

Role of Extension Worker

Who is Extension Worker?

An Extension worker is a change agent, he serve as a link between agriculture research and famers. It includes all the persons working in Agricultural Extension field, From Director General Agriculture Extension the Head of the Department to Field Assistant at Gross root level placed at Union Council level. The role of some of the positions is provided asunder

Role and Duties of Director General Agriculture Extension

Director General Agriculture Extension is sitting at Provincial Level being the head of the department, he has different duties which he performed in coordination with the staff laced at HQ and at the District's Level some of the roles and duties are enumerated as under. To develop extension organization to meet the changing needs of modern time. →

Director General Agricultural Extension Department being the Administrative and Professional head of the Agriculture Department in the Province, exercise all the Technical, Administrative & Financial Powers as exercised by other Heads of the Department. →

Co-ordination with all stake holders, He also acts as Chief Technical Advisor to the Provincial Government on all matters relating to the Agriculture Department. →

Organizing Farmers, and helping the in framing farmers organizations, with the Collaboration with all stake holders →

Personal selection and Management →

Programme Determination, planning, monitoring and evaluation of the programmes through his staff. →

He maintains proper relationship between organizations, Assisting N.G.O's, IGO, and other departments in agriculture development throughout province. Former DG Agriculture Extension KPK →

He is to report each year to Secretary and Minister of Agricultural, through Submission of all the reports and returns of the Government (Monthly/Quarterly/Annual Progress reports). Maintain proper Liaison with Ministry of Agriculture Government →

He is also respectable for preparation of the budget and appropriation proposals for the department for consideration and approval of the Government. →

Any major Policy matter relating to professional activity shall be undertaken by him in consultation with other Senior Officers of the Department who are specialist in their disciplines. →

He exercises all the powers delegated to him by the Government and is directly answerable to the Government being head of Agriculture Department. →

He controls all the Agricultural Development affairs in the Province and shall issue special instructions/directions considered necessary for development of agriculture.

Characteristics of Director General Agriculture Extension Provincial Government

1. A good Planner, organizer, administrator, evaluator.
2. Interested in people and their problems and well-being.
3. He must be enthusiastic
4. He must be reliable.
5. He must be free and frank and not sneaky.
6. He should be friendly and have a high sense of compliance.
7. He must be competent and a person with a high sense of responsibility
8. He must possess leadership qualities. Has interest in the attainment of the group.
9. A sympathetic attitude towards colleagues and others.
10. Clear and systematic thinking not confused and haphazard.
11. Good experience in speaking, reading and writing and a person who is considerate and tolerant
12. Have faith, courage, empathy and integrity.
13. He must keep himself up-to-date and be a Group Oriented individual.

7.3. District Director Agriculture Extension at District Level

Administratively, the district is controlled by the DOA. He is in charge of the department at district and is responsible for the supervision of the activities of the Agricultural Officers and Field Assistants working in his jurisdiction. He supervises all the development projects, demonstration farms and nursery farms in his area. He is assisted by subject matter specialist at the district office and Agriculture officers at circle level.

Role of District Director Agriculture Extension at District Level

1. Preparation of District Extension Action Plan.
2. Arranging and stocking of Agriculture inputs at all sale points in the district timely and adequately.
3. Effective control of the extension functionaries of the block level and timely monitoring and evaluation of the different development programmes.
4. Pointwise reporting of the achievement every month of the EDO and Directorate.
5. Overall responsibility for the high yielding varieties programme.
6. Organization & imparting training along with the Subject Matter Specialist, Agriculture Extension Officer at District Level.

7. Reviewing fertilizer and sale stock position from time to time including private sale.
9. Undertaking intensive touring during campaign periods so that all the District.
11. To convene a meeting of the district level coordination committee every month in order to shoot and to remove the bottlenecks and to utilize the available irrigation potential.
12. Providing the main link between field officers and technical wing directors, passing information to them and receiving advice and programmes of extension messages and methods available for use in the field.
13. Supervising the assessment of training needs for all staff and drawing up proposals for training within the district.
14. Managing monthly meetings at the district for all TAOs to discuss problems, solutions, and progress and extension activities.
15. Controlling district expenditure within approved budget ceilings and ensuring timely submission of monthly accounts to concerned section.

Agricultural Officer at Tehsil / circle level

He is a graduate of (B.Sc(Hons) or M.Sc (Hons) in Agriculture. He controls tehsil and sub-tehsil having 3- 4 union councils. He performs extension functions with the help of Field Assistant, Budders and Beldars. He guides farmers in introduction of modern technology, arrange field days, farmers meetings, farmers trainings and farmers visits to research farms. Beside checking of pesticides and fertilizers.

Role of Agriculture Officer Extension

1. Preparation of Agriculture Extension Officer circle-wise Agriculture production Programme. Formation of consensus with farmers on vision and issues affecting the improvement of agriculture and joint designing of objectives and its activities.
2. Arranging and stocking all the inputs at all the sale points in the circle timely and adequately. And to coordinate stocking of fertilizer/Plant Protection measures at various sale points in circle.
3. Based on farmers' needs, thematic extension services and advice are actively provided by extension officers to establish a consensus on what needs to be done jointly by farmers and extension officers. Networking farmers who have a common issue and guide them to solve it collectively.
4. To organize farmer training at village level. Formation of farmers' organization to tackle with the common issues collectively.
5. To report shortage of seed, fertilizer etc. if any, immediately, to the DOA Extension.
6. Intensive touring during the campaign period.
7. To ensure full utilization of irrigation potential.

8. Reporting the achievement every month to the DOA Extension.
9. Identifying and using departmental human, financial, information and physical resources efficiently. Identification and training of farmer leader(s) and Coordination of various important activities to be performed by various stakeholders.
10. Promoting environmentally friendly farming practices; using participatory approaches with farmers in order to ensure the development of demand driven extension programmes.
11. Conduct timely demonstrations and training of farmers in order to ensure effective delivery of appropriate information on technology.
12. Introduction and application of new applicable technologies developed by research institutions, universities and other public organizations.
13. Technical support to new farmers in the areas of agro-processing, sales skills, and agricultural knowledge.
14. Facilitate collaboration and coordination between the farmers and experts, other government and private services/researches when an issue is beyond general extension service.

Field Assistant at Union Councils

He is the pivot of agricultural extension activities in the Union Council. He is usually a qualified diploma holder from Agricultural Training Institute, where he gets two year training after matriculation. He performs the following functions:

1. To layout demonstration plots to keep the record of methods and result demonstration.
2. To layout fruit orchards in the villages.
3. To help the farmers in obtaining improved seeds.
4. To protect crops, vegetables, and orchards from pests and diseases by advising field sprays.
5. To educate the farm communities to adopt the recommended seeds, fertilizer, pesticides etc. Extension workers play a vital role in educating farmers to produce better crops and more productive animals at lower cost.
6. To change the knowledge, attitude and skills of villagers.
7. Takes the problems of farmers to agricultural research institute in order to get them solved.
8. Use a variety of extension teaching methods which are best suited in the situation.
9. Get information regarding all the farm families, their problems, needs and capabilities?
10. To help farmers in cooperative group actions such as formation of village organizations, water users associations, community organizations.
11. Make the people aware about modern agriculture practices and use of modern machinery.

12. To help the farmers in arrangement of agricultural input timely so that yield per acre be increased.

13. To create awareness among farmers about, organic farming, alternate source of energy, soil testing, capacity building in different discipline.

14. To coordinate with other field staff such as Field assistant of research, Field Assistant of Soil Conservation and Stock Assistants

15. Promoting the adoption of appropriate farming practices, through the use of appropriate Extension methods, including working with groups