

A COMPARISON OF THE ENROLMENT IN THE G.C.E. A.L. CLASSES: 1969 & 1985; ALONG WITH A PRELIMINARY STUDY OF PUPIL PERFORMANCE IN SELECTED SUBJECTS AT A.L. FOR 1983 & 1985 WITH A STUDY OF LINKS OF ACHIEVEMENT WITH SELECTED SOCIO-ECONOMIC DATA

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The enrolment in the A.L. classes in 1969 & 1985 was studied. The data was analysed by districts and by socio economic zones (as defined by the Central Bank).

The pupil enrolment per thousand of the population were 0.9 and 2.1 for science and arts in 1969 and 3.0 and 2.9 in 1985. The co-efficient of variation among districts was 99% and 68% respectively for science and arts in 1969; in 1985 the corresponding values were 67% and 39% in 1985.

The scores of pupils in selected subjects for 83 and 85 and the performance at zonal district level have been studied. The mean scores at these levels are illustrated below for five selected subjects;

	1983		1985	
	Sinhala	Tamil	Sinhala	Tamil
Pure Mathematics				
Mean	19	28	13	23
S.D.	3	4	4	4
C.V.%	17	15	28	18
Physics				
Mean	21	24	20	24
S.D.	2	3	3	3
C.V.%	11	11	13	12
Chemistry				
Mean	29	33	26	29
S.D.	3	4	4	4
C.V.%	11	11	14	15
Botany				
Mean	36	40	38	42
S.D.	3	3	4	3
C.V.%	8	7	10	7
Zoology				
Mean	35	36	34	37
S.D.	3	2	3	4
C.V.%	8	7	10	10

The variation is highest for Mathematics. The Zonal Score means plotted against the Expenditure per Spending unit per month in the Zone and the index of Education attained in the Zone indicates distinctly recognizable "bands".