

# **A Study on Available Management Training Opportunities for the Principals of Government Schools in Sri Lanka.**

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The objective of this Study was to investigate the opportunities available for the management training programmes being conducted for the Principals of the Sri Lankan government schools. The School is the focal-point of Formal Education. As the Principal is the Head of a school who will have to face many obstacles and overcome them, he/she should possess a thorough knowledge of managing school affairs. Principals should be trained for this task. This research had investigated such management training programmes of principals out of the 11 Educational Zones in Kalutara District, and 88 Principals were selected to represent the 04 types of schools on the basis of the stratified sample system. Three Zonal Directors were also included in the research sample. For this research the survey research method was used. To obtain data, questionnaires, interviews, research reports, were made use of. The data collected were analyzed by means of data percentiles, tables, graphs and simple statistical methods. As a result of this research, it was revealed that the available management training programmes were inadequate.

About three-fourths out of the entire set of principals had received a Training less than three weeks. Only one Full-time Course for Educational Managers could be identified. Five Part-time Courses were available. It was revealed that all these Courses were being conducted by the Educational Leadership Development Centre. It was revealed that all the principal management training courses were being held only at one place in Sri Lanka. This was a great drawback for the professional development of a large number of principals spread all over Sri Lanka. It was necessary for a rapidly progressing society to mould a slowly moving educational process by equipping the educational leaders with appropriate knowledge, attitudes, and skills. To achieve these management training opportunities, state involvement is essential. Management training programmes for principals should be decentralized. Newly appointed principals should be given a pre-service educational management training. The management of training principals should be regularly updated.

**Key words:** *Educational Management, Government Schools, Principals, Training Opportunities.*