■ SPECIFICATIONS

The mobile science lab is made up of a 7-inch TFT LCD touch screen and it consists of 39 scientific sensors that can be used to measure various factors. It can typically be used by three students at a time. The case, alongwith its other components, is made of ABS plastic, making it sturdy and capable of withstanding rough handling. It comes with integrated Wi-Fi and works on battery. Maintenance is easy as it does not consist of any moving parts. The NOVA comes with a one-year warranty, and NIIT provides three days of training at the beginning of every academic year for three years.

dip it in a beaker that contains water. As the temperature of the water rises slowly, the same will be represented on screen in the form of a graph. Then as the water reaches boiling point, you will see that the graph is stable as the temperature remains constant. The Mobile Science Lab covers a wide range of subjects, including Physics, Chemistry, Biology and Environmental Sciences. More than 210 experiments from the NCERT-defined curricula for classes 1–10 can be performed on it with the help of various accessories.

Owing to its portability, the students can even carry it during field trips to extract real-time data for conducting experiments. For example, if students want to check the amount of carbon dioxide in the air at various parts of the city, they can do so by simply carrying the Mobile Science Lab and carbon dioxide sensor with them. The machine will automatically take readings of all the samples collected, and store the data.

The device is also equipped with standard features such as internet access, word processing, spreadsheets and e-mail. This heips students tabulate, record and share their observations during an experiment.

NIIT will make this technology-enabled learning solution available through computer-aided experimentation, and the device will make use of Fourier Systems' Nova 5000 science data logger. NIIT has worked to customize the solution for use in Indian schools, but it will cost over Rs 1 lakh. If a school decides to Introduce the Mobile Science Lab only for class 10 students, for example, it will be equipped with only those apparatuses required for the experiments in the curriculum and the cost will be calculated accordingly.

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