A STUDY ON THE IMPACT OF COMPUTER LITERACY ON LEARNING WITH REFERENCE TO HIGH SCHOOLS IN KARNATAKA

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Abstract:

The increased use of a computer by students and academics alike is an important measure of technological development in an academic environment. Thus, the computer is an electronic device that accepts data, processes data, stores data, and disseminates data as meaningful output. The use of computers is now dominant in all areas of human endeavors, especially in academic institutions. Therefore, there is a need for the acquisition of computer skills for students to operate the computer effectively. Computer literacy is the knowledge and ability to use computers and technology efficiently. Computer literacy can also be referred to the comfort level someone has by using computer programs and other applications that are related to computers. World Computer Literacy Day started as an initiative by an Indian multinational corporation, NIIT, to mark its 20th anniversary. The first celebration of the day happened in 2001, and the topic of discussion at the event was a research that suggested that the majority of people fluent in computer usage were men. Annual events such as Computer Literacy Day can be a great opportunity to amplify the need to bridge this digital divide. Access to computers should reach women, children, and marginalized people; it is only possible through collective efforts. Computer education in schools plays an important role in student's career developments. Computer with the internet is the most power full device that students can use to learn new skills and more. Advanced version of current lessons. Universities and schools are around the global teaching the students basics of computers and the internet online and offline. The uses of computers and the internet are growing day by day at high speed. In almost all business companies, schools using computers for various official operations. New tech tools are coming that helping students to learn better. The Technology has a very positive impact on education and at the same time may also pose negative effects. Teachers and students should take advantage of this in the good light and eliminate the drawbacks which are pulling back many of students as well as High schools from achieving excellence.

Keywords: Impact, Computer Literacy, Learning, High Schools etc.

INTRODUCTION:

Technology has set foot in every facet of our lives. Computers and the technologies associated with them have become an indispensable part of our education as well. Schools are reforming the way they teach their students by integrating technology into the realm of education. There is no doubt that computers and their technologies have enhanced teaching and learning in schools. Hence, the importance of computer literacy has soared over the years and it has become essential to make students computer literate.

World Computer Literacy Day is marked on 2nd December every year. This day is celebrated to drive digital literacy, specifically among women and children. Although the world is progressing toward an increasingly digital future, certain sections of society still have either limited or no digital access. As much as Computer Literacy Day is about celebrating computers, it is also about advocating for computer literacy in all sections of society. Digitally literate people have a benefit over those who lack digital literacy, and this is creating a digital divide in the world. Therefore, Computer Literacy Day aims to spread awareness about the inculcation of technological skills in people from marginalized communities. This is a generation where half of the work is done by or on computers. People now carry computers everywhere, be it offices or vacations. A computer-literate country with proper access to the internet is a step towards development.

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WHAT IS COMPUTER LITERACY?

Computer literacy is the ability or knowledge to use computers efficiently and effectively. Acquiring computer literacy would enhance the learning process for students manifold. In order to be futuristic, students need to acquire computer literacy. In the coming years, their education and learning will take place on computers and for that teachers must equip students with the skills required to use computers seamlessly. Moreover, studies have shown that the students who are computer literate perform better academically, and hence, it is necessary that teachers incorporate computer literacy into their curriculum. Digital literacy would enable students to be aware of the basic hardware and software functions of the computers which would come in handy in multiple situations in their lives.

IMPORTANCE OF COMPUTER EDUCATION IN HIGH SCHOOLS:

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internet online and offline. The uses of computers and the internet are growing day by day at high speed. In almost all business companies, schools using computers for various official operations. New tech tools are coming that helping students to learn better. Computers help students to draw creativity on the computer such as by using windows paint programme. If students are taking Hindi classes or poem, writing then they can so it by typing in Hindi on computers. If students are taking Mathematics classes they can use Microsoft excel application to solve and understand question. In schools computer education is one of the most important subject, if we compare this with the current technological updates and demands of computer knowledge in various government and private sector jobs. In schools computer education is really important for teaching, learning and evaluating the students as well as computer teachers to teach students about how to use computer? How to understand the benefits of using various applications such as Microsoft word excel, PowerPoint, Internet safety etc. The main goal of technological education is to make students think creativity and confident. That helps them in higher education and in-life education plays very important role in our life and career developments.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:

To assess the Impact of Computer Literacy on Learning with reference To High Schools in Karnataka.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:

This research paper is based on secondary sources of data such as websites, books, journals, articles and many more.

IMPACT OF COMPUTER LITERACY LEARNING:

ENHANCED TEACHING AND LEARNING:

Technological development like digital cameras, projectors, mind training, software, computers Power point presentations, 3D visualization tools all these have become great sources for teachers to help students grasp a concept easily. It has to be understood that visual explanations of concepts makes learning fun and enjoyable for students. They are able to participate more in the classroom and even teachers get a chance to make their classes more interactive and interesting.

GLOBALIZATION:

When schools in different parts of the sate Students can meet their counter parts through video conferencing without leaving the classroom. Some sites are used to help students learn foreign languages online by pairing a group of students with a teacher from other country.

NO GEOGRAPHICAL LIMITATIONS:

With the introduction of online programs there is hardly any need of being present physically in the classroom. Even several foreign universities have start online degree courses that student can join. Distance Learning and online education have become very important part of the education system nowadays.

ONLINE SAFETY

In today's world, we rely heavily on computers and the internet for a variety of purposes and it is impossible to keep students away from them. Therefore it is essential that students learn the basic etiquette while using computers and learn to use these resources responsibly. Moreover, with the development of technology, the issues like cyber bullying are on the rise. Thus, it is your responsibility to keep students safe and informed about such dangers. You can help them to understand what cyber bullying is and how they can stay away from such dangers. It is difficult to keep track of internet usage all the time and so, it is better to equip students to face the challenges they may face in the world of the internet.

HELPS IN ENHANCING TECHNOLOGY:

Today, most of the technology depends on the computer system. From the basic electronic devices to astronomical devices, everything needs a computer. So if someone wants to create a new technology he should have known about the computers. For example, a person wants to create a machine which could be used in medical science. The machine will require some device to formulate the results. This device is a modified version of a computer system. So the person should be able to modify the computer. For this, the person must be educated in the field of computer science. When a person studies computer science, he feels motivated to create new technologies. It fills his mind with new ideas to create some new technology which could be used for the betterment of the society.

HELPS IN CREATING A BETTER EDUCATION ENVIRONMENT:

Smart classrooms are emerging these days. Every school uses computers to teach their students. It creates a more effective learning and teaching environment. Learning becomes easier with the use of technology. Along with becoming easier, it becomes all the way more fun. To use the facilities available in a smart classroom, computer education is necessary. Every school prefers to employ those teachers who can use computers as a teaching tool. Computers can be used to teach a lot of things. With multimedia available in the computer system, the difficult topics can be easily understood. The information delivered to the students via a computerized is much more easily retained by them than the regular delivery of information. So for imparting proper and effective education to the students, the teachers must possess a fair education about the computer system and their usage.

MAKES COMMUNICATION EASY:

The world is very large. All our loved ones do not live with us. We all want to communicate with our loved ones who reside in the different parts of the world or country. The communication started with a letter and came till telephones. Letters did not offer effective communication over a very long distance and the communication was only text-based. The telephonic conversation was one step ahead. We could hear the voice of our loved ones. In today's technology, we can use computers for communication. It provides us with facilities like chatting, calling, video conferencing which has helped a lot in communication. The function of video conferencing or we can say video chat or video calling is being used widely these days. It helps us to see the person we are talking to. It has become very useful for the person who resides very far from their families as they

can now communicate with them as they are just sitting in front of them. To use these facilities of communication using the computer, computer education is required. Nowadays, children who reside far from their parents are teaching their parents how to use the computer for the communication so that they can have an easy and cheap communication with them.

EXCEL IN ACADEMICS

Computer literacy enables students to make use of the online learning platforms that are available on the internet. There is a number of learning platforms and doubt-solving platforms available for students and also they can connect with experts on the internet to learn more about their learning concepts. As most schools are shifting to digital learning, it is essential that students are computer literate. In this way, they will be able to make use of the resources to the maximum. Computer literacy would help students seamlessly use the digital platforms of learning.

ONLINE TESTS

Computer literacy would equip your students to attend and ace the online exams. Most of the competitive exams are online now. Hence, in order to perform well in those exams, students need to have basic computer knowledge and skills. Moreover, since schools use digital platforms they ought to be aware of the functionalities of the computers. It is necessary for the students to acquire this knowledge. They should learn how to perform basic tasks in an operating system.

BETTER CAREER PROSPECTS

Modern culture relies heavily on electronic communication, such as email. They are used in professional as well as educational institutions. Thus, teachers can ensure that the students learn these basic skills like sending emails, doing presentations, and collecting and storing data. Moreover, these skills would instill an interest in jobs revolving around computer skills. Also, in today's world, most employers expect their employees to have expertise in computers and technical skills. So, computer literacy would expand the skill sets of students and helps them to land a job of their choice.

FLEXIBILITY:

Online education enables both the teacher as well as the students to set their own learning pace plus provides the flexibility of setting a schedule that fits everyone's agenda. Consequently, providing a better work-study balance.

A WIDE RANGE OF COURSES:

In a space as vast and wide as the internet, infinite skills and subjects are there to teach and learn.

MORE COST-EFFECTIVE THAN CONVENTIONAL LEARNING:

Lesser monetary investment is there with better results. With the online mode of learning, the money spent on study materials along with commute charges is considerably less.

NEGATIVE IMPACT OF DIGITAL OR COMPUTER EDUCATION ON LEARNING:

DECLINING WRITING SKILLS:

Due to the excessive use of online chatting and shortcuts the writing kills of today's young generation have declined quite tremendously. These days children are relying more and more on digital communication that they have totally forgot about improving their writing skills. They don't know the spelling of different words how to use grammar properly or how to do cursive writing.

INCREASING INCIDENTS OF CHEATING:

Technological developments like graphing, calculator, high tech watches, minicomputers and similar equipment have become great source to cheat in exams. It is easier for students to write formulas and notes on graphical calculators with least chances of being caught.

LACK OF FOCUS:

A SMS or text message has become a favourite pastime of many students. Students are seen playing with their cell phone day and night or driving and very often even between lectures. Being ever-connected to the online world has resulted in lack of focus and concentration in academics and to some extent even in sorts and extracurricular activities.

LACK OF A HEALTHY LEARNING ENVIRONMENT:

Education is not just about classes but interactions, broadening of ideas, and free-flowing open discussions. Students learn more from each other while engaging in challenging collective tasks and thinking together. There is substantial learning that is lost when education goes online. Staring at a screen prevents them from using their mind and acting as remote receptors of what is beamed.

LACK OF TECHNOLOGY ACCESS:

Not everyone who can afford to go to school can afford to have phones, computers, or even a quality internet connection for attending classes online.   Due to this, the mental stress that students have to undergo is very high.

IN CONTRADICTORY WITH RIGHT TO EDUCATION:

Technology is not affordable to all, shifting towards online education completely is like taking away the Right to Education of those who cannot access the technology. Moreover, the National Education Policy that talks about the digitization of education is also in contradiction with the right to education.

HEALTH - EYE ISSUES:

Younger students, especially in classes 1 to 3 were most likely to suffer from eye-health issues due to staring at the computer or mobile screen for extended periods. Other health issues like neck and back pain etc. due to bad posture and lack of movement have been noticed in older students.

CONCLUSION:

Computers have occupied a very important place in our lives. We cannot imagine our life without computers. They are being used in each and every field to make work easier. The work is done in an efficient manner and consumes less time. However, computer systems have a few disadvantages also. Computers have no brain. They cannot take a decision on their own. They need human guidance. Computers can affect health. They may affect the eyes of the person using it. Also, the computers which are not in working condition and cannot be repaired accumulate as non-biodegradable waste. Despite these disadvantages, a computer does not lose its importance and created the need for computer education. With the growing uses of the computer, the requirement of computer education is also. With such vas usage of computers system, it has become necessary that each person should have the knowledge to use the computer systems. Now computer education is being taught in schools and colleges. The elderly people are also trying to learn how to use a computer. As the time is passing, technology is increasing. So for our own convenience, it has become important for all of us to gain computer education.

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