

ABSTRACT

The responsibility of producing a person suitable for the world of work as a solution to unemployment is a duty assigned to the school. Eventhough several actions have been taken since Kannangāra era to build up a link between the Sri-Lankan school education system and the world of work, they have failed to produce the expected results. The objectives of the present study are, to identify how the subject Practical and Technological skills is being implemented in schools at present, to identify the practical problems involved in implementation, to inquire the opinion of teachers and students regarding the modernization of the subject, inquire into employers' opinion regarding the modernization of the subject and to present suggestions for the modernization process in order to train students to suit the world of work. The sample of the study was 100 students in grade nine from three different schools (categories of 1 AB, type 1C and type 2) belonging to the Maharamaga Educational Division in Sri Jayawardanapura Education Zone, 20 teachers from the same schools who teach the subject, The three principals in each school and two other principals from selected schools, The Director of Practical and Techonological Skills of Maharagama Educational Division, two in-service advisors, two officers specializing in practical and Technological skills subject from National Institute of Education and five selected employers. Data collection was done through questionnaires and interviews; data analysis was done both quantitatively and qualitatively. Research findings include practical problems encountered in implementing the subject in the school system and suggestions made by stakeholders in the modernization of the subject.