

# Use of ICT in Pre-service Teacher Education in Nepal

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# IT Policy

- Use of information technology to promote e-commerce, e-education, e-health, among others, and to transfer technology in rural areas.
- An info-super highway and north-south info-highway within the country
- Link with other parts of the world through a broadband information network.
- Distance learning system through the Internet and Intranet as well through radio and television.

# Plan of the government

- Access to ICT through 4000 VDCs to common people
- Utilization of CLCs to provide ICT access to community people including teachers
- Plan to reach each school through wireless technologies and alternative energy mechanisms (where electricity is not available)
- Connecting local cable networks to computers of both households and institutions
- Use of mobile phones for transmitting messages

# Pre-service teacher education scenario

- Primary and secondary teacher training conducted by private agencies affiliated to MOE National Center for Educational Development, an apex body of teacher training in Nepal
- University run certification courses, four universities (TU, KU, PU, NSU)—programs for primary teachers to teacher educators

# ICT use in teacher education

- Courses on computer use in pedagogy in different university's curricula
- Set up of 5 ICT centers for pre-service teachers focusing on B.Ed. (Starting 2009)--TU
- Wireless broadband 24 hrs. facilities for all prospective teachers enrolled at KU
- ICT facilities in each of the 34 ETCs of the MOE/NCED with internet facilities in most of them

# IT Academic Programme

- Computer science – one of the subjects in secondary schools
- Computer science – two separate subjects in Higher Secondary schools
- Specialization in ICTE in 3 year B. Ed. programme in FOE, TU
- Computer science - one subject in M.Ed programme

# Implementation

- Six courses in ICTE have been developed through TNA
- Training manuals have been developed
- Ten - month TOT for 20 campus teachers have been conducting since 2009
- ICT labs have been established in 5 FOE campuses
- Curriculum for ICT awareness program for teacher educators
- Training manual of the curriculum developed

# High Level Commission

- The National Information Technology Commission under the chairpersonship of the Prime Minister. Members comprise high level officials from various Ministries, IT experts, Private agencies and IT institutions.
- Working for IT policy in Nepal



# Use of ICT by teachers

- Teachers having their own personal computers use it to retrieve necessary documents for their teaching
- Teachers knowledgeable on the use of ICT also go to internet café
- Pre-service teacher trainee, in urban areas, use internet café to get help in doing their assignments
- Teacher educators use ICT for their class preparation and bring new knowledge in classrooms

# On-line courses

- Kathmandu University is going to provide on-line courses for B.Ed., M.Ed., MPhil courses for teacher and teacher educators' preparation from August 2010 targeting South Asia and South East Asia
- Piloting of on-line will take place this year

# Future plans

- Implementation of 3-year B. Ed. programme specializing in ICTE since 2010 to produce trained ICT teachers for Secondary and Higher secondary schools.
- Provide computer awareness training to all teacher educators.

# Professionals Meet

- A forum created under School of Education at KU that works for many educational issues including a discussion forum for Next Generation Teachers--- Represented by MOE, DOE, Universities, Education Experts, I/NGOs, and TEIs--- Just started this year

# Challenges

- Most of the rural sector areas do not have access to electricity (Solution: Alternative energy solar power)
- Most Teachers are information illiterate so they do not think of using ICT in teaching (Solution: Training teachers on ICT and preparing prospective teachers with ICT knowledge)
- School level curricula are not updated towards the use of ICT in classrooms (Solution: Orientation to curriculum developers and text book writers about the importance of the use of ICT)

# Challenges contd.....

- In most of the cases teacher training curricula are not developed towards ICT trend (Solution: Assisting TEIs to design new curricula in this regard)
- Higher level authorities in policy making are ICT illiterate (Solution: Advocacy program to make them knowledgeable about the positive impact of ICT use for Next Gen)
- No trained IT teachers in secondary and higher secondary schools (Solution: ICT specialization courses in B.Ed. and M.Ed. Programs)
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# Our commitment

- Creating a group of professionals to work towards Next Gen Teachers
- Modifying existing Teacher Training Curricula towards this direction
- Networking with other participating countries to learn from each other and to move forward



**Thank you!**