

## **Topic: INTRODUCTION OF HOME SCIENCE**

BA PART I, 1<sup>st</sup> PAPER, By: Dr. AMARJEET KUMAR, Home Science Department, Rohtas Mahila College, Sasaram.

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### **HISTORY OF HOME SCIENCE IN INDIA**

The teaching of Home Science in India has a short history. Between 1920 to 1940, under the British administration. Home Science referred to as domestic science, home craft or domestic economy was introduced in some schools & colleges. The Princely State of Baroda was one of the first to introduce home science in secondary school. The history of home science at College & University was made in 1932 at Delhi, in Lady Irwin College. Then in 1938 Madras University accepted home science at the degree level and the well-known & pioneering home science colleges in Chennai are the **Queen Mary's College and the Women's Christian College**, which appeared in the Indian horizon in 1942. **The Avinashilingam Home Science College** Coimbatore headed by Dr. Rajammal P. Devadas contributed greatly towards the expansion of this interdisciplinary course at various levels, starting from School to Ph.D. The Agricultural Institute of Allahabad had also started a Home Science Diploma Course in 1935 and it became a University Level Department in 1945. Other outstanding home science colleges, which have developed since 1950, are Universities at Coimbatore, Luthiana, Bombay, Udaipur & Tirupathi. Then in mid-1960's to 1970's Agricultural Universities recognized the need for teaching home science. **The**

**Home Science Association of India** had taken its roots at Baroda under the guidance of **Dr. Flemmie P. Kittrell, Dr. Leela Shah and Ms. Dorothy Pearson, in 1951. The first convention of the association met at Chennai in 1952 where the constitution of the Association prepared by Ms. Pearson of Women's Christian College, Chennai, was adopted.** The broad objectives of the Association are to raise the standard of home science education in schools and colleges and to make homes and families healthier and happier. The publication of the Association is The Indian Journal of Home Science. The Indian Home Science Association has been represented at the International Federation of Home Economics.

### **INTERDISCIPLINARY APPROACH**

A professional home scientist requires a combination of knowledge from several specializations. This interdisciplinary approach of home science has also increased over the years because not only have the professional roles changed their nature but also few have become possible for professional home scientists. The philosophy of home science has also changed to prepare individuals for professional roles rather than to prepare them only for home making. Today home science is aimed at preparing professional workers like teachers, nurses, dietitians, researchers, social workers, designers, administrators. etc. Therefore the interdisciplinary approach of home science has taken a new dimension.

- 1. Life Span Development or child development** has interdisciplinary connectors with child psychology, paediatrics, social work, extension, family welfare, adult education and nutrition.
- 2. Physiology** collaborates with physicians and specialists from different specialties like neurology, nephrology, cardiology, skin, orthopaedics etc.
- 3. Food, Nutrition and Health** has interdisciplinary collaboration with biochemistry, microbiology, dietetics, physicians and specialists in social medicine etc.
- 4. Home Management** is concerned with housing, management, interior designing, soil, structural engineering, energy, carpentry, furnishing etc.
- 5. Fundamentals of Textiles and Clothing** have interdisciplinary approaches to textiles chemistry, weaving, textile designing, fashion designing, garment production industries, and chemicals dyes etc.
- 6. Communication Skills** works in collaboration with media, advertising, extension and information dissemination.