



## UTILIZATION OF INFORMATION COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) BY THE FACULTY MEMBERS CUM SCIENTISTS OF AGRICULTURAL INSTITUTES IN JAMMU AND KASHMIR AND PUDUCHERRY.

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### Abstract

Information is considered as the first element in the search for wisdom in a human chain process. Thus, documentation produces information, which is converted into documentation and again into information. In every country a large amount of scientific and technological information is locally produced or information origin is stored in some form or another for the benefit of users. This paper is about the usage of ICT by the faculty members cum scientists of Jammu and Kashmir and Puducherry agricultural institutes.

**Keywords:** Information Communication Technology, Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry, Faculty, Scientists.

### 1. Introduction

Currently Information Technology (IT) is a matter of hot discussion almost in all areas including Library and Information Science teaching and practice. Basically IT combines technology, telecommunication technology, audio-visual technology and reprography. The use information technology has called for radical changes in the sphere of library and information services in different institution and organizations. Another reason for its application is that today large quantity of information is available in electronic form and this trend will be increasing in future. To utilize these information sources, computer and other accessories are essentially needed. Therefore, any library, which wants to keep pace with the growth in new information technology and is conscious about serving the clientele effectively, cannot keep away from the use of information technology.

### 2. Related Studies

**Ramesh.R et al., (2010)** found in their study on e-mail use behavior among the users in engineering college in Puducherry that 95% of female and 75% male respondents having their own e-mail address, 43.12% of the respondents most commonly used g-mail service of Google.

**Nafiz Zaman Shuva, Rowshon Akhter (2011)** have conducted a study on internet usage by students of Dhaka University library, Bangladesh. It is found in their study that among the total number of 461 respondents from the faculty of arts, more than 98% of the respondents use the internet for communication while 67% of respondents for academic purpose. Towards the problems encountered using internet by the respondents found that slow internet access speed was the major problem with 95.23% and it was followed by virus problem. Regarding the opinion of the respondents on satisfaction with internet facilities showed that 50% of the respondents somewhat satisfied' and 7.59% were not at all satisfied' with internet facilities.

**Bhatt and Rana (2011)** evaluated the use of e-resources by Engineering Academicians of Rajasthan State. They found that there are various factors for using e-resources like purpose, acceptance, satisfaction, impact and importance. They also revealed that majority of the Academicians preferred using e-resources for reading.

**Kannan.K and Abilash.S (2011)** discussed in their study that Google, Yahoo and AltaVista are rated as better search engine for retrieval of information on internet regarding search quarries of law of library science, library resources sharing and networking, library extension service, knowledge management and library association in India.

**Kasalu and Ojiambo. (2012)** in their survey to find out ways in which collection development practices in private university libraries in Kenya could be enhanced by the use of information and communication technologies (ICTs). For this study a survey method is used to collect data from the respondents. Three universities and a total of 72 respondents were purposively selected for the study. The respondents included librarians, faculty deans and postgraduate students from the three universities. The findings indicated that ICTs were available in all the three selected universities but their application in collection development was not adequate in ensuring efficiency and in making sure that the library collections are effective in meeting the needs of the users.

**Leela Dhar Mangi (2014)** in her study conducted on the usage of e-databases among the Faculty of Agriculture (FoA) and Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry (FVSc & AH) of SKUAST Universities can found out that majority of



the FoA scientists visited the SAU library 2-3 times in a week and once a month for using the available e-databases whereas FVSc &AH members visited 2-3 times in a week and daily respectively. A large number of Faculty of Agriculture (FoA) and Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry (FVSc & AH) were using e-databases to download articles and for their research/teaching/extension respectively. The majority of the Faculty of Agriculture (FoA) and Faculty of Veterinary Sciences & Animal Husbandry (FVSc & AH) were well aware about the available e-databases and they also used these for fulfilling their purposes. The ranking of e-databases indicated that, CABI, AGRIS, AGRICOLA and Vet CDs were highly used databases. Faculty of Agriculture Scientists were not using e-databases due to paucity of time, whereas FVSc &AH members were not using due to lack of updated skill.

### 3. Objectives of the Study

1. To find out rating of ICT by faculty members cum scientists of Agricultural Institutes in Jammu and Kashmir and Puducherry.
2. To find out respondents frequency of using internet.
3. To find out the respondents mode of learning the internet.
4. To find out the respondents use of national level consortiums.
5. To find out the respondents use of databases.

### 4. Methodology

For this study all the faculty members were chosen from the Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Kashmir (SKUAST-K), Sher-e-Kashmir University of Agricultural Sciences and Technology of Jammu (SKUAST-J), ICAR-Central Institute of Temperate Horticulture, Srinagar (CITH) and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru College of Agriculture & Research Institute (PAJANCOA & RI).

### 5. Limitation of the Study

This study is restricted to only (2) two universities, one (1) research institute in Jammu & Kashmir and one institute in Puducherry. Samples were collected from faculty members and scientists only.

### 6. Data Analysis And Interpretation

**Table 1, Distribution of sample issued and received**

| Category            | Questionnaires issued | Questionnaires received |
|---------------------|-----------------------|-------------------------|
| Assistant Professor | 171(41.40)            | 142(42.77)              |
| Associate Professor | 101(24.45)            | 80(24.09)               |
| Professor           | 76(18.40)             | 58(17.46)               |
| Scientist           | 65(15.73)             | 52(15.66)               |
| <b>Total</b>        | <b>413(100.00)</b>    | <b>332 (80.38)</b>      |

Table 1 indicates distribution of sample issued and received. It is inferred from the above table that t 413 questionnaires were distributed. From that 332 samples were only received. Out of 332 samples 142 (42.77%) respondents are Assistant Professors, 80 (24.09%) respondents are Associate Professors, 58 (17.46) respondents are Professors and 52 (15.66) are Scientists.

**Table 2, Distribution of respondents according to institutions**

| Institution   | Frequency  | Percent      |
|---------------|------------|--------------|
| SKUAST-K      | 160        | 48.2         |
| SKUAST-J      | 95         | 28.6         |
| CITH          | 9          | 2.7          |
| PAJANCOA & RI | 68         | 20.5         |
| <b>Total</b>  | <b>332</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

Table 2 indicates out of 332 respondents 160 (48.2 %) belong to SKUAST-K, 95 (28.6%) belong to SKUAST-J, 9 (2.7%) belong to CITH and 68 (20.5%) belong to PAJANCOA & RI.



**Table 3, Respondents rating of ICT importance in research and education**

| Level of ICT Importance | Frequency  | Percent      |
|-------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Slightly Important      | 17         | 5.1          |
| Neutral                 | 20         | 6.0          |
| Moderately Important    | 88         | 26.5         |
| Highly Important        | 207        | 62.3         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>332</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

From above table it is concluded that out of 332 respondents 207 (62.3%) believe that ICT is highly important, 88 (26.5%) believe that ICT is moderately important, 20 (6.0 %) are of neutral view and 17 (5.1%) believe that it is slightly important in research and education.

**Table 4, Distribution of respondent's frequency of using the Internet**

| Frequency of using Internet | Frequency  | Percent      |
|-----------------------------|------------|--------------|
| Daily                       | 157        | 47.3         |
| Every Alternate Day         | 80         | 24.1         |
| Once in a week              | 16         | 4.8          |
| As and when required        | 79         | 23.8         |
| <b>Total</b>                | <b>332</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

Table 4 indicates that out of 332 respondents 157 (47. %) use internet daily followed by 80 (24.1%) using internet every alternate day, 79 (23.8%) as and when required and 16 (4.8%) using internet once in a week.

**Table 5, Distribution of respondent's mode of learning the internet**

| Mode             | Frequency  | Percent      |
|------------------|------------|--------------|
| Self learning    | 126        | 38.0         |
| From Experts     | 88         | 26.5         |
| Friends          | 69         | 20.8         |
| Training Courses | 49         | 14.8         |
| <b>Total</b>     | <b>332</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

From Table 5 it is inferred that 126 (38%) mode of learning the internet is through self learning, 88 (26.5%) learning mode is from experts, 69 (20.8%) learn from friends and 49 (14.8%) learn internet from training courses.

**Table 6, Distribution of respondent's use of consortiums**

| Consortium                                       | Frequency  | Percent      |
|--|------------|--------------|
| Consortium for e-resources in Agriculture (CeRA) | 138        | 41.6         |
| KrishiKhosh                                      | 109        | 32.8         |
| J-GATE   | 48         | 14.5         |
| UGC Infonet                                      | 37         | 11.1         |
| <b>Total</b>                                     | <b>332</b> | <b>100.0</b> |

From above table it is concluded that 138 (41.6%) use Consortium for e-resources in Agriculture (CeRA), 109 (32.8%) use KrishiKhosh, 48 (14.5%) use J-gate, 37 (11.1%) use UGC Infonet. Therefore majority of the respondents use Consortium for e-resources in Agriculture (CeRA) and KrishiKhosh.



**Table 7, Distribution of respondent's use of databases**

| Database | Frequency | Percent |
|----------|-----------|---------|
| AGRIS    | 101       | 30.4    |
| AGRICOLA | 105       | 31.6    |
| Both     | 89        | 26.8    |
| None     | 37        | 11.1    |
| Total    | 332       | 100.0   |

Table 7 shows respondents use of databases, 101 (30.4%) use AGRIS, 105 (31.6%) use AGRICOLA, 89 (26.8%) use both of them and 37 (11.1%) are not using any databases.

## 7. Findings

- As per the survey 142 (42.77%) respondents are Assistant Professors, 80 (24.09%) respondents are Associate Professors, 58 (17.46) respondents are Professors and 52 (15.66) are Scientists.
- Research results reveal that out of 332 respondents 160 (48.2 %) belong to SKUAST-K0, 95 (28.6%) belong to SKUAST-J, 9 (2.7%) belong to CITH and 68 (20.5%) belong to PAJANCOA & RI.
- It is found that out of 332 respondents 207 (62.3%) believe that ICT is highly important, 88 (26.5%) believe that ICT is moderately important, 20 (6.0 %) are of neutral view and 17 (5.1%) believe that it is slightly important in research and education. Therefore majority of the respondents rate ICT as highly important in teaching and research
- It is found that out of 332 respondents 157 (47. %) use internet daily followed by 80 (24.1%) using internet every alternate day, 79 (23.8%) as and when required and 16 (4.8%) using internet once in a week. Therefore majority of the respondents use internet daily and every alternate day.
- Research results indicate that 126 (38%) mode of learning the internet is through self learning, 88 (26.5%) learning mode is from experts, 69 (20.8%) learn from friends and 49 (14.8%) learn internet from training courses.
- It is concluded that 138 (41.6%) use Consortium for e-resources in Agriculture (CeRA), 109 ( 32.8%) use KrishiKhosh, 48 (14.5%) use J-gate, 37 (11.1%) use UGC Infonet. Therefore majority of the respondents use Consortium for e-resources in Agriculture (CeRA) and KrishiKhosh.
- Research indicates that 101 (30.4%) use AGRIS, 105 (31.6%) use AGRICOLA, 89 (26.8%) use both of them and 37 (11.1%) are not using any databases.

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