

Question Box

An Open Mind
Project



What is Question Box?

“Question Box is an elegant shortcut to... ‘wiring people for change: social, economic and political...”
UK Sunday Telegraph

“Question Box is a really good example of how the net can extend beyond the physical boundaries of its wires...”
Question Box on Boing Boing

“Internet access is out of the question, especially in villages where electricity, and literacy, are in short supply. Now there’s an experiment to try to change that...”
As featured in ABC News



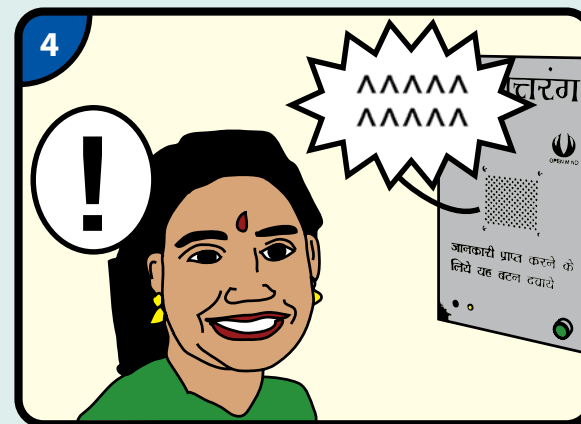
Question Box

An Open Mind
Project



Operation of Question Box

- Push the green button
- Connect to the Operator
- Ask Question
- Operator Searches
- Operator Gives Answer
- Happy User!



Question Box

An Open Mind
Project



Why Question Box

Less than 5% of Indians are active Internet users, only 9 million Internet subscriptions

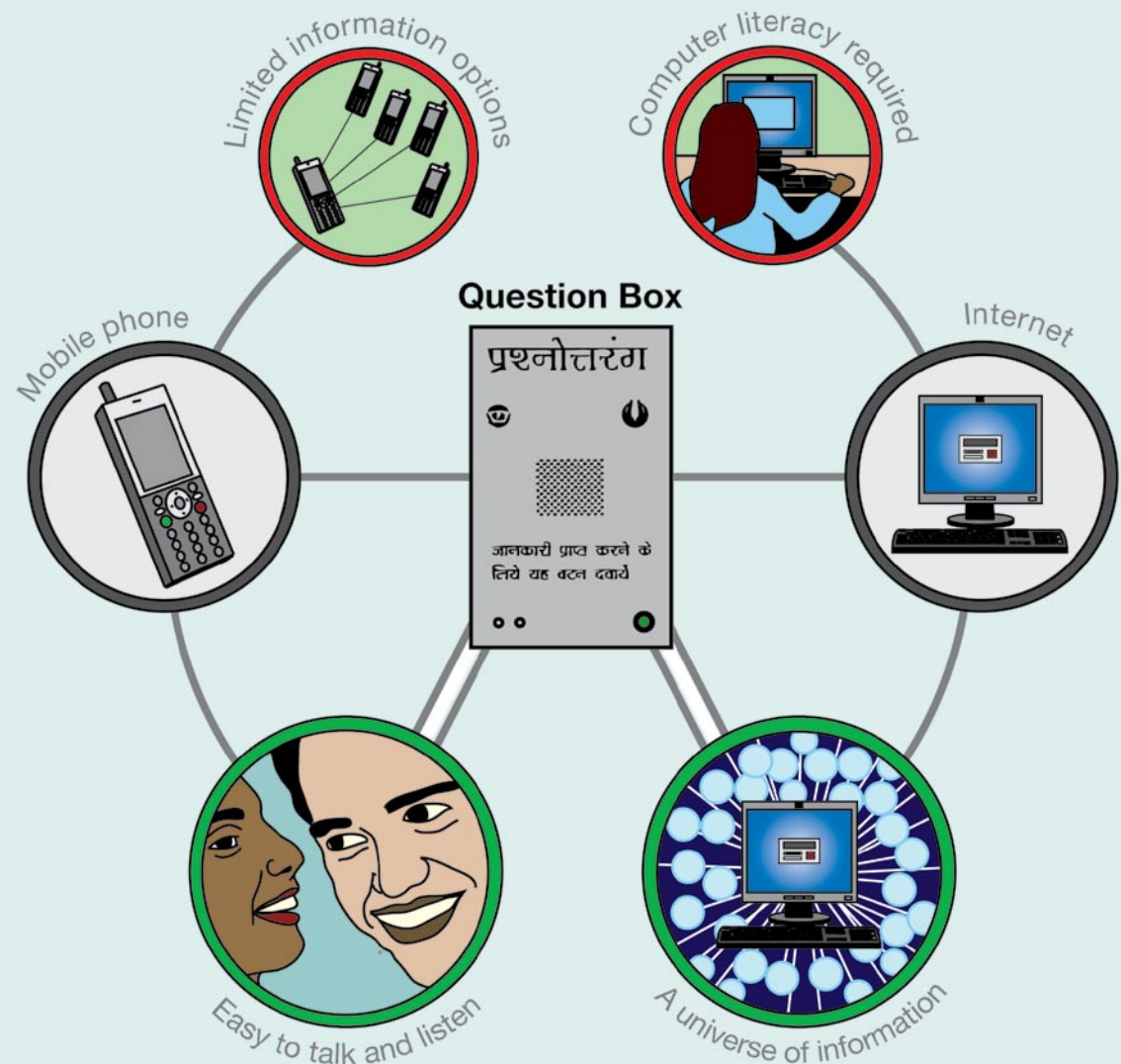
Mobile access & usage is exploding

- Indians adding 8 million mobile subscriptions monthly.

Only approx half of Indians are literate

25% of the developing world's children are not in school

Bottom line: India & much of developing world are not going to access information via reading



Question Box

An Open Mind
Project

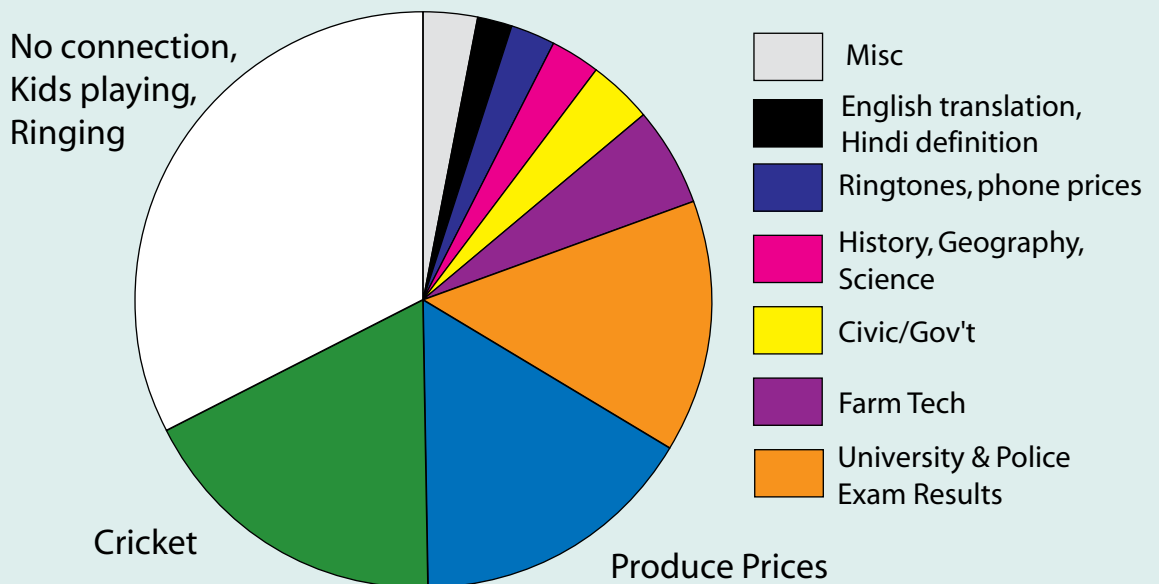


Question Box

An Open Mind
Project



Question Topics



Sample Questions

Gen-der	Age	Return User?	What was the question?	Response	Source
F	14	N	Square root of 25	i am giving ans=5	i was not search anywhere.
M	14	N	Lona related to which sports?	i was serching lona sports. and it is related to kabbadi.	www.goindiago.com/sports/kabaddi/kabaddi1.htm
M	16	Y	He asked me India vs Australia match score.	i replied him ,match score india vs Australia,INDIA=210/5Overs 30	www.action8cricket.com/Watch_Live_Cricket_Score.htm
F	25	N	She asked me pumpkin price of ghaziabad?	I replied her pumpkin price is 320 rs/quintel.	http://agmarknet.nic.in/SearchCmmMkt.asp
M	30	Y	He asked me the information of LLB entrance form of ccs university declared	i was giving the ans no LLB entrance form not declared	http://ccsum.com/result/result.asp

Question Box

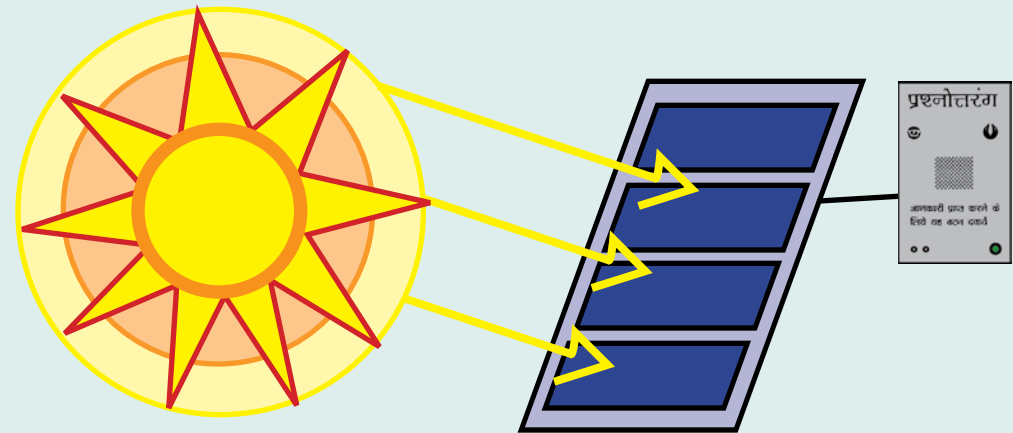
An Open Mind
Project



Next Steps

Develop next gen Question Box

- Solar Power Pilot
- Mobile Phone Backbone

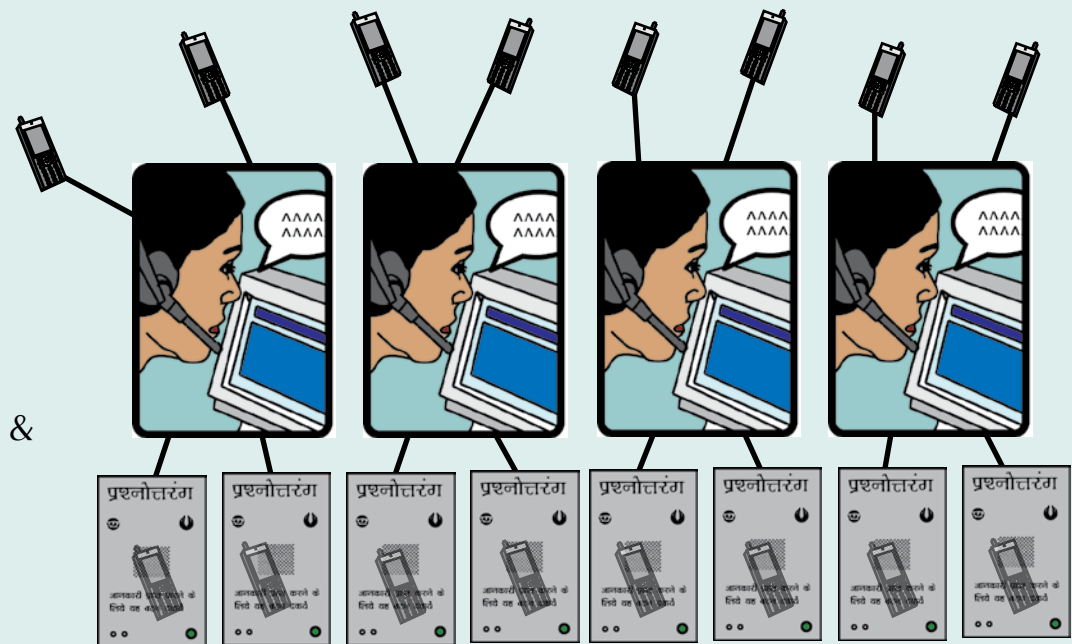


Large Scale Trials

- Probably in ICT centers

Learn:

- Mass hardware deployment & maintenance
- Managing teams of Operators
- Develop a more advanced backend system
- Willingness to pay, as the centers will be manned & therefore can collect payments
- Economics of running the service at a larger scale
- Research Question Box use in new contexts
- Direct calls to Operator from user mobiles



Question Box

An Open Mind
Project



Thank You!

Contact

Rose Shuman

Open Mind/Question Box
1158 26th St. #267
Santa Monica, CA 90403
USA

+1-301-580-6601
rose@questionbox.org

www.questionbox.org

