A Case Study on I-khedut Portal

Kachhad Aratiben [1], Nakum Divyangkumar [2]*, Prerak J. Gondaliya [3]

Dr. Bipin Rathod [4], Dr. Archana Mankad [5]

[1] Department of Horticulture (M.sc) - Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

[2] PhD Scholar, Maharana Pratap University of Agriculture and Technology, Udaipur, Rajasthan


[4] Deputy Director of Horticulture, Krishi Bhavan, Gandhinagar

[5] Professor at Department of Botany, University School of Sciences Gujarat University, Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Abstract:

A study is completely basis of survey under the guidance of directorate of horticulture, Krishi bhavan, Gandhinagar. The I-khedut portal helped the farmer to aware the various schemes and provide the guidelines for the various subsidies. This portal helps farmers for acquiring direct information related to the latest schemes and subsidies according to the different components. The survey comprises visits to different villages such as Gandhinagar, manasa, kalol and dehgam of Gandhinagar district. The questionaries were made for the farmers. The questionaries include several questions related to the various schemes and subsidies availed by the farmers. It also includes the basic details of the farmers and how much they are aware of the I-khedut portal. Live meeting was arranged with the farmers at their home or the farm. The conclusion was drawn from the farmer's response and it is found that many of the farmers are well aware of the I-khedut portal and they had taken subsidies and schemes for the various components.

Keyword: horticulture scheme, I-Khedut Portal, questionaries, survey

Introduction:

Gujarat government launched the I-khedut portal to provide benefits to the farmers of state. The government starts several schemes for farming, horticulture, fisheries, water conservation etc. All information regarding the schemes is available on the I-khedut portal. Any eligible citizen of the Gujarat state can apply for the scheme through the online portal and check their application status for free.

The main motive of the all scheme is to reach out to the farmers directly know by the portal. Farmer do not have to pay fees to get any information. On this portal, farmers will get information regarding weather, agriculture schemes by the government, the market price of crops etc. under the scheme of...
khetivadi, the farmers can apply for many agriculture & horticulture components will be provide by the government [1].

Mani et al. (2012) found that the major problem faced by the farmers in the case of Varsha Bima yojna is the nonavailability of the benefits since the implementation of the schemes, poor awareness about the details of weathers insurance schemes, high premium rate and wider rainfall variation between the farm and the reference weather station [2]. Singh (2015) in his study on the mission for integrated development of horticulture (MIDH), revealed that it becomes imperative for NHB to re-position itself and assume a new role to accelerate planned development of the commercial horticulture sector. To achieve this, the schemes of NHB had modified to generate synergy with other sub-schemes of MIDH and fulfilled the aim of development of the horticulture sector by removal of overlap [3]. Krishnankutty (1988) in her study in the integrated rural development programs revealed that the majority of respondents had a different level of awareness about the programs [4]. Gaur (2008) did a study on "Loan waiver scheme and Indian agriculture". In this study, he analyzed the loan waiver scheme of the union budget 2008. The study also attempted to examine the advantages of the loan waiver scheme with the present situation of Indian agriculture [5].

Earlier in the year 1980, firstly the Government has introduced schemes for micro-irrigation in India. Afterward, in the year 2005-2006, another pilot scheme came into existence to subsidize micro irrigation systems in India. [6]

Materials and Methods

The main objective of this work was to make sure that all the farmer friends of the general class get all information about the I-khedut Portal, as well as whether all the subsidies are related to the farmers. The decision was taken through a face-to-face meeting with the farmers under the observations of the Directorate of Horticulture (DoH) along with a series of questions to find out their views. This work was done by the office of the Directorate of Horticulture - Krishi Bhavan, Gandhinagar to take into consideration the interest of the farmers as well as the problems faced by the farmer friends and the assistance being provided to the farmers by us.

Location of the study

The Work done was carried out under the guidance of the directorate of horticulture at Gandhinagar. Research work includes the visits to some villages in four talukas of Gandhinagar district and a meeting was conducted with the farmers.

Visited Four Talukas of Gandhinagar District:

1) Gandhinagar
2) Manasa
3) Kalol
4) Dehgam

Figure 1: Graphical View of Visited Talukas
The research work constitutes a visit of different villages of different talukas of Gandhinagar district which is mentioned above. Live meeting was conducted with the farmers of different villages of Gandhinagar district with a series of questionnaires’. The questions include the various schemes and subsidies availed by the farmers through I-khedut portal. It also includes the basic details of farmers and how much they are aware of the I - khedut portal. Results were taken out based on the farmer’s response and conclusions were drawn. The example of questionnaires’ is prepared for the farmers to negotiate with them. The questionnaires’ were prepared in a local language Gujarati for the farmers but for the research work, it is then converted into the English language.

Table 1: The Questionnaire for the farmers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>S. No</th>
<th>Vignots</th>
<th>Record</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1.</td>
<td>तमाहे नाव, उमर, घरमा कठवा संबंध हो?</td>
<td>What is your name, age and how many members are there in the house?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2.</td>
<td>शु तमाही पालसे पेटी मोटनी जमीन छौ?</td>
<td>Do you have land for farming?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.</td>
<td>तमाही पालसे देशा विधा जमीन छौ?</td>
<td>How many bighas of land do you have?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4.</td>
<td>देशा समाविष्ठ पेटी करो छौ?</td>
<td>How long have you been farming?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5.</td>
<td>तमाही जमीनमानो शु वागायतो पाकनु वालेर करो छौ?</td>
<td>Do you grow horticultural crops on your land?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6.</td>
<td>तमे क्या आय पाकनु वालेर करो छौ?</td>
<td>Which crops do you grow?</td>
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<tr>
<td>7.</td>
<td>पाकनु नाम अने कठवा समाविष्ठ हो?</td>
<td>Kindly provide the names of the crops and for how long have you been cultivating them?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8.</td>
<td>तमे आई-कठेट विशे को माहित्तानुग्र हो?</td>
<td>Are you aware of i-khedut? What is an i-khedut portal?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9.</td>
<td>तमे आई-कठेट पोल्ट पिशे यु जायो हो?</td>
<td>What do you know about i-khedut Portal?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10.</td>
<td>तम् ब्राइकेवर्टल दी को माहित्तानुग्र हो?</td>
<td>How did you get the information about the i-khedut Portal? Either by News or any other mechanism?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>11.</td>
<td>तमे आई-कठेट मान्यट व्यांसार छी?</td>
<td>Are you an applicant in i-khedut?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12.</td>
<td>तमे लामा शु जमा करो छौ?</td>
<td>Where do you submit the form?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13.</td>
<td>तमे जतेत आईसल को को की पालसे अर्जु करो छौ?</td>
<td>Do you apply by yourself or someone else applies for you?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14.</td>
<td>शु तमे सरकारी साझे योजना विशे माहित्तानुग्र हो?</td>
<td>Are you aware of the government assistance scheme?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15.</td>
<td>अथारागु सुही मां को पाल पेटीवात्वक सरकारी योजनाएं भाग दियो हो?</td>
<td>Have you taken advantage of any agricultural government scheme so far?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16.</td>
<td>योजनानु सामाय हो?</td>
<td>Name of the scheme in which benefit was taken?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>17.</td>
<td>अन्य पाल या कोट तेना शु क्षयाक तमे वाया भे जसलाई?</td>
<td>Kindly provide the details of benefits received</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18.</td>
<td>कठवा विवोडाम स्रोने कठवा सम्बंध तमे प्राय वेबेली?</td>
<td>How much subsidy have you received and in how much area?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19.</td>
<td>शु योजना अंतर्गत वस्तुसौ तमने मनीव दो को तेम्य इव्योग तमे को रोट हो?</td>
<td>If you get equipment’s under the scheme, how do you use them?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20.</td>
<td>योजना अंतर्गत शु नको अने भोट तमने वेबेली भे जसलाई?</td>
<td>What are the profits and losses you faced under the scheme?</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21.</td>
<td>तमने आईसलाती मनीव रेद छौ योजना अंतर्गत वस्तुसौ?</td>
<td>Do you easily get equipment’s under the scheme?</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
22. Are you aware of the office of the Deputy Director of Horticulture in your district?

23. Which horticultural schemes are currently implemented? Kindly provide details of the scheme which you are familiar with.

24. Have you ever joined any such Agricultural developmental programs?

25. What do you do to increase crop productivity?

26. How do you harvest the crop?

27. How much production do you achieve?

28. Which types of fertilizers do you use?

29. Which kind of seeds are you using?

30. What do you do to increase soil fertility?

31. Is the land irrigated or rain-fed?

32. Is irrigation available? By what? Tube well, bore well?

33. Farm machinery? Tractor, power tiller, others?

34. Organic or Chemical farming?

35. Do you know about organic farming?

36. Is there a farm pond for rainwater harvesting?

37. Irrigation is available by drip or sprinkler?

38. What are the benefits of drip or sprinkler irrigation?

39. Do you do value addition in crops produced?

40. Are laborers easily available?

41. Are you aware of Gram Sava’s service?

42. Do you follow Crop rotation?

43. Has crop production increased this year over last year? How much increment was achieved?

44. Do you sell the produce at a minimum support price?

45. Do you use Jivamrut, Gaumutra in farming?

46. Do you use solar power?

47. Which kind of problems have you faced in the last few years?

48. Do you know about Zero Budget Natural Farming?

49. Do you cultivate yourself or through someone else?

50. What improvements should be incorporated in ikhedut portal?

51. Do you get timely information about weather?
What is I-khedut portal?

I-khedut Portal has been launched by the Gujarat government to provide benefits to the Farmers of the state. The portal comprises information about the various schemes associated with the farmer such as Horticulture, fisheries, water conservation, and many more. They can also get information about the weather, agriculture scheme launched by the government and the market price of the crops, etc. This Portal helps farmers for acquiring direct information related to the latest schemes and subsidies according to the different components. While using the I-khedut portal, farmers do not have to pay any fees to get any information regarding the schemes and subsidies. Farmers can access online applications for the different schemes and subsidies through the I-khedut portal. (https://doh.gujarat.gov.in).

Farmers usually find it difficult to get the basic information they need to apply for any assistance. But now the I-Khedut portal has been made available by the government so that the farmers of the state can have access to agricultural information at their fingertips as well as the benefits of various welfare schemes can be availed by the farmers at home. Through which online application can be made, the required standards, the required eligibility, the name and address of the office of the Horticulture Department, the form of supporting evidence to be submitted by the applicant. The aiming of this portal that the farmers of the state as well as small entrepreneurs, youth and women will get help from various schemes of the horticulture department for improvement of their income as well as their standard of living (Kachhad Aratiben et al. 2021).

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Table 2: Detailed Schedule of Field Survey</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visit</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date- 5-6/3/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day - 2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date - 9/3/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day - 3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date - 10/3/2021</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Day - 4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date - 12/3/2021</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Results and Discussion

This chapter deals with the results obtained from the study undertaken on a survey on the I-khedut portal. The study was carried out at the directorate of horticulture, Gandhinagar under the observations of Gujarat University, Ahmedabad. The survey was taken out to find out farmers' reviews for the I-khedut portal. Results show that many of the farmers from visited places are aware of the I-khedut portal.

The questionaries’ along with their answers responded by the farmers at the time of visit are collected and analysis of the answer was carried out in order to reach out to the conclusion. The below mentioned figure indicated different components visited at different places as schedule given in table 2.
Conclusion

To overcome the above listed problems faced by the farmers directly or indirectly, various plans, policies and schemes were developed by the central government and state government as well. This chapter deals with the findings of the major conclusions from the study undertaken on the survey on the I-khedut portal.

1. Many of the farmers from visited places are aware about the I-khedut portal.
2. The younger farmer was well aware about the I-khedut portal as compared to older and children farmers.
3. Most of the farmers availed the subsidies on different components by using I-khedut portal.
4. They also reported that the I-khedut portal is a good initiative by the government of Gujarat and the Gujarat horticultural department.
5. The study reported that the annual income of the farmers significantly increases after applying on the I-khedut portal.
6. The farmers said that the use of the I-khedut portal is good enough to get a better return on the product however it required some small kinds of improvements to help the farmers in a better way.
At last, farmers concluded that the I-khedut portal helps them to get aware of the new technologies developed day by day related to the farm mechanization and they know very well how to use that technology on the farm. They also said that the production and the productivity of the farmers are increase due to that they can get a better return on the product to increase the living life.

Meanwhile the I-khedut portal helps the farmers in any way and people loved to use it.
REFERENCES


https://doh.gujarat.gov.in/introduction.htm

Other Useful Sites

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https://agricoop.nic.in

https://mofpi.nic.in

https://www.en.krishakjagat.org

https://www.ishs.org/ishs-article/696_101

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