

MANAGE NYPDP Diary No. 80

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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. Sahana Nishmath A

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



Sahana Nishmath

Introduction

On the first day, Dr Saravanan Raj' session on the scope and job opportunities in agricultural extension opened my mind to the vast professional landscape of this field.



Key Learnings

The following days were filled with interactive sessions, group activities, and discussions that strengthened both academic understanding and practical skills. One of the most exciting parts was the group activity where we collaborated with students from different states. I had the responsibility of drafting the final content on chart paper, which boosted my confidence and made me realise my ability to contribute effectively in team settings.



The outdoor visit to the Statue of Equality was refreshing and educational, offering both cultural exposure and mental relaxation. Each day ended with meaningful interactions, reinforcing both learning and personal growth.

The five-day training experience was enriching, motivating, and transformative. It was not just a training program but a journey of self-discovery, learning, and confidence building. The well-organized sessions, excellent coordination by Dr Rahalya and the supportive environment created a positive learning atmosphere throughout the programme.

Before attending the program, my understanding of agricultural extension was largely theoretical. After the training, I clearly understood the real meaning, purpose, and wide career scope of extension education. I realised that extension is not just about transferring technology but about empowering farmers, strengthening communities, and enabling sustainable development.

The atmosphere during the training was energetic, friendly, and intellectually stimulating. The seating arrangement, personalised name placards, refreshments between sessions, and the supportive presence of faculty created a professional yet comfortable environment that encouraged participation.



What I Appreciate

What I appreciated most was the inspirational guidance of Dr Saravanan Raj, the excellent coordination by Dr Rahalya, the interactive teaching approach, and the warm hospitality including excellent accommodation and food.



Peer Interaction and Networking

Interacting with participants from different states broadened my outlook and helped me understand diverse agricultural challenges and solutions across India. The group activity strengthened friendships, and creating a separate WhatsApp group helped us stay connected beyond the program.



Most Significant Takeaway

My most significant takeaway is the confidence I gained. I was usually a back-bench student, hesitant to speak. But during this programme, I sat in the first row from Day 1 to Day 5, actively responded to questions, and on the final day, I voluntarily went forward to give feedback in front of 50 participants and faculty. This change in me is something I will always cherish.



I plan to apply the knowledge gained in extension education by pursuing opportunities in extension services, development projects, and community-based agricultural programs. The programmes has prepared me to approach my career with clarity, confidence, and purpose.



"The NYPDP at MANAGE transformed me from a silent learner into a confident professional, opened my eyes to the true meaning of agricultural extension, and connected me with a network of passionate young leaders across the nation."



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