

PRACTICE IN EXTENSION AS OUR DISTINCTIVENESS

TECHNICAL SUPPORT SERVICES FOR AGRICULTURE THROUGH FARMERS` CLUB

Purpose:- The purpose of the practice is on the one hand ,to provide technical support services for farming and allied services and on the other hand ,to encourage creativity,critical thinking and scientific temper amongst students through such support services .Its objective is also to prepare the students to face the challenges of emerging job markets and to build entrepreneurship spirit both in farming and allied field.Practice is effective kind of experimental learning and is also covered under the activities of Extension and Institutional Social Responsibilities(ISRs).

Continuous two way interaction through Farmers ` Club between farmers and experts in a structured manner is the most critical component of the Institutional Distinctiveness. Agriculture sector needs to grow at a faster rate than in the past to allow for higher per capita income and consumption.With this back drop institution has set up a Farmers` Club which provides all technical support system (soil ,Water testing ,pesticides, insecticides ,pathological guidance,)fertilizers,verterinary services ,consultancy and knowledge.It has been proposed to start these services not all at a time but within a span of 3/4 years. Most interestingly, all proposed activities would inculcate and encourage critical thinking,creativity and Scientific temper amongst students and that would also provide community orientation and true contribution for social responsibilities.

Practice:-

Farmers Club is a forum which provides technical support services like soil and water testing , preparation of wormy composed khaad ,seed distribution ,veterinary related consultancy and bee-keeping .It also provides knowledge and skill about agriculture production and banking facilities relevant to the field. Transfer of knowledge about latest technology ,seed fertilizers and irrigation facilities receive top priority as these factors help in the increase of production and services directly.Periodically veterinary camps are organized where treatment of sick animals is done,medicines are prescribed as precautionary measures and detailed consultancy is provided for upkeep of live stock.

Scientists of agriculture field and dairy field visit the campus to interact with farmers directly and to convince them in their simple local language.Villagers do not agree to any change easily .They also do not like to hear any criticism of their traditional methods and customs .Sometimes instution has to offer its own land and other belonging to be used for experiment.

Pamphlets,posters and pocket books are supplied to the Farmers Club from CSA University,Kanpur which are distributed amongst farmers for knowledge and information

dissemination. Agriculture exhibition is organized wherein innovative technology is presented for the selection and purchase .

Bank officers are invited to apprise the citizens about various loan and deposit schemes including the use of credit cards. Every year seed of selected variety is distributed in college campus. All these activities are organized by our Farmers Club which has been established in the name of Shri Shakti Farmers Club under the guidance of CSA University, Kanpur. Members of the club have been enrolled by University Farmers Club which is a central office of our farmers club. Our representative goes on 6th of every month to attend this meeting. Only farmers are the office bearers of this club. Our representative goes to attend the monthly meeting after collecting problems of various farmers and he brings the solution and communicates to concerned farmers. This situation comes only if problem can not be settled locally to the satisfaction of any person.

Impact:-The practice has following impact:-

A:-Impact on community:-A forum is now available locally for continuous inter-action between farmers and experts directly and indirectly.

Now transfer of technology model is not any challenge with the free access of telephone and internet. Farming and allied services may be improved through the on- spot technology support services.

Community members are using this forum as and when they need without wastage of time ,money and energy.

B.Impact on teaching-learning:-Practice inculcates creativity, critical thinking and scientific temper amongst students as students and experts offer technical support services individually or in group. Students develop confidence ,competence and entrepreneurial skill to set up any unit in the field of agriculture services and consultancy.

C.Impact on Institution:- Institution –community network is enlarged through this forum of consultancy. It discharges social responsibilities by contributing in rural development leading to national growth because agricultural prosperity is the foundation for economic growth of the country.

Rigidity for traditional practices and customs is the main hurdle. Some farmers desire that club should remain operative round the clock so that they may utilize the services any time day or night. Electrical /power availability is another problem for internet availability .