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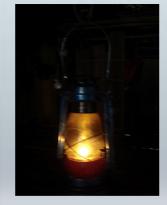






A Report on

ICT Indicators in three Villages of Arunachal Pradesh





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Executive Summary

A survey was conducted to find out the availability, access and usage of ICT indicators in the three villages namely; Yagrung, Tekang and Kangkong villages of Pasighat circle of Esat Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh state, during September, 2007. A structured interview schedule was developed based on the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) identified ICT indicators on the "Access to", "Usage indicators" (on age, gender education, frequency and purpose) and ICT infrastructure. Information was collected from the individuals and households. Findings indicated that four-fifths of rural population possess radio, and nearly one-third of farmers have TV and fixed phone line. However, very few possess cellular phones, with no one having Computer and internet facility in three villages. More than half of the households (56 per cent) are not connected with electricity. Very few number of students and degree holders are aware and also using the internet, that too, occasionally. Among ICTs, Radio is widely possessed (80 per cent) and used for getting agricultural information.

INTRODUCTION

India's ICT infrastructure scenario has been undergoing an amazing transformation. Since, late 1990s, ICT applications in various aspects of human life have demonstrated the potential of ICTs in socio-economic empowerment. The positive impacts of ICTs facilitated to take up a large number of ICT experiments and projects in rural India. However, a number of successful rural ICT initiatives were concentrated mostly in the ten developed states of India. India's North-East is left out in the Indian Digital revolution process. Considering the dismal scenario, the ministry of Information Technology, GoI initiated Community Information Centres (CICs) to reduce the digital divide by providing Internet access and IT enabled services to the community. The CICs were established in 487 block headquarters in North-East India. However, the rural population in North-East India is still deprived of access to modern ICTs. Considering the existing scenario, a survey was conducted to find out the availability, access and usage of ICT indicators.



METHODOLOGY



Fig. 1 Map showing the study area

Locale of the Study: The study was conducted in the selected three villages namely; Yagrung, Tekang and Kangkong villages of Pasighat circle of Esat Siang District of Arunachal Pradesh state, during September, 2007.

Selection of Individual Households: Fifty tribal farm households were randomly selected from three villages for the individual house hold survey on ICT indicators.

Data Collection Method: A structured interview schedule was developed based on the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) identified ICT indicators on the "Access to", "Usage indicators" (on age, gender education, frequency and purpose) and ICT infrastructure. Information was collected from the individuals and households.

FINDINGS

Table 1. Availability of ICTs in the House

(N=50 farm families)

Sl.No.	ICT Name	No. of farm families		Usage	for	Frequency of usage				
				Agricultural		Regular		Occasional		
				Information						
		No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
1.	Radio	40	80	34	68	24	48	10	20	
2	Television	16	32	1	2	0	0	1	2	
3	Fixed line	16	32	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	telephone									
4	Mobile	3	9	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	cellular									
	telephone									
5	Computer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
6	Computer	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	
	with									
	internet									
					·					
	ICT Infrastructure									
	Electricity a	vailab	ility: 22	(44 %)	farm f	amilies				

A majority of farm households (68 per cent) have radio and are used for getting agricultural information. Considerable number of farmers possesses television and fixed line telephones (32 per cent). Only 9 per cent of individuals have mobile cellular phones. Among 50 families surveyed, there is no computer available.

Table 2a. Gender and age category of the sample

(n=299)

Gender						Age					
M F		Up to 18 19		19 to 35		35 to 60		61 and above			
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
151	50.50	148	49.49	136	45.48	100	33.44	43	14.38	20	6.68

Among farm families surveyed, an equal proportion of gender was noticed. Nearly half of the population in 50 farm families are below the 18 years old. One third of sample population was in 19 to 35 years category.

Table 2b. Education level of the sample

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(n=299)
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	Education										
No Primary Education			nry	High School Higher Secondary		UG Degree		PG Degree			
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%
91	30.43	65	21.73	100	33.44	23	7.69	16	5.35	1	0.33

One third of sample population had high school level of education. Nearly one third (30.43 percent) of population had no education. Only less proportion had higher secondary (7.69 per cent), UG (5.35 per cent) and PG (0.33 per cent) level of education.

Table	3.	Internet	awareness,	usage
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			(n=299)			
Aware of	Internet	Use of Internet				
No.	%	No.	%			
19	6.35	8	2.67			

Among 50 farm families, only 6.35 per cent aware about the internet and only 2.67 per cent used the internet.

G	ender in (n=	Aware =19)	ness	Gender in Usage (n=8)				
	Μ		F	M F				
No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	No.	%	
10	52.63	9 47.36		3	37.50	5	62.50	

Table 3a. Gender in Internet awareness and usage (n-19)

There is an almost equal proportion of gender aware of the internet. But, in usage more number of female members used the internet.

Primar	Primary High School		hool	Higher		UG Degree		PG Degree	
				Secondary					
No.	%	No.	%	No. %		No.	%	No.	%
0	0	1	5.26	3	15.79	14	73.68	1	5.26

Nearly three-forth of internet awareness having members had UG degree.

Table 3c. Internet usage frequency, place and purpose (n=8)

Frequency of Usage	Place of usa	age	Purpose of usage				
(in last 12 months)							
Average	Near by Outside		General	Application Download			
	town						
2 time for 12 months	1	7	2	6			

An average, yearly two times internet was used in outside of the district and the Internet was accessed generally to download the application forms.

ICTs for Agricultural Information

Among ICTs, Radio is widely possessed by the farm families (80 per cent) and used for getting agricultural information (74 per cent), two-fifth of them (40 per cent) regularly listening 'farm and home programme' through radio and more than one-fourth of radio possessing farmers (30 per cent) expressed that the broadcasted information was useful for them.

CONCLUSION

Findings indicated that four-fifths of rural farm family possess the radio, nearly one-third of farmers having TV and fixed phone line. However, very few possess cellular phones, no one having Computer and internet facility in three villages. More than half of the households are not connected with electricity. Very few number of students and degree holders are aware and also using the internet. Among ICTs, Radio is widely possessed by the rural farm families (80 per cent) and used for getting agricultural information.

Appendix: Interview Schedule for "Survey on ICT Indicators"

1. Availability of ICTs in the House

Sl.No.	ICT Name	Yes/No	If yes, Whether useful for getting Agricultural Information? Yes/No.	If Yes, frequency of usage for getting the Agricultural information.
1.	Radio			
2	Television			
3	Fixed line telephone			
4	Mobile cellular telephone			
5	Computer			
6	Computer with internet			
	Electricity			

2. Internet Awareness and usage

Sl.No.	Name of the family members	Gen der	Age	Aware of Internet (Y/N)	Use of Intern et (Y/N)	Frequency of Usage (in last 12 months)	Place of usage	Purpose of usage