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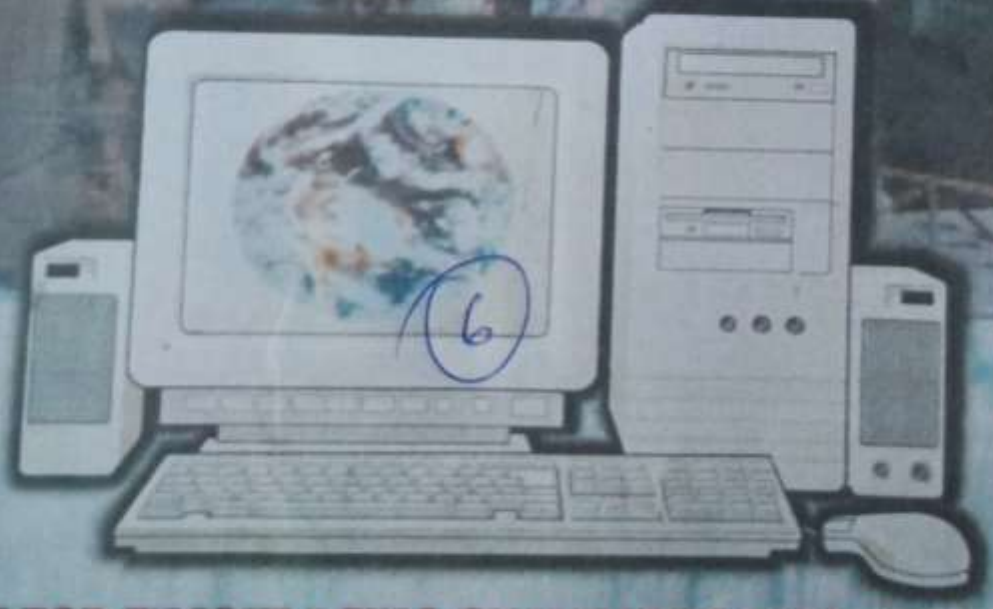

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A SURVEY OF THE STATE OF INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGY (ICT) IN COMPUTER SCIENCE AND SCIENCE EDUCATION GRADUATES' JOB PROSPECTS AND CHALLENGES FOR QUALITATIVE EDUCATION IN DELTA STATE

Atajeromavwo, Edafe John and konyeme, Josephine Ese

Abstract

This paper discusses some of the problems confronting Computer Science and Science Education Graduates resulting from technological breakthrough in Information and Communication Technology. The challenges militating against them in their job area and how to overcome this ugly trend by re-training the Education. Accordingly, the paper provides recommendations on ways by which Computer Science and Science Education graduates in higher institutions can adapt to this modern trend and improve on their skills and adaptability to Information and Communication Technology which has been embraced all over the world, including Nigeria.

Introduction

Information technology is a vital factor in the successful development of the education sector and industry at large. Information technology (IT) is the most attractive tool and infrastructure for the younger generation to facilitate the awareness and actual craftsmanship in business for local communities. In order to make this process succeed, the traditional education goals should migrate towards gaining locally relevant goals, skills and establishing networks for economic partnership.

The celebrated information technology has been a myth to many organizations and educational institutions in the under-developed world in general, of which Nigeria is not an exception, information technology came into existence as a result of factors like increase in world population, advancement of civilization, information explosion or "information overload", need to keep abreast with relevant "information anxiety" as well as the ability to pass information across to related bodies and other changing fields of technology.

Information Technology (IT) means the use of electronic computers and computer software to convert, store, process, transmit and retrieve information. It is concerned with the systems for creation, processing, storage, retrieval, selection, transformation and use of vocal, pictorial, textural and numerical information, (Agbamu, 2004). Every major advance in technology has affected the culture that uses it. First as the modern communications technology has created a world markedly different from the world that existed before their arrival. In the midst of this change are the new computer technologies. These technologies have brought in their wake, concepts like, electronic business (e-business), electronic commerce (e-commerce), electronic banking (e-banking), electronic education (on-line education) and electronic payment (e-payment). All these revolutions in business and education has resulted to a heavy reliance on computers, (Adewale, 2002). In the same vein, in the olden days, manual labour was the order of the day in performing different types of jobs. Interestingly, at the turn of the century, machines of various types and sizes were invented to alleviate or eliminate completely the drudgery of manual labour, (Thomas, 1978),

The invention of such machines like the typewriters, dictating machine, adding and