

**Review Form 1.7**

Journal Name:	<b>Asian Journal of Agricultural Extension, Economics &amp; Sociology</b>
Manuscript Number:	<b>Ms_AJAEES_110953</b>
Title of the Manuscript:	<b>A study on availability, accessibility and problems associated with use of ICTs among rural women of Assam</b>
Type of the Article	

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**PART 1: Review Comments**

	Reviewer's comment	Author's comment (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)
<p><b>Compulsory REVISION comments</b></p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Is the manuscript important for scientific community?</b> (Please write few sentences on this manuscript)</li> <li><b>Is the title of the article suitable?</b> (If not please suggest an alternative title)</li> <li><b>Is the abstract of the article comprehensive?</b></li> <li><b>Are subsections and structure of the manuscript appropriate?</b></li> <li><b>Do you think the manuscript is scientifically correct?</b></li> <li><b>Are the references sufficient and recent? If you have suggestion of additional references, please mention in the review form.</b></li> </ol> <p><u>(Apart from above mentioned 6 points, reviewers are free to provide additional suggestions/comments)</u></p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>The manuscript with the presented theme and with the specifically done research in concrete locality is of importance for the scientific community, because it brings new insights and the theme is relevant for the overall position of rural women for the concrete region (state) when it comes to the specific ICTs topic. Although this is the case, there is space for the improvement of this concrete paper for it to be more complete, because it is lacking some elements for it to be a rounded and finished work in the scientific manner.</li> <li>I would suggest for the title to also include country where the region Assam is located (India), suggestion for the correction: „A study on availability, accessibility and problems associated with the use of ICTs among rural women in the state of Assam, India”.</li> <li><b>Keywords:</b> I would suggest adding more keywords to this study, particularly the words associated to the area of research (localization) – state of Assam, India. Also adding some keyword associated with the main subject of this paper could be good, for example: technology adoption. Abstract of this paper could be modified because it repeats itself (almost the same sentences for the study that was done and the goal of the study, with the title of the paper). My suggestion is that this should be slightly modified for the more seriousness of the paper and better overview on what is also presented in the paper. Also, some sentences in abstract could be modified to be more understandable, particularly this one: “To provide benefits to the women farmers by using the ICTs and to reduce the gender imbalances from the society rural women’s access towards ICTs and the constraints associated while use of ICT by the rural need to be studied.” <b>My suggestion for the abstract is that it should have results presented at the end of the written abstract and not before the goal and the listed reasons why the study was done in the first place (explanation of how this is important for the position of rural women).</b></li> <li>Structure as defined with all subsections is appropriate although my opinion is that some of them could be better composed with more material, such as discussion that in my opinion should be improved because it’s missing at the end of the paper. Some constraints found in other articles and research conducted in previous period were listed but not in depth and little can be found out based on it, so I suggest some adjustments and more elements in the discussion part which is missing with concrete elements for implementation of ICT and especially for rural people in general and women as central part of this paper.</li> <li>I think that manuscript could be scientifically correct but with adjustments, added elements for the explanation of this particular study in the context of previous research, why this theme is needed and important/relevant for the empirical improvements of women rural livelihoods in concrete area. Other than that methodology and presented results are correct in terms of scientifically needed elements.</li> <li>I find references insufficient for the scope of this research because more references should be added and mentioned for the relevance of the conducted study. The newest reference that is listed is from 2015. and there are at least 30% of references older than 2010. so I would suggest adding references of the newer date (from last 3-5 years), because of the relevance of the conducted study. Suggested references that are related to the study and are not included but are of the newer date and insights from these studies could add some more background to this study and also help to better analyse the results that were presented through this study, are listed below: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Limbu, S., &amp; Bordoloi, N. (2015). Women Entrepreneurship: Problems and Prospects in Rural Assam. <i>International Journal of Interdisciplinary Research in Science Society and</i></li> </ul> </li> </ol>	

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	<p><i>Culture</i>, 1(1), 117-125.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Das, K. S., &amp; Mishra, D. K. (2018). Woman and work in rural Assam: pattern and determinants. <i>Journal of Social and Economic development</i>, 20, 213-239.</li> <li>- Nayak, P., &amp; Mahanta, B. (2016). Gender Disparity and women empowerment in Assam. <i>International Journal of Applied Management Research</i>, 3(1&amp;2), 1-22.</li> <li>- Rabha, B. (2020). EMPOWERMENT OF RURAL WOMEN OF KAMRUP (R) DISTRICT OF ASSAM. <i>IJRAR-International Journal of Research and Analytical Reviews (IJRAR)</i>, 7(1), 68-74.</li> <li>- Ghosh, S. K., Das, A. K., &amp; Choudhury, S. (2020, June). ICT interventions in rural development schemes: A case of Rupshi development block, Assam. In <i>2020 8th International Conference on Reliability, Infocom Technologies and Optimization (Trends and Future Directions)(ICRITO)</i> (pp. 349-354). IEEE.</li> <li>- Das, T. K., &amp; Senapati, C. (2017). An ICT-Based Framework for Agricultural Development in Rural Assam.</li> </ul>	
<p><b>Minor</b> REVISION comments</p> <p>1. <b>Is language/English quality of the article suitable for scholarly communications?</b></p>	<p>Language quality of this paper is not on high level though most of it is understandable and suitable, some sentences could be rephrased differently for better understanding. There are also some mistakes in regards to tenses in English language, where this should be corrected. For example, sentence in Abstract: "Thus as a whole the main purpose of this study examines the extent of rural women's availability, accessibility and constraints associated while use of ICTs by rural women.", could be better phrased and changed to be more appropriate for the scholarly understanding and clarity, with suggestion: <u>"Thus as a whole, the main purpose of this study is to examine the extent of availability, accessibility and constraints associated with the use of ICTs among rural women."</u></p> <p>There are also other places where some modifications could be made when it comes to the structure of sentences. Mistakes when it comes to writing and spelling are also present throughout the paper, which should be corrected. Example: "which will further increases" (introduction) should be corrected to: "which will further increase"; also "the informations" with only "transferring information" (no plural in English) etc.</p>	
<p><b>Optional/General</b> comments</p>	<p>When it comes to the subject of the paper, it is clearly said that rural women are respondents and that study was conducted to determine the usage of ICTs among them, but later throughout the paper sometimes it is referred to women farmers, so it is not exactly clear are all respondents farmers or just women in rural areas (it is not necessary to be women in rural area and at the same time farmer), so I think this should be either corrected or stated that all the women are farmers at the same time, if they are. Also, the research was done in the four districts (villages), and in the results this was not presented in any way, so I find it either unnecessary to mention that the research was done in these districts or of great importance to include also some results based on the separation of results among the different districts. Those are some of the questions that I would have for the better quality of the presented results in the research of the scope of this paper.</p>	

**PART 2:**

	<p><b>Reviewer's comment</b></p>	<p><b>Author's comment</b> (if agreed with reviewer, correct the manuscript and highlight that part in the manuscript. It is mandatory that authors should write his/her feedback here)</p>
<p><b>Are there ethical issues in this manuscript?</b></p>	<p><i>(If yes, Kindly please write down the ethical issues here in details)</i></p>	

**Reviewer Details:**

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