

DAESI SAMACHAR



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Message

Two important factors for the development of agriculture are research and extension. In India, among the extension group, Agri-Input Dealers are one of the major sources of information on farming accessed by farmers. An efficient extension system capable of timely dissemination of need based farm technology among farming communities is vital for achieving sustained growth in agriculture.

I am very happy to see the progress in implementation of DAESI program in all the states over the last two months. Sensing the need for 'combined' batches, the DAESI team is working to allow enrolling license holders and non-license holders in a single batch. This will help to train remaining license holders and on the other side, there is more opportunity for additional DAESI batches in an NTI and more facilitators can be engaged in DAESI implementation.

I wish to see facilitators mobilizing more candidates for DAESI program in districts where there is a scope for more programs. The DAESI trained candidates have a big opportunity to Join hands with state department of agriculture/ATMA at their districts and serve as para – extension workers and to grow in their profession.

Best Wishes

(P. Chandra Shekara)

Director General

IN THIS ISSUE

- 1 Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India interacts with the DAESI candidates
- 2 Review Meeting with the DAESI facilitators of Himachal Pradesh
- 3 Webinar on progress and review of DAESI program and orientation to facilitators of Bihar and Uttarakhand
- 4 Training of DAESI Students on use of Krishi Sanjeevini Mobile Plant Health Clinic to farmers
- 5 Preparation of DAESI Handbook
- 6 Success Story of Software Engineer turned to agri-input dealer
- 7 Success story of Mr. Abhilash N from Karnataka

1 Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India interacts with the DAESI candidates

Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Ms. Shobha Karandlaje interacted with DAESI candidates on 26-09-2021 at AHRS-Bhavikere. The interaction was arranged when she was inaugurating the workshop on "Introduction of Cashew crop as climate smart agriculture crop". Mr. D S Suresh MLA, Tarikere, Mr. M K Pranesh Deputy Speaker Govt of Karnataka, Dr. M K Nayak Vice Chancellor of University of Agricultural and Horticultural Sciences (UAHS), Shivamogga, Dr. Lokesh Deputy Director of Agriculture, Tarikere, Mr. Nagarajappa Board Member UAHS and Dr. Pradeep, Scientist Organic Farming Research Centre were present on the occasion.



Ku. Shobha Karandlaje, Hon.ble Union Minister of state for agriculture interacting with DAESI candidates during the workshop on "introducing of cashew crops as climate smart agriculture crop".

MANAGE is implementing 40 DAESI programs in SAMETI-S Karnataka including the programs at DATC, Lingadahalli, OFRC- Shivamogga KVK Shivamogga and AHRS-Bavikere. The DAESI students of these four NTIs participated in the program and interacted with Union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. Dr. Pradeep from OFRC, Shivamogga and Mr. Ramachandrappa S.B. Facilitator of DATC, Lingadahalli batch explained about the implementation of DAESI program at their NTI and its importance to the Minister.

Ms. Shobha Karandlaje, Union Minister of State for agriculture and farmer's welfare inaugurated the exhibition put up by DAESI students. During the interaction with DAESI Students, she stressed the importance of use of more of organic inputs like biofertilizers, organic manures, vermicompost and asked them to plant more number biomass producing tree to mitigate climate change. Many candidates informed about the DAESI program in helping them to give correct advisories and recommend appropriate inputs to farmers and save their expenditure on agri-inputs.

2 Review Meeting with the DAESI facilitators of Himachal Pradesh

A DAESI review meeting was held at Kisan Bhavan in Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh on 8th October 2021. Director, SAMETI, HP invited all the DAESI facilitators to this meeting organized to give orientation on data entry in MIS portal and to discuss the issues related to DAESI implementation. The meeting was also aimed to discuss on how to implement the DAESI programme effectively in the state of Himachal Pradesh. Ms. Manisha Ohlan, Consultant, MANAGE, was present in the meeting to address the issues raised by the facilitators.

The meeting started with a brief introduction on the DAESI activity flow chart, timeline follow-up and MIS portal of DAESI by Ms. Manisha Ohlan. Later, Dr. Ashwini Dutta, Director, SAMETI, HP discussed with the facilitators of 2021-2022 batches to be held at each NTI. Dr. H.R. Thakur, Kullu; Dr. P.C. Sharma, Hamirpur; Dr. D.C. Dogra, Chamba; Dr. Y.P. Sharma, Mandi; Dr. B.L. Kapur, Palampur (Kangra); and Dr. B.S. Patyal, Bilaspur attended the meeting and requested to consider the following aspects during DAESI implementation:

- The amount for facilitators to be increased from Rs. 17,000/- to Rs. 25,000/-. It shall be communicated only after the approval from Ministry.
- Food bills to be increased from Rs. 75/- to Rs. 120/-. (Proposal sent to Ministry)
- The amount given to the resource person as TA should be transferred to field visits so that field visits can be conducted in other districts as well. (shall be examined)
- ATMA should be given Rs. 5,000/- so that they can mobilize the input dealers themselves
- In Himachal Pradesh, a committee should be formed to prepare Hindi literature for the DAESI programme.

- If necessary, each facilitator can receive a Hindi DAESI books published in Uttar Pradesh.
- Starting new batches is a problem at NTI-Chamba because the DDA is renewing licenses and dealers are not registering for the DAESI course. The issue is to be taken by Director, SAMETI, HP with DDA, Chamba.
- Dealers have reached saturation point in some districts. Furthermore, due to the hilly terrain, it is difficult to mobilize the dealers. As a result, HP can grant permission to mobilize 20-30 dealers will be put up to DG, MANAGE for approval.
- Private universities, such as Guru Kashi University in Punjab, are misleading dealers with online DAESI without focusing on quality of training which should be addressed to ensure the smooth operation of the DAESI programme.
- After the batches are completed, the NTIs have to keep all of the documents as per their record retention schedule under the provision of RTI Act.
- A quarterly meeting for the Director, SAMETI, HP and facilitators should be organized.
- Felicitation of dealers who are batch toppers should be encouraged with certificate by MANAGE (already implemented).

Status of batches in HP:

- NTI-Kangra: Next batch is ready and current batch is going to be end by 31st October 2021.
- NTI-Mandi: Next batch is ready and current batch is going to be end by November 2021.
- NTI-Chamba: Current batch is going to be end by November 2021.
- NTI-Hamirpur: Current batch has started in May 2021 so it will be end by May 2022.
- NTI-Kullu: Next batch is ready and current batch will be end by Mid-December 2021.
- It was informed to start all the new batches without waiting for completion of ongoing batches in all NTIs.



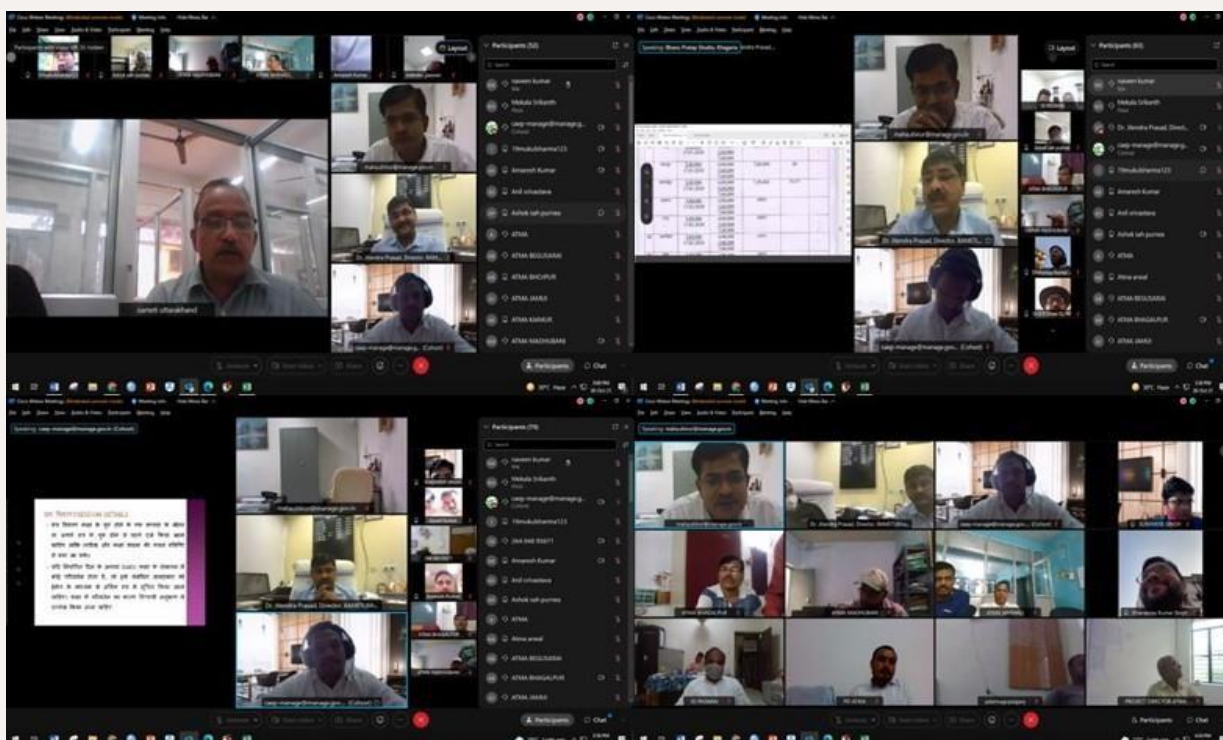
DAESI review Meeting with Consultant, MANAGE, Director, SAMETI and facilitators

3 Webinar on progress and review of DAESI program and orientation to facilitators of Bihar and Uttarakhand

The webinar was conducted on 30-10-2021 to review the progress of DAESI program in Bihar and Uttarakhand. The program was also planned to give orientation to all DAESI facilitators regarding the Do's and Don'ts of DAESI implementation and updating the details on the MIS portal. Dr. Jitendra Prasad, Director, BAMETI Bihar. Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Principal Coordinator, DAESI and Dr B.D. Singh State Nodal Officer, SAMETI Uttarakhand addressed the participants during the webinar.

The program started with a welcome address by Dr Shabbir Patel, Consultant DAESI and Dr. B.D. Singh Professor and State Nodal Officer, SAMETI, Uttarakhand with a brief presentation on the review and progress of DAESI program for the year 2019-20 and 2020-21 under the jurisdiction of SAMETI Uttarakhand. The nodal officer highlighted following points during his address

- Before attending the DAESI program, the dealers did not know about the proper recommendations about the use of pesticides and fertilizers but after attending DAESI classes in GB Pant University of Agriculture and Technology, Pantnagar, they are giving good advice to the farmers.
- There were no pending exams and all the dealers have received their certificates.
- The Audited Utilization Certificates is in processing stage and the unspent balance will be remitted back to MANAGE within a week after the review meeting



Screenshots on progress and review of DAESI program and orientation (Online) to facilitators of Bihar and Uttarakhand.

Dr. Jitendra Prasad, Director, BAMETI Bihar has given brief presentation on the review and progress of DAESI program for the year 2016-17, 2017-18, 2018-19 and 2019-20. There were no pending exams and all the dealers have received their certificates of the batches of financial year 2016-17, 2017-18 and 2018-19. For the year 2019-20, almost all the exams have completed but the certificates are pending with BAMETI and remaining four batches are still ongoing. In the year 2020-21, 38 CSPA batches are ongoing. The Director BAMETI requested for four classes in a week, so that the DAESI batches can be completed on time. However, for 2020-21 batches it was decided to continue with two classes only as it helps participants for maximum exposure to all crop seasons of the year. The Audited Utilization Certificate is in processing stage and the unspent balance will be remitted back to MANAGE within one week after the review meeting.

Dr. Shabbir Patel, MANAGE Consultant gave demonstration on the data entry of MIS portal of DAESI. He explained the different components of the MIS Portal i.e. Trainee Details, Session Details, Financial Details and Exam Results in MIS portal through live demonstration. Later he stressed the Do's and Don'ts in DAESI MIS portal and also clarified the doubts of the participants.

Dr. Mahantesh Shirur, Principal Coordinator, DAESI clarified that large number of dealers are awaiting in Bihar for the enrollment in the DAESI course. Those dealers can be informed by BAMETI and ATMA for their enrollment into the program. The parallel batches can be organized in same NTI for conducting a greater number of batches in Bihar state. He also stressed that the DAESI program should be seen as a scheme to help the farmers by converting the agri input dealers as competent para extension workers by imparting knowledge on various topics like soil test, treatment, judicious use of pesticide and bio-based input use through good agro advisories. He suggested engaging the facilitators who take interest in running DAESI programs effectively. The new facilitators must be recruited by following new DAESI guidelines so that entry of data in MIS database is well maintained.

4 Training of DAESI Students on use of Krishi Sanjeevini Mobile Plant Health Clinic to farmers

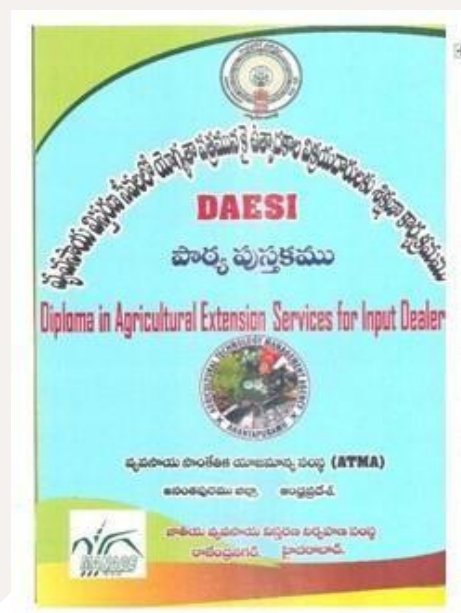
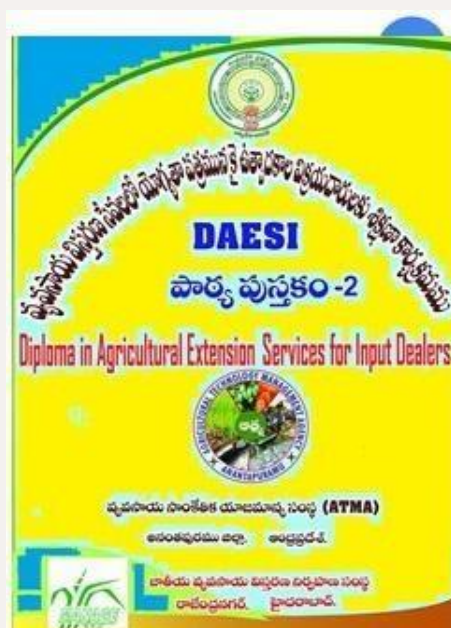
DAESI students of DATC Hallikere Bhadravathi (Tq) Shivamogga District. (TP No. 1549) are trained by Department of Agriculture Shivamogga Dist. on how to use Krishi Sanjeevini Mobile Plant Health Clinic. DAESI trained input dealers are trained in extending soil testing facility for Organic carbon content, Acidic & Alkalinity of soil, Micro and Macro Nutrients status of soil, quality of fertilizers. The DAESI candidates are trained to offer the solutions to the farmers on pest and disease incidences observed in farmers' fields. The trainees are trained to recommend soil test-based recommendation on fertilizer application is sent to on their WhatsApp in Shivamogga Dist.



DAESI students conducting awareness program on use of Krishi Sanjeevini Mobile Plant Health Clinic to farmers

5 Preparation of DAESI Handbook

Sri Adinarayana G, Facilitator of ATMA-Ananthapuram with the support of Sri Maddileti, Project Director, ATMA has prepared DAESI handbook in two volumes each of 300 pages for distributing to all the input dealers of ATMA-Ananthapuram DAESI Program. The DAESI Handbook in Vernacular Language (Telugu) covers all the course curriculum mentioned in the DAESI Guidelines and it is very much helpful for the input dealers to refer the handbook and to provide solutions to the farmers.



DAESI Hand Book Volume-I and Volume-II in Telugu Language for distribution among candidates

6 Success Story of Software Engineer turned to agri-input dealer.

Sandeep Reddy Vinta was working as a Software Engineer in Oracle for about seven years. With interest in farming, he decided to leave his white collar job in 2019 and to join in his family Agri Business. But he was aware that he has not much knowledge in agriculture and agri-inputs. Later he heard about DAESI training course through nearby agriinput dealers and joined DAESI Training in August 2019 with an intention to gain knowledge in agriculture that helps to prescribe scientific advices to farmers.



Sandeep Reddy Vinta giving advisory services to farmers

DAESI Training Program introduced Mr. Reddy to subjects like soil analysis, plant nutrients and advantages of integrated nutrient management, which helped him in recommending right fertilizers to the farmers with more organic fertilizers to improve soil fertility and sustainable production. The Acts like Seed Act, Pesticide Act and Fertilizer Control Order and consumer protection helped in handling/dealing with problems faced in the business, maintenance of records properly and knowing the rights of the dealers when we are facing any adversities.

Integrated pest and weed management sessions inspired Mr. Sandeep Reddy in using best measures to control pests before using chemical solution for the problem. Understanding the benefits of beneficial insects helped him in ensuring recommendation of pesticide chemicals causing less damage to beneficial insects. Field exposure visits to soil testing laboratory, bio control laboratory and seed testing laboratory were helpful to him in knowing intricacies of testing laboratory and how they help in maintaining best standards in product quality. Visiting Research stations helped Mr. Sandeep Reddy in knowing best practices in choosing seeds, chemicals and practices in agriculture. He gained broad knowledge in all kinds of crops – Cereals, Millets, Horticulture, Pulses and other crops. Interacting with many scientists from KVK, Research stations across Andhra Pradesh helped him in gaining knowledge on latest practices and getting their contact was helpful in building strong networking.

After the completion of the training program, he started online business in trade where he guides farmer's problems using call center and delivered inputs over digital payments. He started educating the farmers using social media like Youtube, Facebook and Whatsapp. He established a Youtube channel with name "Mohan Traders Adoni" and uploaded close to 400 videos on different crops where he recommends the pest management and agronomic practices on different crops like cotton, chilli, paddy and other commercial crops. Now he is confidently recommending the farmers best practices to be followed in INM, IPM both personally and through social media channels.

He expressed his gratitude too Sri Adinarayana G, Facilitator of DAESI for his efforts in disseminating technology through eminent resource persons and planning field visits to different location. He credits Project Director and DPD of ATMA, NTI of this program, SAMETI Guntur and Ministry of Agriculture for providing financial support under CSPS through MANAGE, Hyderabad for his growth and success in agriinput business.

7 Success story of Mr. Abhilash N from Karnataka

Mr. Abhilash N from Chitradurga of Karnataka state graduated with a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering and after the completion of the degree opted to continue his family agri business and turned to agri input dealer. His father started the Amruth Organic Fertilizers and now the shop is being run as a company by Mr. Abhilash by offering multiple services to farmers besides selling the fertilizers. Being a Mechanical Engineer, he doesn't have enough knowledge on agriculture related activities, but he had keen interest in learning agriculture, especially organic farming. After knowing about the DAESI course offered by MANAGE through social media, he joined the DAESI program in the year 2019-20 at Myrada, Holalker, Chitradurga of Karnataka State.

Before joining DAESI training.

Before joining DAESI class Mr. Abhilash felt very difficult to understand the agricultural information and to guide the farmers

After joining DAESI training

After joining DAESI course, Mr. Abhilash gained the knowledge on package of practices of various crops. The sessions on soil testing, pest and disease management, weed management, use of bio pesticides and topics on organic agriculture helped him to have adequate knowledge about agriculture. The field visits to different institutions and progressive farmer fields helped him to see the various technologies and innovations adopted in agriculture. These exposure visits helped him a lot in understanding the agriculture in a practical way.

The One-year Diploma helped Mr. Abhilash to be able to conduct trainings to farmers related to organic farming, bio pesticides, bio fertilizer and importance of soil testing to those who visit his company.



Mr. Abhilash explaining the activities of Amruth organic fertilizers to the farmers

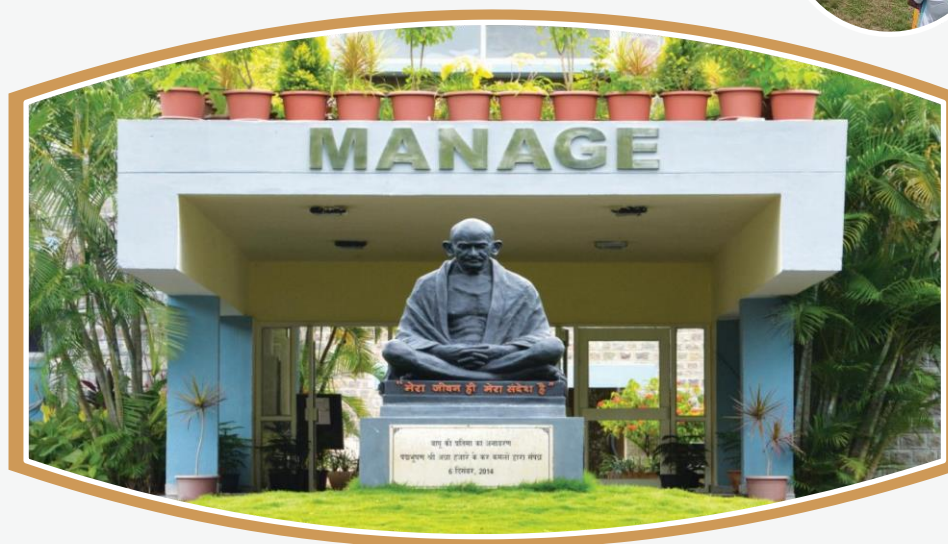
After the completion of the course, he improved his knowledge and gained confidence in handling the business. He started soil testing facility at his company that helps the farmers to know about nutrient status of the soil. Based on the results of soil sample analysis, he was suggesting the fertilizers to the farmers. He also arranges regular workshops/ training in his factory and nearly 150 to 200 farmers and DAESI candidates visits the factory After the completion of the course, he improved his knowledge and gained confidence in handling the business. He started soil testing facility at his company that helps the farmers to know about nutrient status of the soil. Based on the results of soil sample analysis, he was suggesting the fertilizers to the farmers. He also arranges regular workshops/ training in his factory and nearly 150 to 200 farmers and DAESI candidates visits the factory.

Overview of DAESI Program.

- 1) Number of SAMETI's, implementing DAESI program - 21
- 2) Total number of candidates enrolled – 63,800
- 3) Candidates appeared in final examination – 45,880
- 4) Number of ongoing batches - 454
- 5) Number of candidates enrolled in ongoing batches – 18,160
- 6) Certificates Issued –37,204
- 7) Total Programs completed - 1181

Progress in the month of September - October

- 1) Number of exams completed - 100
- 2) Number of batches inaugurated - 40
- 3) Number of batches completed graduation day - 23



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