

Agriculture Extension

Extension – Meaning

The word 'extension' is derived from the Latin roots, 'ex' – meaning 'out' and 'tensio' meaning 'stretching'. Stretching out is the meaning of extension.

Need of Agriculture Extension



The researchers neither have the time nor are they equipped for the job of persuading the villagers to adopt scientific methods and to ascertain from them the rural problems. Similarly, it is difficult for all the farmers to visit the research stations and obtain first hand information. Thus there is need for an agency to interpret the findings of the research to the farmers and to carry the problems of the farmers to research of solution. This gap is filled by the extension agency.

Education

It is the production of desirable changes in knowledge (things known), attitude (things felt) & skills (things done), either in all (or) one or more of human behaviour.

Extension education

It is an applied social science consisting of relevant content derived from physical, biological & social sciences & in its own process synthesized into a body of knowledge, concepts, principles & procedures oriented to provide non-credit out of school education largely for adults.

Extension service

It refers to a program for agricultural development & rural welfare.

Scope of Extension

- People are motivated through a proper approach to help themselves by applying science.
- Desirable changes in the knowledge, attitudes & skills of people
- Extension is helping people to help themselves.
- To answer their felt needs & wants.
- Teaching through learning by doing & seeing is believing.
- Working in harmony with the culture of the people
- Extension is a two-way channel
- Working together (in groups) to expand the welfare & happiness of the people



- development of individuals in their day-to-day living, development of their leaders, their society & their world as a whole.

Major Objectives of Extension

- Material- increase production, income.
- Educational- change the outlook of people or develop the individuals.
- Social & cultural- development of the community.

Types of Education

a) **Informal Education** – Is the life long process by which every person acquires knowledge, skills, attitudes and insights from daily experiences and exposure to the environment at home, at work, at play etc.

b) **Non-formal Education** – Is an organised, systematic educational activity carried on outside the frame work of the formal system to provide selected types of learning to particular subgroups in the population, including adults and children. E.g.: adult education, vocational education, functional literacy, continuing education, extension education etc.

c) **Formal Education** – Is highly institutionalized, chronologically graded and hierarchically structured, education starting from primary school and reaching up to university education.

Differences between Formal Education and Extension Education

S.no	Formal Education	Extension Education
1.	Teaching is largely confined to the premises of the institution	It is largely outside the four walls of the institution.
2.	Learners are common goals homogeneous with	Learners are diverse goals heterogeneous and have
3.	There is a fixed curriculum, students are examined and degrees are awarded.	No fixed curriculum, it is flexible depending on the needs of the learners. No examinations are conducted and no degrees are awarded.
4.	Knowledge flows from teacher to the learners (Vertical)	The extension worker also learns from those who he teaches (Horizontal). He teaches through local leaders.
5.	Approach is problems from principles to	Approach is from problem to principles.

Three tiers of Panchayat Raj

- (1) The Gram Panchayat
- (2) The Panchayat Samiti or Panchayat Union
- (3) District Development Council [Zila Parishad]



I. The Gram Panchayat:

- Primary unit of local self- government.
- Panchayat is a cabinet of the village elders, directly elected by the adult Citizens of the village.

2. The Panchayat Samiti:

- Second tier of the administration at Block level.
- It consists of Panchayat union Chairman, Presidents of all Panchayats in the area, Local MLAs, MLCs, MPs, etc. With the right to vote, but not to hold office and nominated persons.
- Block Development officer is appointed by the government. He functions as the leader of the Block.

3. District Development Council [Zila Parishad]:

- Functioning at district level.
- It approves budget and plant of blocks.
- It allots funds of the blocks.

