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**A STUDY OF THE FACTORS AFFECTING THE
SUCCESS IN SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY
AT GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION
ORDINARY LEVEL**

BY

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| ABSTRACT

This study was based on the factors which affect the success in the subject of Science & Technology in the G.C.E (O/L) Examination with special reference to the Puttalam district Tamil medium schools.

The researcher observed that the average success of the students in the subject of Science at the G.C.E (O/L) Examinations during the years 1993 to 2000 is around forty percent at national level according to the analysis produced by the Data Analysis Unit of the Department of Examination, Sri Lanka. Average success in Puttalam district during the above period is very close to the national level success.

The objectives of this study were to identify how the school and home factors influence the success in the subject of Science & Technology in the G.C.E (O/L) Examination, to identify the most influential factors which affect the success and to make suggestions to weaken the hindering factors and recommendations to improve the success.

One hundred and forty (140) students from 11 Tamil medium schools in Puttalam district were randomly selected for this study. In addition fifteen (15) teachers who taught the subject of Science & Technology for the G.C.E (O/L) classes and eleven principals were selected.

Questionnaire for students, interview schedule for Science teachers, and brief discussions with the principals were the data collection tools for this study. Simple percentage method and Chi Square statistical method were used for data analysis. The factors for which Chi Square value exceeds 3.84 were identified as significant factors which affect the success in the subject of Science & Technology.

Native place, subject choice, family size, monthly income, peaceful study environment, reading science literatures and number of practical done were identified as the most influential factors which affect the success in the subject of Science & Technology.