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A Critical Study of ICT Implementation in School Education with Special Reference to the Selected Schools of Satara District

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ABSTRACT: Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is playing a vital role in today's complex world and government services in particular. ICT in schools provide an opportunity to teachers to transform their practices by providing them with improved educational content and more effective teaching and learning methods. Wireless Technology improves the learning process through the provision of more interactive educational materials that increase learners' motivation and facilitate the easy acquisition of basic skills. The use of virtual classroom and various multimedia devices such as television, videos, and computer applications offers more challenging and engaging learning environment for students of all ages.

It is observed that most of the schools especially in rural region are reluctant to change their style and pattern of teaching pedagogy. The difficulties for academic staff in changing approaches to teaching are substantial. Academicians can change only if they are willing to take on every issue like validation, external bodies, IT issues and so on. ICT can be beneficial to the educational world with computers to help students and teachers in their academic activities.

KEYWORDS: ICT, Cloud Technology, Wireless Technology, School Education

I. INTRODUCTION

Teaching-learning process is concerned with student and teacher in education, it may be in Private or Government sector schools or colleges. It deals with the process of developing students and also the teachers, in accordance with their aspirations and to suit the educational needs. Students have all the right of enjoying the humanly modern education. In this light ICT, the newer technology plays a vital role in bringing success to education. Growth of a nation depends upon the progress of education. It benefits students as it can help them type up work quickly e.g. long essays. It gives them confidence on their vocabulary and if they commit a mistake at the beginning when handwritten they do not have to write up the whole essay again, making their presentation of work low rated.

Statement of the problem:

The quality of the students not only depends on the quality and skills of teachers but also the technology employed in the teaching-learning process involved in education. The Government is putting in all-round efforts to bring about reforms in the school education. Implementation of ICT in school education is also on its agenda as such the Government of Maharashtra has already implemented ICT in the run schools. However it remains to be seen how successfully ICT has been implemented and are the benefits associated with ICT forthcoming. Hence to answer these questions, this study titled "A Critical Study of ICT Implementation in School Education With Special Reference to the selected schools of Satara District"



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Research Gap:

On the basis of the literature review, it is evident that majority of the previous research works are focused on :

- Implementation of ICT
- Teaching and learning environment
- Internet services
- Student centric learning
- Providing Digitalizing educational materials and educational equipment.

The researcher has found research gaps is in monitoring and evaluation of ICT implementation in schools and also effective solutions to overcome the lacking areas.

To bridge the gap between the previous research and present scenario of school education, the researcher has chosen the title of research as :

"A Critical Study of ICT Implementation in School Education with Special Reference to the selected schools of Satara District"

Objectives of the Study:

The research work is concerned with the prime objective of identifying the various problems and solution thereof in school education using ICT. The other major objectives of the research are:

- 1. To study the present scenario of ICT implementation in selected schools in Satara District of Maharashtra.
- 2. To identify the problems faced during ICT implementation in the selected schools.
- 3. To analyze the effective of ICT implementation in the selected schools.
- 4. To design a working model for efficient and effective ICT implementation in schools education.
- 5. To suggest measures for effective implementation of ICT in Schools.

Hypotheses of the Study

The researcher has set out the following hypotheses:

- 1. ICT helps to enhance innovative learning and self study of the students.
- 2. The availability of ICT infrastructure affects the teaching learning process.
- 3. There is difference in the level of ICT implementation in Private and Government schools

Scope of the Study

In order to have an exhaustive study and to achieve maximum accuracy the scope has been determined as under: **Geographical Scope:** This research will be undertaken in the selected secondary schools.

Topical Scope: The focus of this research will be critical study of ICT implementation in the selected schools of Satara District.

Functional Scope: This research will cover various aspects of increased effectiveness of teaching –learning-evolution process due to ICT implementation in selected schools.

Analytical Scope: The data collected, as part of the study, will be analyzed to fulfill the objectives and to test the hypotheses.

Significance of the Study

ICT enabled school education has been beneficial in more than one-way. The significance of the proposed study is mentioned in the following lines:

Concept understanding and retention among the students will be improved considerably.

An ICT enabled school becomes a role model to neighboring schools, especially in usage of ICT as a classroomteaching-learning evolution process. It facilitates one-point contact for many teachers of the school and nearby schools for preparing online lessons for the students. It also shows increased confidence and enthusiasm for learning.



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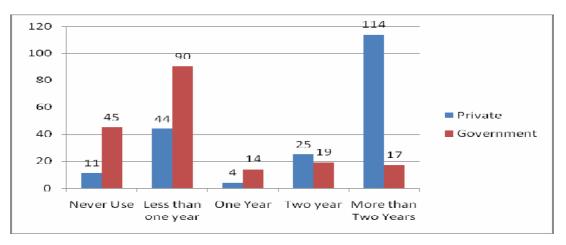
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II. METHODS OF DATA ANALYSIS

Various statistical tools and techniques will be used for quantitative analysis of data generated as a result of the survey of the selected schools, students, teachers and the administrative staff. The survey was conducted with the help of a well designed questionnaire. The questionnaire contained dichotomous, multiple option questions and liker scale was also provided to collect opinions.

Respondents		Duration of use of computers by student					Tatal
			One Year		More than Two Years	– Total Students	
School Category Governme	Private	11 (5.55%)	44 (22.22%)	4 (2%)	25 (12.63%)	114 (57.57%)	198
	Government	45 (24.32%)	90 (48.65%)	14 (7.57%)	19 (10.3%)	17 (9.19%)	185
T	otal	56 (14.62%)	134 (34.99%)	18 (4.70%)	44 (11.49%)	131 (34.20%)	383

Figure No.4.1.1: Duration of use of computers by students



In private schools 5.55% of students have never used computers, 22.22%, have used them for less than one year, 2% of have used them for one year, 12.63% of have used computers for two years and 57.57% have used them for more than two years.

In government schools, 24.32% of the students have responded that they had never used computers, 48.65% of the respondents have used computers for less than one year and 7.57% responded that they had used for 'one year', 10.3% responded that they had used computers for two years and 9.19% responded that they had used computers for more than two years and 9.19% responded that they had used computers for more than two years.



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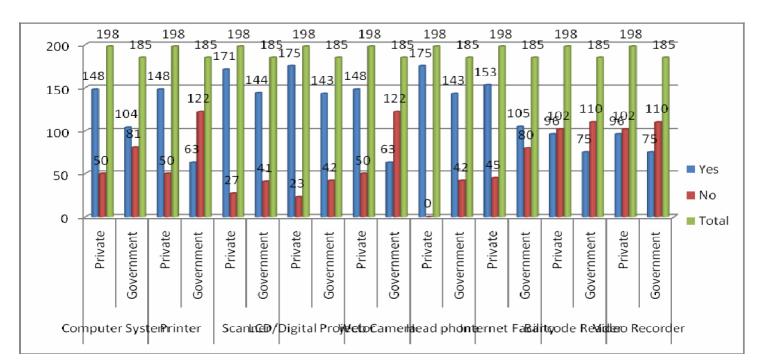
Therefore, it is concluded that, use of ICT is more among private schools compared to government schools.

Statement	Respondents	Yes	No	Total
	Private	185(93.43%)	13(6.56%)	198
Computer System	Government	153(82.70%)	32(17.29%)	185
	Total	338(176.13%)	45(23.85%)	383
	Private	148(74.7%)	50(25.3%)	198
Printer	Government	63(34.1%)	122(65.9%)	185
	Total	211(55.1%)	172(44.9%)	383
	Private	171(89.4%)	27(13.6%)	198
Scanner	Government	144(77.8%)	41(22.2%)	185
	Total	315(82.2%)	68(17.8%)	383
LCD/Digital Projector	Private	175(88.4%)	23(11.6%)	198
	Government	143(77.3%)	42(22.7%)	185
	Total	318(83.0%)	65(17.0%)	383
	Private	148(74.7%)	50(25.3%)	198
Web Camera	Government	63(34.1%)	122(65.9%)	185
	Total	211(55.1%)	172(44.9%)	383
a	Private	175(88.4)	23(11.6)	198
Sound System	Government	143(77.3)	42(22.7)	185
	Total	318(83.0)	65(17.0)	383
Internet Facility	Private	153(77.3%)	45(22.7%)	198
	Government	105(56.8%)	80(43.2%)	185
	Total	258(67.4%)	125(32.6%)	383
Bar code Reader	Private	96(48.48%)	02(51.52%)	198
	Government	75(40.54%)	110(59.46%)	185
	Total	171	212	383
Video	Private	96(48.5%)	.5%) 102(51.5%)	
Recorder	Government	75(40.5%)	110(59.5%)	185
	Total	171(44.6)	212(55.4)	383

Table 4.1.4: Availability of ICT Infrastructure in the school.



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Graph No.4.1.4: Availability of ICT Infrastructure in private and government Schools

The above table and graph furnishes information about availability of ICT infrastructure in the in private and government schools.

Computer system:

It is clear from the above table that 93.4% of the private schools have computer systems, while 82.70% of the government schools have computersystems.

Printer:

It is seen that 74.7% of the private schools have printer, while 34.1% of the government schools have printer.

Scanner:

Above table indicate that 89.4% of the private schools have scanner, while 77.8% of the government schools have scanner.

LCD/Digital projector:

It is clear from the above table that 88.4% of the private schools have LCD/Digital systems, while 77.3% of the government schools have LCD/Digital systems.

Web camera:

It is seen that 74.7% .of the private schools have web camera, while 34.1% of the government schools have web camera.

Sound system:

Above table indicate that 88.4% of the private schools have sound system, while 77.3% of the government schools have sound system.

Internet facility:

It is clear from the above table that 77.3% of the private schools have internet facility, while 56.8% of the government schools have internet facility.

Bar code reader:

It is seen that 48.48% .of the private schools have bar code reader, while only 40.54% of the government schools have bar code reader.



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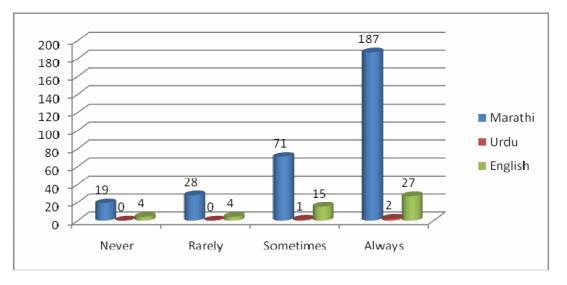
Video recorder:

Above table indicate that 48.5% of the private schools have video recorder, while 40.5% of the government schools have video recorder.

Respondents		Frequen	Total			
		Never	Rarely	Sometimes	Always	
	Marathi	19	28	71	187	305
Medium		6.2%	9.2%	23.3%	61.3%	
	Urdu	0	0	1	2	3
		0.0%	0.0%	33.3%	66.7%	
	lwEnglish	4	4	15	27	50
		8.0%	8.0%	30.0%	54.0%	
Total		23	32	87	216	358
		6.4%	8.9%	24.3%	60.3%	100.0%

Table No 4.7.6: Analysis of Teachers on the basis use of various ICT aids used.

Graph No 4.7.6: Analysis of Teachers on the basis use of various ICT aids.



The above table and graph shows the information about frequently use of information and communication technology (ICT) aids.

It is found that 61.3% of Marathi medium teachers, 66.7% of Urdu medium teachers and 54% of English medium teachers make the use of ICT tools frequently (always).

It is also found that 23.3% of Marathi medium teachers, 33.3% Urdu medium teachers and 30% English medium teacher uses ICT sometimes.

Only 6.2% of Marathi medium teachers and 8% English medium teachers never uses ICT.

While 9.2% of Marathi medium schools and 8% English medium schools rarely use ICT respectively.

It concludes that use of ICT is more in Urdu medium school than the Marathi and English medium school.



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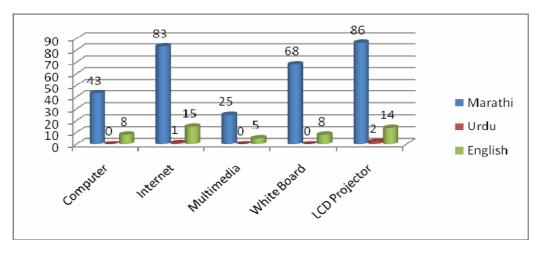
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Respondents		What types of ICT do you use frequently					T 1
		Computer	Internet	Multimedia	White Screen	LCD Projector	Total
	Marathi	43	83	25	68	86	305
Aediu m		14.1%	27.2%	8.2%	22.3%	28.2%	
	Urdu	0	1	0	0	2	3
		0.0%	33.3%	0.0%	0.0%	66.7%	
	English	8	15	5	8	14	50
		16.0%	30.0%	10.0%	16.0%	28.0%	
Total		51	99	30	76	102	358
		14.2%	27.7%	8.4%	21.2%	28.5%	100.0%

Table No 4.7.7: Use of ICT facilities.

Graph No 4.7.7: Analysis of Teachers on the basis of using ICT



The above table No 4.7.7 and graph No. 4.7.7 reveals the information about different ICT facilities used by teachers in their school.

In Marathi medium schools 14.1% of respondents responded computer used frequently, while 27.2% respondents responded Internet used frequently, 25(8.2%) respondents responded multimedia used frequently, 22.3% respondents responded LCD projector used frequently. In Urdu medium schools 66.7% of respondents responded LCD projector used frequently, while 33.3% respondents responded Internet used frequently.

In English medium schools 16% of respondents responded computer is used frequently, while 30% respondents responded Internet is used frequently, 10% respondents responded multimedia used frequently, 16% respondents responded white



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III. MAJOR FINDINGS, CONCLUSIONS, SUGGESTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This chapter concerns with findings and conclusions presented in section-I and suggestions and recommendations in section-II

The findings are a result of the analysis of data pertaining to students, teachers and administrative staff of selected schools. Further also presented are finding as a result of the testing of hypotheses.

Section-I

A. Major Findings and Conclusions based on Analysis of Data from Survey of Students

Researcher covered 11 Taluka in Satara District and interacted with Marathi, Urdu and English Medium students regarding availability of ICT infrastructure in their school and major findings are as follows:-

- 1. It is found that there is a difference in availability of ICT infrastructure between private and government schools. It indicates that out of 198 private schools 191 (96.46%) schools responded the availability of ICT infrastructure and 36.22% government schools responded the availability of ICT infrastructure.
- It is concluded that, availability of private schools are better in ICT infrastructure as compared to government schools. (Ref. Table No. 4.1.3)
- 1. It is found from table 4.1.2 that out of 198 private schools 191 (96.46%) schools having required number of computers and out of 185 only 68(36.22) government schools have required number of computers.
- Therefore it is concluded that, there is a difference in availability of computers between private and government schools. As compare to government and private schools more number of private schools are having required numbers of computers.
- B. Major Findings and Conclusions based on Analysis of Data from Survey of Teachers
- 1. Majority of teachers are confident about their use of ICT and its applications.
- 2. The use of ICT is met with positivity from teachers, contradictory to its actual implementation and application.
- 3. Teachers responses reflect a high confidence in ICT use, especially for the most basic and intuitive PC tasks. According to the classification used by the researcher, over half of the ICT skills or applications listed were rated as high, with the remainder rated as medium.

C. Major Findings and Conclusions based on Analysis of Data from Survey of Administrative staff

- 1. As per the government policies to improve the quality of education, financial support have been given to various schools in each district.
- 2. It is found that some government schools are not utilizing ICT equipment regularly even after receiving it from government due to negligence and irresponsibility.

Conclusion

The study was conducted to examine the ICT Implementation in school education with special reference to selected schools of Satara district'. ICT in school provide an opportunity to teachers to transform their practices by providing them improved educational content, environment and new learning methods. The present study examines the ICT implementation in private as well as government schools. Researcher covered ZP Schools, Nagarpalika School and private Schools which comprises all the medium.(English/Marathi/Urdu). On the basis of it findings reveal that in comparison to private schools and government schools are quite behind in terms of ICT implementation. Public schools are facing the financial difficulties to implement ICT infrastructure in effective manner and need government support.

Section-II

E. Suggestions and Recommendations to Schools

1. Researcher suggested recommends that availability of computers should be improved in English medium schools as well as in Urdu Medium Schools.



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- 2. As findings reveals that government schools are behind in terms of availability of computers thus, researcher suggested that government should take necessary actions for enhancing the number of computers in government schools for student improvement.
 - F. Suggestions and Recommendations to Teachers
 - 1. Numbers of computers were very less in Government schools in comparison to Private schools. Researcher suggests that ICT infrastructure should be improved because due to poor ICT infrastructure performance of teachers affects.
 - 2. There is a need to provide appropriate training to teachers for effective use of ICT.
 - G. Suggestions and Recommendations to Administrative staff
 - 1. Majority of schools were lacking from good ICT aids and need financial support to establish required ICT infrastructure. State Government should provide financial assistance to set up ICT infrastructure.
 - 2. School Management should take initiative for ICT implementation

Conclusion

After accomplishing the smart school development, researcher found that the system is easy to use and user centered. The suggested system smart school successfully finishes user's requirement by providing instant information.

It has been found that the system effectively registers students along with parental information, easily retrieves information about a student and generates the required reports. In addition to generating a feasible master timetable it produces a timetable for each teacher. Furthermore it has been shown that the web application of the system helps attendance recording by the homeroom teacher and parents can view the status of their children using the Internet or Intranet of the school. **It can fulfill all the set objectives.**

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