

# **Extension Education, meaning, definitions and concepts**

# Introduction

- The word extension has its origin from **Latin roots, tensio meaning stretching and ex meaning out.**
- The literal meaning of extension is "**stretching out.**"
- Extension is **an educational activity** which is stretched out and carried to villages and fields beyond the limits of schools and colleges to which **formal education** is confined.

- **Education** is an integral part of extension. Education is the process of bringing desirable changes into the behaviour of human beings (Dahama and Bhatnagar,1988), Through education, desirable changes occur in one's knowledge, attitude and skills either in all (or) one or more components of human behaviour.
- Knowledge - Things known
- Attitude - Things felt
- Skills - Things done

## Education

- Human behaviour =====> Improved human behaviour

# Types of Education

- **Informal Education:** It is the life long process by which every person acquires knowledge, skills, attitudes and new insights from experience and exposure to environment.
- **Formal education :** It is a type of education that is offered in schools and colleges for those who have enrolled themselves as regular students for these academic programmes.
- **Non-formal education:** It is an out-of-school system of education that is carried to villages and fields for the benefit of rural people to enable them as better decision makers to improve their occupations and livelihood.**(Extension).**

# Extension

- Ensminger, D. (1957): **Extension** is an education and its purpose is to change the attitudes and practices of the people with whom the work is done.
- Kelsey, L.D. and Hearne, C. C (1963) : **Extension is an out-of-school system of education**, in which adults and young people learn by doing. It is a partnership among the government, the Land Grant Colleges (farm colleges) and the people which provides services and education designed to meet the needs of the people.

- **Summary of the definitions**

- 1. It is a non-formal education system.
- 2. It aims at socio-economic development of the individual and the community.
- 3. It provides linkage between extension personnel, researchers and clients(farmers and rural people).
- 4. It gathers, processes, stores and disseminates information.
- 5. It is people -oriented, knowledge- based and problem- focused.

# Extension Education

- Sinha (1968) defined Extension Education as an applied behavioural science, the knowledge of which is to be applied for desirable changes in the behavioural complex of the people.
- Singh (1980) defined Extension Education is an applied science, the knowledge of which is applied to bring about desirable changes in the behavioural complex of human beings usually through various strategies and programmes of change and by applying the latest scientific and technological innovations.

- **Commonalities in definitions**

1. It is an applied behavioural science.
2. It is applied for bringing desirable changes in the behavioural complex of the people.

Extension education is a formal system of education which helps the students and extension personnel to understand the basics of planning and undertaking extension works.

# Extension Agency

- The agency that plays the dual role of interpreting the results of research findings or outcomes to the farmers (in such a way that they accept and adopt the recommendations) as well as conveying the farmers' problems to the research stations for solutions is called as Extension Agency.
- The personnel manning this agency are called as extension personnel or agents or workers. These extension personnel are trained adequately in formal educational institutions to perform the job of extension. Thus, three kinds of interrelated services are essential in the process of rural development.
- **Research <----> Education <----> Extension**



# Need for extension

- Need is more for the rural economy with its major component of agriculture and allied activities to keep pace with the brisk changes characteristic of modern times.
- To achieve this, research findings on improved technologies developed by research organisations have to be taken to the farmers, the ultimate users of such improved technologies, for adoption in their fields.
- Like wise, the problems faced by the farmers in their field have to be taken to the research organisations for solutions. Extension agency serves as a link between the farmers and the research organisations in these functions.

# Objectives of extension

- Objectives are the expression of ends towards which our efforts are directed.
- The fundamental objective of extension is to develop rural people socially, economically and culturally by means of education.
- It is realised by increasing the productivity levels of farm holdings and improving the standard of living of rural people.

# Fisheries extension

- It deals with the overall development of the people associated with fisheries through the process of education for improving the methods and techniques of production (to enhance the productivity) and the standard of living of these people as well.

# Scope of Fisheries Extension

- Extension has great scope in fisheries because a majority of the stakeholders in fisheries are socially and economically backward.
- They deal with common resources and the techniques adopted for the utilisation of these resources which will have greater impacts on the socio-economic conditions of the stakeholders and the ecosystem as well.
- Hence, there is a need for creating awareness amongst them and changing their behavior by informing and educating them.

- **The major areas of scope for fisheries extension are listed below.**

- 1. Efficiency in fish production
- 2. Efficiency in marketing, distribution and utilization
- 3. Conservation, development and sustainable use of natural resources
- 4. Farm and home management
- 5. Family living
- 6. Youth development
- 7. Leadership development
- 8. Community development and rural area development
- 9. Public affairs and