ICT Model to Overcome Sri Lankan Disability Digital Divide

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Abstract

Fifteen percent (15 %) of the world's population lives with a disability. Information and Communication Technology (ICT) is an umbrella to cover many form of technologies to transfer across the globe. But some people with having different disabilities are not getting the benefitsof ICT. This inequality is known as the disability digital divide. The people who lived in Sri Lanka were suffered from three decades of war and most abled and disabled people are disadvantages of getting real benefits of ICT during this period. As a result of ended war in 2009, government focuses to increases the digital literacy rate in the country. Government focuses it to be 75 % in the year 2015.The motivating behind this research is to overcome disability digital divide in Sri Lanka. The objective of this study is to propose an ICT model to bridging the disability digital divide gap in Sri Lanka and improve the quality of life of differently abled community in Sri Lanka.This study involved different data gathering techniques mainly group discussions, interviews and site visiting to identify SL situations. Sri Lankan Participants for this study was taken including with informal interviews with different communities, different disabled categories and different geographical locations. Study findings were indicated that compare to developed countries Sri Lanka are far behind the ICT usage by the disabled community in Sri Lanka. Proposedmodel include guidelines to eliminate disability digital divide in Web services, Mobile devises and services and Computer devises.

Keywords: Digital Divide, Persons with Disability, Sri Lanka Disability Divide, Disability Digital Divide.