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THE STATUS OF TEACHERS IN SRI LANKA
A COMPARATIVE STUDY OF URBAN RURAL DIFFERENCES

A DISSERTATION SUBMITTED IN PARTIAL FULFILMENT
OF THE REQUIREMENTS FOR THE DEGREE OF MASTER OF
EDUCATION

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BY

(MRS) P.D.L.H. SOMARATNA.

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ABSTRACT

Of all the factors which influence the quality of education and its contribution to national development, the quality, competence and character of teachers are undoubtedly the most significant. Nothing is more important than securing a sufficient supply of high quality recruits to the teaching profession providing them with the best possible preparation and creating satisfactory conditions of work in which they are fully effective. It is necessary that teachers are properly motivated. One main reason for lack of motivation on the part of teachers is said to be the teacher's own evaluation of his 'station in life', i.e. his social and professional status.

The chief aim of the writer is to highlight the importance of this and thereby draw attention to the problem of improving teacher status. Chapter I discusses the relevance of this problem to the researcher in Sri Lanka.

The status of teachers in ancient Sri Lanka is surveyed by a review of literature in Chapter II. It is, also, shown how the role of the teacher changed gradually with the impact of the West and how this affected teacher status.

The motives which prompted the selection of this topic and the general plan of the research are described in Chapter III, while Chapter IV includes the analysis of the results. In Chapter V conclusions are drawn from the findings of the survey and suggestions for further research in this field are made.