

## A STUDY OF AICT APPLICATION USAGE PATTERN AMONG THE FARMING COMMUNITY STUDENTS OF AAU

**K. C. Kamani<sup>1</sup> and P. S. Parsania<sup>2</sup>**

1 Assistant Professor (Computer Science)SMC College of Dairy Science, AAU, Anand

2 Assistant Professor (Computer Science)College of FPT & BE, AAU, Anand

Email : pankaj\_paranaia@yahoo.com

### ABSTRACT

*ICT in agriculture offers a wide range of solutions to some agricultural challenges. It is seen as an emerging field focusing on the enhancement of agricultural development through improved information and communication processes. In this context, ICT is used as an umbrella term encompassing all information and communication technologies including devices, networks, mobiles, services and applications; these range from innovative Internet-era technologies and sensors to other pre-existing aids such as fixed telephones, televisions, radios and satellites. Many ICT interventions have been developed and tested around the world and in the country, with varied degrees of success, to help agriculturists improve their livelihoods through increased agricultural productivity and incomes, and reduction in risks. Against the environment of the ongoing ICT boom, this paper makes an effort towards study of AICT application usage pattern among the students of Anand Agricultural University, Anand (AAU) coming from the farming community.*

**Keywords:** ICT, AICT

### INTRODUCTION

In today's era, Agricultural Information Communication Technology (AICT) is very important for the farming community and Indian agricultural. Globalization and technological change processes that have accelerated in tandem over the past years have created a new global economy —Powered by technology, fueled by information and driven by knowledge. The emergence of this new global economy has serious implications for the nature and purpose of educational institutions

Today's world is a world of information explosion. This information explosion is taking place in such a fast speed that even a literate person is feeling as if he or she is illiterate being not able to cope up with such an information explosion. Here the question arises how is one to cope up with it? The answer is, AICT using Information Technology (IT) that can help in coping with the information explosion. So, we can say that – AICT Application is nothing but coping up with explosion of Information. AICT Application is the acquisition, processing, storage and dissemination of vocal, pictorial, textual and numerical information by a micro-electronics - based combination of computing and

telecommunication.

### METHODOLOGY

The Study was conducted on under graduate students of various faculties of AAU- Anand center, coming from farming community.College wise (BACA for Agriculture, Dairy Sci., FPT&BE, AIT, Veterinary) data were collected using questionnaire. per college 20 students at Anand.

### RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

#### (1) Gender wise profile

**Table 1 : Gender wise profile**

n=100

Faculty	Male		Female	
	No.	Percent	No.	Percent
Dairy	15	75%	5	25%
Agri.	14	70%	6	30%
AIT	11	55%	9	45%
FPT	13	65%	7	35%
Vety.	17	85%	3	15%
Overall	70	70%	30	30%

As indicated in the Table 1, male respondents ranged from 55% to 85%.

**Farming activity wise respondent**

**Table 2 : Farming activity wise respondents**

n = 100

Faculty	Agriculture	Dairy	Mixed
Dairy Science	08	1	11
Agriculture	12	0	08
AIT	09	0	11
FPT & BE	19	0	01
Veterinary	15	0	05
Overall	63	1	36

As indicated in the table 2, 63% respondents belonged to Agriculture, 1% belonged to dairy and 36% belonged to mixed occupation.

**(2) Monthly income wise respondent profile**

**Table 3 : Monthly income wise respondent profile**

Faculty	5000 to 10000	10001 to 15000	150001 to 20000	More than 20000	Total
Dairy Science	10	03	02	05	20
Agriculture	10	06	03	01	20
AIT	08	05	01	06	20
FPT & BE	01	03	02	14	20
Veterinary	03	05	04	08	20
Overall	32	22	12	34	100

As shown in Table no. 3, around 32% respondents belonged to income bracket of Rs. 5000 to 10,000 p.m, 34% belonged to income bracket Rs. 20,000 p.m and above.

**Gadgets owned by respondents**

n=100

Faculty	Basic phone	Smart-phone	Tablet	Lap-top	PC
Dairy Science	1	19	0	03	0
Agriculture	2	16	0	01	0
AIT	1	16	0	18	4
FPT & BE	2	19	2	08	1
Veterinary	1	17	1	08	0

**Time period since gadgets are owned by respondents**

**Table 4 : Time period since gadgets are owned by respondents**

n=100

A	Dairy Science	Dairy	Agriculture	AIT	FPT&BE	Veterinary
1	Basic phone					
	>2 Years	2	4	3	5	3
	1-2 Year	2	1	3	1	-
	6-12 Month	-	-	-	-	-
	<6 Months	-	-	1	2	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>3</b>
2	Smart phone					
	>2 Years	9	8	5	11	10
	1-2 Year	6	6	8	6	2
	6-12 Month	2	1	2	1	4
	<6 Months	1	-	-	-	1
	<b>Total</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>15</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>17</b>
3	Tablet					
	>2 Years	1	-	-	-	1
	1-2 Year	1	-	1	1	-
	6-12 Month	4	-	-	-	-
	<6 Months	-	-	-	1	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>
	<b>Dairy Science</b>	<b>Dairy</b>	<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>AIT</b>	<b>FPT&amp;BE</b>	<b>Veterinary</b>
4	Laptop					
	>2 Years	2	1	2	4	8
	1-2 Year	1	-	13	3	1
	6-12 Month	1	1	1	-	1
	<6 Months	-	-	2	1	0
	<b>Total</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>10</b>

5	Computer					
	>2 Years	1	-	-	1	1
	1-2 Year	-	-	1	-	-
	6-12 Month	-	-	-	-	-
	<6 Months	-	-	1	1	-
	<b>Total</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>-</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>1</b>

- Majority of Dairy science respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone for at least 1 year
- Majority of Agriculture college respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone for at least 1 year
- Majority of AIT college respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone and Laptop for at least 1 year.
- Majority of FPT college respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone and Laptop for at least 2 year.
- Majority of Veterinary college respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone and Laptop for at least 2 year.

**ICT Devices used for Internet access by respondents**

**Table 5 : ICT Devices used for Internet access**

n=100

Faculty	Basic phone	Smart phone	Tablet	Lap-top	PC
Dairy Science	1	19	0	03	0
Agriculture	2	16	0	01	0
AIT	1	16	0	18	4
FPT & BE	2	19	2	08	1
Veterinary	1	17	1	08	0

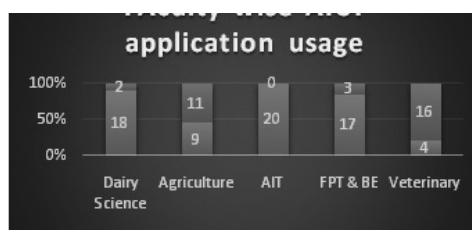
Majority of respondents from all colleges use Smartphone for internet access. Respondents from AIT, FPT & Veterinary also use Laptop for internet access.

**Usage of AICT application by respondents**

**Table 6 : Usage of AICT application**

n=100

Faculty	Yes	No	Total
Dairy	18	02	20
Agril.	09	11	20
AIT	20	0	20
FPT	17	03	20
Vety.	04	16	20



Majority of respondents from Dairy Science, AIT, FPT access AICT applications, while few respondents from Agriculture and veterinary indicated very low usage of AICT application by them.

**AICT Application Usage Pattern based on devices**

**Table 7 : AICT application usage pattern**

n=100

Faculty	Basic phone	Smartphone	Tablet	Laptop	PC
Dairy Science	0	16	0	03	1
Agriculture	2	08	0	01	1
AIT	0	12	0	19	2
FPT & BE	2	15	1	04	0
Veterinary	0	04	0	00	0

Majority of respondents from all colleges use Smartphone for AICT applications. Respondents from AIT, FPT & Veterinary also use Laptop for the same.

**AICT application used by respondents**

**Table 8 : AICT application used by respondents**

Sr. No.	AICT application / Faculty	Dairy Science	Agriculture	AIT	FPT & BE	Veterinary
1	i-Kisan	0	2	14	2	0
2	Soil Health card	0	7	14	1	0
3	Fertilizer Calculator	0	0	5	0	0
4	AGROPEDIA	0	1	2	1	0
5	Kisan Call Center	1	3	4	1	0
6	Co Operative Dairy	0	1	1	1	0
7	SMS Services	1	0	0	0	1
8	ikhedut Portal	0	0	4	0	0
9	farmer.gov.in	0	0	1	0	0
10	Food Application	0	0	0	6	0
11	Weather Forecast	1	1	7	4	0
12	SAU websites	16	5	19	15	4
13	APMC	1	2	2	3	0
14	NDDB	4	0	2	1	3
15	GSFC	0	0	4	0	0
16	NABARD	0	0	3	0	0
17	Other:	0	1	1	0	0

Dairy science respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of NDDB and occasional usage of KCC, SMS, APMC.

- Agriculture respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, Soil Health card moderate usage of KCC, i-kisan, Weather forecast, Agropedia and occasional usage of Cooperative dairy, APMC and other.
- AIT college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, i- kisan and Soil Health Card moderate usage of Fertilizer calculator, Weather forecast, i- khedut, KCC and occasional usage of Farmer.gov.in, APM, NABARD, and GSFC.
- FPT college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of Weather Forecast, APMC and occasional usage of KCC, Agropedia, Cooperative dairy, NDDB.

Veterinary college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of NDDB and occasional usage SMS.

- Dairy science respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of NDDB and occasional

usage of KCC, SMS, APMC.

- Agriculture respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, Soil Health card moderate usage of KCC, i-kisan, Weather forecast, Agropedia and occasional usage of Cooperative dairy, APMC and other.
- AIT college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, i- kisan and Soil Health Card moderate usage of Fertilizer calculator, Weather forecast, i- khedut, KCC and occasional usage of Farmer.gov.in, APM, NABARD, and GSFC.
- FPT college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of Weather Forecast, APMC and occasional usage of KCC, Agropedia, Cooperative dairy, NDDB.
- Veterinary college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of NDDB and occasional usage SMS.

**CONCLUSION**

- (1) Gender wise profile: male respondents ranged from 55% to 85%.

- (2) State wise respondents: Gujarat State respondents were around 95 % of total.
- (3) Farming activity wise: 63% respondents belonged to Agriculture, 1% belonged to dairy and 36% belonged to mixed occupation.
- (4) Monthly income wise: around 32% respondents belonged to income bracket of Rs. 5000 to 10,000 p.m, 34% belonged to income bracket Rs. 20,000 p.m and above.
- (5) Gadgets owned by respondents: Dairy Science and Agriculture Colleges owned mainly Smartphones. AIT, FPT & BE and Veterinary colleges owned mainly Smartphones & Laptops.
- (6) Time period since gadgets are owned: Majority of Dairy Science and Agriculture respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone for at least 1 year. Majority of AIT college respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone and Laptop for at least 1 year. Majority of FPT College and Veterinary respondents indicated that they possessed Smartphone and Laptop for at least 2 year.  
ICT Devices used for Internet access: Respondents from all colleges use Smartphone for internet access. Respondents from AIT, FPT & Veterinary also use Laptop for internet access.
- (7) Usage of AICT Application: Majority of respondents from Dairy Science, AIT, and FPT & BE access AICT applications, while few respondents from Agriculture and veterinary indicated very low usage of AICT application by them.
- (8) AICT Application Usage Pattern based on devices: Respondents from all colleges use Smartphone for AICT applications. Respondents from AIT, FPT & Veterinary also use Laptop for the same.
- (9) AICT Application used by respondents:
  - Dairy science respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of NDDB and occasional usage of KCC, SMS, and APMC.
  - Agriculture respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, Soil Health card moderate usage of KCC, i-Kisan, Weather forecast, Agropedia and occasional usage of Cooperative dairy, APMC and other.
  - AIT college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, i-kisan and Soil Health Card moderate usage of Fertilizer calculator, Weather forecast, ikhedut, KCC and occasional usage of Farmer.gov.in, APM, NABARD, and GSFC.
  - FPT college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of Weather Forecast, APMC and occasional usage of KCC, Agropedia, Cooperative dairy, NDDB.
  - Veterinary college respondents indicated Major usage of SAU website, moderate usage of NDDB and occasional usage SMS.

## REFERENCES

- Laurence, J C. (2006) Impact of Digital Technology on Education, Rajat Publication, New Delhi.
- S., Dhanavandan and S., Mohammed Esmail and V. Mani (2008) Awareness of Information and Communication Technology (ICT) Tools Among Library Professionals in Tamil Nadu. Pakistan journal of library & information science, n. 9.
- Sachdev, P. *et al.* "Concept of Information, Communication and Educational Technology", [http://www.mu.ac.in/myweb\\_test/ma%20edu/ICT%20-%20Edu.pdf](http://www.mu.ac.in/myweb_test/ma%20edu/ICT%20-%20Edu.pdf)
- S. Thanuskodi (2013). Awareness and Use of ICT among Under Graduate Degree Students of Rural Areas in Tuticorin District, India: A Study, International Journal of Information Science; 3(1): 1-6