

ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

The entire inception, the author bows to the grace and mercy of the Almighty Allah, the Supreme Ruler of the universe, who enabled the author to materialize his dream to complete the thesis work.

The researcher would like to express his deepest sense of gratitude, heartfelt thanks and profound regards to his research supervisor Dr. Md. Faruq Hasan, Professor and Chairman, Department of Agricultural Extension (DAE), Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University (HSTU), Dinajpur for his continuous encouragement, proper instructions and creative suggestions in completion of research work.

The author feels proud to express his appreciation and heartfelt gratitude to his research co-supervisor Professor Dr. Md. Abu Sayed Mondol, Department of Agricultural Extension, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Dinajpur for his valuable suggestions, helpful comment and effective guidance in all the phases of the research.

The author would like to take the opportunity to express his gratitude and cordial thanks to all the honorable teachers of the Department of Agricultural Extension, Hajee Mohammad Danesh Science and Technology University, Dinajpur for time to time advice, suggestions, co-operation and benevolent help from beginning to the end of the research study.

The author is grateful to CIG farmers of the study area who gave their valuable time for interview and their kind cooperation during the period of data collection. The author is grateful to the CIG authority for providing technical support to the researcher in this study. The author express her grateful thanks to all loving friends, elders and younger's.

Finally, the author expresses his heartfelt gratitude and indebtedness to his beloved mother Akharun Nesa, elder brother Alamgir Badsha for their marvelous sacrifices, inspiration, dedicated efforts and blessings throughout the research work.

The Author

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FARMERS' IMPROVEMENT OF SOCIO-ECONOMIC STATUS THROUGH PARTICIPATION IN CIGs

ABSTRACT

The study is aimed at exploring the improvement of socio-economic status of the CIG farmers and finding out the relationships between the selected characteristics of the farmers and their improvement of socio-economic status. Data were collected by using a pre-tested interview schedule from the farmers of three unions of Biral Upazila under Dinajpur district. Data were collected from randomly selected 105 respondents of the total 1050 CIG farmers from 20 December, 2018 to 25 January, 2019. The selected 10 characteristics of the farmers such as age, education, family size, farm size, farming experience, annual income, training experience, organizational participation, desirability, and use of information sources were considered as the explanatory variables where improvement of socio-economic status of the farmers considered as the focus issue of the study. Improvement of socio-economic status of the farmers was measured by 4-point rating scale. The observed score of overall improvement of socio-economic status of the farmers ranged from 2 to 48 while the possible range was 0 to 48. The mean improvement of socio-economic status score was 25.90 with a standard deviation of 9.64. Among the farmers, 67.6 percent belonged to medium improvement of socio-economic status while 16.2 percent of them had high improvement of socio-economic status and 16.2 percent had low improvement of socio-economic status. The variation regarding different aspects of improvement of socio-economic status was medium, the highest improvement of socio-economic status was observed in food security aspects and that was the lowest in technological aspects. Six out of ten selected characteristics of the farmers are education, farm size, training experience, organizational participation, desirability and use of information sources had significant positive relationships with their improvement of socio-economic status. Rests of the characteristics are age, family size, farming experience and annual income had no significant relationship with their improvement of socio-economic status.