Information Technology and Its Applications in Selected Business Schools in the State of Maharashtra

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ABSTRACT

Information Technology has opened up several allied industries and employment opportunities, which never existed before. Whether it is business Process Outsourcing or Web enabled services. IT has revolutionized major areas of human activities. Teaching has traditionally been associated with classroom instructions on a blackboard. Due to I.T., the scenario has changed dramatically. To make the lecture not only more interesting but also more informative, there are several advanced teaching tools available. These vary from simple slide presentations to full blown multimedia presentations which have video clippings, sound effects, animation and graphics to explain most difficult subjects in a simple and easy-to-understand manner. Most of the academic institutes use computerized systems for providing information regarding the institute's information, student enrollment, fee structure and management, examination administration etc.

Keyword: *Teaching, employment, dramatically, management and traditionally*

INTRODUCTION

Information Technology deals with the aspects of managing and processing information in organizations. It deals with the use of electronic computers and computer software's to convert, store, protect, process, transmit, and retrieve information. Over the past 20 years, its prevalence has dramatically increased hence it is now a part of nearly every aspect of daily life. It is supplying the foundation for new business models, new business processes, and new ways of distributing knowledge. The organizations are relying in information and networking technology to conduct more of their work electronically, seamlessly linking offices around the globe. All type of organizations, both large and small, are using information technology to conduct more of their activities electronically, achieving new levels of efficiency, competitiveness and profitability.

Information Technology has become one of the most important tool for managers to cope with the change. The computer hardware, computer software, storage technology and communication technology resources can be shared throughout the organization to constitute the firms information technology infrastructure.

Use of Information Technology:

Information Technology (I.T.) has dramatically changed the way of our life. It has impacted all facets of life. There is hardly any industry or sector that does not deploy I.T. in a fundamental manner to achieve these three goals:

1) Reducing cost of operations by increasing operational efficiency and staff productivity.
2) Improving revenues and bottom lines by helping management in informed decision-making and focusing on priority area.
3) Improving customer satisfaction by improving better, faster and value added services.

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Teaching has traditionally been associated with classroom instructions on a blackboard. Due to I.T., the scenario has changed dramatically. To make the lecture not only more interesting but also more informative, there are several advanced teaching tools available. These vary from simple slide presentations to full blown multimedia presentations which have video clippings, sound effects, animation and graphics to explain most difficult subjects in a simple and easy-to-understand manner.

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Business Schools in Maharashtra State:

Maharashtra state has in all 5 regions under which business schools are run with the approval of these universities and AICTE. The following Table shows Number of Business Schools in various regions within the Maharashtra State and the number of business schools selected for the study purpose.

Table 1: Name of the Region, Total Business Schools, Selected Business Schools, Strength of Teaching, Non-Teaching and Students in Selected Business Schools in Maharashtra State

Sr. No	Name of the Region	Total Business Schools	Selected Business Schools	Strength		
				Teaching	Non-Teaching	Students
1.	Konkan	76	07	42	28	420
2.	Marathwada	19	03	24	13	180
3,	Khandesh and North Maharashtra	169	06	12	19	360
4.	Paschim Maharashtra	33	17	122	68	1020
5.	Vidarbh	69	07	50	30	420
	Total	366	40	250	158	2400

Source: Information Broucher, MAH-MBA/MMS CET 2011

It can be seen from the above Table No. 1 that there are in all 366 business schools in Maharashtra state. In the selected 40 business schools, there are in all 250 teaching staff, 158 non-teaching staff and 2400 students.

Table 2: Selected Business Schools in Maharashtra State and I.T. Applications used by Teaching Staff in Selected Business Schools

Sr. No	Name of the Region	Selected Business Schools	Total Teaching Staff	Use of LCD	Use of Smart Board	Use of Computers	Storage Devices
1.	Konkan	07	42	40 (95%)	08 (19%)	40 (95%)	41 (98%)
2.	Marathwada	03	24	18 (75%)	02 (08%)	20 (83%)	20 (83%)
3,	Khandesh and North Maharashtra	06	12	10 (83%)	02 (17%)	11 (92%)	10 (83%)
4.	Paschim Maharashtra	17	122	108 (89%)	07 (06%)	119 (16%)	120 (98%)
5.	Vidarbh	07	50	43 (86%)	03 (06%)	47 (94%)	44 (88%)
	Total	40	250	219 (88%)	22 (09%)	237 (95%)	235 (94%)

Source : Information Broucher, MAH-MBA/MMS CET 2011

The above table shows total number of Business Schools in various regions within the Maharashtra State. It can be seen from the table that there are in all 366 business schools in Maharashtra state. The maximum 169 business schools are in Khandesh and North Maharashtra regions and the minimum Business schools are in Marathwada Region.

The above Table No. 2 depicts that maximum 235 (94%) of the overall selected teaching staff uses storage devices like CDs, DVDs, Pen Drives etc. for storing the data which is used for teaching. The teaching staff also uses these storage devices to store their teaching presentations and study notes for future reference. Only 22 (09%) of the selected teaching staff uses smart interactive boards for teaching purpose. The staff using these devices feel that use of smart boards enhances the teaching ability and the students also understand the topics easily.

Table 3: Business Schools in Maharashtra State and I.T. Applications used by Non-Teaching Staff in Selected Business Schools

Sr. No	Name of the Region	Selected Business Schools	Total Non-Teaching Staff	Computer	Computer Networks	Storage Devices
1.	Konkan	07	28	22 (79%)	03 (11%)	18 (64%)
2.	Marathwada	03	13	10 (77%)	00 (00%)	10 (77%)
3,	Khandesh and North Maharashtra	06	19	15 (79%)	02 (11%)	15 (79%)
4.	Paschim Maharashtra	17	68	65 (96%)	03 (04%)	60 (88%)
5.	Vidarbh	07	30	28 (93%)	02 (07%)	28 (93%)
	Total	40	158	140 (89%)	10 (06%)	131 (83%)

Source : Information Broucher, MAH-MBA/MMS CET 2011

The above Table No. 3 comprises of the total number of business schools selected, Non-teaching staff of the selected business schools and the I.T. applications such as computers, computer networks and storage devices used by them in their day to day work.

It can be clearly seen that maximum 140 (89%) of the non-teaching staff from the selected business schools uses Computers and 131 (83%) use storage devices like CDs, DVDs and Pen Drives for storing the data and taking backups on them of their routine work. Only 10 (06%) of them work on computer networks.

Table 4: Business Schools in Maharashtra State and IT Applications used by Students in Selected Business Schools

Sr. No	Name of the Region	Selected Business Schools	Total Students	Computer	Lap Tops	Storage Devices
1.	Konkan	07	420	342 (81%)	135 (32%)	410 (98%)
2.	Marathwada	03	180	103 (57%)	65 (36%)	175 (97%)
3.	Khandesh and North Maharashtra	06	360	255 (71%)	112 (31%)	355 (99%)
4.	Paschim Maharashtra	17	1020	980 (96%)	850 (83%)	1000 (98%)
5.	Vidarbh	07	420	385 (92%)	385 (92%)	408 (97%)
	Total	40	2400	2065 (86%)	1547 (64%)	2348 (98%)

Source : Information Broucher, MAH-MBA/MMS CET 2011

The Table No. 4 consists of Names of Regions in Maharashtra state, selected business schools, total students in the selected business schools and the I.T. devices and application used by them. It can be seen that maximum students of the selected business schools i.e. 2348 (98%) use storage devices for storing the data and minimum 1547 (64%) of them use Lap Tops for studying purpose.

Among the total 420 students from Konkan Region, only 135 (32%) of the students use Lap Tops. From Paschim Maharashtra region, maximum 1000 (98%) students make use of storage devices.

Findings:
Few of the findings from the following study are as follows:

i) There are in all 366 Business Schools in Maharashtra State.
ii) The maximum Business Schools are in Khandesh and Paschim Maharashtra Region.
iii) The total Teaching staff of the selected business schools in Maharashtra State is 250, from which 235 (94%) of them use Storage devices, 219 (88%) use LCD in their day to day teaching curriculum.
iv) The non-teaching staff of the selected business schools use the various I.T. applications and tools like computers, Networks and storage

devices. Among them 89% use computers in their routine work.

v) The total strength of the students in the selected business schools from various regions of Maharashtra State is 2400. Among them 2065 use computers, 1547 use Lap tops and 2348 (98%) use storage devices.

CONCLUSIONS

Following are few of the major conclusions which came out from the study:

i) Faculties play major role in professional institutions like Business Schools. It is very important for the management of Business Schools to support the faculties by providing information technology tools and other related facilities for improving the quality of education.

ii) The non-teaching staff should be trained properly with the tools of information technology.

iii) The students of the business schools are aware about the information technology facilities, hence they should be provided with the latest technology in the business school premises.

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