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# FACTORS AFFECTING USE OF IT TOOLS FOR SECONDARY EDUCATION IN SRI LANKA

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J.A.G Maduranga

119064E

Thesis/Dissertation submitted in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the degree Master of Business Administration in Information Technology

Department of Computer Science and Engineering

University of Moratuwa

Sri Lanka

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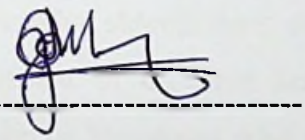
## Declaration of the candidate & Supervisor

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| **Name** | : | **J.A.Geeth Maduranga** |
| **Student Number** | : | **119064E** |
| **Supervisor** | : | **Mrs.Vishaka Nanayakkara** |

The dissertation was submitted to the Department of Computer Science & Engineering of the University of Moratuwa for the partial fulfillment of the degree of Master of Business Administration in Information Technology

The dissertation work has not been submitted for any other academic qualification at any institution and I certify that there is no plagiarized work of other people and the whole process of preparing this document was done by me.



J.A.Geeth Maduranga

19/4/2013

Date

**Supervisor**

*UOM Verified Signature*

Mrs.Vishaka Nanayakkara

19/4/2013

Date

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**List of abbreviations**

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| TAM | - | Technology Acceptance Model |
| IT | - | Information Technology |
| Non IT | - | Not in Information Technology |
| NIE | - | National Institute of Education |
| NODES | - | National Online Distance Education Service |
| CRC | - | Computer Resource Centre |
| CAL | - | Computer Assisted Learning |

## Abstract

In a developing country, education has become an essential factor for the achievement of a stable economy. A country requires a good and modern education system to produce professionals whose contribution is ultimately to become a strength to the country for its development. Therefore, the investment in education provides a path for economic growth in Sri Lanka for which the responsibility of the government is to provide modern and quality education to every student.

Free secondary education has already been implemented and according to the latest educational statistics, there are 9,662 schools, 212,683 teachers and 3,929,234 students in the country but the current education system is not at an up-to-date standard in using IT.

Information Technology has been already incorporated to the current education system through different methods such as establishing computer labs in schools, educating students and teachers on the use of IT, incorporating IT as a subject in the curriculum, etc. The use of IT tools has been recognized as a new concept and the students get familiar with that technology only in the university environment. Hence, if the student had absorbed the technology during his/her secondary education, he/she would have been more productive in the university environment.

The aim of this study is to find out the factors affecting the use of IT tools for secondary education in Sri Lanka. The IT tools are driving forces to provide quality education to the students. The main human resources of the education system are teachers who teach, guide, instruct and stimulate students to be successful in their future with quality educational qualifications in hand. Special emphasis of this thesis is the perception of teachers on the factors affecting the use of IT tools in teaching & learning process of the secondary education.

The research utilized the survey method and questionnaires were used to collect data from 370 teachers. Interviews were conducted with 7 IT and Non IT teachers as the pilot study and data was collected from 279 teachers (208 Non- IT teachers and 71 IT teachers) from all provinces in the country. A qualitative analysis of questionnaire data and interview data were presented as the outcome of this research.

Findings of this research were categorized into variables in the Technology Acceptance Model (TAM). Analysis was done according to the mapped variables of the TAM and the responses received for each question of the questionnaire. The acceptance of the TAM in secondary education is tested by using the responses to the questionnaire and interview data. As the main out come, very less IT facilities available in schools, the operational and maintenance issues, insufficient training and financial issues negatively affect the smooth operation of secondary education in the use of IT tools. The recommendations given as the outcome of this research can be considered for improvement in the secondary education in Sri Lanka.