

## CHOICE OF THE FOURTH SUBJECTS BY COMMERCE STUDENTS

Dhanapali Kottahachchi  
University Grants Commission, Colombo 07.

Students eligible for admissions to traditional Universities are classified into 4 subject streams i.e. Arts, Commerce, Biological Science and Physical Science. Students are selected to undergraduate course in Management Studies and Commerce from the Commerce subject stream.

Commerce students have to offer three compulsory subjects i.e. Accounting, Commerce and Finance and Economics. The optional subject can be selected from the 46 other subjects available at the G.C.E. (A/L) Examination. All students who are eligible for admissions in accordance with the regulations laid down by the University Grants Commission do not seek admission. In fact the number applied out of the eligible candidates has decreased from 57% in 1987/88 to 39% in 1989/90.

Applicant and students selected during the 3 year period 1987/88 was analysed with regard to the fourth subject offered by them. The analysis of data has revealed that many of the students opted to offer Geography or Logic as the fourth subject. In fact during the 3 year period 48.2% of students offered Geography while 36.2% offered Logic. The other choices were Hindu Civilization (4.2%), Political Science (3.5%), Islam Civilization (2.3%) and Christianity (1.9%).

During the period under review the reference for Logic increased while that for Geography decreased among the applicants as well as the students selected.