

The study was conducted to carry out the evaluation of existing National Curriculum (chemistry) for Higher Secondary School Certificate (HSSC) and Secondary School Certificate (SSC). The study mainly focused on the achievements of the objectives set by the experts in the curriculum document, appropriateness of the contents for the levels, prevailing teaching methodologies and the students' evaluation. Using sample survey, opinion of the respondents was obtained through questionnaires developed for the purpose. A sample of 400 chemistry teachers (200 male and 200 female) teaching at higher secondary level and 600 chemistry teachers (300 male and 300 female) teaching at secondary level were selected from all the provinces of the country. The sample also included 50 curriculum experts involved in the process of curriculum development. In addition opinion of 800 chemistry students (400 male and 400 female) studying at higher secondary level and 1200 chemistry students (600 male and 600 female) studying at secondary level from all the provinces of the country was also sought for, supporting or otherwise, the opinion of the teachers. Chi square test and t test were applied for the analysis of the data.

The key conclusions based on the descriptive and statistical evidences indicated that the objectives set in the curriculum document are in line with the national ideology of the country. It was indicated that experts were not satisfied with the curriculum development process in the country. Majority of the teachers were of the opinion that curriculum in vogue was not capable of attaining most of the objectives set in the document. Contents have been selected by applying the criteria of significance only and rest of the aspects like utility, human development and interest have been ignored. Teachers use lecture method for teaching the subject and rest of the teaching methods like participation, discussion, demonstration and individual experiment methods have been ignored. The teachers were not satisfied with the present system of students' evaluation.

The recommendations offered are; opinion of teachers be sought and given due consideration while developing the curriculum. Developing the objectives must be based on research and must be realistic. Enrichment be carried out as suggested.