

Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI)

MANAGE launched a one-year "Diploma in Agricultural Extension Services for Input Dealers (DAESI)" in 2003, in order to impart relevant agricultural knowledge to the dealers to transform them into para-extension professionals and enable them to address the field level problems of farmers.

Program Objectives

- To orient the input dealers on location-specific crop production technologies.
- To build capacity of input dealers in efficient handling of inputs.
- To impart knowledge about laws pertaining to regulation of agricultural inputs.
- To make input dealers an effective source of farm information at the village level (one stop shop) for the farmers.

Methodology

DAESI has been designed in such a way that the input dealer can pursue the program without adversely affecting his day-to-day business. The program is spread over a period of 48 weeks, with 40 classroom sessions and 8 Field visits to various institutions and farmers' fields. The classroom sessions and field visits are conducted on Sundays or local market holidays. The field visits are intended to acquaint the input dealers with location-specific field problems and expose them to relevant technologies. They are trained to identify pests, diseases and nutritional disorders. Study material is provided in local language and multi-media instructional devices are used in the classrooms.

Evaluation

The performance of the input dealers is evaluated based on bi-monthly quizzes, half-yearly and annual examinations and a final practical examination comprising of skill demonstration, identification of specimens of pests, diseases and nutritional disorders followed by a viva-voce. Each candidate should attend atleast 64 class room sessions and atleast (6) field visits to qualify for appearing for the final examination. The candidate who secure minimum 40 per cent marks are eligible for award of Diploma.

Course Fee:

MANAGE launched the program on self-financing basis (100% course fee paid by candidate) with a course fee of Rs.20,000/- per input dealer. Based on the impact of the program, Govt. of India has made DAESI as Central Sector Plan Scheme (CSPS) in the month of October 2015, in which the course fee is subsidized to the extent of Rs.10,000/- per input dealer.

Program Implementation:

As per the guidelines, MANAGE is the National level Implementing agency, whereas SAMETI is the Nodal agency at State Level. In-turn SAMETI organizes the program through various Nodal Training Institutes such as SAUs, Agricultural Colleges, KVKs, ATMAs, DATC/FTCs and NGOs etc. at District Level.

Fund Utilization:

DAESI launched as Central Sector Plan Scheme from the year 2015-16 onwards. From the year 2004-05 to 2014-15 it was organized as Self-financed program without any funding support of Govt. of India. The details of fund utilized from the year 2015-16 to 2018-19 are given below.

Sl.No.	Year	Fund Utilised (Rs in Lakhs)
1.	2015-16	104.50
2.	2016-17	272.20
3.	2017-18	594.60
4.	2018-19	1076.00

The details of the DAESI program is given in the link :
<https://www.manage.gov.in/daesi/daesi.asp>