

## Stories of the Educational Development Initiatives in the Government Schools in Sri Lanka

Dr. C. Kasturiarachchi<sup>1\*</sup> and T.T.K.Kasturiarachchi<sup>2</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*University of Colombo, Sri Lanka*

<sup>2</sup>*Sri Lanka Institute of Information Technology*

Education development of students is a very significant aspect of any education reform. There was a question in this study that is how schools use strategies to achieve their education development targets. This qualitative case study research includes five cases. Purposively selected School Development Committee members of schools were interviewed, and the interview transcriptions were analyzed by using thematic analysis. Most of the schools display a different pattern of education development, and strategies used for educational development of schools are varied. The main purpose of the majority of schools and parents is to enhance the examination results of the students. As a result of that, the main intention of those schools has deviated from the total development of students. However, the majority of schools spend reasonable attention on education development of their students, for instance, they conduct additional classes, seminars, workshops etc. For those activities, it appeared that schools organize several funds generating activities. One of the schools in this study usually spends more than ten million rupees for their educational development programmes annually. It was noticed that the examination results of their students are very successful for several years. Schools are provided more authority and autonomy for decision making and resource management, the majority of schools display an inclination in using their maximum authority organizing education development activities. Sometimes, they demonstrate poor results at their educational development programmes. It was noticed that the deteriorating schools are not enthusiastic to learn lessons from the successful schools in the government sector in Sri Lanka. They work individualistically without observing at the neighboring environment of them.

*Keywords:* Education development, Student performance, School Based Management