Agricultural Extension Services

What is Agricultural Extension Services?

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- Agricultural extension is now a common activity in most countries of the world, and it is a basic element in programmes and projects formulated to bring about change in rural areas.
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- AES are aimed at implementing projects for change in the agricultural sector collaborating with the farmers.
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- Extension services are carried out by extension workers or extension agents.
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- Extension agents helps in promoting agricultural productivity, enhancing food security, improving rural livelihoods and promoting agriculture as an engine of pro-poor economic growth.
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What are main objectives of Agricultural Extension services?

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- To transmit the latest technical knowledge to farmers.
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- To provide feedback from farmers to extension officers / scientists on problems and constraints in agriculture.
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- To enhance professional competence of extension functionaries.
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- To strengthen linkage amongst farmers, extension officers and researchers.
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- To motivate farmers for overall development.
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What are government initiatives on AES?

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- **Central government:** The National Institute of Agricultural Extension Management is an apex national institute set under the Ministry of Agriculture.
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- It assists the different organizations in effective management of their agricultural extension and other agricultural management systems.
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- **State governments:**The State Agricultural Department has also established various centres for the training of extension personnel.
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- SAMETI is an autonomous State level institution, which is responsible for the project implementation of various line departments as well as the farming community.
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- **Local governments:**For strengthening agricultural extension and transfer of technology to farmers, farmers clubs are being formed in most of the village.
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- These clubs consist of innovative farmers, progressive farmers and farmers' interest groups (FIGs). One innovative farmer of each club acts as the convener or contact person.
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In what way farmers are benefited from AES?

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- In helps farmers to plan a detailed agricultural project or programme to succeed.
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- It introduces new technology which are around the globe, for an innovative and productive farming.
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- It is act as a powerful tool when combined with price incentives, input supply, credit, seed multiplication.
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- It act as an intermediary link between agricultural development

institutions such as research institutes, universities, colleges of agriculture and target groups
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- The agricultural extension services mainly concentrated on to strengthen the agricultural system by empowering farmers in terms of health, education, livelihood and income.
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