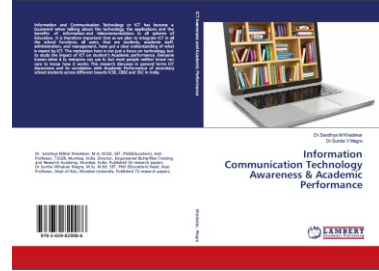


BOOK REVIEW

TITLE: Information Communication Technology and Academic Performance

Authors: Dr. Sandhya M. Khedekar & Dr. Sunita V. Magre

Book Review Written by: Dr. Frances Vaidya



I am indeed honoured to introduce the book entitled Information Communication Technology Awareness authored by Dr. Sandhya Milind Khedekar and Dr. Sunita Magre. This book is Dr. Sandhya 's edited Ph.d research thesis which was completed in 2012 under the guidance of Dr. Sunita Magre who is presently heading the Department of Education. This book is published on 21st January 2016, by Lambert Academic Publishing House, Germany under the category of education, occupation, career and ICT.

This book is of vital importance in the 21st century since this century is characterized with the emergence of knowledge based society wherein ICT plays a pivotal role. The book also conforms to the National Curriculum Framework of 2005 and NCERT 2010 which highlights the importance of ICT in schools.

The Government of India has announced 2010-2020 as the decade of innovation and stresses on the importance of reasoning and critical thinking and places of developing these skills at school level. ICT tools and techniques are now to be integrated into classroom instructions so all the more this book is of greater importance.

This book is very well written and it uses simple language which makes it easy to understand and read by every reader especially upcoming researchers. The style of the book follows the format of a research thesis thus providing guidelines to any research scholar.

The book takes you to a journey to the world of ICT as it spells out how information and communication progressed till date. Dr. Hemlata Chari in her preface, rightly said that this book speaks volumes of their research undertaken in the area of ICT and Academic Performance of Secondary School Students.

The book begins with the historical perspective in which it focuses the important role of information and communication in the evolution of species and how they were once regarded as separate and how they slowly became integrated and coined as one word Information Communication Technology.

The author then slowly proceed to show how ICT is a must in schools today and therefore the book is of utmost importance as the study, centres around secondary school students and the various boards and proceeds to find out whether there is awareness of ICT and it then proceeds to compare it with other boards. It dwells into all aspects of ICT and compares it with the academic performance on the basis of gender and school types.

Since the present scenario, there is a need for securing human resources acquired with ICT competency is becoming a very important issues. Many countries now regard understanding of ICT and mastering the basic skills and concepts of ICT as a part of the core of education, alongside reading, writing and numeracy. The Maharashtra State Board of Secondary and Higher Secondary Education (2012) has introduced Information and Communication Technology as a core subject to Std IX with the following objectives-

- a) Introduction to ICT and its necessity
- b) Study of ICT tools
- c) Effective use of ICT in continuous learning
- d) Prepare students to
- e) effective use of information and communication technology
- f) make familiar with ICT packages in science, maths and other areas

This only guarantees the importance of this book as it has focused strongly on the above. An indebt study is done on the review of related literature on the awareness of ICT both in India and abroad which suggest that the student's Academic performance has been studied in relation to most of the psychological factors that like self -efficacy, motivation etc. The author could not find any researches conducted on the relationship between ICT awareness and academic performance of students. Therefore this research is different from the studies already conducted and it differed from the concept of academic performance as it is related to the perceived impact

of the use of ICT on the students' performance in the academic area. Other studies have considered academic performance in terms of marks, academic impairment etc.

This book studies the awareness of ICT in all its aspects and compares it with academic performance on the basis of gender and school types. A large variety of sample taken for the purpose of the study only shows that it can be generalized to the concerned population.

The author has prepared a tool of her own for which she has established the validity and reliability. This tool thus becomes helpful to any researcher to use it for the purpose of their study based on the similar theme. It also can be used as guidelines for any research scholar to prepare similar tools for research purposes.

The author have systematically and analytically appropriate descriptive and inferential statistical techniques to quantify the data.

The research findings will be very helpful to teachers, principals, research scholars, educational planners who are going to make use of the results and plan things as per the findings.

Since this is the author edited Ph.d research thesis the author has her own limitations and was unable to cover all the aspects of ICT at one go. However, she has beautifully suggested the areas in the book which can be further research on.

The author excels unlike many other researchers who fail to disseminate and implement their research findings for the benefit of the society. She has already disseminating her research work of ICT in schools. She has already started her march in implementing ICT in ashramshalas and currently work with a Navdrushti with support of Dorf Ketal Chemicals (I) Pvt. Ltd.

Wishing her success in all her future endeavours.

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