

P. Kudaligama
Curriculum Development Centre

Many changes are taking place in the sphere of teacher education, in Sri Lanka. At the very beginning, teacher education was imparted by teacher colleges and universities. But, with the onset of growth and development in the fields of primary and secondary education, the need arose for the increase of intake of teachers. Naturally, the rising teacher enrolment meant expansion and diversification of teacher education.

Yet, a backlog of 20,000 untrained teachers has to be cleared. The government expects to train these teachers as early as possible. And many new features are being added to teacher education. The Distance Education Programme, the On-job-training project, Inservice Education Scheme and the Pre-service Training Programme are some of the attempts in meeting this situation. Pre-service teacher training is undertaken by the recently established Colleges of Education. There is a shift in emphasis from the traditional, time-consuming institutionalised training to modern, non-institutionalised techniques.

This survey reveals the various teacher training methods, their objectives, how they operate, and the problems encountered.