

Original Research Article

<https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2020.903.248>

Promotion Strategies for Development of Agripreneurship in Rajasthan

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ABSTRACT

Unemployment became big problem for country because of increasing population and less availability of jobs. In this situation entrepreneurship is only option that can provide employment to people, government of India also promoting entrepreneurship by promoting different schemes and programmes. Present investigation is also based on entrepreneurship in agriculture field, in which researcher made an effort to present suggestions to promote and develop agripreneurship. This study was carried out in Rajasthan on agriculture graduates of three oldest and well established agriculture universities of Rajasthan and results of study represents that agripreneurship should be promoted by social system and government as important and respectful carrier option, quality of products should be superior and production should be in pace with quantity demanded in market, knowledge and education about policies, programmes and subsidies about agripreneurship should be provide to new entrepreneurs and agriculture graduates, legal formalities in establishment, loan, finance, certification of products should be less and easy an there is need to control corruption which is at every step were the major suggestions recommended by agriculture graduates for promotion of agripreneurship.

Keywords

Entrepreneurship,
Agripreneurship,
Agriculture
graduates,
Suggestions,
Promotion

Article Info

Accepted:
15 February 2020
Available Online:
10 March 2020

Introduction

India is one of the fastest growing economy and most powerful countries of world with world's largest youth population. Country is developing in extraordinary way and achieving different records in many fields at global platform. But on other side India is overpopulated country with unavailability of employment to people and rising inflation in

the prices that resulted as unsteady economy of country. So to overcome this adverse situation adoption of entrepreneurship is the ultimate option that can give self-employment to youth and improve the economic status of country by providing livelihood support. Small or large entrepreneurship has a pivotal role in Indian economy by creating business culture, job creation, economic growth, increasing national productivity, distribution

of economic power, balancing regional development and by providing avenues for creativity and idea generation. Entrepreneurship is need of time, people and national economy. Government also making efforts to promote entrepreneurship and to encourage people for entrepreneurship. There are a lot of opportunities to harness with availability of many sectors. The present study is providing suggestions to promote agripreneurship sector. India is agriculture based country with having more than 65 per cent population of country how now related with agricultural activities and they are more familiar with agriculture, so starting entrepreneurship activities from agriculture will be more successful than any other sector. Agripreneurship can give different new dimensions to agriculture and can take at higher levels, agripreneurship have potential to make agriculture a main economic activity of country and agriculture can become main economic activities sector of country.

Materials and Methods

The present study was carried out in Rajasthan to collect the suggestions for promotion and development of entrepreneurship from 180 agriculture graduates randomly selected from three oldest and well established agriculture universities of Rajasthan namely M.P.U.A.T., Udaipur, S.K.R.A.U., Bikaner and S.K.N.A.U., Jobner. The suggestions were collected through well prepared schedule, reliability of which was ensured by calculating reliability coefficient (0.77) through split half method. Collected information was statistically analysed by using appropriate statistical parameters and results are presented in organised format.

Results and Discussion

Agriculture is the back bone of Indian economy. Agriculture research and education

sector is also developing day by day and producing a very high number of agriculture graduates and post graduates but job and employment opportunities are not increasing. So, now it is time to focus on agripreneurship. Graduates in agriculture education are the individuals with good knowledge of agriculture. Agriculture graduates were asked to give suggestions for making agripreneurship more gainful, respectful and fulltime job provider activity. The obtained suggestions were analysed and presented.

Suggestions for establishment of agri- enterprise

Agriculture graduates provided suggestions based on their knowledge and experience gained during graduation for establishment of agri-enterprise. Analysis of data represents that “Agripreneurship should be promoted as a career by government and education institute” with MPS 100 was the suggestion provided by all the agriculture graduates and assigned first rank. Highest rank represents that suggestion was provided by highest number of agriculture graduates and vice-versa. Rank II was assigned to “Educate new entrepreneurs about different policies, programmes and subsidies related to entrepreneurship” that will be helpful to increase the adoption of agripreneurship with MPS 96.11.

Rank III was assigned to “Rural entrepreneurs should be provided adequate and timely financial assistance from finance institutions” with MPS 95.00 that fulfil the requirement of fund and helps to establish agri-enterprise. Rank IV, V, VI, VII, VIII, IX and X were assigned to “Present education system should develop time management capacity in students”, “Government should simplify its policies for agripreneurship”, “Present education system should provide specialization in agripreneurship”,

“Entrepreneur development cell should be established at university or district level to co-ordinate between different agencies for assisting entrepreneurs”, “Present education system should develop initiative taking ability”, “Present education system should develop risk taking ability” and “Present education system should develop creativity and innovativeness” with MPS 93.89, 92.78, 91.67, 86.11, 85.00, 82.78 and 71.67, respectively. Last rank XI was assigned to “Present education system should develop problem solving attitude” with MPS 66.11. Most of the agriculture graduates recommended that education system has important role in development of all the qualities in a student to become a successful entrepreneur to establish and manage his agri-enterprise successfully.

Suggestions for financial and infrastructure issues of agripreneurship

Finance is the basic requirement of any business, sometime if capital not available in time then it will become a serious problem for agripreneur. Other problems like non-availability in required quantity, high rate of interest, non-availability of infrastructure, etc., were the suggestions provided by agriculture graduates to overcome financial and infrastructure problems.

The decreasing order of MPS of all the suggestions provided by agriculture graduates were like 95.56, 57.22, 38.33 and 35.00 for which ranks I, II, III and IV were assigned for suggestions “Formalities in sanctioning loan should be less and quick”, “Government should provide relaxation in taxes for early period for newly established agri enterprise”, “Government should provide infrastructure facilities like- land, electricity, water, road, warehouse and storage houses etc. on subsidized rate” and “Creation of separate finance cell at finance institutions and banks for entrepreneurship”.

Suggestions related to management and technical issues of agripreneurship

Agriculture graduates based on their knowledge and experience from exposure to different agri-enterprises during educational tour, practical classes, RAWEP (Rural Agriculture Work Experience Programme) and industrial linkage programmes, provided some suggestions to overcome management and technical problems usually arise in agripreneurship.

Out of all recommendations “Agriculture graduates should be encouraged by exposed to various entrepreneurship development and supporting institutions” with MPS 92.78 was the mostly recommended suggestion by most of graduates and ranked first on the basis of highest MPS, successive ranks were allotted to next value of MPS in decreasing order. Rank II, III, IV, V, VI and VII was assigned to “Present education system should provide knowledge for commercial and legal aspects of business”, “Government should organise exhibition and fairs for entrepreneur and markets for promotion of agripreneurship”, “Agriculture graduates should be offered high quality training facilities, work shop, seminar and tour to improve their skill”, “Agriculture graduates should be exposed to modern technologies”, “Agriculture graduates should be encouraged by exposing them to various agri-enterprise”, “Agriculture graduates should have knowledge of latest packaging material” with MPS 87.22, 85.56, 85.00, 84.44, 63.89 and 63.33, respectively.

Marketing related suggestions for agripreneurship

Marketing is the main activity of any business. It includes most of the problems of business like competition, fluctuation in demand, supply and price of products etc.

Table.1 Suggestion related to establishment of agri enterprise

n = 180			
S.No.	Suggestion related to establishment of agri enterprise	MPS	Rank
1	Agripreneurship should be promoted as a career by government and education institutes	100.00	I
2	Educate new entrepreneurs about different policies, programmes and subsidies related to entrepreneurship	96.11	II
3	Rural entrepreneurs should be provided adequate and timely financial assistance from finance institutions	95.00	III
4	Present education system should develop creativity and innovativeness	71.67	X
5	Present education system should develop initiative taking ability	85.00	VIII
6	Present education system should develop problem solving attitude	66.11	XI
7	Present education system should develop risk taking ability	82.78	IX
8	Present education system should develop time management capacity in students	93.89	IV
9	Entrepreneur development cell should be establish at university or district level to co-ordinate between different agencies for assisting entrepreneurs	86.11	VII
10	Present education system should provide specialization in agripreneurship	91.67	VI
11	Government should simplify its policies for agripreneurship	92.78	V
MPS - Mean Per cent Score			

Table.2 Suggestions related to financial and infrastructure issues of agripreneurship

n = 180			
S.No.	Suggestions related to financial and infrastructure issues	MPS	Rank
1	Formalities in sanctioning loan should be less and quick	95.56	I
2	Government should provide relaxation in taxes for early period for newly established agri enterprise	57.22	II
3	Creation of separate finance cell at financial institutes and banks for entrepreneurship	35.00	IV
4	Government should provide infrastructure facilities like- land, electricity, water, road, warehouse and storage houses etc. on subsidized rate	38.33	III
MPS - Mean Per cent Score			

Table.3 Suggestions related to management and technical issues for successful running of agri enterprise

n = 180			
S.No.	Suggestion related to management and technical issues	MPS	Rank
1	Government should organise exhibition and fairs for entrepreneur and markets for promotion of agripreneurship	85.56	III
2	Agriculture graduates should be exposed to modern technologies	84.44	V
3	Agriculture graduates should be offered high quality training facilities, work shop, seminar and tour to improve their skill	85.00	IV
4	Agriculture graduates should be encouraged by exposing them to various agri-enterprise	63.89	VI
5	Agriculture graduates should be encouraged by exposed to various entrepreneurship development and supporting institutions	92.78	I
6	Agriculture graduates should have knowledge of latest packaging material	63.33	VII
7	Present education system should provide knowledge for commercial and legal aspects of business	87.22	II
MPS - Mean Per cent Score			

Table.4 Marketing related suggestions suggested by agrigraduates

n = 180			
S.No.	Suggestions related to marketing issues	MPS	Rank
1	Establishing marketing co-operative that provide market information and help entrepreneurs to sale their products	36.67	IV
2	Government should provide awareness about marketing programmes, export and import	81.11	II
3	Entrepreneur should design his product according to market demand and interest of customers	72.78	III
4	Quality and quantity of agri products and by-products are require to be competitive and efficient in local and international market	97.22	I
MPS – Mean Per cent Score			

To overcome marketing problems agriculture graduates have provided some suggestions out of which “Quality and quantity of agri products and by-products are require to be competitive and efficient in local and international market” with MPS 97.22 was of most important as it is related with quality of products that should be of prime importance, the next II, III and last IV rank was assigned to suggestions like “Government should

provide awareness about marketing programmes, export and import”, “Entrepreneur should design his product according to market demand and interest of customers” and “Establishing marketing co-operative that provides market information and help entrepreneurs to sale their products” with MPS 81.11, 72.78 and 36.67, respectively.

To conclude the study of all suggestions provided for each section of entrepreneurship, highly recommended suggestions on the basis of analysis are “Agripreneurship should be promoted as a career by government and education institute” was the most important suggestion because without basic training of agripreneurship graduates cannot be motivated to adopt agripreneurship as an occupation for their life. Second suggestion “Quality and quantity of agri products and by-products are require to be competitive and efficient in local and international market” only superior quality can leads to success because the product is only the thing which has to select or reject by its customers that reflects as success or failure of that particular enterprise. Third suggestion “Educate new entrepreneurs about different policies, programmes and subsidies related to entrepreneurship” recommends to increase the knowledge of agrigraduates which can create positive attitude and environment that will encourage the graduates to adopt the agripreneurship. The suggestions “Formalities in sanctioning loan should be less and quick” and “Rural entrepreneurs should be provided adequate and timely financial assistance from all finance institutions” represents that capital is prime requirement to run any business and timely availability and supply of capital ensure the proper management of all the activities of agripreneurship. Suggestions “Present education system should develop time management capacity in students”, “Present education system should provide specialization in agripreneurship”, “Present education system should provide knowledge for commercial and legal aspects of business” were made the recommendations to education system because education system has main role in constructing the attitude of students towards some activities, specially agriculture education institutes have to come forward and have to put extra efforts for development of agripreneurship through development of all

basic qualities of entrepreneur in students, provide all the knowledge related to every aspect like production, processing, value addition, marketing, technical, commercial, social and legal etc. related to agripreneurship. Education system has to provide all the technical knowledge and how now, technical skills, practical knowledge and real time experience through exposure and visit to different agri-enterprises, organising special trainings, workshop activities, guest lectures, success stories, etc. The suggestions “Government should simplify its policies for agripreneurship” and “Agriculture graduates should be exposed to various entrepreneurship development and supporting institutions” made recommendation to government for creating a favourable and positive environment for agripreneurship by simplifying the rules and regulations and by creating awareness and providing knowledge through exposing rural youth and agriculture graduates to successful enterprises that will encourage them to adopt agripreneurship as occupation and to solve the problem of unemployment by proving a chance to becoming job provider.

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How to cite this article:

Rajneesh, S. S. Sisodia, F. L. Sharma, Rajiv Bairathi and Jain, H. K. 2020. Promotion Strategies for Development of Agripreneurship in Rajasthan. *Int.J.Curr.Microbiol.App.Sci*. 9(03): 2167-2173. doi: <https://doi.org/10.20546/ijcmas.2020.903.248>