



Sardar Smruti Kendra : Introduction



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Introduction

Shri Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel who dared the Indian farmers to dream of being a part of the country's prosperity. For his uncompromising commitment to national integration, he earned the title of "Iron Man of India". His devotion and loyalty to his country, his duty to his fellow countrymen and all his fearlessness made him an iconic leader of our country. In agriculture, he supported the rights of peasants against both the former landlords and the state. In 1918, he led the '**No Tax Campaign**' and urged the farmers not to pay taxes after the British imposed heavy taxes after the floods in Kaira. In 1928, the farmers of Bardoli again faced massive tax hikes and the government seized their lands in retaliation when farmers were unable to pay the heavy taxes. His efforts played a vital role and the lands were returned to farmers. Due to his devotion to work for the farmers' rights and successful peasants' movement he got the name "Sardar". In the memories of iron man Sardar Patel for his valuable services to the farming community, the Gujarat Agricultural University established '**Sardar Smruti Kendra**' at Anand in 1975.

Motto

To empower the rural communities, particularly the underprivileged farmers and farm women. To improve their livelihood and to create better economic opportunities by Training.

Objectives

1. Promotion of advance agriculture science among the farming community
2. To impart need based training in agricultural and allied areas for farmers and farm women
3. Diffusion of modern technical knowledge in the farming community to know how they adopt the innovations and bring desired changes in knowledge, attitude, skill and performance
4. To establish direct contact of farmers & farm women with the agriculture scientists
5. To help in improvement in the agro-economic status of rural people & guidance given about value addition of farm products

Under the complex of Sardar Smruti Kendra there are three wings: -

(1) Museum (2) Information Center (3) Training center

Activities

1. To organize training programmes in agricultural and allied areas for the farmers, farm women and rural youth
2. To arrange a meeting between the farmers and the scientists for better co-ordination
3. To bring desirable changes in pertaining to knowledge, attitude and skill of farmers through organizing crop demonstration visit and also by interaction with progressive farmers
4. To publish agricultural research-based information in forms of leaflets, folders, booklets *etc.*
5. To suggest solutions to the problems of the farmers either personally or through correspondence
6. To motivate the farmers and farm women towards a new path for value addition of agriculture products
7. To provide the information about Sardar Patel and his contribution to the farming community through their exhibition gallery



Training method

Participation and cooperation are the two vital pillars of the **Sardar Smruti Kendra**. The participants are exposed to activities where learning take place through "*Do It Yourself*" approach. For training making more interactive and fruitful for farmers, use of audiovisual aids, games, case studies, field visits at progressive farmer's field helps in the



learning process. At the center, the positive environment creates in which farmers can identify their needs and priorities and with the help of scientific solutions provided by the scientists for their problems/ queries that help in improving the quality of their lives.

Facilities

To provide lodging and boarding facilities to the trainee's farmers and farm women, farmers hostel namely "***Tribhuvandas farmers hostel***" established in year 2015 by the university which is well equipped with all necessary requirements and with the accommodation capacity of 200 trainee's farmers.



Also to show Modern/Advance agricultural evolution and to give the feel of patriotism through Sardar Patel's life, exhibitions of Sardar Patel's life have been set at the center. Over all this centre known as "***Kheduto nu Yatradham***".

