

## Vision for Agril. Extension Education work.

The Directorate of Extension Education has been doing a fairly good job in spite of many constraints like inadequate staff, budget and infrastructure facilities. However, following things will still improve the spread and effectiveness of the technology transfer.

1. Establishment of District Extension Centre (DEC) in each district attached to an Agricultural Research Station. This centre would have one Assistant Director of Extension and a team of subject matter specialists. They would organize integrated farming system demonstrations (IFSDs) on the farmers' fields, crop seminars, pest disease surveillance, diagnostic visits, training programmes and other related activities.
2. Strengthening of the Directorate of Extension Education : One post of Associate Director of Extension (Professor's Cadre) in the discipline of extension education and three posts of Deputy Directors of Extension (Associate Professor's Cadre) in important disciplines of agriculture are needed for effective implementation of the extension education programme.
3. Publication : The Agricultural Technology Information Centre (ATIC) has a vital role in the use of tools of Information Communication Technology such as developing videocassettes, compact discs. More attractive technical publications in local language would be brought out.
4. Strengthening of training programmes through KVKs : Vocational training for unemployed rural youth would be organized more rigorously. After the training, they will be able to start their own small scale enterprise and will not migrate to the urban areas.
5. Self help groups involvement in extension education : There are large number of self-help groups (SHGs) which would be harnessed for effective extension work. They would be actively involved in promoting self-employment programmes in rural areas.
6. The public-private partnership (PPP) : It would be encouraged and industrial houses would be involved in creating extension infrastructure in the villages. They would be motivated to adopt villages for integrated agricultural development.
7. Consultancy services : The university intends to offer consultancy service to the commercial farmers on payment basis. However, service to the small and marginal farmers would be free.
8. Video-conferencing : Connecting different extension centres under the University with video-conferencing facilities for effective transfer of technology.
9. Mini ATICs : Establishment of mini ATICs in each district of the Konkan region for single window delivery of university service.
10. Refresher training : In order to develop the competence of extension scientists of the university, the periodical refresher training programme could be organized zone-wise. The KVKs could organize long duration training in post harvest technology and value addition to the farmers, farm women and rural youth.
11. Agrotourism promotion : The graduates who have undergone training in starting agri-clinics and agri-business centre would be encouraged and given necessary technical assistance for establishing agri-clinics and agri-business centres. There is scope and opportunities for agrotourism in the Konkan region. This would be promoted at the selected campuses of the university.