INTRODUCTION

Agriculture constitutes the hub of India’s economic life and social and cultural ethos. Majority of the population lives in villages and derives the livelihood from agriculture. The decade immediately after independence and partition of the country can be viewed as a waterbed in the evolution and further strengthening of the system of agricultural education in India. It is a period studied with a number of commissions, committees and study teams which reviewed critically the prevailing agricultural situation in the country in general and the structure and functioning of the related teaching, research and extension institutions in particular.

As per as education is concerned, the University Education Commission was established under the chairmanship of Dr. S. Radhakrishnan the Philosopher and former President of the republic of India. It is this commission which made the far-reaching recommendation for establishing rural universities in India, patterned in the land grant system (LGS) of Agriculture Universities in the United States of America (USA). Thus, agricultural education received a pride and given ad epoch making direction for growth. The commission made a number of concrete suggestions for the overall organizational structure, management and functioning of these universities including arrangements for strengthening agricultural experimental station and involvement of faculty members and students in extension education and demonstration programmes.

The National Commission on Agriculture (1976) has indicated the weakness that existed in the agricultural universities as follows.”Lack of suitable text books and basic...