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## A STUDY OF THE CURRICULUM FOR TEACHER

EDUCATION IN CEYLON

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## ABSTRACT

This study is the outcome of an attempt to survey in general the process of the preparation of Primary (General) and Secondary (Specialist) teachers in Ceylon. The immense importance accorded to education in recent times has necessitated a reappraisal of the programmes of Teacher Education, the significance of which had not been fully recognized in Ceylon in the past. The slow progress witnessed in Ceylon's education inspite of the large investments made and the major reforms introduced has posed the question whether this lag be explained by any limitation in our teacher preparation programmes. It is being asked whether we produce the right type of teacher on whom the success of these reforms depend.

In Chapter I the need for a study of the curriculum of teacher education is discussed in the light of changing concepts of teacher education and of the teacher's role with special reference to the current needs of the society.

Chapter II attempts to clarify the objectives of Teacher preparation and the principles of developing a curriculum for teacher education which is an essential pre-requisite in preparation of better teachers. Chapter III traces the historical development of Teacher Education in Ceylon with special reference to its curriculum. Chapter IV represents a survey of the structure of the inputs of the system. A detailed analysis of curricula of General and Specialist

Chapter V and VI. Methods of teaching employed in our Teachers' Colleges are discussed in Chapter VII due to the important role they play in producing competent teachers. These chapters revealed a number of defects and shortcomings existing in the present curriculum of Teacher Education. Although we could have suggested a complete over-hauling of the existing teacher education curriculum and its replacement with an ambitious 'modern' plan borrowed from the advanced countries we deemed it more profitable to put forward a number of suggestions which are practicable and within our resources. Chapter VIII presents a number of such practical suggestions to improve the output of our programmes of Teacher Education.

