



Chapter - IX

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

9.1 Network Services

The Information Technology Cell (IT Cell) of Junagadh Agricultural University (JAU) offers and maintains the various network services such as internet, e-mail, intranet, reference databases and literature search through internet and CD-ROM through campus local area network. Network services are strengthened by procuring 4 MBPS Leased Line Internet Connectivity from BSNL and two broadband connectivity of 10 MBPS each under National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NME-ICT) Scheme of Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India. The university is also connected to Gujarat State wide Area Network (GSWAN), Gandhinagar through radio connectivity.

In addition to these network services, various information in Gujarati language are also kept on university website with the aim of providing information to the farmers on weather forecast, price forecast, agricultural technology / recommendations and various activities of the university in the agriculture field so that the farmers may be able to make proper and timely use of the available information.

9.2 Beneficiaries

The smooth functioning of the IT Cell made a remarkable impact in the work culture and mind-set of students and scientist/teachers in tune with the technological developments brought in by IT revolution. The information in vernacular language kept on university website also have been widely used by the farmers.

All the offices of university campus and sub-centres are getting circulars through e-mail facility. In addition to this service, the online accounting and online tour programme have increased good governance and ultimately these services have saved lot of time, reduced paper work and eliminated drudgery.

9.3 Training

The IT Cell has taken responsibility to train more and more students and staff members to make best use of the facilities provided through network services. Trainings on fundamental aspects of operating computer system as well as operating online accounting and online tour programme were given to the university staff frequently.

9.4 Network Implementation and Management

The IT Cell is responsible for installation and maintenance of the network of the University. All the departments of the campus are connected by switches, UTP cable and optic fibre cable. A sizable amount of money has been saved by using an open source Network Operating System *i.e.* Linux/Fedora/CentOS. The network is continuously monitored and the problem, if any, is attended and rectified. The Network Operating System is upgraded regularly by adding the useful features.

In addition to above, the wireless connectivity (Wi-Fi) is also established in certain premises of the campus including PG Institute of Agri-Business Management, College of Agril. Engg. & Technology, University Administrative Building (University Bhavan), Food Testing Laboratory (FTL), IT Cell, VIP Guest House and Girls Hostel where the University faculty visitors and UG/PG students take the benefit of accessing Local Area Network.

9.5 Reference Services

All the available e-Resources in agriculture *viz.*, CAB and AGRICOLA are provided through LAN by IT Cell in collaboration with the University Library to UG/PG students for their research projects and to university personnel engaged in research and teaching work. This enables the user to get quick information through computer on any reference related to agricultural research through network. In addition to this the online access to Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) is made available by IARI, New Delhi, for accessing National and



International Journals. Krishi Prabha an online doctoral theses facility of All India Agricultural University from HAU, Hisar is also available. This has made the reference services very fast and has saved lot of time of the scientists and the students.

9.6 University Web Site

The web site prepared by IT Cell is presently kept on the server of IT Cell and university domain name www.jau.in is registered. This web site included various aspects and activities of Junagadh Agricultural University like Administration, Education, Research Extension Education, Farmers' corner, Library facility, university circulars, important announcements/events, tenders, advertisements, RTI, etc. Further, a Web Mail Service incorporated in the web site enabling the user to read and reply e-mail from any computer of LAN. There are about 900 e-mail users taking advantage of this service. The web site was maintained and updated regularly during the year.

9.7 Leased Line Connectivity

Internet access was through 4 MBPS Leased Line Internet Connectivity (1:1) from BSNL and two broadband connectivity of 10 MBPS each under National Mission on Education through Information and Communication Technology (NME-ICT) Scheme of Ministry of Human Resources Development, Government of India. The university was also connected to Gujarat State Wide Area Network (GSWAN), Gandhinagar through radio connectivity during the year.

9.8 Qualified Personnel

All the services at IT Cell are managed by IT trained personnel of the university.

9.9 Visitors

The IT Cell has been visited by a number of eminent persons who have appreciated the activities carried out. The students of IT courses of various colleges of Junagadh city are taking frequent visit as a part of their project work. They have remarked JAU a front-runner in IT activities amongst all universities of Gujarat state.

9.10 University Library

The university library provides services to students and staff of 6 constituent colleges as well as research stations and extension education

centres under Junagadh Agricultural University, Junagadh.

Collection: It is a rich library with double storied stack room with capacity of 1.5 lakh books. It possesses around 45000 books. These books are very valuable and helpful in studies, research and preparation for competitive examinations. It provides 50 Indian & 11 Foreign journals and around 20000 back volumes.

Services: Cyberary with 100 mbps LAN connectivity facilitates users to access online databases. For online access of Indian/Foreign journals a facility by ICAR through Consortium for e-Resources in Agriculture (CeRA) is available. An online doctoral theses facility of All India Agricultural University from HAU, Hisar through Krishi Prabha is also available. In addition to 11 e-books other CD-ROM databases like CAB ABSTRACT, AGRICOLA, AGRIS with latest data are available for user. Full time internet, scanning and CD writing facilities are available for the students in the Cyberary. For this purpose, total 30 desktops are provided with internet access. These facilities are being extensively utilized by both faculty and students on an average of daily 200 to 250 users for about 12 hours per day. Students are provided with books of their concerned subjects of respective semesters through book bank facility. The library is marching towards automation process through Libsys software for the circulation of library materials to users. Library subscribes 9 newspapers to acquaint users with daily news.

The library renders its services to the users from 8:00 to 18:10 h and cyberary renders its services from 8:00 to 20:00 h. The circulation counter, the cyberary and other services are open to the readers during the working days.

