

OLPC for Sri Lankan Children



M.M.N.D. Bandara
Secretary
Ministry of Education
Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka



Sri Lanka is a small tropical island in the Indian Ocean, situated close to the south eastern tip of India.

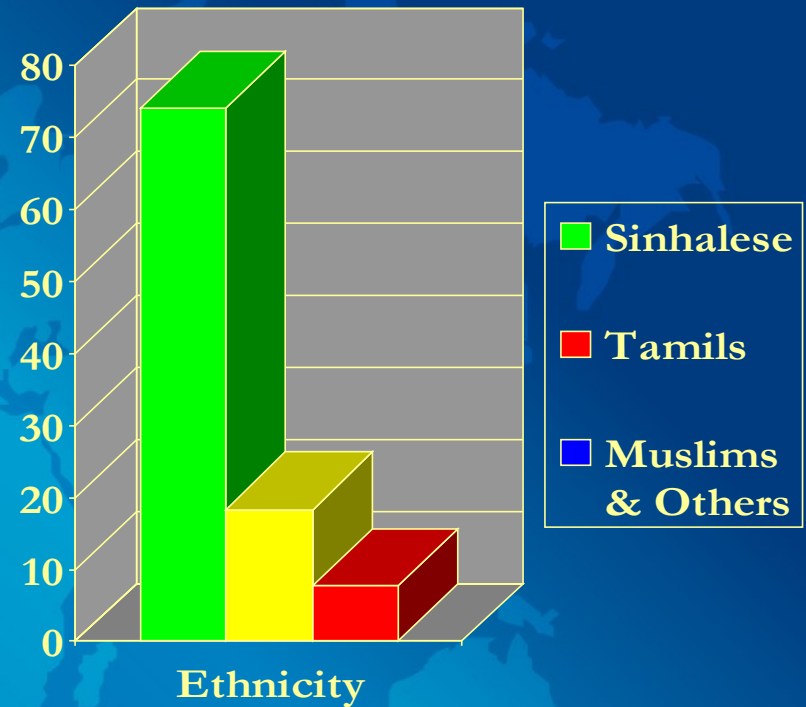


Sri Lanka in Brief

Population	19.6 m
Student Population	3.9 m
Teachers Population	0.2 m
Literacy Rate	90.7%
Area	65,525 sq. km.
Currency	Rupees (1 £=215Rs., 1US\$ = 112Rs.)
GNP	1350 US\$
GDP	1355 US\$
Provinces	9
Capital	Colombo
Official Language	Sinhala and Tamil (English is a link language)

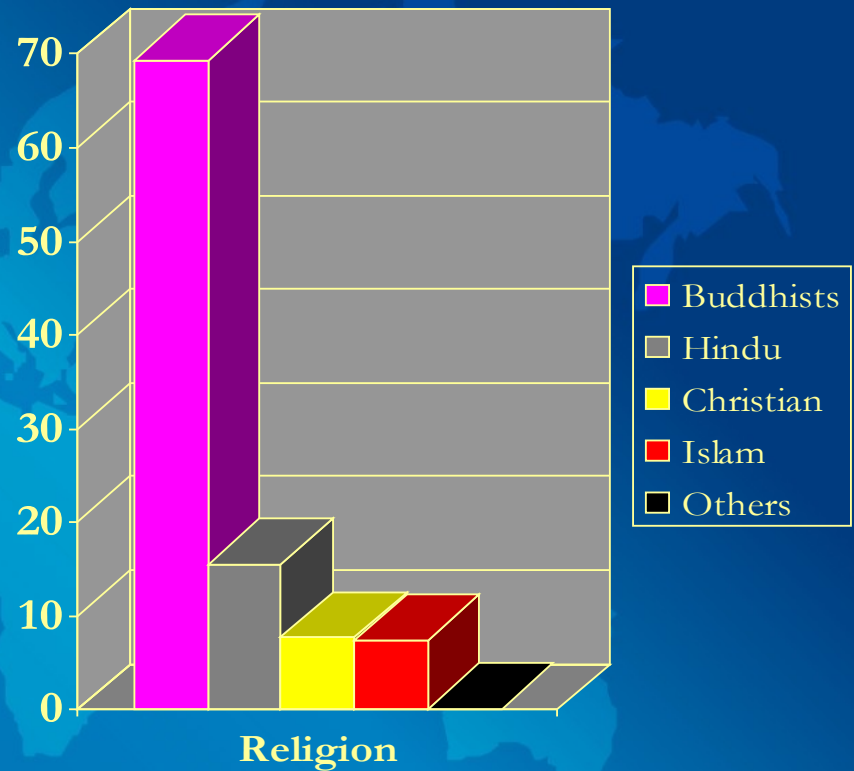
Ethnicity

- Sinhalese 74.0%
- Tamils 18.3%
- Muslims & Other 7.7%



Religion

- **Buddhist** **69.3%**
- **Hindu** **15.5%**
- **Christian** **7.7%**
- **Islam** **7.4%**
- **Others** **0.1%**



Education System



**Policies are introduced by the Central ministry for both Provincial and National schools*

Schools by Type Vs Student & Teacher information

No. \ Type	Type of Schools								Total
	1AB		1C		Type 2		Type 3		
Schools	659	7%	1,854	19%	4,225	43%	2976	31%	9,714
Students	1,191,030	30%	1,250,235	33%	1,057,071	28%	338,214	9%	3,836,550
Teachers	54,111	26%	63,962	31%	67,532	34%	19,312	10%	2,14,908
Stud/Teach Ratio	25		22		17		19		19

1AB - Schools with grade 1-13 having all three streams for G.C.E A/L (Science, Commerce and Arts)

1C - Schools with grade 1-13 having two streams for G.C.E A/L (Commerce and Arts)

2 - Schools with grade 1-11 (up to G.C.E. O/L)

3 - Schools with grade 1-5 (Primary Section)

Why OLPC ?

- To provide different type of education experience for children in small schools which are usually located in remote and rural areas.
- More than 35% of schools (small schools) do not have access to electricity through National Grid.
- Such small schools have less than 100 students. Most of these schools are in deprived area with no electricity. OLPC can be taken to scale in these schools.

Can OLPC enhance education

- OLPC has to eliminate techno phobia and help gain access to knowledge and promote self expressions
- It has potential to improve the Computer : Student ratio. [Existing ratio is 1:130.]

Implementation & Taking of OLPC to scale

- OLPC will initially be implemented as a first phase and thereafter “taken to scale.”
- Since the Ministry of Education is the focal point of this phase, it has already developed the criteria to implement the project.
- Ministry of education recognises OLPCs potential. All those organisations willing to share in this phase can provide to the school system. However, it should satisfy

Implementation & Taking to Scale of OLPC ?

- Evaluation will be taking place from the beginning to observe the impact of the first phase with a focus on cognitive development.
- Educational contents will be determined with the involvement of the teachers, parents and the community.



Appreciate Your Attention !