

# **Critical Study on Newly Introduced IT Enabled Instruction in the Secondary Schools of Kerala**

## **Executive Summary**

Our society is undergoing rapid changes due to the technological and social advancements brought about by the Information revolutions. Technology is now fused with transaction of information, resulting the emergence of a new branch which is known as Information Technology (IT). Education and information technology are closely interrelated. The use of technology in the classroom improves student's motivation and attitude about themselves and about learning. For this technology need to be effectively integrated into formal classroom teaching and learning conditions. Such a fusion is the backbone of IT enabled instruction introduced in Kerala under the leadership of IT@school project. The present study was conducted on a representative sample of 300 teachers from various revenue districts of Kerala. A Questionnaire on IT enabled instruction were used to collect the data. Data were analysed and interpreted on the basis of percentage analysis. The study reveals that though the text book is suitable for IT enabled instruction, the hand books do not fully support it and doesn't give technical information. IT enabled instruction make the class room transaction effective and much easier. It also helps to maintain the students' attention in the class room activities. But the percentage of teachers using IT for the purpose of evaluation is very small. Though the male teachers do not find IT as an over burden, the female, government and aided school teachers feel IT as an over burden. There is a high opinion among teachers that IT enabled instruction promote the learning capacity of slow learners, increase the grasping power and achievement level of students, promote a positive attitude towards learning, inculcate interest in learning and help to promote self learning nature among students. Teachers do not have a strong opinion that our social set up is suitable for IT enabled instruction. Teachers opined that parents should be given awareness about IT enabled instruction. The study shows that though the teacher empowerment programmes are helpful in providing confidence in dealing with IT enabled class room situations effectively, they do not give technical information.

To realise the objectives of IT enabled instruction, well qualified and trained teachers are required. Therefore teachers should be given refresher courses at regular intervals so that they should be informed the new developments in the field of IT . Training in IT enabled instruction should be included in the teacher training curriculum. Thus the future teachers become well equipped and do not feel the need for a special IT teacher. Our schools are still lacking sufficient instructional facilities for IT enabled instruction. For the proper functioning of IT enabled instruction schools should be supplied with sufficient infrastructure facilities. Teachers hand books should be modified by including technical elements of IT enabled instruction. Parents should be given awareness in IT enabled instruction. For this awareness programmes should be conducted in schools. Female teachers should be given special attention with regard to the IT enabled instruction. There should be compulsory provision for using internet by teachers for instructional purpose. Hence the present study will be a guideline for educational administrators in framing the policies regarding school activities. The study also throw light to further research in the area of ICT & education.