SOFT SKILLS DEVELOPMENT OF TEACHERS TEACHING PRIMARY GRADES IN SRI LANKA.

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The teacher is a pioneer in the land. Teachers should be perfect in knowledge, attitude and skills in order to make the society around them better. Moreover, teachers should also be perfect in soft skills. The teachers are the mother of the child who leaves the care of the parents and joins the school. There is time to develop the soft skills of the primary teacher within the existing education system. The lack of soft skills in primary teachers has become a problem in the education sector. It was confirmed by a preliminary examination conducted for teachers. Action research methodology was used to develop the soft skills of teachers. For that, this action research was conducted for 6 teachers identified in the pre-test. Identifying soft skills of teachers. This action research was conducted to achieve the objectives of using soft skills in the learning process, using soft skills in the school environment, and developing an appropriate formal process to develop teachers' soft skills. For this, four cycles of intervention were implemented. According to those interventions, there were cases where the teacher was successful as well as cases where soft skills were developed. Based on repeated activities, the primary objectives of this research could be achieved. In the existing education system, it is essential to develop the soft skills of teachers teaching in primary grades. It was further revealed that an appropriate method is needed for that. Accordingly, it was concluded that it is essential to develop the soft skills of primary teachers in today's education sector.

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