



Director General's Message

The year 2021-22 was very productive for the DAESI program. The year saw highest number of DAESI programs being organized, commenced and completed. The year also witnessed highest number of examinations completed across India as the covid delayed conducting several examinations in the previous years. I congratulate all SAMETIs Directors, Principal Coordinator (DAESI) and the team at MANAGE and all State Nodal Officers (DAESI) for the impressive performance.

The progress of 2021-22 should motivate us to focus on repeating same performance in this year. There is also a need to focus on the quality of DAESI program implementation. One year is a long time for an agri-input dealer and they must be effectively guided through practical and field-based learning. All NTIs must make earnest efforts to invite best possible experts as resource persons to facilitate effective technology transfer among the agri-input dealers. This will ensure better agri-advisories to the farming community through the network of agri-input dealers.



The coming year we shall make all efforts to commence maximum batches of DAESI before the end of 30th September as this will help to assets the grants required and seeking commensurate budget from the ministry. I expect all the SAMETIs to guide NTIs in mobilizing suitable candidates and starting new batches of DAESI program in all the states.

Best Wishes

(P. Chandra Shekara)
Director General

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I. State Level workshop at SIMA, Lucknow, UP

Background:

One day state level workshop on DAESI (Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input dealers) was organized on 05.04.2022 by SIMA/SAMETI (State institute for Management in Agricultural/ State Agricultural Management and Extension Training Institute), Uttar Pradesh in collaboration with the National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management (MANAGE), Hyderabad. Shri Rajendra Dhar Dwivedi, Former Director, SAMETI, Uttar Pradesh, and Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Deputy Director, Principal Coordinator (DAESI), MANAGE, Hyderabad, were Chief Guest and guest of honour of this workshop. A total of 178 (13, Additional Director of Agriculture/ Joint Director of Agriculture, 51 District Agriculture Officers, 38 DAESI facilitators, 61 Input dealers and 15 officials from MANAGE and SAMETI, Uttar Pradesh attended the workshop.

The aim of the workshop was to create awareness of good practices in the implementation of DAESI programme and to orient the participants on MIS data entry of DAESI Programs. Further, the objective of workshop was to explore the possibility of more numbers of DAESI programs in different districts of Uttar Pradesh and to discuss and identify actions to implement the DAESI program in Uttar Pradesh.

During the State / SAMETI level workshop, an exhibition was organized to display the good record books, sketches, Herbarium and problem-solution records of selected candidates. All Facilitators presented their innovations, success stories, etc. through a poster presentation. Invited input dealers who have done a good work as para-extension workers in collaboration with ATMA, Department of Agriculture, Department of Horticulture and



Visit by the officials to exhibition centres

Extension workers in KVK, etc. for sharing their experience.

The inauguration of workshop began with the lighting of lamp by Dr. Pankaj Tripathi, Director, SAMETI and Shri. Rajendra Dhar Dwivedi, Former Director, SAMETI, Dr. Pramod Kumar Gupta, Additional Director of Agriculture (Training), Shri S.B. Singh, Additional Director of Agriculture (Seeds and Fertilisers), Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Deputy Director, Principal Coordinator (DAESI) and Dr. Manisha Ohlan, MANAGE, Hyderabad.



Lighting of lamp by Chief guests

Shri Pankaj Kumar Tripathi, Director, SAMETI, welcomed the chief guests and participants. While addressing the participants on this occasion, the Director, SAMETI updated about the progress of DAESI program in the state and informed that 163 batches have been completed successfully so far in the state in which 6554 agri-input dealers were trained. He also informed the broad objectives of the workshop and outlined the way forward for DAESI program in the state.



Welcome address by Director SAMETI

The participants raised their issues during the question and answer session during the workshop. The problems of issuing of acknowledgement of fertilizer receipts and delivery, non-availability of fertilizers, fake DAESI certificates by private universities, language of DAESI content, duration of work etc, were discussed. The officials of SIMA and the Principal Coordinator (DAESI) addressed the issues raised during discussion.

The following participants raised questions that were answered during the workshop

- **Shri Sachivendra Pandey, Input Dealer, Gorakhpur**, requested that the ACKNOWLEDGEMENT got available three days after receiving Urea from the warehouse; he was informed that real time technology will be available through the portal once the Android machine is available.
- **Shri Jai Prakash Tiwari, Input Dealer, Balrampur**, requested that the fertilizer rack in Balrampur be made available, and was assured that this would be done by contacting/requesting the Ministry of Railways.
- **Shri Pradeep Kumar Maurya, Input Dealer, Santkabir Nagar**, requested that the language of the DAESI course be simplified. The Director, SAMETI assured that action would be taken in this regard.
- **Shri A.K. Mishra, Facilitator, Barabanki** discussed with the Principal Coordinator (DAESI), MANAGE that certificates are being issued by other institutions without conducting the course. As a result, a mandate should be issued declaring that any certificate issued by any institution other than MANAGE is invalid. Dr. Mahantesh Shirur informed that a letter was written by the Director General to the Government of India to obtain guidelines in this regard, and that Agri-input dealers must decide whether they require the certificate of a good institution with proper knowledge or the mere certificate of another institution without any learning.
- **Dr. Arvind Tiwari, Facilitator, Kaushambi** requested that the DAESI Guidelines be made available in Hindi. Dr. Shirur assured that the Guidelines would be made available in Hindi by end of 2022-23.
- According to **Dr. D.P. Singh, Facilitator, Unnao**,

the course should last six months. Dr. Shirur informed that no diploma is of less than one year duration, despite the fact that the course duration is one year. The primary goal is to provide accurate information to dealers so that they can act as Para-Extension Workers.

- **Dr. A.K. Tripathi, Facilitator, Balrampur**, stated that the literature should be made available to facilitators as needed, and separate training for facilitators should be arranged. Dr. Shirur requested SAMETI to organize a separate workshop for facilitators and suggested that the literature be made available at the SAMETI level in simple language.



Discussions with input dealers and facilitators

Important suggestions to the State Nodal Officer and NTI Facilitators

- Proposals for DAESI programme implementation by districts should be made available to SAMETI on time for the fiscal year 2022-23, so that after receiving approval from MANAGE, they can be implemented.
- Guidelines for selecting competent and experienced facilitators to implement the programme with good quality should be followed.
- For organizing DAESI classes, experienced resource person should be invited by the facilitator/NTI nodal officer.
- The nodal officer (District Agriculture Officer/ District Agriculture Defense Officer) should conduct continuous monitoring and evaluation in coordination with the facilitator.
- Every week, the facilitators should review the records (Problem-Solution Register, Assignment

Register, Sketch Register, and Field Visit Register) to ensure that any deficiencies are corrected on time.

- Literature for participants should be available in simple Hindi language to meet the needs of the local special.
- The facilitators should keep the MIS portal up to date with latest information.

- The NTI nodal officer will provide the Audited Utilization Certificate and expenditure details from CA on time to SAMETI.
- The Director, SAMETI presented a shawl to ten such participants of the DAESI programme conducted in different districts of the state who achieved Distinction in their DAESI batch.

II. An agri-input dealer innovates a quick decomposition process for arecanut waste.

Areca nut is the major plantation crop in Shivamogga district of Karnataka. Areca nut husk and sheaths are rich in lignin, cellulose and hemicellulose, owing to which their biodegradation is very slow. The wide difference in the ratio of carbon and nitrogen in areca nut waste is another reason for its slow decomposition. In normal conditions, it takes at least two years for areca nut husk to decompose. Owing to the slow pace of degradation, farmers don't use husk and sheaths as manure. The waste is burnt, resulting in air pollution and the loss of a potential source of organic manure. According to an estimate, six or seven tonnes of organic waste is available from one hectare of areca nut plantation.

University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences (UAHS), Shivamogga, has developed a technology that will convert areca nut husk, sheaths and dry leaves into compost manure. During his field visit to

UAHS-Shivamogga, DAESI Student of DATC-Hallikere, Bhadravati Mr. Anil K came to know about the technique and modified the decomposing technique to the local conditions.

As a learner, he created a 5mX5m sized cleaned earth surface bed, on which he spread the areca husk to a height of one feet, above it poured the solution (100 litre water +100 ml decomposer +4kg urea). In another layer, he stacked green leafy waste and sprinkled the dung slurry evenly along with 4kg of Jaggery solution. Like this one layer with solution of decomposer and another layer with jaggery solution heaped for 5 to 6 feet height and the top layer was covered with coconut leaves.

The heap should not be disturbed for a period of one week and on 8th day, 200 litres of water was poured from the centre point of heap to fasten the



Before Decomposition

10 Weeks



After Decomposition

decomposition. After five weeks, the height of the heap will come down to 2 feet and again watering has to be done for another 4 to 5 weeks. At the end of 9th week, the heap should be mixed with Phosphorous Solubilizing Bacteria, Azotobacter and Trichoderma. After 10 weeks the compost is ready and it can be

used as manure for plantation crops. The successful implementation of the decomposer technology gave him self-confidence and he motivated another 10 farmers in that particular region to adopt the arecanut decomposition technology to reduce the pollution caused due to burning of arecanut waste.

III. A positive move of DAESI input Dealer towards Integrated Farming System

Mr. Jairul Mondal of Getuyagachi Block, North 24 Parganas district of West Bengal, has completed DAESI (Dipoloma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers) course from Farmers Academy & Convention Center (FACC), BCKV, West Bengal in 2020-21 batch.

Previously, he was only running a retail shop of pesticides and was selling agricultural inputs. As an untrained input seller he was facing various types of problems on giving proper advice to farmers coming to his unit. After getting enrolled and trained in DAESI

programme at FACC, BCKV, Kalyani, he understands various agro-ecological situation and specific technical agricultural knowledge. Now he feels more confident in dealing with farmers regarding agriculture. During training he acquired knowledge of different soil type of West Bengal, various suitable crops for West Bengal and their varieties, suitable time and technique of farming of various cropping techniques related to commercial agriculture as well are implemented for the benefit of farmers. Now Mr. Jairul Mondal is very well equipped to give proper advice to farmers on plant protection issues.



Jahirul Mondal's IFS unit and demonstration field



Visit of MANAGE Consultant and SAMETI Representative in Jahirul Mondal's demonstration units



Jahirul Mondal's IFS unit and demonstration field

Earlier, he was only dependent on chemicals to control insect/pest or disease infestation, but after getting knowledge of IPM techniques, he is able to advise farmers on balanced use of chemicals to control disease and pest infestation.

After getting the training of DAESI course from FACC, BCKV, Kalyani he developed an Integrated Farming System in his own land, in which agriculture can be integrated with livestock, poultry and fishery to generate employment around the year and also get additional income. Since the government is promoting natural farming and organic farming, he has taken a keen interest in promoting natural

and organic farming to farmers. He is giving a demonstration on the use of NANO liquid urea to a farmer in his locality. He himself prepares Azolla, Vermi compost, Jeevamrit, etc. at his own place to demonstrate farmers to adopt these alternatives of inorganic fertilizers.

He remains in constant touch with the scientific personnel of Bidhan Chandra Krishi Viswavidyalaya, Mohanpur, Nadia, West Bengal. He is very thankful to MANAGE and SAMETI, West Bengal for giving him opportunity to take training in DAESI programme and develop his skills for the help of farmers of his locality.



Jahirul Mondal's IFS unit

IV. A Mission Mode Plant Protection Campaign by DAESI Trained Input Dealers in Belagavi

Soybean is one of the important oil seed crop of Belagavi district, Karnataka state. In Belagavi district itself Soybean is grown in an area of about one lakh hectares during 2021Kharif. Shri. S.S. Patil, Joint Director of Agriculture, Belagavi, after noticing sporadic incidence of rust disease constituted a team of scientists to investigate pests and diseases of soybean, at major soybean growing areas of Belagavi district. Scientists made field visits, analyzed the Pest and Disease infestation and suggested preventive plant protection measures to control further spread.

Scientists' recommendations were immediately communicated to all the DAESI trained input dealers through Google Meet and were advised to supply disease specific protective fungicides Hexaconazole/Propiconazole to farmers. Scientists of KVK and University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad participated in this online awareness cum training session.

To educate farmers with respect to disease identification and control by proper pesticides, an action plan was conceived in the office of Joint

Director of Agriculture along with Deputy Director of Agriculture and Assistant Director of Agriculture to hold Mission Mode Campaign "Kharif Plant Protection Campaign" across all village panchayats of Bailhongal and Hukkeri Talukas.

Immediately after this campaign, Joint Director of agriculture held meeting of scientists, DAESI trained dealers and other regular input dealers in Bailhongal taluk and convinced the input dealers to sell disease specific chemicals. A similar programme was also held in Hukkeri taluka on 05-08-2021. This multi-disciplinary diagnostic team effort set a new standard in managing and controlling pest and diseases effectively. The farmers of two talukas were very glad for having controlled diseases and harvested good yield.

In this way, Department of Agriculture has been successful in making farmers aware of the disease and to control the disease in a mission mode action with an innovative extension system in collaboration with University of Agricultural Sciences, Dharwad, KVK, Line departments, ATMA Officials, DAESI trained Input dealers, local elected members and Farmers.



DAESI Trained Input dealers participating in "Kharif Plant Protection Campaign" for Soybean crop

Overview of DAESI Program

- 1) Number of SAMETI's, implementing DAESI program - 21
- 2) Total number of candidates enrolled – 77,837
- 3) Candidates appeared in final examination – 54,077
- 4) Number of ongoing batches - 594
- 5) Number of candidates enrolled in ongoing batches – 23,760
- 6) Certificates Issued – 47,531
- 7) Total Programs completed - 1400



Progress in the month of March and April, 2022

- 1) Number of exams completed – 92
- 2) Number of batches inaugurated - 170
- 3) Number of batches completed graduation day - 40

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