

## ABSTRACT

An Investigation into the Implementation  
of the Draft Primary School  
Language Arts Syllabus - 1986

Shirley Bandhan

This study was undertaken to assess the extent to which the teachers of Second Year classes in the Primary Schools in San Fernando were implementing the Draft Primary School Syllabus (1986) in Language Arts, after working with it for approximately two years. It also sought to identify any problems/constraints that might be affecting the smooth implementation of the programme, and in doing so, to determine the needs of these teachers with regard to the teaching of the Language Arts.

To do this, a Questionnaire was administered to the entire population of 46 teachers. A sample of six of these teachers was observed in the teaching of three language lessons each, and interviews were also

conducted with the same sample.

The findings of the study showed that most of the teachers were implementing the Syllabus as suggested, but there were some areas of uncertainty about the concepts, principles and methodology related to Second Language Teaching.

The most significant problems were in the areas of availability, preparation and use of appropriate teaching aids; the physical conditions in schools; teaching methods and professional and moral support for teachers.

The most urgent need identified was that of Continuing Education Courses/Workshops in Language Arts teaching which would cater for improving teachers' knowledge and skills.