

**Information Technology used as a facilitator in the teaching learning process  
at the classroom level : A preliminary study**

K H N Damayanthi\*

*Teacher Center, Japalawatta, Minuwangoda*

Computers were introduced to the Sri Lankan school system in 1983. According to the Central Bank Report 2002, through different schemes, computers were distributed among schools although the percentage of schools that received under any of these schemes does not exceed 10% of the total number of schools. In the school system, a high quality education could be achieved through a live and active classroom. The main interaction between the teacher and the student is through the teaching learning process. Hence, the productivity of the teaching learning process depends on the extent to which the teacher captures the interest and attention of the student during this process. This is a challenge for the teachers.

This study aimed to do a preliminary survey of the Information Technology (IT) used as an educational tool at classroom level.

The main findings of the study were as follows:

A well planned, effective and rapid training should be given to teachers.

Resources and training that are necessary to plan and produce teaching aids should be distributed among computer resource centers and teacher centers.

A well equipped and effective "Teaching Aid Production Unit" should be introduced to the education system.

Considering present status of Sri Lankan education system, a group of 3 experts must participate in the task of designing and practising the computer based teaching: teacher as a subject specialist to the classroom, teacher educator as a planner of the education tool and a person who is competent in computers and Information Technology.

Acknowledgement: Financial assistance by General Education Project – 2

*Present Address: Teacher Center, Katugastota*

Tel: 081-2420209 (R)