



IMPACT OF THE COMMENCEMENT OF TRANSLATION STUDIES SPECIAL DEGREE PROGRAMME ON THE SUCCESSFUL IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OFFICIAL LANGUAGE POLICY

Hansani J.A.M.

Department of Languages, Faculty of Social Sciences and Languages, Sabaragamuwa University of Sri Lanka

madukahansani89@gmail.com

ABSTRACT

Language, the most intricate yet dynamic part of any culture plays a major role in communication. Due to the same reason it has been the driven cause for many conflicts around the world. Most of the people view the differences of languages as ‘clashes’ not as ‘diversity.’ In Sri Lanka, several governments have tried to find an ever lasting solution to this problem through legal procedures. However, the practical implementation of these legal provisions seems to be poor and one of the major reasons for that is the shortage of translators. As a solution to this, the government with the Ministry of Higher Education and the Ministry of National Languages and Social Integrity has taken the decision to commence a Special Degree Programme in three state universities namely the University of Kelaniya, University of Sabaragamuwa and the University of Jaffna. The objective of my research is to find the effectiveness of this Special Degree Programme for the successful implementation of the Official Language Policy in near future. To gather data for the paper, a sample group consists of 30 persons was selected and the methods of interviewing and providing questionnaires were used to gather data. The newspaper articles and books were used as secondary sources of collecting information. The questionnaires and interviews consisted of the questions that demand answers regarding the implementation of the programme. Newspaper articles and books were used to find out information regarding the Official Language Policy and recommended syllabuses of the degree programmes. The data collected were analyzed using pie charts. When analyzing particular data, it was found that the participants believed that the existing degree programmes should be slightly revised get the maximum results from the particular degree course.

Keywords: Language, Official Language Policy, Special Degree Programme, Translation