**Philosophy of Extension Education**

The word “Philosophy” has a wide range of meanings. It is the pursuit of wisdom, a body of general principles or laws of a field of knowledge. Essentially philosophy is a view of life, wisdom or knowledge and its various components. It is a body of general principles of laws of a field of knowledge, activities, etc., such as a philosophy of life or philosophy of extension work. The practical implication is that the philosophy of a particular field would furnish the principles or guidelines with which to shape or mould the programmes or activities relating to that discipline. The philosophy of extension education is based on the hypothesis that the rural people are capable, intelligent and willing to change their situation.

The philosophy of extension education has been interpreted in many ways by various authors and some of them are as follows:

**According to Ensminger (1962)**

(1) Extension is educational for all village people.

(2) Extension is changing the knowledge, skill and attitude of the people.

(3) Extension is teaching people what to want, as well as how to work out ways of satisfying these wants and inspiring them to achieve their desires

(4) Extension is “helping people to help themselves”.

(5) Extension is “learning by doing and seeing is believing”.

(6) Extension is development of individual and their society.

(7) Extension is living relationship, respect and trust for each other.

(8) Extension is working in harmony with culture of the people.

(9) Extension is working together to expand the welfare and happiness of people.

(10) Extension is a two-way channel

(11) Extension is a continuous process educational process in which both learner and teacher contribute and receive.

**According to Kelsey and Hearne (1967)**

The basic philosophy of extension education is to teach people how to think, not what to think. Extension’s specific job is furnishing the inspiration, supplying specific advice and technical help, and counseling to see that the people as individuals, families, groups and communities work together as a unit to solve their problems. Extension workers work with people to help them develop themselves and achieve personal superior personal wellbeing.

**According to Mildred Horton**

1. The individual is supreme in a democracy

2. The home is the fundamental unit in a civilization

3. The family is the first training group of the human race

4. The foundation of any permanent civilization must rest on the partnership of man and land (nature).

**According to Dahama (1965)**

1. Self-help

2. People are the greatest resources

3. It is a cooperative effort

4. It has its foundation in democracy

5. It involves a two-way channel of knowledge and experience

6. It is based on creating interest by seeing and doing

7. Voluntary, co-operative participation in programmes

8. Persuasion and education of the people

9. The programme is based on the attitude and values of the people

10. It is a never ending process