lack of training about improved farm technology, 61.66 percent faced a problem like transportation and 60.83 percent faced problem of lack of labor for farm operation and 55.83 percent had the problem of lack of availability of pure seeds and fertilizers.

Hadagali [9] reported that 74.16 percent of rural youth practicing agriculture expressed scarcity of labor as a major problem followed by inadequate and untimely supply of fertilizers and plant protection chemicals (69.16%).

Alao et al. [10] reported that 89.70 percent of the youth agreed that the non-lucrativeness of farming, which enhances youth's migration from rural areas to urban areas, was part of the problem in the innovation management system. Preethi [11] observed that lack of necessary timely inputs, lack of irrigation facilities, electricity problem, and scarcity of labor as the most important problems faced by farm youth. Felicia et al. (2016) reported problems like lack of good roads, storage facilities, and non-availability of loans from the government. Giuliani et al. [12] reported the problems felt by youth as the absence of adequate transport infrastructure in their rural areas (47.00%), and lack of efficient irrigation systems (46.00%), for drip irrigation systems, which remain unaffordable for them in most cases.

Vihari (2018) reported that the most important constraints encountered by the rural youth were the high cost of cultivation, inadequate availability of labor, low returns, pests, and diseases problem, inadequate power supply, inadequate and untimely supply of fertilizers, lack of remunerative prices, inadequate irrigation facilities, inadequate training programs, underemployment, adequate and untimely supply of seed, lack of proper guidance, destruction of crops by wild boars, and inadequate technical know-how about chemicals.

1.1.2 Suggestions given by rural youth for establishment of Agri-enterprises

Bagheri and Shahbazi [13] opined that rural youth need special training in planting, growing, harvesting, improving production methods, farm machinery services, and maintenance.

Sangamesh [14] reported that one-third (46.66%) of the rural youth expressed their suggestions to conduct training programs related to agriculture

and other income-generating activities followed than one-fourth more (38.33%)respondents expressed minimum Regarding suggestions expressed by irrigated tract, the majority (60.00%) of respondents suggestions to expressed their provide agricultural inputs like seeds, fertilizers at minimum cost to the farmers followed by more than half (53.33%) of respondents suggested conducting training programs related agriculture.

Vidyadhari [15] revealed that provision of quality seed and feed, provision of minimum support price, provision of inputs at a reasonable rate, supply of power for about 12 to 15 hours per day, the establishment of cold storage units, strengthening of training and research to update knowledge, credit through banks with a low-interest rate, subsidies to be provided on critical inputs, were the suggestions given by prawn growers for better entrepreneurship.

Sowjanya (2007) reported that the majority (92.85%) of the respondents suggested that a single outlet of the market followed by 91.07 percent who suggested that frequent contact should be made by the KVK staff for giving solutions, (82.14%) marketing facilities to be improved and 79.46 percent suggested supervision by higher authority on SHG activities.

Subrahmanyeswari and Reddy [16] suggested that efforts should be put into education and awareness campaigns to improve knowledge and skills, which will in turn encourage women farmers to be successful entrepreneurs.

Chidananda [17] reported that timely credit, providing irrigation facilities, establishing more regulated markets were the major suggestions given by farmers followed by the announcement of support prices by the government, providing subsidy to all groups, arrangement of training programs, providing more field staff for transfer of technology, supply of drought-resistant varieties in time and supply of inputs were the major suggestions given by the dry land farmers.

Chithra (2011) revealed that the majority (83.37%) suggested that the beneficiaries should be rewarded properly, 95.00 percent pointed out the need for increasing the amount of loan and subsidy. The majority (86.73%) of the beneficiaries suggested the proper advertisement of the product and all the beneficiaries had an opinion that training should

be imparted on a need-oriented basis. Cent percent of the beneficiaries suggested that follow-up should be conducted regularly and 91.71 percent opined that "Kudumbashree" officials should build a good rapport with panchayat officials.

Butt et al. [18] opined for the establishment of a cottage industry in villages so that maximum numbers of rural youth get employed there and initiate various agricultural developmental programs for the betterment of rural youth.

Lyockset al. [19] identified that 51.20 percent of the respondents suggested the establishment of youths training and skills acquisition centers followed by, give agricultural loans to youths (31.40%), Promote young farmers associations through internet linkages (12.40%), and Establish farm settlements (5.00%).

Patel and Prajapati [20] suggested that the establishment of a ruralyouth club in the rural area (83.33%) followed by village institutions should support the youth clubs (76.67%). Local leaders should properly guide the youths and the Government should organize training for rural youth (73.33%). Adequate financial support from the government (68.67%) and cooperation from villagers to rural youth (53.33%).

Parmar [21] observed that the suggestions confronted by rural youth in respect of participation in agriculture activities indicated that, the important suggestions were "there should be an encouragement for work " followed by " training should be provided for better work ", " there should be proper guidance and coordination by family members" and " the preference should be given to youth in work " respectively.

Patel and Chauhan [22] reported thata very high majority (91.67%) of tribal farmers suggested that field demonstrations should be organized, followed by loan and subsidy should be easily available (85.00%), remunerative market prices of agricultural products should be provided to the farmers(83.33%), farmers should be protected by crop insurance in case of failure of the season(76.66%), more training should be imparted to the farmers (73.33%), proper technical guidance should be given to the farmers as and when they need (72.50%), farm inputs should be subsidized (68.33%) and more subsidy should be granted for soil and water

conservation works (66.66%) were offered as an important suggestion by tribal farmers.

Preethi [11] reported that conducting educational activities to create awareness among farm youth, providing trainingprograms, the establishment of the local market, and establishment of the storage facility as the suggestions to overcome the problems.

Vihari (2018) reported that adequate and timely supply of fertilizers, timely financial support, supply of pheromone traps, regular supply of power, supply of NSKE, timely information on latest technologies, adequate and timely supply of quality seed, adequate and timely release of water for irrigation, the conduct of training programs, awareness programs on agriculture to youth and remunerative price for Agri products.

2. METHODOLOGY

2.1 Measurement of Constraints Encountered by Rural Youth in Establishing Agri-Enterprises

Constraints refer to the difficulties faced by the rural youth in the establishment of an agrienterprise. For ascertaining the constraints, a schedule of statements has been developed with various sub-components like psychological constraints. social constraints. technical constraints, economic constraints, extension related constraints, other constraints, and various statements listed under each sub-topic, responses were recorded as Yes or No and a score of 1 was assigned for yes response and 0 was assigned for no response were recorded and frequencies and percentages were calculated and ranking was given based on it.

2.2 Suggestions for Rural Youth to Overcome the Constraints Faced in Establishing Agri-Enterprises

Considering the constraints faced by the respondents and to overcome theirsuggestions have been recommended and a schedule of statements has been developed with various sub-components depicting the constraints. Responses were recorded as Yes or No and a score of 1 was assigned for yes response and 0 was assigned for no response. Frequencies and percentages were calculated and ranking was given based on it.

3. RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

3.1 Constraints Encountered by Rural Youth for the Establishment of Agri–Enterprises, and Suggestions to overcome them

In this objective, the constraints perceived and the suggestions given by the rural youth for the establishment of agri-enterprises to overcome their constraints were observed and depicted as shown below.

3.2 Constraints Encountered by Rural Youth for the Establishment of Agri– Enterprises

An attempt was made to know the constraints faced by the rural youth for the establishment of agri-enterprises and also their suggestions to overcome those problems. At the time of the interview, they were asked to enumerate the faced them constraints by for better agripreneurship and also to suggestions. Frequencies and percentages for each constraint and suggestion were calculated and ranks were assigned based on the magnitude. A list of constraints encountered by rural youth for the establishment of agrienterprises is presented in Table 1 and Fig. 1.

Among all the constraints economic constraintswhich was overall ranked I was conceived as the main problem, high labor cost is amajor restraint (30.83%) followed by price fluctuation (24.16%), the persistence of old debt (17.08%), poor return of investment (11.25%), high cost of input (10.41%), and lack of agricultural insurance (1.66%) were the main economic constraints faced by the respondents.

Technical constraints which wereranked II was conceived as the second major problem in which lack of mandi rate (23.33%), fluctuation of climate (22.50%), high cost of new technology (15.00%), lack of appropriate technology, and its use (12.50%), nonavailability of improved farm inputs (5.00%), lack of knowledge of package and practices (3.33%) reported lack of regular meetings were the major technical constraints.

Under the constraints psychological constraints which ranked III was conceived as the third main problem in which lack of enthusiasm (17.08%) was viewed as the main problem followed by, lack of patience (12.5%), drudgery involved in

running an agri-enterprise (12.08%), lack of foresight (11.66%), lack of agricultural management experience (9.58%), lack of education (8.75%), lack of knowledge (4.58%), lack of cooperation from peers (1.25%) were the major problems under psychological constraints.

Extension related constraints which wereranked IV was conceived as the fourth main problem in which officials only contact with large farmers (20.83%), demonstration related problems (14.16%), untimely reaching of the message (12.50%), irregular visit of officials (8.33%), unavailability of technical literature (2.91%) were the major extension-related constraints.

Among the constraints, social constraints which wereranked V was conceived as the fifth main problem in which lack of rural youth organization (12.08%), decreased landholding size due to division of family (9.16%), lack of inclination regarding traditional job (8.33%), participation in other social activities (6.25%), early marriage (4.16%), lack of faith by seniors of the family (1.66%) were the major social constraints.

In other constraints, migration of youth (25.83%), lack of support from the government, and other organizations (3.33%) were the major constraints.

This finding was in agreement with the findings of Rao [23], Sreeram [24], Vijayabharathi and Masthani [25], Mubeena [26], Siddeswari[27].

3.3 Suggestions to Overcome Constraints Faced by Rural Youth in the Establishment of Agri-Enterprise

In the study, it is found that the rural youth in the establishment of agri- enterprises are confronting with a myriad of problems. However, a lot of suggestions were put forward by them to effectively tackle these problems and thereby for better agripreneurship. A list of suggestions given by the rural youth waspresented in Table 2 and Fig. 2.

Economic suggestionswhich wereranked I was conceived as the first main suggestion in whichinsurance should be made easy (22.50%) followed by loan procedure made easy (21.66%), price stability (15.83%), prices of inputs should change (7.50%) according to young farmers convenience.

Table 1. Constraints encountered by rural youth in the establishment of agri-enterprise (n=240)

S.No.	Constraints	Respondents		Individual constraint ranking	Subtotal		Overall rank
		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_
1	Psychological constraints	. , , ,	<u> </u>			<u> </u>	
1.	Lack of foresight	28	11.66	IV			
2.	Lack of knowledge	11	4.58	VII			
3.	Lack of education	21	8.75	VI			
4.	Lack of enthusiasm	41	17.08	1			
5.	Lack of patience	30	12.50	II	186	77.49	III
6.	Lack of cooperation from peers	3	1.25	VIII			
7.	Lack of agricultural management experience	23	9.58	V			
8.	Drudgery involved in running an agri-enterprise	29	12.08	III			
II	Social constraints						
1.	Participation in other social activities	15	6.25	IV			
2.	Lack of inclination regarding traditional job	20	8.33	III			
3.	Lack of faith by seniors of the family	4	1.66	VI			
4.	Decreased land holding size due to division of family	22	9.16	II			
5.	Lack of rural youth organization	29	12.08	1			
6.	Early marriage	10	4.16	V	100	41.64	V
Ш	Technical constraints						
1.	Lack of appropriate technology and its use	30	12.50	IV			
2.	Non availability of improved farm inputs	12	5.00	V			
3.	High cost of new technology	36	15.00	III			
4.	Lack of knowledge of package and practices	8	3.33	VI			
5.	Lack of mandi rate	56	23.33	I	196	81.66	II
6.	Fluctuation of climate (climate change)	54	22.50	II			
IV	Economic constraints						
1.	High cost of input	25	10.41	V			
2.	Price fluctuation	58	24.16	II			
3.	Persistence of old debt	41	17.08	III			
4.	High labour cost	74	30.83	1	229	95.39	1
5.	Lack of agricultural insurance	4	1.66	VI			
6.	Poor return of investment	27	11.25	IV			
V	Extension related constraints						
1.	The untimely reaching of message	30	12.50	III			
2.	Irregular visit of officials	20	8.33	IV			

S.No.	Constraints	Respondents		Individual constraint ranking	Subtotal		Overall rank
		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_
3.	Demonstration related problems	34	14.16	II			_
4.	Unavailability of technical literature	7	2.91	V			
5.	Officials only contact large farmers	50	20.83	I	141	58.73	IV
VI	Other constraints						
1.	Migration of youth	62	25.83	1			
2.	Lack of support from government and other	18	3.33	II	80	29.16	VI
	organizations						

Table 2. Suggestions to overcome constraints faced by rural youth in the establishment of agri-enterprise (n=240)

S.No	Suggestions	Respondents		Individual suggestion ranking	Subtotal		Overall rank
		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_
I	Psychological suggestions						
1.	Must take interest on agripreneurship	24	10.00	III			
2.	Must have fore sightedness	12	5.00	V			
3.	Must acquire higher education	46	19.16	I	136	56.65	III
4.	Be motivated for innovation in agriculture	38	15.83	II			
5.	Practice for updating information	16	6.66	IV			
II	Social suggestions						
1.	Must incline traditional job	10	4.16	V			
2.	Seniors should guide rural youth	14	5.83	IV			
3.	Establishing rural youth organization	15	6.25	III			
4.	Young farmers should give proper respect in the	28	11.66	II			
	society				98	40.81	V
5.	Experience person must help rural youth in adopting	31	12.91	I			
	agripreneurship as a profession						
Ш	Technical suggestions						
1.	Training should be given one time a month	38	15.83	II			
2.	Timely availability of farm inputs	78	32.50	I			
3.	New technology provided at minimum cost	14	5.83	IV			
4.	Special concerns should be taken on climate change	18	7.50	III	148	61.66	II
IV	Economic suggestions						
1.	Insurance should be made easy	54	22.5	1			
2.	Stability in price	38	15.83	III			
3.	Loan procedure made easy	52	21.66	II	162	67.49	1

S.No	Suggestions	Respondents		Individual suggestion ranking	Subtotal		Overall rank
		Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_	Frequency (f)	Percentage (%)	_
4.	Prices of inputs should be changed according to young farmers convenience	18	7.50	IV			_
V	Extension related suggestions						
1.	Extension officer should motivate young farmer for Kisan credit card, Kisan call center, and Kisan mobile advisory	14	5.83	IV			
2.	Scientists should visit the farm and solve problems with proper demonstrations	27	11.25	II			
3.	Agriculture fair, exhibition, health camps should be organized at the panchayat level	19	7.91	III	112	46.65	IV
4.	Young farmer should take help of DD KISAN channel, television and radio	12	5.00	V			
5.	Training should be organized by the KVK according to the young farmer needs	8	3.33	VI			
6. VI	Knowledge about ICTs Other suggestions	32	13.33	I			
1.	Village leadership must improve on a ground-level basis touching the root problems of the young farmer	8	3.33	V			
2.	Establishing agri-rural youth clubs focusing on agriculture	12	5.00	IV			
3.	Training on skill development should be provided	17	7.08	II			
4.	Unused land of the village should be made available for rural youth on lease for agriculture	14	5.83	III			
5.	Timely diffusion of adoption process for enhancing agriculture	5	2.08	VI			
6.	Attracting rural youth in agriculture should be conducted to discourage rural youth migration	20	8.33	I	76	31.65	VI

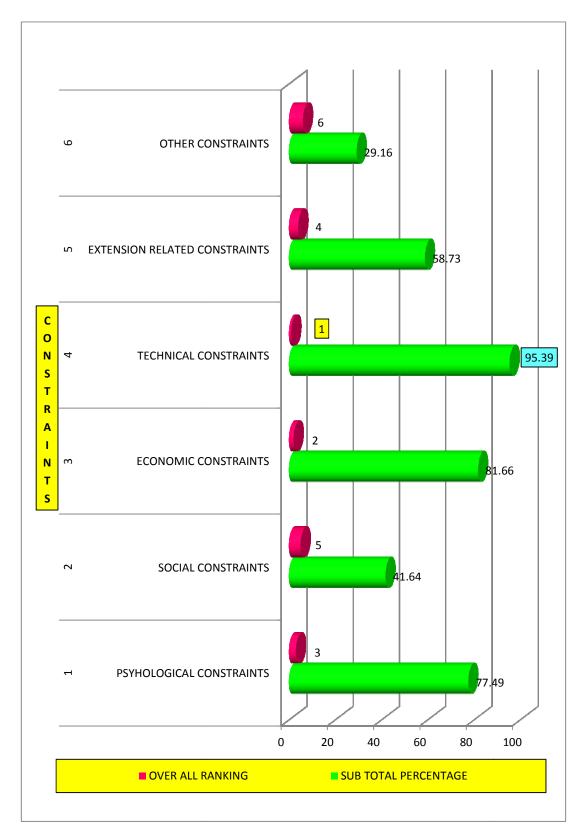


Fig. 1. Distribution of overall constraints based on ranks and subtotals

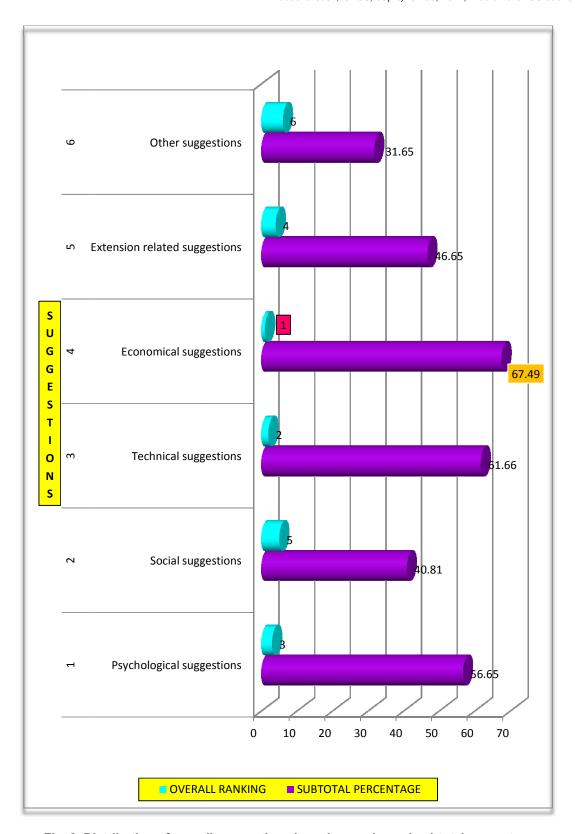


Fig. 2. Distribution of overall suggestions based on ranks and subtotal percentage

Amid the suggestions technical suggestionswhich wereranked II was conceived as the second main suggestion in which,timely availability of farm inputs (32.50%), training should be given one time in a month (15.83%), special concerns should be taken on climate change (7.50%), new technology provided at minimum cost (5.83%) were the major technical suggestions.

Psychological suggestions ranked III in which acquiring higher education (19.16%) was the main problem followed by motivated for innovation in agriculture (15.83%), must take interest on agripreneurship (10.00%), practice for updating information (6.66%), must have foresightedness (5.00%) were the major suggestions under psychological suggestions.

the suggestions extension-related suggestions which were ranked IV was conceived as the fourth main suggestion in which, knowledge about ICTs (13.33%), scientists should visit the farm and solve problems with proper demonstrations (11.25%), agriculture fairs, exhibition, health camps should be organized at panchayat level (7.91%), extension officer should motivate young farmer for Kisan credit card, Kisan call center and Kisan mobile advisory (5.83%), the young farmer should take help of DD Kisan channel (15.00%), training should be organized by the KVK according to the young farmer needs (3.33%) were the major extension-related suggestions.

Under the suggestions social suggestions which wereranked V was conceived as the fifth main suggestion in which, experience person must help rural youth in adopting agripreneurship as a profession (12.91%), young farmers should give proper respect in the society (11.66%), establishing rural youth organization (6.25%), seniors should guide rural youth (5.83%), must incline traditional job (4.16%) were the major social suggestions.

In other suggestions which wereranked VI in which, attracting rural youth in agriculture should be conducted to discourage rural youth migration (8.33%), training on skill development should be provided (7.08%), unused land of the village should be made available for rural youth on lease for agriculture (5.83%), establishing agri-rural youth clubs focusing on agriculture (5.00%), village leadership must improve on ground level basis touching the root problems of the young farmer (3.33%), timely diffusion of the adoption process for enhancing agriculture (2.08%) were the major constraints.

These findings are in agreement with the findings of Bagheri and Shahbazi [13], Sangamesh [14], Hiremath [28], Butt et al. [18], Hadagali [9], Preethi [11], and Giuliani et al. [12].

4. CONCLUSION

It is concluded that the constraints perceived and the suggestions given by the rural youth for the establishment of agri-enterprises to overcome their constraints were observed and depicted.

COMPETING INTERESTS

Authors have declared that no competing interests exist.

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