A STUDY OF THE PERCEPTION OF STUDENTS AND TEACHERS ON THE INTEGRATION OF ICT IN TEACHING OF COMMERCE IN THE SENIOR SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF LUCKNOW

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ABSTRACT
Information and communication technologies (ICT) are electronic technologies used for information storage and retrieval. Development is partly determined by the ability to establish a synergistic interaction between technological innovation and human values. ICT is viewed as a “major tool for building knowledge societies” (UNESCO 2003) and, particularly, as a mechanism at the school education level that could provide a way to rethink and redesign the educational systems and processes, thus leading to quality education for all.

The aim of this paper is to study the perception of students and teachers on the integration of ICT in teaching of commerce. The research design adopted for this study was the survey research designs. The sample for the study was drawn from five selected Senior Secondary Schools in city of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. Random sampling of 100 senior secondary students and 10 teachers were selected for the study. Stratified random sampling technique was used in selecting the five schools from the list of schools. Finding are interesting as real scenario of ICT in Teaching of Commerce is revealed. The research is highly significant of school teachers administration, students and parents.

INTRODUCTION:
Information and communication technologies (ICT) are electronic technologies used for information storage and retrieval. Development is partly determined by the ability to establish a synergistic interaction between technological innovation and human values. ICT is viewed as a “major tool for building knowledge societies” (UNESCO 2003) and, particularly, as a mechanism at the school education level that could provide a way to rethink and redesign the educational systems and processes, thus leading to quality education for all.

Since mid-20th Century the growth of ICT has been rapid and has actually played strong role in enhancing of learning and creation of knowledge (Nwagwu 2006). It can be observed from the daily activities of human that is has significantly impacted on all workable areas of human being. Education is the most diverse and dynamic field which has the potential of changing the entire thought process of an individual. If combined with another most dynamic process known as ICT it is bound to make teaching, learning, thought generation and research the most desired outcomes of the education. In one of the research conducted by Davis and Tearle(1999) concluded that ICTs' have the potential to accelerate, enrich, and deepen skills, to motivate and engage students, to help relate school experience to work practices, create economic viability for tomorrow’s workers, as well as strengthening teaching and helping schools to change.

OBJECTIVE OF THE STUDY:
The objectives of this study were to determine:

i. expanse of pupils perception of ICT integration in the learning of Commerce

ii. expanse of teachers perception of ICT integration in the teaching of Commerce

Research Questions:

i. What is the profile of the respondents in the study?

ii. What is the expanse of pupil's perception of ICT integration in the learning of Commerce?

iii. What is the expanse of teacher's perception of ICT integration in the teaching of Commerce?

SIGNIFICANCE OF THE STUDY:
This study is significant in various number of ways. with attempt to explore the expanse of the perception of students and teachers on the usage of ICT in teaching and learning of commerce. It is expected from the study that it will help to explore what students' feel when they use ICT for learning. It will help them to unfold the issues and challenges that the students face on the usage of ICT and how far it helps them to learn better. Similarly the perception of teachers will be unfolded on the usage of ICT in teaching of Commerce. The knowledge derived from the perception of students and teachers on the usage of ICT will help the school administration, Commerce teachers and the parents on making the efforts on increasing the usage of ICT and various reasons of integrating ICT in teaching and learning of Commerce.

RESEARCH METHODOLOGY:
Research Design:
The research design adopted for this study was the survey research designs.

Population of the Study:
The population of the study was made up of all senior secondary school teacher and students.

Sample and Sampling Technique:
The sample for the study was drawn from five selected Senior Secondary Schools in city of Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh. Random sampling of 100 senior secondary students and 10 teachers were selected for the study. Stratified random sampling technique was used in selecting the five schools from the list of schools.

Method of Data Analysis:
The data collected from the self-developed questionnaire was analysed using descriptive statistics of simple percentage.

THE FINDINGS FROM THE STUDY:
The major finding from the study reveals that:

- Most of the respondents have a desired profile that qualifies them for assessing integration of Information and Communication Technology (ICTs) in teaching of commerce
- The pupils perceived that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is not very well integrated in the teaching and learning of commerce as most of teaching content are not assessed properly for the usage of ICT
- The teachers perceived that Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is integrated in the teaching and learning of commerce but due to lack of awareness of how to integrate sometimes the best ways of integration are missed out.

Other related findings:
There is a serious concerns on the usage of ICT in teaching of commerce in the schools. There is an urgent need of analysis and restricting of the present curriculum keeping the practical views. Subjects like accountancy where tally and other software forms the basis of the understanding of the subject the curriculum should be redesigned to incorporate the needs. The employability of the students should increase by creating a Education-Industry linkages. Students are well aware of various technologies therefore efforts should be made for replacing chalk and talk methoda with new pedagogy like audio-visual training, business games, computer-aided teaching, case study, group discussion, project works etc as students clearly demanded in the study.

CONCLUSION:
The one of the main finding from the study emphasize that ICT is a reliable tool...
to enhance teaching and learning in school education and teaching of commerce. However, it depends on the usage of ICT in the teaching of commerce how it will increase the outcomes of the teaching and learning outcomes. Though with the 21st century being the ear of digitalisation it completely depends on the users how they are using it. It is very important for learners and the teachers to be empowered enough to be aware of various ICT available for learning and also be capable to judge which ICT to use and how it will be most impactful for the learning and teaching. Teachers should be capable to develop their own teaching materials with the applications of various Information Communication Technologies. Along with the teachers attempt should also be made by the teachers to collaborate students in development of their study materials and content developed by students. This will help to satisfy students who believe that Usage of ICT in teaching of Commerce is not well integrated.

RECOMMENDATIONS:

With the findings of the study following recommendations are made:

• Various workshops and orientation programs should be organised for teachers so that teachers update their knowledge on the integration of the ICT.

• Regular feedback from students should be taken for knowing the satisfaction on their learning in commerce through the integration of ICT in the school system and their feedback should form the base for the integration of ICT in teaching of Commerce.

• Principals and management should be made aware that with the various opportunities which they give to their teachers and students they will provide a outcome based learning environment for their schools.

• While developing the curriculum all experts of the curriculum development should incorporate the compulsory integration and the use of ICT tools in the teaching and learning of Commerce at the school level.

• School affiliating boards should continuously organize seminar, conferences, series of lectures and workshop for Commerce teachers for integration, promotion and the application of ICT tools to classroom instructional process in schools for teaching of commerce.

• Incentive schemes should be made popular for commerce teachers for the integration and the usage of ICT in the pedagogy of commerce for increasing the interest and efforts for the school's commerce teachers.

REFERENCES: