

EXTENSION OFFICERS AND SERVICES

A path towards egalitarian society



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Guiding Thoughts

- ❖ Be the change you want to see in the world.
- ❖ See that no one goes home empty handed from the market.
- ❖ Khud ki khushi aisee ho ki duniya ko khudaayee ka ehsaas ho jaaye! (Let my happiness be such that the world around me feels blessed!)



This is how I understand

➤ **Who is an extension Officer?**

One who converts the vision of the 'leader' into ground reality. We may say one who gives body to the mind or integrates mind with the body.

➤ **What are services?**

That which accrues during conversion of vision into ground reality.



Some Rather Deep Musings

- Speaking of gender, have women always been extension officers of the family in a world of patriarchy!
- Vision-people own the vision, bring in money, ideas, benefits in their terms . Beneficiaries own the impact. More often than not extension officers fail to justify their take home.

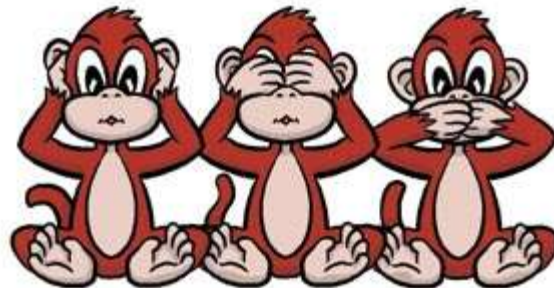


Qualities of an extension Officer

1. 'Constant' awareness regarding
 - objectives of the program and organisation.
 - local geography.
 - local culture
 - Gender concepts
 - Human Rights
2. Ability for instant and sustained rapport with local people.
3. Sagely patience, detachment from gains of program and responsibility for delays and failures.
4. Ability to motivate people to give up redundant habits and take up desired habits.

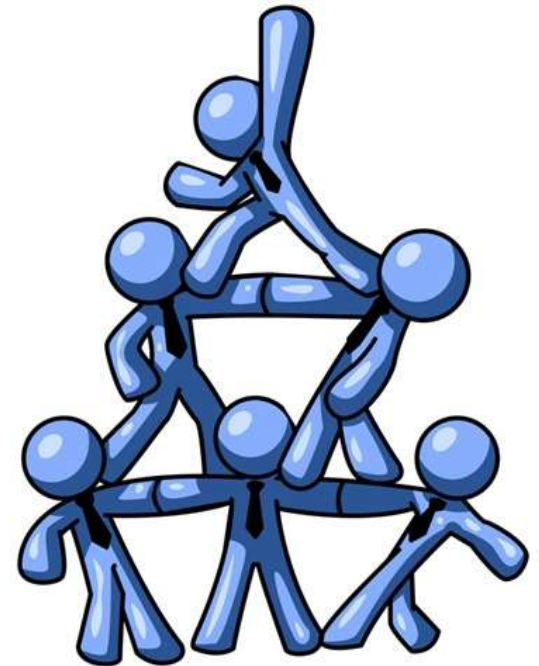
Skills

- ✓ Local dialects and some English
- ✓ Capacity building of community
- ✓ Resolution of conflicts during processes of resource sharing and learning.
- ✓ Identify and define local relevant resources including volunteers.
- ✓ Monitoring and follow up of implementation



Challenges

- Accessing facts from people they work with.
- Pressure of achieving targets vis-à-vis ground realities.
- Following timeline.
- Identity – in terms of their mundane locality, cultural background, to name a few.
- Being exposed to uncertainties constantly.
- Autonomy





*Promising
rays of light*

- More than any leader, the extension officers continue to be more personally integrated.
- The fact that their capabilities and challenges have come directly before an UN body here there are better days to come. Decision makers will thrive on bliss of extension officers.

**Akashath patitam toyam yatha gaccati sagara.
Sarva deva namaskaram Keshavam prati gaccate.**



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Thank You