

C 510  
AME

**INVESTIGATION OF THE FACTORS AFFECTING  
PERFORMANCES IN MATHEMATICS IN G.C.E (O/L) IN THE  
AMBAGAMUVA EDUCATIONAL ZONE  
(NUWARA-ELIYA DISTRICT-TAMIL MEDIUM)**

**A PROJECT REPORT PRESENTED**

**BY  
SATHASIVAM AMIRTHALINGAM**

to the

**POSTGRADUATE INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE**

in partial fulfillment of the requirement  
for the award of the degree

**MASTER OF SCIENCE**

of the

**UNIVERSITY OF PERADENIYA**

**SRI LANKA**

**April 2000**

**531615**

**INVESTIGATION OF THE FACTORS AFFECTING PERFORMANCES  
IN MATHEMATICS IN G.C.E (O/L) THE AMBAGAMUVA  
EDUCATIONAL ZONE  
(NUWARA-ELIYA DISTRICT TAMIL MEDIUM)**

**Sathasivam Amirthalingam**

**Board of Study in Statistics and Computer science**

**M.Sc. in Applied Statistics**

**ABSTRACT**

The national average passes in G.C.E (O/L) Mathematics in relatively low compared to other subjects such as Science and Electric and Electronics. This situation is worst in plantation schools, where there are no adequate resources and parental support. With this background a study was carried out in the Ambagamuwa Educational Zone, Nuwara Eliya district. The main objective of the study was to identify the factors that influence the performance level in Mathematics.

Schools those have O/L classes were selected for this purposes. Questionnaires, interviews and documental analysis were used as tools for collecting data. These were administrated to 28 school principals and 44 teachers of Mathematics. Data are collected and interpreted in qualitative and quantitative manner. Univariate, bivariate and multivariate statistical methods were used as techniques to data analysis.

This study is intended to identify prime factors which influence the performance levels of Mathematics students, specially school administration, teacher commitment, student motivation, parents co-operation, physical and human resources, and managerial functions and classroom activities. But the findings reveal that dearth of teachers, lack of commitment, irregular supervision, lack of staff development opportunities and resources resulted in the poor performances of students in Mathematics.

This study further reveals that the poor performances of the plantation students in Mathematics is due to the fact that there has been an acute shortage of Mathematics teachers, lack of training and follow up supervision work.

The stratified system of education in Sri Lanka and policy relationship should have a two-way communication and thorough understanding to ensure follow up of work, regular supervision and feedback carried out satisfactorily for teachers to overcome this '**burden**' and make the education system more meaningful and efficient.