

## Original Research Article

# Role of Information Communication technology (ICT) in Development

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## ABSTRACT

World has become a small hub due to our growing pace of ICT. One can converse with his near dear in a few minutes/seconds sitting at the other corner of the world even he / can visualize his/her. It is just like repeating the history, when in vedic era while sitting at his palace king Dhritrashtra told Sanjay to narrate every moment of battlefield, because he himself was blind and Sanjay did it because he was having that capacity it seems. Today it can be done through video conferencing this is also a miracle of ICT. Any business can go up or down due to more use or less use of latest version of communication technology in a wider spectrum. Development in all endeavours of life viz social, cultural, economic Scientific, Educational, Medicines, war field & in the field of Agriculture is impossible unless until the information regarding that subject is widely spread among the end users through cutting edge technologies of communication. This paper will deal in detail that it is not only the available information, or the technology alone which can help in development but it the way of communication which matters more for any kind of development. Our mode of communication of the said technology is much more important for any kind of revolution. ICT plays a key role in all sorts of development of our society.

### Keywords

ICT - Information  
Communication  
Technology

## Introduction

Today it is an era of not only working but networking. Anybody can have access about the information of the farthest area within seconds or minutes, one can visualize the scene of America sitting at a corner of Bihar, or one can have video conferencing with his relatives, this all is possible due to high speed of our Information Communication Technology. As per TRAI media nama in May 2017 India had 1,019.5 million active mobile connections whereas Bihar had 60.73 million during 2011-12 and is the 5<sup>th</sup> largest mobile phone subscriber among all states and it got added with 4.67 active mobile connections in May 2017. But how far we have developed in terms of our

G.D.P. This is a haunting question in front of us. In current fiscal year as per News telecasted on 4.01.2018 our GDP has gone down to 6.5%. Still 42.6% population of Bihar is below poverty line. Our per capita income is only Rs. 20,069 seven times lower than a small state of Goa. As per IMF outlook October 2016 when it was calculated for 189 countries Qatar ranks 1<sup>st</sup> in its GDP with 129, 727 US \$ & Luxembourg 2<sup>nd</sup> with 10,1936 US\$ & our India ranks on 126<sup>th</sup> position, whereas population wise we constitute 17.5% of total population, we contribute only 17% in our total G.D.P. Ours is an agrarian economy 65% of Indian population but our

contribution to Agriculture is not up to the mark. It means there is a wide gap between availability and its dissemination up to end users. ICTs are often promoted as central to reviving and sustaining regional communities (Simpson and Hunter, 2001). The information revolution is another intervention with the potential to ensure that knowledge and information important technologies, methods and practices are put in the right hands. The relevance of this revolution is supported by Balit 2003 who pointed out that least expensive input for rural development is knowledge. Information knowledge are basic essentials for development.

Through this paper I am going to prove that its not only the availability of Information or Technology but its the mode of communication which helps in dissemination of knowledge and ultimately development occurs.

### **Materials and Methods**

There are different methods of communication, but the most effective method is learning by doing, because in rural India especially in Bihar, in farming community most of the people do possess a mobile set but very few have computer accessibility. Training is also one of the important method of communication. A training was conducted for 25 farmers from rural community near by university area. A set of 25 questions were framed to know their knowledge level and attitude before the training and after the training. Then after completion of training also questions were asked whether there was any change in their skill or not.

Then after 6 months feedback was collected from them weather there was any increase in their income or not. Result were calculated

and have been presented. Keeping following objectives in mind present study was done by collecting data from 50 beneficiaries of mushroom cultivation training programme of Samastipur district.

### **Objectives**

To know their awareness about mushroom & its production before training.

To know their knowledge and change in attitude before and after the training.

To find out that how many got skilled in mushroom cultivation after training.

To find out change in their income level.

### **Results and Discussion**

Result were calculated and have been presented through following tables. After viewing table no.01 it can be easily inferred that out of 50 beneficiaries only 20 were knowing about mushroom & 30 were completely unknown about it. Only 5 replied that its a fungus 45 gave wrong answer, 15 told that its beneficial whereas 35 told that I don't know. Out of 50 only 2 were knowing about its production that too not completely & 48 were completely unknown to its production techniques.

It can be inferred from table no- 02, that out of 50 respondents 5 were from below poverty line having no knowledge about mushroom and similarly all of them had negative attitude towards mushroom. After training it was found that 5 out of 5 got aware about mushroom production and only 3 could change their attitude from negative to positive. Out of 50 there were 20 from low income group and 20 from medium income group and 5 from high income group.

**Table.1** Awareness level of the participants

SI. No.	Questions	Before training		After training
		Yes	No	Yes
1.	Do you know about mushroom	20	30	30
2.	It is a fungus	05	45	45
3.	Its beneficial	15	35	35
4.	Do you know about its production technique	02	48	48
5.	Mushroom are rich source of Vitamin D, thiamine B6, Pantothenic acid, Phosphorus, Potassium, Copper & Selenium.	-	50	50
6.	Good source of dietary Fibre, Vitamin C Folate, Iron, Zinc & Magnese.	-	50	50

**Table.2** Before the training and after receiving the training

SI. No.	No. of beneficiaries	Change in Knowledge		Change in attitude	
		Before Training (50)	After Training (-v)	Before Training (50)	After training (-v)
1.	Below poverty line (5)	5(100%)	5(100%)	5	3
2.	Low income group (20)	20	10	20	15
3.	Medium income group(20)	20	20	20	15
4.	High income Group(5)	5	5	5	5

**Table.3** Change in skill

SI. No.	No. of beneficiaries	Before Training (not skilled)	After training (got skilled)
1.	Below poverty line (5)	5	3
2.	Low income group (20)	20	10
3.	Medium income group (20)	20	15
4.	High income group (5)	5	5

**Table.4** Increase in income

SI. No.	Increase in income	Before Training	After Training
1.	Below poverty line (5)	5 (No change)	5 (No change)
2.	Low income group (20)	20	10 (Yet to start)
3.	Medium income group(20)	20	15(increased by Rs- 2000-3000 per month)
4.	High income group(5)	5	5 (increased by Rs- 5000-8000 per month)

It was found that out of 20 low income group 10 got change in their knowledge and 15 in attitude, whereas out of 20 medium income group 100% change in knowledge and 15 got change in their attitude also. In the case of high income group 5 out of 5(100%) got change in their knowledge and attitude too.

It can be inferred from table no- 03, that out of 50 beneficiaries 5 from BPL group, only 3 got skilled whereas from low income group and medium income group gradually 10, 15, got skilled and 5 out of 5(100%) from high income group got skilled.

It can be inferred from table no.4, that out of 50 beneficiaries from below poverty line could not find any change in their income level, because they had not started the mushroom cultivation due to lack of resources. Out of 20 from low income group 10 had started mushroom production and they reported increase in their family income by 2000/- month and 10 has yet to start. Out of 20 medium income group 15 could started and they found there was increase in income 2000/- to 3000 per month. Out of 5 from high income group 5 (100%) and started producing mushroom and they reported that there was increase in their income by Rs 5000/- 8000/- per month.

After going through all these tables, it can be will concluded that out of 50 beneficiaries 30 started producing mushroom and they got increase into their income, their knowledge, increased attitude change into positive direction and even by practicing the way to do even, they got more skilled. If it would have been demonstrated through computers then they might not have learn the minute techniques. This theory has been supported by a study done by Bie, 1996 that internet is not a panacea for rural development problems yes but it can open

new communication channels that bring new knowledge and information resource to rural communities. Bie 1996 also recommends “An internet and development strategies focused on rural and agricultural communities with advice, project support, research extension and training.” These are evidence that tele centres have played a major role in mobilising communities to address their development problems tele centres can be used as information hubs that capture repackage and disseminate information to rural communities (FAO, 1998). Looking to the feature ICT for development is not an about computers hub of servers, pile of wires, mobile phones but it is the need to establish a strong linkage system between the available information the community then only some innovation will come out and then only that information can be implemented towards total growth of the society, because when information is adopted in day to day life then only it becomes knowledge. Only information is not power, it is not enough to change the society, it is the demonstration of knowledge, which is power.

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