Understanding Impact of E-agriculture in Society

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Abstract: Agriculture is the base of human society. The most of the basic needs of human being is provided through agricultural products. With the increasing population and development of human society it is highly challenging to supply necessary products of agriculture to meet the human need. Like other areas of society, different agricultural activity is getting beneficial through the use of information technology. With high availability and increasing popularity, smart phones are becoming an important information technological tool. Various activities of agriculture is also getting benefitted by the use of cellular smart phones. Here in this work a study is been made to understand the use of different smart phone applications in the field of agriculture and found a vast use of cell phone application in the field.

Keyword: E-agriculture, Information Communication Technology, Artificial Intelligence, Cultivation.

1. INTRODUCTION

Agriculture is the base of human society. The most of the basic needs of human being is provided through agricultural products. With the increasing population and development of human society it is highly challenging to supply necessary products of agriculture to meet the human need. Like other areas of society, different agricultural activity is getting beneficial through the use of information technology. With high availability and increasing popularity, smart phones are becoming an important information technological tool. Various activities of agriculture is also getting benefitted by the use of cellular smart phones. Here in this work a study is been made to understand the use of different smart phone applications in the field of agriculture and found a vast use of cell phone application in the field.

2. Understanding E-Agriculture

Information Communication Technology (ICT) is proven a great impact on development of different areas of society. Agriculture is also taking advantage of those tools. Different ICT tools are successfully applied in the field of agriculture. The collected approach of using different ICT tools and applying them in various innovative ways is referred as E-Agriculture.

Mainly by the term e-agriculture it is meant to define some organized way of using ICT tools in the field of agriculture so that it gets the best possible benefit to meet the human need by providing better agricultural production.

AIM:
The main aim of this paper is to reach farmers for their awareness, usage and perception in e-Agriculture. E-Agriculture is a platform for supporting marketing of agricultural products. Keywords: E-Agriculture, ICT, Agricultural Products, E-commerce.
Uses of E-Agriculture

It is been used almost every areas of agricultural activities. Some of them are listed below

- It provides various information helping per cultivation, cultivation, and post cultivation,
- weather forecasting information
- organized agricultural practice
- better understanding and awareness about agriculture
- Market and marketing exposures
- Improved link and communication
- Information about Price and demand worldwide
- handling agricultural risk
- sharing experience and expertise online among different community, groups.

3. Information and Communication Technologies:

ICT (Information and Communication Technologies) refers to technologies that provide access to information through telecommunications medium such as the radio, television, cell phone, computers, satellite, technology; internet, including email, instant messaging, video conferencing and social networking websites which have made it possible for users across the world to communicate with each other to give users quick access to ideas and experiences from a wide range of people, communities and cultures.
Need of ICTs in agriculture

• Many Farmers are not educated
• Cut off from cites & information
• Lack of extension facilities
• Lack of knowledge of modern technologies & market prices
• Inability to compete with modern farmers
• There is a gap b/w traditional & modern technology
Applications of ICT in Agriculture:

- Increasing efficiency, productivity and sustainability of small scale farms.
- Information about pest and disease control, especially early warning systems, new varieties, new ways to optimize production and regulations for quality control.
- Better of markets resulting from informed decisions about future crops and commodities and best time and place to sell and buy goods.
- Up-to-date market information on prices for commodities, inputs and consumer trends.
- Strengthen capacities and better representation of their constituencies when negotiating input and output prices, land claims, resource rights and infrastructure projects.
- Reduce social isolation, widen the perspective of local communities in terms of national or global developments, open up new business opportunities and allow easier contact with friends and relatives.

Limitations of ICTs in Agriculture:

- Illiteracy/ low level of literacy of farmers
- Digital illiteracy
- Poverty
- Poor infrastructure such as internet connectivity
- Non ownership of computers, tablets and other digital devices
- Lack of awareness of farmers
- Lack of satisfaction with use of ICTs
- Several farming related issues unaddressed by ICTs
- Lack of access to markets and prices
- Challenges need to be addressed

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