



### **3.6.1: Impact of Extension Activities on the Communities**

The University organizes and conducts number of extension programs and activities to promote linkages and association between the university and the communities to sensitize the people in villages to identify their needs to bring out transformation in the surrounding rural villages.

#### **1. Impact of extension programs and activities conducted by KVK in Operational Villages:**

The distance learners and the practicing farmers actively participate in social service and farm training activities leading to their overall development. The university runs effectively National Service Scheme (NSS) and Krishi Vidyan Kendra (KVK) a farm science centre for agriculture extension.

The university undertakes various extension activities in the neighbourhood communities for rural youth and practicing farmers through Krishi Vigyan Kendra. The extension activities include training and demonstration in Agriculture, Horticulture and animal husbandry practices. KVK of university adopted following 8 villages namely Chakore, Bahadurwadi, Jategaon (khurd), Jategaon (budruk), Sarul, Ghanshet, Zari and Chirapalli from Nashik district.

The KVK provide training to more than 3000 to 4000 practicing farmers, rural youth and extension functionaries every year conducting 1 day to 30 days training programs. During the current year (from Jan to Dec.-2020), KVK provided training to 3604 practicing farmers, farm women, rural youth and extension functionaries in Nashik district conducting total 103 training programs spread over 261 days during the year.

Broad list of training programs and extension activities carried out to cover following activities in operational villages are:

- Crop Production Technology in major agricultural and horticultural crops
- Popularization of high yielding crop varieties in Paddy, Finger millet, Niger and Chickpea.
- Popularization of high density Mango cultivation.
- Soil Testing services to farmers for horticulture crop plantation.
- Distribution of Soil Health Cards among the farmers.
- Popularization of Bio-fertilizers and Bio-pesticides among farmers.
- Drudgery reduction for tribal women through farm scale mechanization.
- Establishment of self help groups of women for agro-processing.
- Establishment of Nutritional Garden on farmer's field.
- Improved Goat farming in the villages
- Poultry farming for meat and egg production.
- Exposure visit of farmers to modern and innovative horticulture farms.

Several noteworthy activities were carried out by NSS volunteers, which include tree plantation, water conservation through digging of contour trenches, digging of pits for construction of toilets in the village, making paths and roads. At present, there are 3200 active NSS volunteers from 50 Learners support centres.

Every year the University selects a village in the vicinity, organizes a camp for one week duration and undertakes cleanliness drive, village survey, and other constructive works. During the last five years, the NSS volunteers have organized camps in village Ghanshet and Kumbhale in Nashik District.

## 2. Impact of Extension Activities:

The University is conscious of its responsibilities for shaping distance learners into responsible citizens of the country by making them aware of social issues. The university inducts consciousness among the distance learners as well as in villagers about the significance of social issues like eradication of superstitions, conservation of water, *Swachh Bharat Abhiyan*, environmental pollution, personal health and hygiene, road safety, AIDS awareness etc.

The university has also organized several social activities like *Gram Swachhata Abhiyan*, Tree Plantation, Soil and Water Testing services, Farmers rallies and melawa, Jagar Janivancha, *Nirbhaya Kanya Abhiyan*, Pre-Marriage Counselling, prevention of drug addiction, Blood Donation Camps, Blood Group Check-Up and Health Check Up Camps etc.

The distinctive impacts in the adopted villages is, the villages have got new green coverage, increased groundwater level, clean roads, and surroundings and importantly villagers learned the importance of chemical free food production from their farms, the rainwater harvesting and importance of water conservation. The camps and awareness programs have improved their understanding of various social issues and health awareness. These activities helped the farmers, rural youth and distance learners to understand real-life problems, the dignity of labour, and helped them in developing team spirit and self-confidence.

We also sensitized the students to the various social issues and social responsibilities, which in turn helped them in their holistic development as responsible citizens with moral values. The University runs short programs through Krishi Vigyan Kendra like Fruits and vegetable production, Vermicompost Production, Bio-fertilizer Production, Bio-pesticide production, Botanical Pesticide production, Plantation management, Goat farming, Poultry farming, Rain Water Harvesting, Soil and Water Testing and other training programs to create environmental awareness amongst the students and villagers.

Thus the university undertakes large number of training and extension activities through its especially dedicated Krishi Vigyan Kendra (Farm Science Center) and National Service Scheme reaching out to more than 5000 farmers including 3504 direct beneficiaries and more than 5000 distance learners during the year making huge impact on the thinking and the standard of living of villagers.

*(List of training programs & extension activities conducted and No. of days & No. of beneficiaries in the current year 2020 is attached)*



  
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