

C-02 Creativity and inventiveness: Sri Lanka situation

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Creativity and inventiveness are linked to economic prosperity of nations and financial success of individuals, who are engaged in related activities. It is the accepted fact today, that these talents can be developed in persons by deliberate encouragement and providing a favourable environment. Many developed countries have embarked on programmes to promote and develop above talents of their citizens centuries ago and now they reap fruits of their efforts.

Unfortunately, Sri Lanka has not realized the importance of this for a long period of time. Only recently some actions were taken to promote these talents. Compared to many other countries, Sri Lanka is backward in this area, which has significantly contributed to slow down economic progress.

The objectives of this paper are to evaluate the importance of creativity and inventiveness in the success of nations and individuals, to assess the performance of Sri Lanka with relation to other countries in the world, to identify present day short-comings and to suggest remedial action to promote and develop creativity and inventiveness in citizens of Sri Lanka.

It is concluded that some fundamental changes have to be made with regard to the education system in the country. Action is also necessary to remove some constraints affecting the promotion and development of creativity and inventiveness. The action programmes required are identified.