

DAESI SAMACHAR



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Director General's Message

MANAGE is making continuous efforts to ensure quality in implementing the DAESI scheme with the support from Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare, GOI. I am happy to share that new initiatives started under this scheme are widely appreciated by all the stakeholders. Pilot testing of the need based refresher trainings for already trained input dealers was major one in this direction.



This year we have extended the use of Management Information System (MIS) Portal to access the real time data of DAESI programme in all three levels. The MIS portal is now made accessible at SAMETI level as well. The positive impact of regular review meetings with SAMETI officials and facilitators is also yielding desirable results.

I am hopeful that the efforts to maintain the standard of the program will continue. This year we will focus to make much better use of MIS platform to ease the process of monitoring of DAESI and will extend the reach of refresher training to more number of input dealers. With this, we will be able to take another step to succeed in the vision of fulfilling the needs of farming community and their sustainable development.

Best Wishes

(P. Chandra Shekara)
Director General, MANAGE

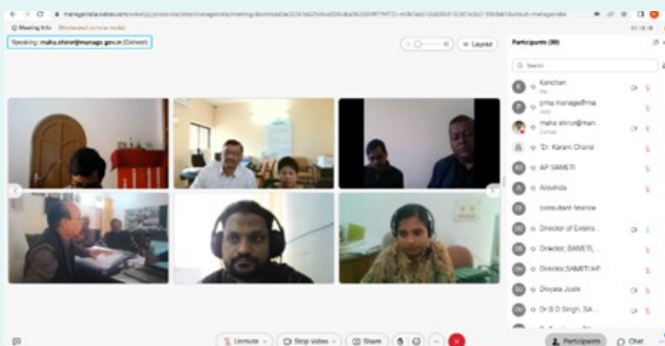
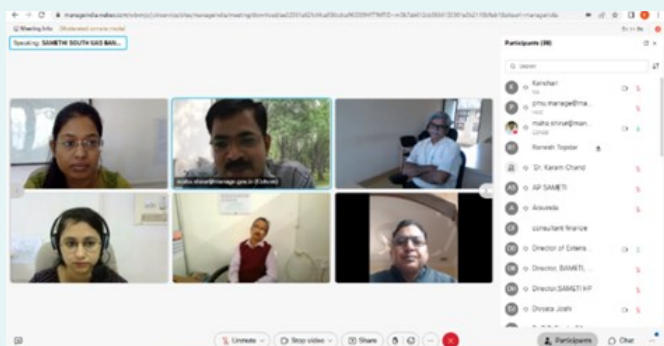
Online Review Meeting with SAMETI Officials

A review meeting was organized on 24.11.2022 at MANAGE (online) to discuss the progress and issues on implementation of DAESI Programme in all 22 states of the country implementing the DAESI Programme. The meeting was chaired by Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Deputy Director (Agricultural Extension) and Principal Coordinator (DAESI). SAMETI Director, State Nodal Officer from different states and consultants (DAESI) participated in the meeting.

At the outset, Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Principal Coordinator (DAESI) appreciated SAMETIs for working efficiently in implementation of DAESI programme. He highlighted the major issues regarding DAESI programme implementation in all the states related to attendance of the candidates, inclusion of socio-economically weaker section and women participation, timely submission of audited UC's, promptness in filling data on MIS portal, good quality photos of candidates and good action photographs with weekly reports, ensuring the timely release of funds by ATMA to the NTI.

In the meeting, the Directors and State Nodal officers also discussed issues pertaining to implementation of DAESI programme in their respective states. The Director, SAMETI Uttar Pradesh raised his concerns about modifications in MIS portal for reports generation, the Director SAMETI (Karnataka-North) suggested for including Director's signature in the DAESI Diploma Certificate which was well taken by the Principal Coordinator. The State Nodal Officer, Chhattisgarh and Maharashtra asked for change in the guidelines for selection criteria of the facilitator. The nodal officers from Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh and other states talked on revision of cost norms for the DAESI Diploma with immediate action. The Nodal Officer of Madhya Pradesh also urged for provision to allocate the funds directly to the NTI as ATMAs at the district level are not sending funds timely to the NTI. Directors/Nodal officers of some states such as Madhya Pradesh, Odisha and Karnataka North asked for provision to utilize unspent balance at the 50 percent at SAMETI 50 percent at MANAGE. Further, nodal officers from many states asked for allocation of funds for state level workshop to train district DAESI programme coordinator and facilitators. Dr. Shirur took note of all the suggestions given by the SAMETIs for seeking directions from ministry.

At the end of the meeting, Dr. Shirur assured the SAMETIs regarding all possible support from MANAGE and appealed SAMETIs to support DAESI programme implementation in effective way. The SAMETIs made commitments to expand the reach of DAESI batches by sending the prompt approval requests without compromising the quality of the programme, ensured proper monitoring and timely completion of the DAESI batches and to submit the pending AUCs at the earliest.



Inauguration and orientation session (online) by Principal Coordinator DAESI, MANAGE at Bheemarayanagudi, Karnataka (N)

Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Principal Coordinator, DAESI, MANAGE, participated in the commencement of DAESI batches held at AEEC, Bheemarayanagudi on December 14, 2022, and addressed DAESI Input-dealers of the 2022-23 Batch (TP No-2017 & TP No-2088) through virtual mode. Dr. Shirur's inaugural address emphasised the genesis of the DAESI programme, as well as the program's objectives and mandate. He also discussed the guidelines and various records that must be submitted during the course period for the program's implementation.

All input dealers were encouraged by the principal coordinator to work as Para-extension workers to transfer new technology to their contact farmers. He advised the input dealers to set up an extension section in their stores by stocking it with agricultural journals, information about government programmes and diverse crop-related books to make it easier for farmers to gain fresh knowledge. The deputy director also mentioned that MANAGE recently introduced gold, Silver and bronze certificates for those who secure 1st, 2nd and 3rd rank in exams. And encouraged the new students to work hard to succeed.

The meeting was chaired by Dr Shivanand Honnalli, facilitator DAESI. Ms. Shivaleela Patil, Facilitator DAESI, Dr D K Patil, Asst Prof Agroforestry and all 80 candidates attended the meeting.



Orientation training of newly recruited facilitators for DAESI programme

An orientation programme was held at SAMETI, Lucknow, UP on 22 November 2022 for newly recruited facilitators looking after the DAESI programme in different districts of Uttar Pradesh. The newly recruited facilitators were oriented about the importance of the DAESI programme for input dealers, coordination between facilitators and NTIs, the DAESI course and curriculum and updating the MIS portal, and implementing the DAESI programme.

The Agriculture Director (Training) addressed the input dealers and stressed the duties of facilitators. He also instructed the facilitators to include modern agricultural technologies in the course curriculum.

MANAGE representatives, Dr. Anand Singh oriented the facilitators on MIS portal and explained the Do's and Don'ts in MIS portal and Dr. Rajiv Chaudhry oriented them on records and assignments to be prepared in the diploma such as attendance register, success story, herbarium collection, sketch record, assignments etc.

Dr. Mukesh Srivastava, Ex-Director SAMETI Uttar Pradesh, provided a detailed orientation to the facilitators regarding their duties and responsibilities. He highlighted the major responsibilities of the facilitators providing publicity of the DAESI programme in the assigned district, liaison with agri-business companies and state governments, mobilisation of input dealers, identification of resource persons for sessions, updating data in MIS portal, submission of weekly reports and attendance etc., and all other activities assigned by ATMA/ NTIs with respect to the DAESI programme.

During the open session of the programme, the nodal officer from SAMETI Uttar Pradesh answered all of the participants' questions and thanked everyone for their active participation in the programme.



Journey of an input dealer to Agripreneur

My Journey as an agri input dealer started in the year 2016. After Completing B.Tech in Mechanical Engineering from National Institute of Technology, Nagpur. Being from a farming family, I have always wanted to return to my hometown and solve the farmer's problem. I began researching basic issues that our neighbourhood farmers were facing and devising solutions for them.

One major problem that farmers were facing was to sell their produce to co-operative societies who used to purchase the produce as per government decided Minimum Support Price (MSP). Since the Minimum Support Price of produce was higher than the local traders first priority was to sell the produce to government at Minimum Support Price as they would get better remuneration for the same produce.

However, the government has established standards for what constitutes Fair Average Quality (FAQ) produce, and only that is allowed will be purchased by the government. All other produce is rejected because farmers lack the necessary equipment to clean the produce and make it free from stones, mind cut grains under sized grains etc.

Therefore, the establishment of a grading plant with a pre-cleaner, a magnetic separator, and a gravity separator was necessary. The course curriculum provided by MANAGE, Hyderabad, along with various exposure trips and practical sessions, greatly assisted me in understanding the issue at hand and coming up with a precise solution.

After completing the necessary registrations, Paper work. Loan, approval from bank our grading plant finally sailed off in May 2022 and we are proud to say that we graded nearly 900 MT (Green Gram) and 500 MT of Bengal Gram for our farmers. Farmers were very happy with our new project as they were immensely satisfied with the cleaning process and after grading they would easily sell their produce to government.

The DAESI course provided me a platform to interact with various stakeholders involved in the establishment of the grading unit and I can proudly say that all these would not have been possible without my enrolment in DAESI Diploma Course.

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Overview of DAESI Program (As on 31-12-2022)

- ◆ No. of Candidates trained under DAESI Diploma 63640
- ◆ No. of Candidate enrolled in ongoing DAESI Diploma 21280

In the upcoming issue

- ◆ Union State Agriculture Minister, Shobha Karandlaje's address to the farmers and DAESI students
- ◆ Seminar on Strengthening capacity building of input dealers at BAMETI, Bihar
- ◆ Visit of Agri-Input dealers at MANAGE

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