



**FACTORS INFLUENCING RURAL WOMEN'S NUTRITIONAL KNOWLEDGE IN
DINAJPUR DISTRICT**

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To cite the article: *Mst. Dilruba Sultana, Susmita Sarmin, Md. Faruq Hasan, FACTORS INFLUENCING RURAL WOMEN'S NUTRITIONAL KNOWLEDGE IN DINAJPUR DISTRICT, Journal of Agricultural and Rural Research, 6(2): 97-108.*

Link to this article:

<http://aiipub.com/journals/jarr-230327-10074/>

Article QR



Journal QR



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ARTICLE INFO

Article Type: Research

Received: 13, Feb. 2023.

Accepted: 30, Mar. 2023.

Published: 31, Mar. 2023.

Keywords:

Nutritional knowledge, nutritional status, balanced diet, food quality, malnutrition.

ABSTRACT

Exploring the rural women's extent of nutritional knowledge and finding out the influences of their selected socio-economic characteristics on their nutritional knowledge, were the aim of this study. Data were collected using a pre-tested interview schedule from randomly selected 164 rural women of Birganj Upazila under Dinajpur district. Eighteen questions on different aspects of nutritional knowledge were incorporated following 'Bloom's Taxonomy'. Correct responses to various questions were scored according to their difficulty. Findings revealed that the highest proportion (51.22 percent) of rural women had moderate nutritional knowledge. Among nine selected characteristics, seven, namely, farm size, annual income, access to different facilities, extension media contact, and nutritional awareness had significant positive relationships, and two, namely, shocks faced and training need on nutritious food had significant negative relationships with nutritional knowledge according to correlation analysis. According to multiple regression analysis, 49.5 percent of the variance in nutritional knowledge could be explained by all the independent variables and training need on nutritious food, extension media contact, annual income, and nutritional awareness were the most significant factors. However, training need on nutritious food had the highest contribution (27.0 percent) in explaining the nutritional knowledge of rural women.



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