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**ANALYSIS OF PROBLEMS OF G.C.E A/L SCIENCE STUDENTS  
AND TEACHERS IN CONDUCTING PROJECTS  
AND SUGGESTIONS FOR OVERCOMING**

A PROJECT REPORT PRESENTED

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**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE**

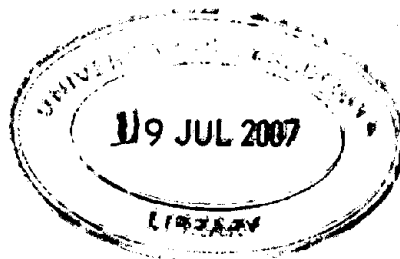
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## ABSTRACT

The introduction of projects to GCE (A/L) classes with the implementation of new education Reforms in 1998 is a unique feature. It is expected to introduce a new learning culture and important competencies such as communications, problem solving skills, management of resources and time and many other remarkable skills through implementation of projects in schools.

However, the researcher found that there are many problems faced by students as well as teachers in selecting and implementing projects especially in science streams in schools. Therefore, the present study attempts to identify problems in implementing projects at GCE (A/L) classes especially in science base courses and make suggestions to improve the present situation. The study used mainly the survey research method to collect data using questionnaire, interview and perusal of relevant documents. The study was limited to Matara District and its sample was randomly selected and comprised of 20% of teachers and 10% of students from the total population of 25 1 AB schools which conduct GCE (A/L) science classes in Matara district.

The study reveals mainly an unsatisfactory situation with regard to projects in GCE (A/ L) classes in the selected schools with a very few positive features. Lack of proper knowledge about projects, inadequate time allocated, lack of proper supervision, and the inadequacy of evaluation system are some of the problems identified by the present survey. The most unsatisfactory feature is that some students copied the projects produced by their seniors.

Based on the outcome of the study, number of remedies such as to equip the teachers with a sound knowledge on how to design and conduct a project, organizing awareness programmes on school science projects to students, providing raw material and other resources required to conduct projects especially for the needy students and introducing a common system or mechanism of project supervision island wide have been suggested.

