



Aspirations of students of open agriculture education centres towards Agri- entrepreneurship in Nandurbar district

P.L. PATEL AND S.V. SUPE

See end of the article for authors' affiliations

Correspondence to :

P.L. PATEL

Department of
Extension Education,
College of Agriculture,
Shahada, NANDURBAR
(M.S.) INDIA

ABSTRACT

At present so many rural youth are students of open and distance education and are living in rural areas having different aspirations, habits and values of life. The development of personal, social, economical and spiritual aspects of these students are possible, only when their aspirations, habits and values of life are recognized early and guided properly. Therefore, in this study, aspirations regarding agri- entrepreneurship of the rural students were considered and conducted in open agriculture education centres located in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra which would be useful to the agencies involved in the development of them. The exploratory design was used and the data from 120 open agriculture education centres students were collected with the help of interview schedule. The findings emerged out of the present investigation was that the half of the respondents had high level of aspiration about agri-entrepreneurship and it has been revealed that majority of the respondents were aspired as "Yes" with the statements that, to start own agribusiness.

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INTRODUCTION

Learning is a the process by which a person changes his behaviour through his own efforts and abilities (self activity). The educational system in India over the past few thousand years been changed from time to time because of the socio-political changes. Mass education and democratization of education are of relatively recent origin. This need based mass education cannot be managed by the conventional system of education due to its limited resources and constraints. This has generated an alternate mode for managing need based mass education through some non-formal approach. This approach was known earlier as correspondence education. Later on, it was named as 'Distance education'. Finally, it was given a flavour of 'Openness and is now renamed as 'Open and Distance Education System.' At present so many rural youth are student of Open and distance education system who are living in rural areas having different needs, aspirations, habits and values of life. The development of personal, social, economical and spiritual aspects of these students are possible, only when their needs,

aspirations, habits and values of life are recognized early and guided properly. Therefore, in this study, aspirations regarding agri- entrepreneurship of the rural students were considered and which would be useful to the agencies involved in the development of them.

There are less number of studies in this area of research in Maharashtra. Hence, an attempt has been made in this study to know the aspirations of the students of open agriculture education centre towards agri-entrepreneurship in Nandurbar district.

METHODOLOGY

The study was conducted during the year of 2010-2011 at open agriculture education centre affiliated to Yeshwantrao Chavan Maharashtra Open University, Nasik and located in Nandurbar district of Maharashtra state. In Nandurbar district there are two open agriculture centres, one at Shahada and another is at Nandurbar Tahsil.

The exploratory research design of social research was used for the present study. For selection of population of study, only the total

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