

RACE FOR EDUCATION 2018 (RFE) Education Journey

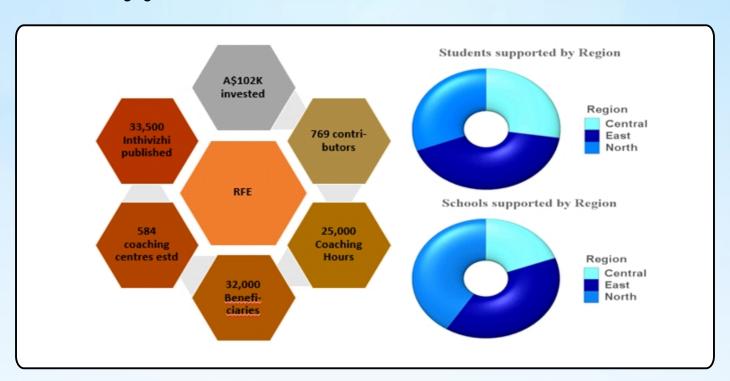
கல்விக்கான ஓட்டம்

உயரப் பறக்கத்துடிக்கும் உறவுகளுக்கு உணர்வுபூர்வமான உதவி

In Partnership with JHCOBA, Sydney

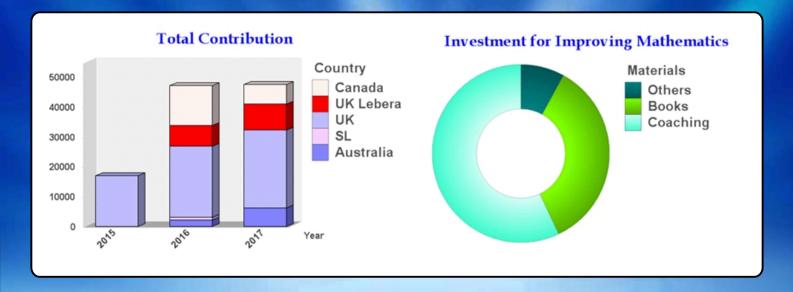
The RFE was launched in 2015 by a group of individuals with the broad aim to empower students in Northern, Eastern and Central regions of Sri Lanka to enhance the success rate in GCE O/L examinations. Students sitting the GCE O/L exams must pass six subjects, including the compulsory subjects of mathematics and their first language, to be able to continue to GCE A/L and thereafter to university in Sri Lanka. Statistics show that only 10% of the students in these regions secured entrance to university between 2012 and 2016. They performed considerably worse in Mathematics, English and Science than in Tamil and History.

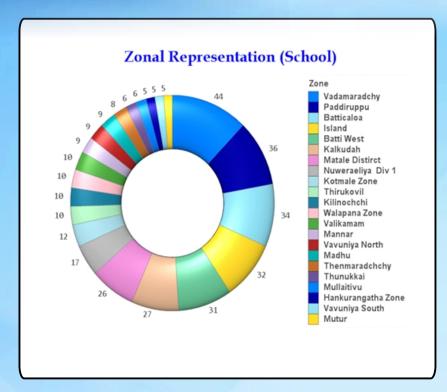
RFE was introduced to empower students in these regions to excel in mathematics by providing additional study material and targeted coaching. It introduced an exclusively designed guidebook with practice questions 'Inthuvizhi', financial incentive to teachers to conduct additional classes for selected students, and coordination with provincial officials to engage RFE activities.



Numeracy skills and proficiency in mathematics is especially important for students to continue into technical studies and apprenticeships.

In 2017, RFE supported 10,283 students in 450 schools with the assistance of 400 teachers across the three regions. Contributions came from donors in United Kingdom, Canada, Sri Lanka, Australia and the global business Lebara Foundation. The contribution grew year on year helping the RFE supporting the students in the three regions.





The amount of contribution and the number of contributors dropped slightly in 2017, however, RFE continued its activities providing support to students in various schools across a broad spectrum of the three regions.

The RFE has recently engaged in monitoring and evaluation of the performance in 2016 GCE O/L with the technical support of Centre for Governance Innovations (CGI), a not-profit company in Sri Lanka. 55% of 7,543 students supported by RFE, passed mathematics subject in their GCE OL examinations. Similar evaluations will be carried out of 2017 examination statistics once data become available.

In 2018, RFE plans to adopt a more targeted approach that focuses on identifying and supporting priority schools. RFE will spend about A\$40K and adopt both short-term and long-term strategies. While the short-term strategy will utilise part of the funds to continue existing practices, the long-term strategy will be used to develop new techniques, such as web-based teaching tools, addressing teaching issues in grades 6 to 9 and data analysis.

RFE needs your support to continue its activities in this noble purpose of empowering the future generation of students in the three regions of Sri Lanka. You can be part of RFE by donating any amount that you can spare, using the on-line link or donate at the race event to be held at Parramatta Park. A BBQ lunch will also be provided at the event.

Your generous support will make a difference!

