

MANAGE NYPDP Diary No. 88

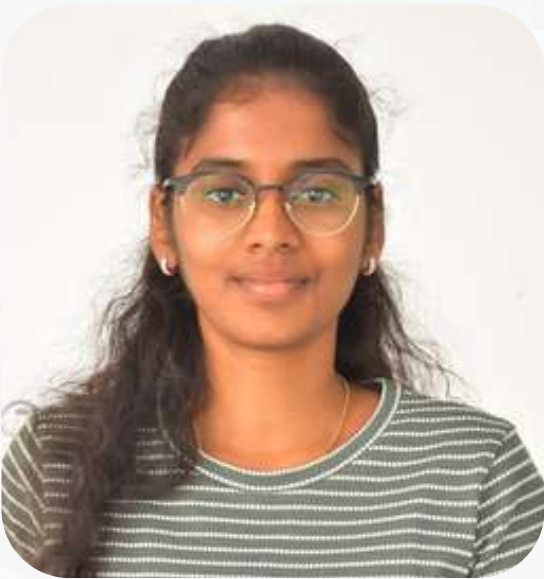
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National Young Professionals Development Program (NYPDP)

MANAGE-University Alliance for Advancing Agricultural Extension and Advisory Services

Reflections That Cultivate Tomorrow's Agricultural Extension



Ms. Subhashini R

Participated in the MANAGE-NYPDP at MANAGE Hyderabad during December 22-27, 2025.

 [Subhashini R](#)

Key Learnings from Each Day of the Programme

Agricultural extension today stands at the intersection of knowledge, leadership, and societal change, and the MANAGE NYPDP programme offered a distinctive opportunity to engage with this evolving landscape in a reflective and practice-oriented manner. Dr. Saravanan Raj set the intellectual and emotional tone by urging us to “focus on one goal,” reminding us that “the world believes in action,” and emphasizing that “change does not knock on your door; it begins in your mind,” a series of messages that sharpened personal resolve, clarity of purpose, and readiness to act. Dr. Parmveer Singh introduced the Delphi Technique, demonstrating how structured expert consensus can enhance research rigor and evidence-based decision-making; Dr. P. V. K. Sasidhar linked Monitoring, Evaluation, and Impact Assessment frameworks to field realities; and Dr. Mahesh Chander, drawing on decades of work in entrepreneurship, gender, and organic farming, illustrated how sincerity and consistency shape professional excellence.



Dr. Krithika Sundaram highlighted the role of Knowledge Management and Corporate Social Responsibility in NGOs and development organizations.

Dr. Sreevishnu presented tools such as social network analysis and text-based methods for analysing complex social systems, and Dr. Rasheed Sulaiman V emphasized the adaptive capacities and policy engagement required in contemporary extension practice, collectively deepening methodological understanding and expanding awareness of global and national opportunities in the field. Dr. Raahalya provided consistent support throughout the programme, actively encouraging our participation in various activities and continuing to guide and encourage me even after its completion.

Five days Experience

From my perspective, the training was exceptional in both depth and design. The MANAGE NYPDP programme brought together expert guidance, rigorous academic inputs, and rich peer interaction in a way that went far beyond conventional lecture-based formats. Sessions were structured as interactive spaces where ideas were questioned, refined, and connected to practice, which helped me move beyond my own “glass ceilings” and reimagine what I could contribute as an extension professional. Carefully curated modules strengthened my analytical thinking, ethical orientation, and leadership abilities, while simultaneously grounding these in real-world agricultural extension contexts.

Change in Perspective



The programme fundamentally changed how I understand agricultural extension. I no longer view it as limited to advisory services; it now appears as a dynamic, multidisciplinary field that integrates innovation, policy advocacy, social justice, digital engagement, and environmental stewardship. Discussions and examples showed how extension can function as a catalyst for societal transformation rather than simply a channel for information dissemination. This shift in perspective also opened my eyes to diverse global opportunities in extension, encouraging me to align my skills and interests with emerging international and national needs.

Atmosphere and Environment

The learning environment at MANAGE created a powerful ecosystem for growth. The campus, infrastructure, and academic culture collectively fostered curiosity, reflection, and open dialogue, making it easy to remain fully engaged throughout the programme. Thoughtful gestures such as personalized nameplates and accessible faculty reinforced a sense of recognition and belonging, which, in turn, enhanced my confidence. The overall ambience was both intellectually stimulating and emotionally supportive, making it a place I would be eager to revisit for further academic and professional development.



Peer Interactions and Networking

Interacting with fellow M.Sc. and Ph.D. scholars from across the country was one of the most enriching aspects of the programme. Our conversations were not limited to academic topics; they extended to personal journeys, aspirations, and shared challenges as young professionals in agricultural extension. This created a strong sense of community and mutual support. These peer networks helped me see my own limitations more clearly, but also reassured me that, through collaboration and shared learning, those limitations can be overcome.

What I appreciate



Several core insights emerged from the sessions and interactions. The emphasis on unlearning, learning, and applying helped me recognize that genuine progress begins with questioning existing assumptions and aligning thought with intentional action. Inputs on research priorities, digital pathways, and emerging roles in extension reduced many of my earlier job-related anxieties by clarifying possible career trajectories. The recurring message that challenges can be reframed as opportunities reinforced the importance of mindset, preparation, and strategic thinking for long-term professional success.



Most Significant Takeaway

What stood out most to me was the programme's authenticity and coherence. Sessions felt like meaningful conversations rather than one-way teaching, and expert narratives were consistently grounded in lived experience and real-world cases. Exposure visits and practical illustrations helped bridge theory and practice, making complex concepts easier to internalize and apply. Informal peer discussions, including reflections on Hyderabad's rich cultural and technological landscape after intense days of learning, added further depth to the experience.



Action plan

The programme has directly shaped how I plan to approach my current and future research. I now intend to adopt more rigorous designs, integrate Monitoring and Evaluation frameworks more systematically, and balance quantitative methods with rich qualitative approaches in my work on smart farming and behavioural aspects of farmers. The sessions convinced me that as an agricultural extensionist, I can contribute research and field-level interventions on par with other scientific disciplines, especially when studies are well-grounded in real needs. This understanding will guide my future initiatives toward creating evidence-based, contextually relevant, and impactful interventions.

My MANAGE NYPDP Journey

Overall, my time at MANAGE NYPDP marked a clear turning point in my personal and professional journey. I entered the programme as a motivated learner, but I left with a much stronger sense of direction, agency, and responsibility as an emerging leader in agricultural extension. The combination of inspiring faculty, insightful sessions, and a supportive peer group helped me break through internal barriers and see a larger canvas for my work.

This experience not only clarified what kind of professional I aspire to be but also reaffirmed my commitment to contributing meaningfully to farmers, communities, and the broader agricultural system.





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