THE NEED FOR INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) LITERACY AMONG LOWER SECONDARY STUDENTS

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Submitted to the Faculty of Economics and Administration,

Universiti Malaya in partial fulfillment of the requirements for the

Degree of

Master of Public Administration

2000/2001

Perpustakaan Universiti Malaya Malaya A510918304

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

My grateful thanks to Dr. Halimah Awang for her excellent guidance throughout the study. Gratitude and special acknowledgement goes to Mr. Nadaraj, Chief Executive Officer of Info.Ram Net Sdn Bhd. He has given me nothing less than inspiration, encouragement, and assistance during the preparation of this study. Gratitude is also expressed to Dr. K.J. John, Chairman-DAGS Committee, National Information Technology Council.

I am especially indebted to my selfless mother, Madam K. Thanaletchumy, whose wish and support has greatly contributed to the realization of this study. A special thanks goes to my younger sister Rajeswary for her kind assistance. I am also grateful to my elder sisters, Uma Devi and Seetha Rukmani, for their love and encouragement. I reserve my deepest appreciation to my close relatives for their interest and steadfast support. To my nieces and nephews whose distraction taught me patience.

Lastly, I wish to dedicate this study to the memory of my father, Mr. N.V. Rajendran.

ABSTRACT

THE NEED FOR ICT LITERACY AMONG LOWER SECONDARY STUDENTS

The purpose of this study is to determine the need for ICT literacy among lower secondary students. The study was designed to answer the following objectives:

- Whether there is any significance difference between the need for a structured ICT syllabus and that of informal learning of ICT through friends, reading materials, parents, CD-ROM, and interest.
- To gauge the interest shown towards ICT related activities after undergoing structured ICT syllabus.

The study focused on two secondary schools in the Petaling District of Selangor. A questionnaire was distributed to a total 300 student from Form One, Two, and Three of Sekolah Menengah Bandar Sunway and Sekolah Menengah

Seafield. It was followed by interviews conducted randomly with three students from each school.

The study revealed that students who did not follow a structured ICT syllabus could acquire reasonable ICT understanding and skills through informal learning.

Students who have gone through a structured ICT syllabus in computer classes and that those who did not attend such classes have shown similar interests towards ICT related activities. This is based on the large 'number responses relating to interests in taking up ICT related courses, IT related careers, and the acknowledgement of the many benefits of ICT.

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