

Agriculture Education: Opportunities, Challenges and Reform Needs

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Agriculture

- Agriculture Provided Employment of more than 65% of economically active population
- More than 35% of country's GDP and 13% of the foreign trade
- Keeping this view in mind Agriculture has 1st priority till
- the 8th 5yrs plan

Agriculture Education

History

- Agriculture Development started with introduction of improve
- breed/ varieties (Jang Bahadur/Palace)
- Established Agriculture Council (Agriculture Office) in 1979 BS
- By 2010 BS about 50 Agriculture Graduate train from foreign countries
- Agriculture School was established in 2014 BS and started to produce mid level manpower in Agriculture
- This school is upgraded into Ag College in 2025 (JT under MoA)
- In 2029 this school comes under TU umbrella
- In 2030 this college transferred to Rampur (as IAAS) and started undergraduate program (B. Sc. Ag)
- At this movement the institute offer several Graduate course (Master and Ph. D. in different subjects)
- In 2000, with the vision of a group of agriculturist HICAST was established and producing Agricultural manpower (B Sc and MS) Purwanchal University

Existing Manpower

- The existing Manpower in Ag. is great asset of the country
- More than 4000 Agriculture graduate produce from Nepal
- Large number of graduate also from foreign universities
- Internal resources and foreign aid helps in HR development
- Large number of Agriculture graduate also migrated in other countries

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Opportunities

Employment Opportunity

- Govt (DOA, DOLS), >600 Ag graduate in DOA
- Semi. Govt Organization (Seed/fert, companies, Tea Estate/corporation etc)
- NARC >800 Agriculture graduate in NARC
- I/NGOs (more than 30 INGOs and several NGOs)
- Banks.
- Academic Institute etc

Self Employment

- Agro-vet
- Seed Company/ Buisness
- Agro-base Industries
- Commercial Farming

Agriculture has role on

- Conflict management
- Industrialization
- Agro-tourism
- Environment protection
- Food security
- Export promotion
- New donors are coming up
- Expending Res/Ext/Edu. institutes
- Expanding human capital
- Attraction of donor community in agriculture (for food security)
- Diverse agro-climate condition
- Opportunity to grab foreign student for higher education
- International employment: CGIAR organizations, UN organizations, IARC/Universities

Challenges/Limitations

- Small Holding/limited Ag. Land
- Traditional Farming
- Non Professional /commercial Farming
- Less diversification of service provider

- Limited Resource Allocation in Agriculture
- Competitive market (globalization)
- Poor Institutional Capacities
- In sufficient local government participation
- Low priority on Agriculture
- Limited participation of private sector in agriculture

Challenge/Limitations (Agriculture Education)

- Brain drain/migration
- Limited opportunity for higher study (Brain Drain)
- Quality Education
- Social Value/perception
- Limited opportunity (Research/lab facility)
- Traditional thinking (service or target for abroad)

Scope

- Potential to Increase Yield
- Scope of Industrial Crops
- Scope of Horticultural Crops
- Livestock Development
- Boi- Diversity
- Vegetable Seed Production:
- Off Season Production Opportunity

Way Forward

- Recognize Agriculture as a profession
- Commercialization of Agriculture
- More resource allocation in Agriculture
- Improve Quality of education (in country)
- Established Agriculture University
- Reform curriculum based on market demand
- Introduce internship in universities education system
- Policy reform (pro education/check brain drain)
- Change social perception