

An Analysis of the Prevailing Statistics Education in Sri Lanka and Feasible Solutions to Uplift it

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Teaching statistics has not been an easy task in comparison with other disciplines. This is the common complain made by most of the teachers at all levels who teach statistics in Sri Lanka. Though the situation is such, it seems that no concrete steps have been taken to change the acute situation. Therefore, the objective of this paper is to analyze the prevailing difficulties in statistics education in Sri Lanka and to find feasible solutions to improve the situation to a higher level. As the entire statistics education is a broad one, and the preliminary statistics education has a direct impact on other levels of statistics education, in this paper the attention is given to discuss the preliminary statistics education in Sri Lanka. The initial attempt is to discuss and analyze the ongoing statistics education system in Sri Lanka. Those colonial methods of teaching that does not improve the level of the statistics education are also identified. The next step is to identify some strategies that are affordable as well as feasible. The aim of these new strategies is to create active teaching and active learning participation which cannot be seen in the colonial statistics education system. Non-technological strategies and new technological strategies are discussed and suitable arrangements are made to alter those technological strategies to suit Sri Lankan education system. Among the new technological strategies, an attention is given to introduce web media, multimedia and other techniques such as computer animations in this teaching process. In addition to those solutions, it is also suggested to eliminate the language barrier which is a one of the main obstacle to improve the level of statistics education in Sri Lanka. .

Key words: Statistics education; Active learning;; Web media; Multimedia; Animations

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