IDENTIFYING ISSUES IN IMPLEMENTATION OF SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES OF SCHOOL BASED TEACHER DEVELOPMENT (SBTD) PROGRAMME

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This research has been conducted to find out the success rate of the SBTD programme and to identify the issues in the implementation of activities suggested by the Ministry of Education under SBTD. Moreover, this study aimed at identifying the guidelines for the effective implementation of the SBTD programme in Sri Lankan schools. The research sample consisted of ten school principals and twenty teachers of the Borella Education Division in the Colombo Education Zone in the Western Province of Sri Lanka. Ten structured interviews were held with principals of different types of schools and the responses to questionnaires were obtained from 20 teachers of 4 schools in the Borella Education Division. Data collected through the questionnaire for the teachers and interviews for the principals was analyzed separately. The overall success rate of the SBTD programme was about 80%. Most of the suggested activities were implemented at a satisfactory level in the schools. Preparation and usage of teaching-learning materials was implemented successfully and peer coaching was the least successful activity. From the analysis, several issues were identified as contextual barriers that prevented schools from effective implementation of SBTD. Such contextual barriers were the lack of time for SBTD, lack of resources, teachers' inability to devote time during weekends and the negative attitudes of the teachers. In addition to this, lack of direct links between MOE and schools was also a barrier for the smooth flow of information. Based on the analysis and findings, guidelines that are useful for teachers, principals and officials of Zonal, Provincial and Ministry level were identified.

Keywords: SBTD, Teacher Development, Guidelines for SBTD, Barriers for SBTD.

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