

# Distance Education

Thanks to technology, new doors to education are opening in South Asia. While some Canadian institutions, such as the University of Athabasca and the University of Guelph, are involved in distance education in Sri Lanka and India respectively, the real impetus for distance education comes from within the region. Recently, the G. Ram Reddy Research Academy of Distance Education began operations through the Dr. B. R. Ambedkar Open University Campus, which has 137 study centres offering degrees and diplomas in India. In Bangladesh, the lack of university places for secondary school graduates means 200,000 are studying overseas, and the next ten years will see an increase of annual graduates to 300,000. For those who cannot afford to go abroad, their options are currently limited to local universities (if they can get a spot) and private institutions, such as the MBA programme offered by the Royal Roads University from British Columbia in Uttara, Bangladesh.

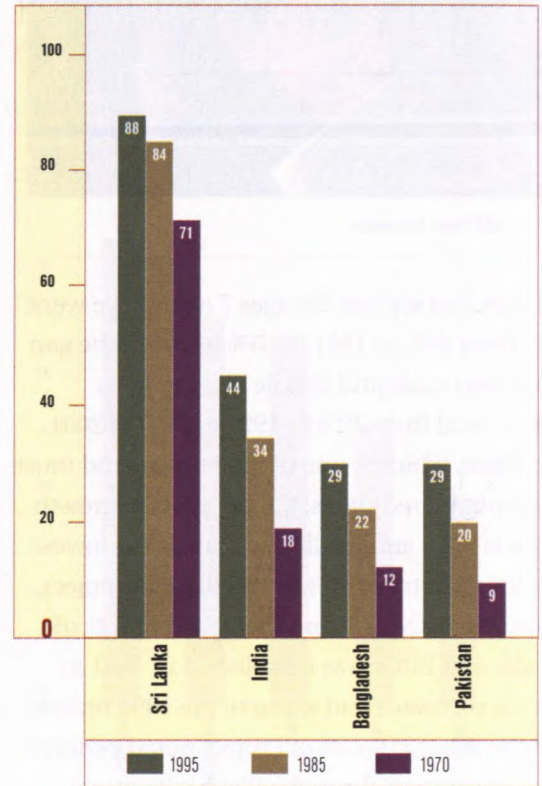
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CIDA Photo: Roger Lemoine

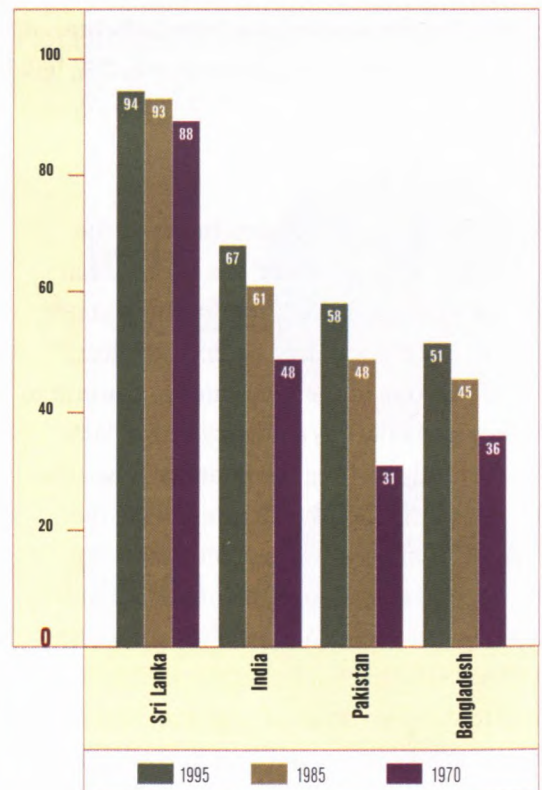


The Canadian Ambassador to Nepal, Peter Sutherland, handing over one of the books in 43 boxes of books donated by the students of Elmwood School, Ottawa, to Child Haven International, Kathmandu.  
Canadian High Commission New Delhi: Pradeep Shakya

## Female Adult Literacy Rate (percent)



## Male Adult Literacy Rate (percent)



Source: World Resources 2000-01, 1996-97