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THE EXTENT OF AVAILABILITY AND USE OF COMPUTERS AND THEIR IMPACT ON STUDENTS PERFORMANCE IN PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECONDARY SCHOOLS OF GOMBE METROPOLIS

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ABSTRACT

This study investigated the extent of availability and use of computers and their impact on students' performance in public and private secondary schools. The study was designed to find out some factors that are responsible for any difference between the two types of schools. In order to do this effectively, five research questions were asked and answered. The literature related to the study was reviewed under the following factors. Areas where computer is used, kinds of software/Application programs, spread sheet, internet, graphical packages, attitudes of students towards computer learning and computer studies curriculum. The design of the study is survey in nature. The area of the study is Gombe metropolis. The population of the study is all the secondary school students of Gombe metropolis. The sample of the study was 100. Questionnaire is the instrument used for data collection. The instrument was validated by core researchers and some lecturers in school of Science Education, FCE(T) Gombe. The reliability of the instrument was obtained using test – retest method. Conclusively students in public schools use more computer than students in private secondary schools which indicate better achievement by students in public school.

INTRODUCTION

Science teaching is fundamental to the technological development of any nation whether developed, developing or underdeveloped. The present situation in Nigeria in which learners' record poor academic performance in science may not be isolated with inappropriate science teaching Aladejana (2006). This corroborates the findings of Adegboyega & Adeoluwa (2020) that below average performance of students could be attributed to the way they have been taught. Computer being the live wire of major happening in the society is used in various fields. For instance in Engineering, medicine, commercial purposes, security, school learning,

administration, communication networks, brewing to mention but are few. With the knowledge of computer education the problem of school record such as administration register, staff record, fees, registrations, school account etc can be prepared, amended, updated with the computer.

Ogwo, Maidoh and Onwe (2015) stated that the advantages of Computer Education in schools are for information storage, audio-visual aids in teaching, enhancement of communication among students, teachers and parents, easy, effective and better presentation of information. From the foregoing a well programmed science education is needed to achieve the above knowledge for the development of technological growth in the country. Olalekan (2014) asserted that the best of building a country to be scientifically and technologically mounted is to strengthen science education. Computer education has now been introduced into most Nigerian secondary schools but has not been made compulsory in the West Africa examination council (WAEC)'s syllabus is more challenging because, everybody want to be computer literate. Computer learning comprises both theoretical as well as practical aspects, unlike formerly when the use of computer was associated with big companies and other financial houses.

In Nigeria, the Federal Government saw the need of computer in schools and introduced Computer Education into the nation's secondary school system in August 1988 through the policy enactment of the National Computer Policy in which the objectives are to ensure literacy in computer education at the secondary school level; and help meet with the demand of our time and technological development. To achieve the objectives of introducing Computer Education in secondary school curriculum, the Federal Ministry of Education in Nigeria had spent a great amount of money on Computer studies by providing computer sets, accessories and also launched an Information Communication Technology (ICT)-driven project which is known as School Net (Adomi & Kpangban, 2010). The introduction of Computer Studies in the secondary schools' curriculum in Nigeria has paved way for students' exposure to information Communication Technology (ICT). As there is a growing demand on the use of computers in secondary schools, a great number of students are happy and eager to learn how to operate computers while some are afraid to operating computers. Hence, despite having basic skills and knowledge in computer, some students feel anxious while using computer to accomplish their tasks, as fluent interaction with computer interface requires both the basic understanding of computer concepts as well as the

basic familiarity with hardware and software. It is against this background that the study is intended to investigate the extent of availability and the use of computer in Public and private secondary schools in Gombe metropolis.

For the past decades, computer learning was not part of the curriculum of Nigeria secondary schools but because of the dynamic nature of the world, technology had changed rapidly and Nigeria is welcoming the change to enjoy all the facilities that computer provides. Even though computer education has been introduced into the curriculum of both public and private owned secondary schools in Gombe State, there is need for research evidence on the extent of availability and use of computer in teaching the subject. In question form, the problem of this study is: To what extent are Computers available in public and private secondary schools in Gombe state, how are these computers utilized in the teaching of the subject and what are the impacts on students' performance?

When these schools were set up, it was the desires of the different owners of the secondary schools and community that the students should learn the things that are required of them to know. This is in-line with the findings of Johnson (2016) that established a significant relationship between school effectiveness and learning achievement. It implies that there is a relevant relationship between how much students perceive the adequacy and relevance of Computer Science curriculum and the technical skills they possess. It means that the more updated the curriculum is, the more relevant it becomes to the industry and the better the technical skills of the students.

This study is aimed at investigating the extent of availability and use of computer and the impact on students' performance in Public and private secondary schools in Gombe metropolis.

Consequently, in carrying out the study, the researcher intend to:

- Find out if the Public and private secondary schools in Gombe İ. metropolis have computers.
- ii. Determine what the computers are used for in these schools.
- iii. Find out the kind of software package and applications programs learned in each of the school types.
- Find out the problems encountered by students in the study of İ٧. computer as a school subject.
- Find out the impact of the availability of computer on students' ٧. performance

This study is undertaken and limited to Senior Secondary Students of Public and privately owned secondary schools in Gombe metropolis and not the entire State. The schools include: GSSS Gombe, GSSS (ii) Gombe, Amadu Gombe Secondary School, Joy Academy, Alheri Model School and Kanady Academy.

RESEARCH QUESTIONS

The following research questions were posed and answered in the following course of the study.

- i. To what extent are computers available in Public and private secondary schools?
- ii. What are the computers used for in these schools?
- iii. What kind of software packages and application programs are learned by students?
- iv. What problems are encountered by students in the study of computer as a school subject?
- v. What are the impacts of the availability of computer on students' performance?

RELATED LITERATURE

Not much research have been carried out on the extent of availability and use of computers in two different categories of secondary schools, that is, Public School and Private School.

However, there is a handful of information gathered from empirical literature, which are those writings that are outcomes of empirical research i.e. observation which is the process of collecting data for research by obtaining views, opinions, ideas or feeling from people through interview, observations and questionnaires.

Computer Labs are instrumental in helping students Learn, work with software programs, complete assignments and interact with their instructors. The inadequate and obsolete teaching and learning facilities used today militate against good performance in science Oloruntegbe & Alake (2010). This is further corroborated by the findings of Adegboyega (2020) that below average performance of students could be attributed to the way they have been taught.

In some of the secondary schools, computer laboratory is not equipped. In some private schools the rooms are too small to accommodate all the equipment intended for computer learning. Because of this not all the equipment are being displayed, which leads to some of the equipment

being kept in a casing without usage till it becomes obsolete. Technology oriented classroom can be used as a tool to overcome the traditional isolation of the classroom setting and improve overall productivity as confirmed by the work of Aladejana (2008).

Computing has taken the center point in all fields of human endeavour (Patacsil & Tablatin, 2017). The Bureau of Labour statistics (BLS) in the United States identified computer and data processing services to occupy eight of the top ten fastest growing occupations between 2000 and 2001 (BLS, 2001). Also, Parker, (2006) noticed that graduates of computing generally have up to three or four job offers with salaries higher than that of their contemporaries from other disciplines. This was corroborated by the result of a study carried out on the skill sets required on the job in Nigeria where it was reported that Information Technology skills is one of the highly required skills in the Nigerian labour market (Stutern, 2016). We are witnessing a tremendous growth in the use of information technology in teaching and learning. We now use computer for Computer Assisted Instruction (CAI), as an active not passive instructional medium, computer can also be used for computer managed instruction (CMI) which is used in testing, record keeping and decision making that assists effective administration. The role of computer assisted programmes and simulations students' interest, stimulating include motivating learning independence as highlighted by Yilji & Wadaki (2008), Alake (2020). Several packages like word processing, spreadsheet, graphics packages and lots of others are being taught at the secondary level. Word processor is "a computer program used for editing texts, checking and correcting grammar, style, and spelling errors" (Bani, 2013).

Spreadsheet packages are valuable for Calculation. They allow numeric information such as forecasts, budget and regression analysis to be manipulated according to in-built or user defined formula. Gozie (2009) stated that: spreadsheets have become a primary tool for modern business. He further stated that: Spreadsheets are used to calculate sales projections, estimate the optimum numbers of products to manufacture. Example is Microsoft Excel. A view as expressed by Okwuduba, Offiah and Madichie (2018) posited that simulation package enhances teaching and learning by providing real opportunity for individualized instruction, accelerating, enriching and deepening skills as well as engaging students actively in learning. The computer assisted learning both within the setting of developed and developing countries has shown positive effect of the use of

computers to promote students' achievement as corroborated by Jongur, Mohammed & Abba (2008). In the enquiry/discovery and laboratory method of teaching science mostly computer make students to be scientifically oriented and thus making them to possess the ability of rational thinking and problem solving. This will eventually lead to be a better use of computer by students. These students are the teachers target audience to whom he/she wants the message to go to. For the students to get the message correctly, they must be attentive and must have the capacity to understand the message i.e. the message must be learnt. Young, Klemz, and Murphy (2003) also found that student learning outcomes improve when students prefer the learning activities. The general approach to understanding the effect of teaching on student learning revolves around teachers' competence, teaching method, learning environment, school infrastructure and students' performance (Karns, 2005).

Finally, students lose, interest in the learning and use of the computer because it is not made compulsory in the syllabus of any externalexamination body most especially West African Examination Councils (WAEC) and National Examination Council (NECO). On the other hand, curriculum means the translating of the national policy of education into activities/experience that will promote students learning so that the goals and objectives in the national policy of education are achieved from the last definition, planned activities/experience of our national policy of education which are the goals & objectives that can be achieved. Some researchers have argued that there is no direct link between learning and the use of computer assisted instructions, the weight of evidence now clearly shows that indirectly, there can be a significant positive impact as effective instructional design can positively influence academic performance as ascertained by Alake (2020), Aladejana and Idowu (2009). Okwuduba, Offiah and Madichie (2018) had earlier recognized the use of computer simulation as an important feature of the educational process that makes learning more meaningful.

METHOD

Survey research design was used in this work (the questionnaire). This design is used because only a part of the population was studied and findings from this were generalized for the entire population. This study was carried out in secondary schools in Gombe metropolis of Gombe State. The Population of the study includes all secondary schools in Gombe metropolis. In Gombe metropolis, we have many secondary

schools which include public and private. Stratified random sampling technique was used in the study. In all, three public secondary schools with a population of 70 students and three private secondary schools of population 30 students were used. The schools used in the work are; GSSS Gombe, GDSSS Gombe, Amadu Gombe, Joy Academy, Alheri Academy and Kanady Academy.

The questionnaire given to the students was geared towards testing for some independence variables like the students attitude towards computer and their laboratory facilities and also the school environments.

The perceptions of the respondents were rated as follows:

(VLE) – 5
(LE) – 4
(ME) - 3
(SE) – 2
(VSE) – 1

Questionnaire was administered by hand to the respondents. The researcher helped in correcting misinterpretation. The answered questionnaire was collected on the spot from the respondents by the researcher, making sure that all the respondents submitted.

The data collected was analysed according to the research questions using the mean.

DECISION RULES - the mean $x = \frac{\sum fx}{\sum x}$ is used to arrive at the decision of the research work. Also the mean scale of

0.0 to 1.5 means that the item is at "very small extent",

1.5 to 2.5 means that the item is at "small extent",

2.5 to 3.5 means that the item is at "medium extent",

3.5 to 4.5 means that the item is at "large extent" and

4.5 to 5.0 mean that the item is at "very large extent".

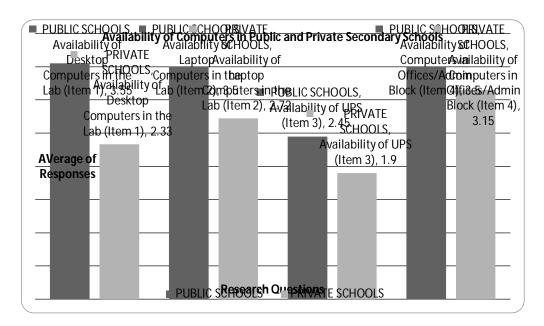
DATA PRESENTATION/ANALYSIS AND RESULT DISCUSSIONS

Following the DECISION RULE above, the mean $x = \frac{\sum fx}{\sum x}$ is used to arrive at the decision of the research work.

Research Question One (1): To what extent are computers available in Public and Private secondary schools?

Table 1.0: Availability of computers in public and private secondary schools

schoo	712										
S/N	ITEM	SCH. TYPE		VLE (5)	LE (4)	ME (3)	SE (2)	VSE (1)	TOTA	AL	
1	To what extent are Desktop computers available in your School computer Laboratory?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	20 100 5 25	40 160 7 28	20 60 25 75	15 30 40 80	5 5 25 25	$\sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x$	100 355 100 233	2.33
2	To what extent are Laptop computers available in your School computer Laboratory?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	25 100 7 35	45 180 3 12	15 45 55 165	10 20 25 50	5 5 10 10	$ \begin{array}{c c} \Sigma x \\ \Sigma f x \\ \Sigma x \\ \Sigma f x \end{array} $	100 0 100 272	3.5 2.72
3	To what extent are Uninterrupted Power Supply (UPS) available in your school?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	- - -	- - -	55 165 10 30	35 70 60 120	10 10 40 40	$ \begin{array}{c c} \hline \Sigma x \\ \Sigma f x \\ \Sigma x \\ \Sigma x \\ \Sigma f x \end{array} $	100 245 100 190	2.45 1.9
4	To what extent are computers available in Admin Block/ Offices?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	10 50 10 50	30 120 35 140	60 180 35 105	- - 20 20	-	$ \begin{array}{c} \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x \end{array} $	100 350 100 315	3.5 3.15



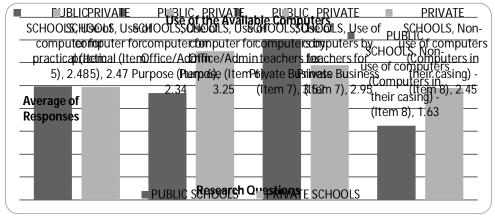
The above chart reveals that more Desktop computers are available in the public secondary schools than in the private secondary schools. Since item 1 have its means score as 3.55 for public school and 2.33 for private secondary school which is at a large extent. Item 2 have its means score as 3.5 for public school and 2.72 for private secondary school. This means that there are more laptop computers in public school than in private school.

Item 5 reveals that the usage of uninterrupted power supply (UPS) is at small extent, since both the public secondary school and the private secondary school has their mean score at 2.45 and 1.9 respectively. Also item 4 shows that both the public secondary school ant the private secondary have computers at medium extent in their administrative block/offices since their mean score is in the range of 2.5 to 3.5.

Research Question Two (2): What are the computers used for in these schools?

	ITEM	SCH TYPE		VLE (5)	LE (4)	ME (3)	SE (2)	VSE (1)	ΤΟΤ	AL	$DEC/MEAN$ x $= \frac{\sum fx}{\sum x}$
5	The extent which computers in my school are used for practical is:	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	12 60 11 55	15 60 9 36	20 60 18 54	15 30 40 80	38 38 22 22	$ \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x $	100 248 100 247	2.48
6	An indication of the extent to which the available computers in your school are used for office/Administrative purpose is:	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	13 65 25 125	18 72 20 80	14 42 10 30	30 30 -	25 25 45 45	$ \begin{array}{c} \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x \end{array} $	100 234 100 280	2.34 3.25
7	The extent to which my teachers use the computer for private business is:	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	7 35 5 35	43 172 35 140	45 135 10 30	5 10 40 80	- - 10 10	$ \begin{array}{c} \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x \end{array} $	100 352 100 295	3.52 2.95
8	The extent to which the computers available in my school are left in their casings without installation is:	PUB. PRI.	x fx x fx	11 55 20 100	-	-	19 38 65 130	70 70 15 15	$ \begin{array}{c} \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x \end{array} $	100 163 100 245	1.63 2.45

Table 2.0 – Uses of the available computers



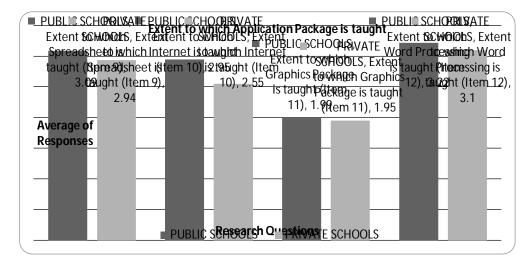
The above chart shows that computers are used in private schools mostly for office and administrative purpose, since item 6 have its means score as 3.25 which is at a very large extent. In item 7, it shows that in public secondary school that the computers are used for private business by the teachers, since the mean score is 3.52. It is used at a very large extent. In

item 5 & 8 in both public and private schools have their mean score at a very small extent because it is not up to 3.

Research Question Three (3): What kind of software packages and application programs are learned by students?

Table 3.0: kind of software package and application programme learned by students

SCH TYPE SCH TYPE	$\frac{\sum fx}{\sum x}$
9 To what extent is spreadsheet taught in your school? PRI x 12 x 100 x 12 x 100 x 10 x	$\frac{\sum fx}{\sum x}$
9 To what extent is spreadsheet taught in your school? PRI x 12 x 100 x 12 x 100 x 10 x	$\sum x$
9 To what extent is spreadsheet taught in your school? PRI x 12 x 100 x 12 x 100 x	$\sum x$
spreadsheet taught in your school? PRI	
spreadsheet taught in your school? PRI	
spreadsheet taught in your school? PRI	
Spreadsheet taught in your school? PRI x	
school? PRI x 14 fx 33 fx 5 fx 29 fx 19 fx $\sum fx$ 100 fx 2.94 fx 10 The extent to which the internet is studies in your school is? PRI x 20 fx 25 fx 20 fx 35 fx 29 fx 100 fx 2.99 fx 10 The extent to which the internet is studies in your school is? PRI x 20 fx 100 fx 2.99 fx 2.99 fx	
10 The extent to which the internet is studies in your school is? PRI x 20 25 20 - 35 $\sum x$ 100 2.99 internet is studies in your school is?	
10 The extent to which the internet is studies in your school is? PRI x 20 25 20 - 35 $\sum x$ 100 2.95 $\sum fx$ 295 $\sum fx$	
internet is studies in your $\begin{bmatrix} fx & 100 & 100 & 60 & - & 35 & \sum fx & 295 \\ school is? & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & &$	
internet is studies in your $\begin{bmatrix} fx & 100 & 100 & 60 & - & 35 & \sum fx & 295 \\ school is? & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & & &$	
internet is studies in your $\begin{vmatrix} tx & 100 & 100 & 60 & - & 35 & 20 & 30 & 2fx & 295 & 100 & 250 & 30 & 2fx & 200 & 2f$	
$ \cdot $	
$\begin{array}{ c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c c$	
11 To what extent is PUB x - 13 12 36 39 Σx 100 1.90	
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 $	
12 The extent to which word PUB. x 13 25 40 15 7 $\sum x$ 100 3.22	
$\begin{bmatrix} 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 & 1 $	
your school is? PRI. $\begin{bmatrix} tx & 65 \\ x & 15 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} 100 & 120 & 30 & 7 \\ 32 & 2 & 50 & 1 \end{bmatrix}$ $\begin{bmatrix} \sum fx & 322 \\ 100 & 3.1 \end{bmatrix}$	
1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	



Item 9, in both public and private school their mean score are 3.09 and 2.94 respectively which reveals that the kind of spreadsheet package learnt by the students is large. In item 12 both in public and private school, the extent to which the students study word processor and windows is at a very large extent, since their mean score are 3.22 and 3.10 respectively. Also with item 10 and 11 having a mean score less than 3 respectively, the result shows that the kind of software learnt by the public & private secondary school is small.

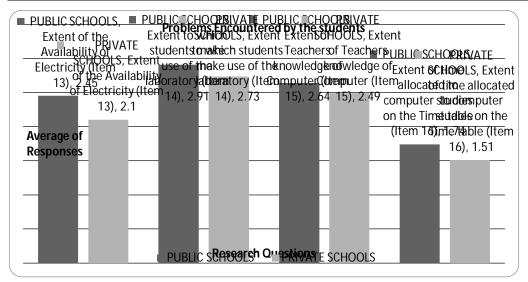
Research Question Four (4): What problems are encountered by students in the study of computer as a subject?

Table 4.0: Problems encountered by the students

	ITEM	SCH TYPE		VL E (5)	L E (4)	(3)	SE (2)	V S E (1)	TOTAL	$DEC/MEAN$ x $= \frac{\sum fx}{\sum x}$
13	The extent to which electric power is available in your school is?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx		15 60 -	35 105 30 90	30 60 50 100	20 20 20 20 20	$ \begin{array}{c c} \Sigma x & 100 \\ \Sigma f x & 245 \\ \Sigma x & 100 \\ \Sigma f x & 210 \end{array} $	2.45
14	The extent to which students makes use of the laboratory is?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	- - -	15 60 16 64	51 153 50 150	34 68 25 50	10 10 9	$\begin{array}{c c} \Sigma x & 100 \\ \Sigma f x & 291 \\ \Sigma x & 100 \\ \Sigma f x & 273 \end{array}$	2.91

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15	The extent to which the teachers of your school have the knowledge of computer?	PUB PRI.	X fx X fx	- - -	17 68 15 60	40 120 39 117	33 66 26 52	10 10 20 20	100 264 100 249	2.64
16	The extent to which time is given for computer studies in your schools time table is?		x fx x fx	- - -	2 8 1 4	25 75 9 27	18 36 30 60	55 55 60 60	100 174 100 151	1.74



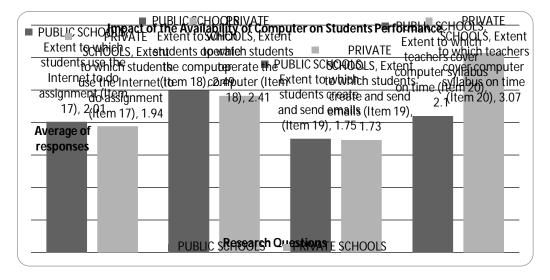
From the table above item 16 has 1.74 & 1.51 for public and private school, it means that the time given for computer studies is small. Also the extent to which the teachers have proper knowledge of computer studies is average in some of the public and private schools. It also showed that some teachers employed cannot bring out what is needed of them, some are not computer graduates, they only teach computer because of lack of computer teachers. The extent to which power supply is available is small because both public and private schools has the mean of less than 2.5. This will make the students less interested in practical work. The school cannot also bring out resource to support the power supply by providing generator. Item 14 have the mean of 2.91 and 2.73 respectively. This shows that the extent to which students makes use of the laboratory is not good enough.

Research question Five (5): What are the impacts of the availability of computer on students' performance?

Table 5.0: the impacts of the availability of computer on students'

performance

	ITEM	SCH TYPE		VLE	LE (4)	ME	SE (2)	VSE	TOT	AL	DEC/ MEAN
		TYPE		(5)	(4)	(3)	(2)	(1)			$= \frac{\sum fx}{\sum x}$
17	The extent to which the students of your school use the internet to solve their assignment?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	- - 1 5	2 8 2 8	30 90 22 66	35 70 40 80	33 33 35 35	$ \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x $	100 201 100 194	1.94
18	The extent to which students of your school operates the Computer?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	- - -	28 112 23 92	50 100 55 110	15 30 17 34	7 7 5 5	$ \begin{array}{c} \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x \end{array} $	100 249 100 241	2.49
19	The extent to which students create and send emails?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	- - -	- - -	25 75 23 69	25 50 26 52	50 50 51 52	$ \begin{array}{c} \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x \end{array} $	100 175 100 173	1.75
20	The extent to which the teachers of your school cover their computer syllabus on time?	PUB PRI.	x fx x fx	- - 23 115	- - -	50 150 55 165	10 20 5 10	40 40 17 17	$ \begin{array}{c} \sum x \\ \sum f x \\ \sum x \\ \sum f x \end{array} $	100 210 100 307	2.1 3.07



The extent to which the teachers cover the syllabus in public secondary school is small because the mean is 2.1 but in private school the extent to which the teachers cover the syllabus is large because its mean is 3.07. Item 17 of the same table shows that the extent to which the students of both public and private school use the internet to solve their assignment is poor because of the mean is less than 3. The table also shows that item 18 & 19 have a mean score of 2.49 & 2.41 and 1.75 & 1.73 respectively, it has a small extent.

MAJOR FINDINGS OF THE STUDY

The major findings reveal that in public secondary schools, computers are available to a large extent since it has the mean of 3.55. While in private secondary schools, the mean is 2.33, the availability of computers is to a small extent. Computers are used for office and administrative purposes in private secondary schools. While in public secondary school computers are used by teachers for their private business. The kind of application package learn by student is spreadsheet & word processor in both private & public schools. The time allocated to computer studies in both public and private secondary schools is to a small extent because its mean is 1.74 & 1.51 respectively. The power failure is a major problem, in most cases there were no power supply or it is epileptic in some other situations. The extent to which both the public and private secondary school students operates the computer is at small extent because its mean is 2.49 and 2.41 respectively.

DISCUSSION OF THE FINDINGS

The findings of the study in research question one (To what extent are computers available in Public and Private secondary schools?) reveals that, most of the public secondary schools have computers. Hence the extent of availability is "large". While the private secondary schools, have their own to a "small extent". In research question two (What are the computers used for in these schools?), item 6 (An indication of the extent to which the available computers in your school are used for office/Administrative purpose) have its mean score in private schools as 3.25, "medium extent"; item 7 (The extent to which my teachers use the computer for private business is): in public school as 3.52 while in private as 2.95. This shows that computers in both public and private school are used mostly for private business and office/administrative purposes apart from learning. From table three, result from research question 3 (What kind of software packages and application programs are learned by students?) shows that item 9 (To what extent is spreadsheet taught in your school?) and 12 (The extent to which word processor is studies in your school is?) have their mean score as 3.09, 2.94 and 3.22, 3.1 respectively. This shows that application packages are learnt to a "medium extent". The input came from both public and private school. Also with item 10 (The extent to which the

internet is studied in your school is?) having 2.95 and 2.55, the result reveals that internet is learnt to a "small extent" in both school. Enough time was not given to computer studies in both category of school.

The extent to which the students encounter difficulties in computer topics is to a "large extent" in both public and private schools this is caused by many things like: the teachers, not all the computer teacher in the schools have the good knowledge of computer.

This discourages the students from having much interest in computers. The extent to which the student operates the computer system is poor and small. This may be because of lack of laboratory usage and also lack of power supply.

CONCLUSION

From the above indications/result, it may not be hasty to make the generalization that students in public schools use more computers more than students in private schools. Also, it has become clear at this stage that availability of computer is the more crucial factor that will determine the use of computer. Hence, non-availability of computer will lead to nonlearning and government and individuals should help in the provisions

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