



Savitribai Phule Pune University
(Formerly University of Pune)
**Department of Adult, Continuing
Education and Extension**

One Day National Seminar on

**Adult Education and Extension
Programmes in India: Current
Paradigms and Future Prospects**
(On the eve of Dr. Balachandra Phadke Birth
Anniversary)

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About the Seminar

Universities in India have a role to cater to the needs of the society and they have a moral and social obligation to improve the wellbeing of the communities. The ivory tower concept of the universities should change and the intellectuals apart from contributing to teaching and research should concentrate on extension as well. The wisdom and technical expertise of the university teachers should help the community to grow on right paths and if the intellectual community keeps quiet while their services are largely needed by the society there is no meaning and relevance for their existence at all. The UGC has been guiding and advising the universities from time to time to attach more importance to extension work apart from teaching and research. The third dimension aims at extending knowledge and institutional resources to the community development. The objectives of extension are to assist people to discover and analyze their problems and needs, to develop leadership among people and help them in organizing groups to solve their problems and to disseminate information based on research and practical experiences to the people. As Jawaharlal Nehru points out 'if the Universities discharge their duties adequately then they are well with the nation and people'.

Each Department has its role to play in extension work in the university. Several departments representing arts, natural and physical sciences, engineering can think of on extending their research outputs and developments in their respective disciplines to the community in a phased manner. For example, the Department of Adult and Continuing Education can do extension activities by adopting the nearby villages for literacy and continuing education, motivating the dropouts, neo-literates to participate in the centers, organizing locally relevant income generating programmes, undertaking action research projects, preparing low cost teaching aids, pamphlets, books useful to the learners, supporting the local government and non-government agencies is promoting health education, agriculture, cottage industries, cultural activities, encouraging the

community to participate in the development programmes, organizing special programmes touching upon HIV, AIDS, involving students to provide academic and vocational guidance and collaborating with other departments of the university in organizing community based programmes. It can also conduct experimental centers and evolve different models of teaching, methods of organizing the activities and play a leadership and coordination role in involving the other departments. The Departments of Adult, Continuing Education and extension can concentrate upon conducting co-curricular and extra-curricular activities such as debates, essay writing and elocutions competitions, drawing posters, organizing extension lectures at school and community levels. It can popularize the concept of small family norm, explain the aspects of reproductive system gender issues, etc. It can start guidance and counselling centre for college students and community.

While carrying out the extension activities, the universities are likely to face a lot of problems like financial support, busy academic schedule, lack of extension connected infrastructural facilities such as vehicle, public address system, mobile tent, film projector, generator supply, lack of community support particularly local leaders, women due to social inhibitions, elderly people due to traditional beliefs, attitudes lack of proper accommodation at the village level, constraints of official timings, semester pattern, lack of commitment on the part of the students to continuously participate in the extension activities. Sometimes arts students are likely to evince more interest in shramadan activities, clean and green programmes and social issues etc., in relation to the science students. However as the situation stands, the universities have acute shortage of finances, they do not have specific budget from UGC or State Government for extension works separately for the university, colleges and they lack specific guidelines and support from sister departments. All these issues should be cleared beforehand and the Departments should uniquely work out action plan for extension. The teachers, students, non-teaching staff who come forward enthusiastically should be matter. There may be

different universities and colleges in a locality and duplication of work should be avoided.

To conclude, each university has to strive to make an institutional commitment to the principle and practice of community development within the academic milieu and to communicate that commitment to its students, employees and to the public at large. Let the universities realize and discharge their social obligation to the community and let the institutions of higher learning heralds, symbolize and contribute to the new development strategies.

At this backdrop, a one day national seminar will be organized by the Department of Adult, Continuing Education and Extension, Savitribai Phule Pune University on 13th May, 2015. The seminar shall deliberate upon the issues and problems of the extension programmes and seek to contribute meaningfully to the discourse on extension development in the light of contextual and new paradigms in reaching the larger community.

Aim

The aim of the one-day National Seminar is to discuss issues concerning the adult education and extension programmes in India and explore alternatives. It shall also endeavour to critique the existing models of development and make suggestions

Objectives

1. To assess the current practices and trends in adult education and extension programmes.
2. To reaffirm the roles of institutes, colleges, government and NGOs in Adult Education and Extension Programmes
3. To review the existing programmes of adult education and extension
4. To evolve new paradigms and strategies to promote adult education and extension programmes in the country.

Themes of the Seminar

1. Concept, stages and obstacles of adult education and extension

2. Institutional mechanism which support extension for sustainable development
3. Essential components for social, economic political and cultural development
4. Development of communication skills: An Extension Perspective
5. Adult and Extension Education Vs Quality of Life
6. Emerging Technology and Extension
7. Globalisation and Adult Education
8. Public and Private Partnership in Extension Programmes

Participants

The participants include Academicians, Researchers, Faculty of SRC/JSS, NGOs, Government functionaries others who are working for adult education and extension services.

Travel and Hospitality

The organizers will not provide the travel expenses. We encourage the participants to explore their own sources for travel and hospitality. However, the organisers will provide accommodation and boarding with prior intimation.

Mode of submission of Papers

The participants are requested to submit the papers only on the themes mentioned above. An abstract (not exceeding 300 words) of the paper should reach the coordinator of the seminar on or before 10th May 2015 by an e-mail attachment. The abstract / full length paper must contain the title of the paper and affiliation of author(s) and keywords. Papers are to be submitted by mail to drpv Gupta@aol.in.

About the Department

Ya Kriyawan Sa Pandita (learned person is one who is ceaselessly active) is the motto of the University of Pune, which was established in 1949. Since its inception, the University of Pune has placed the objective of 'Social Commitment' on the top of its agenda for attaining excellence in higher education. The Centre for Continuing Education established in

1972 was upgraded as the Department of Adult, Continuing Education, as a result of University Grants Commission's Policy (1977). Following the University Grants Commission's Policy (1977), Government of India launched the National Adult Education Programme (NAEP) on October 2, 1978. The responsibility and the vital role given to the Universities in the NAEP was very much instrumental in upgrading the Centres for Continuing Education in various Universities. This trend was accepted by the authorities at University of Pune. Other programmes such as Population Education, Planning Form and Jan Shikshan Nilayams were started and implanted through the university and colleges with the assistance of the University of Pune and University Grants Commission. Lifelong Learning as the cherished goal of the educational process which presupposes universal literacy, provision of opportunities for youth, housewives, agricultural and industrial workers, professionals and other disadvantaged groups of the society to continue the education of their choice at the pace suited to them is one of the main objectives of the University. The Department recognised the need for providing quality education by up gradation of skills of the learners in tune with the developmental needs of the individual and the society. An indispensable endeavour toward enhancing the human resource is to develop strategies for creating an effective learning environment for a Knowledge society. The department has resolved itself to work on some socially important areas viz. National Integration, Women Empowerment, ICT, Senior Citizens, Unorganized Workers, NGOs, Tribal Development, Youth Education, Entrepreneurship & Employment, Counselling, Literacy, Adolescence Education and Lifelong Learning.

Contact Person

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