Inventive behaviour of farm scientists: a structural equation model

Balusu Gopichand[1,*], V. L. Madhuprasad[2] and G. Chaitra[3]

[1]National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management, Rajendranagar, Hyderabad 500 030, India
[2]Farmers' Training Institute, University of Agricultural Sciences, Bengaluru 560 065, India
[3]Agricultural Extension, Diploma Agriculture College, Kathalagere 577 219, India

The farm scientists working in State Agricultural Universities (SAUs), strive to solve the problems of farmers from different agro-climatic zones of the country. Inventions of them are crucial for change. Therefore, the present study explores different dimensions that can be included to measure the inventive behaviour of farm scientists, especially in SAUs, as reflected in the model developed. Moreover, this study illustrates how the dimensions identified have implications for the inventive behaviour of farm scientists that helps to overcome the lacuna in this competitive, innovative research environment.

Keywords: Agricultural universities, farm scientists, factor analysis, inventive behaviour, scientific temper.

The inventions and innovations are used alternatively in many forums, even they differ conceptually. However, the major mandate of scientists is to invent rather than innovate. The major characteristics of any invention is its novelty and being revolutionary. It is the process by which new ideas or practices are created or developed. Thus, invention is the materialization of ideas generated by creativity. The innovation development process accommodates invention in the first two stages, i.e. research and development (R&D).

The study by Erickson[2] on inventive behaviour was restricted to patent protection. It highlighted the importance of venture capital and financial aspects, the governmental R&D policy, defence spending, antitrust regulation, entrepreneurial culture, etc. that will encourage inventors to behave differently. In addition to the above studied dimensions, the