EDUCATION CURRICULUM REFORMS – STRUCTURE

SLIDE 1: (Opening slide)

Transform Education: Transform Sri Lanka Education Reforms Initiatives

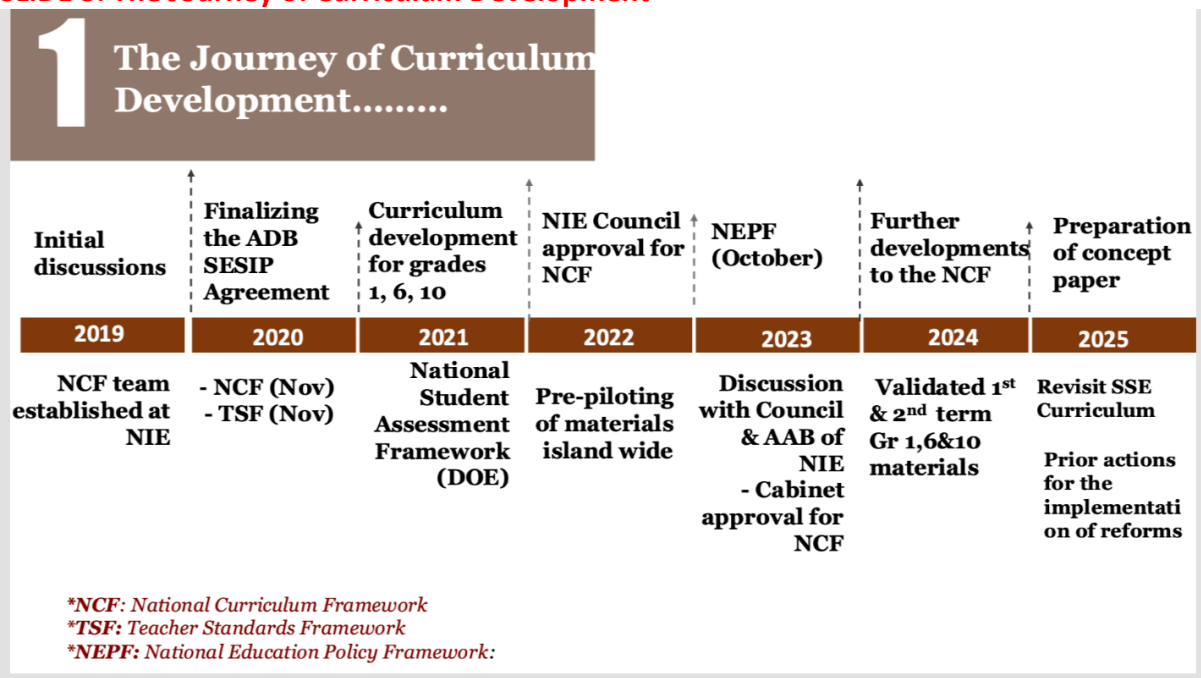
Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education
2025. July 11

SLIDE 2:

Agenda

1. The Journey of Curriculum Development…
2. Goals and Objectives
3. Guiding Principles for the Reforms
4. Key Pillars of the Reforms
5. Curriculum Reforms
6. Road Map for Education Reforms
7. Implementation Arrangement

SLIDE 3: The Journey of Curriculum Development



SLIDE 4: Goals & Objectives

2 Goals and Objectives

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

- **Overall Goal**

To lay the foundation to creating a citizen ready for the challenges of and beyond the 21st century, and to contribute to the process of sustainable national development and peace of the country.

- **Objectives.....**

  - Enhance curriculum relevance and quality
  - Improve learning outcomes
  - Increase enrolment in Science and Technology Streams
  - Promote Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and Citizenship Education
  - Foster 21st century skills
  - Ensure equity and inclusivity
  - Strengthen school-community relationships
  - Align with National Educational Goals (NEGs)
  - Promote entrepreneurial mindset

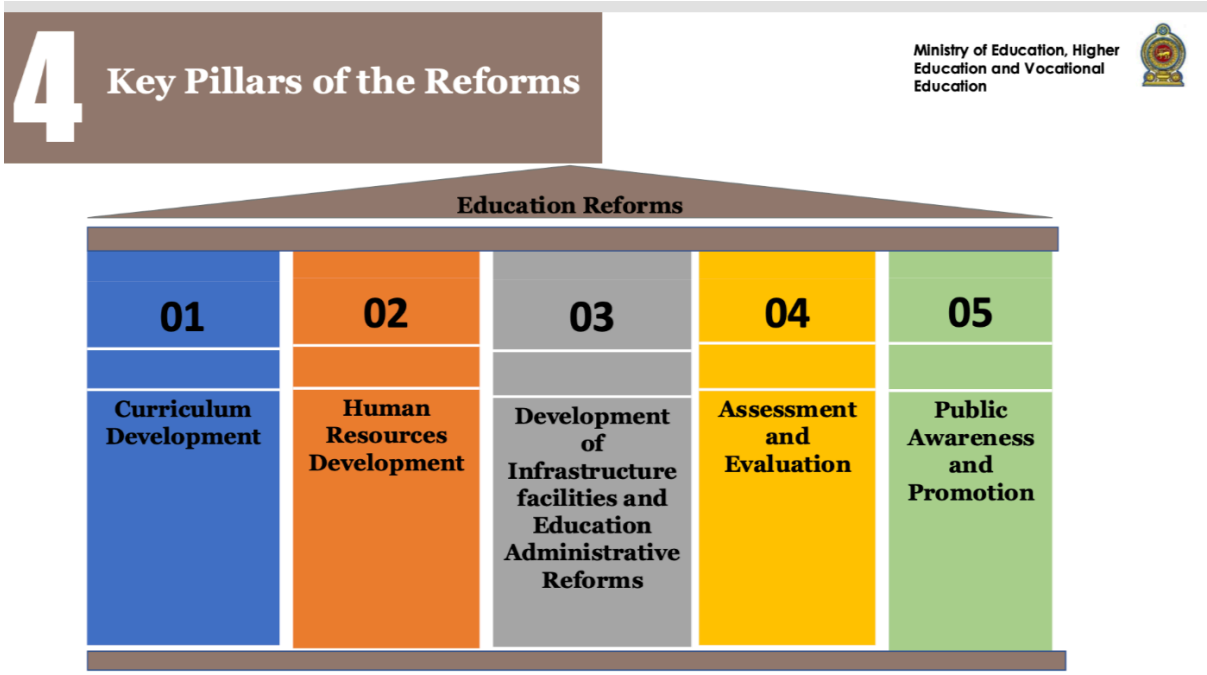
SLIDE 5: GOALS & PRINCIPLS FOR REFORM

3 Guiding Principles for the Reforms

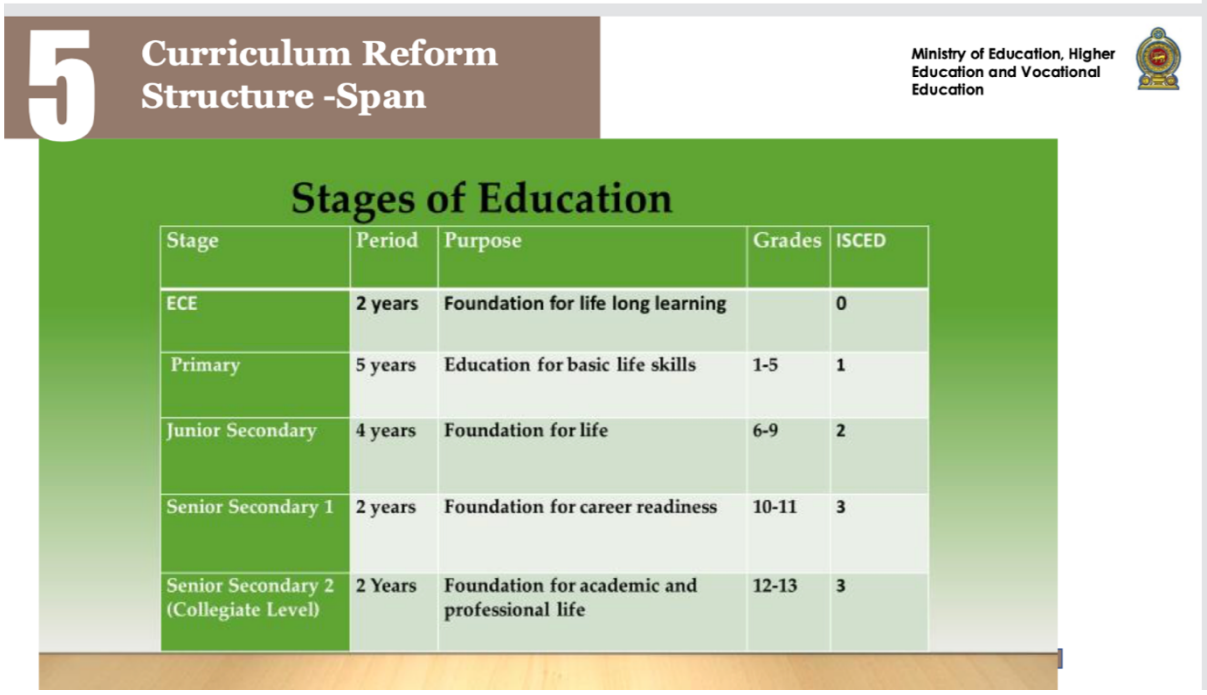
Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

- Free education and equal access
- Relevance to human development and employment
- Acceptability for all
- Sustainability and innovation
- Lifelong learning

SLIDE 6: KEY PILLARS OF THE REFORM



SLIDE 7: CURRICULUM REFORM STRUCTURE PLAN



Stage	Period	Purpose	Grades	ISCED
ECE	2 years	Foundation for life long learning		0
Primary	5 years	Education for basic life skills	1-5	1
Junior Secondary	4 years	Foundation for life	6-9	2
Senior Secondary 1	2 years	Foundation for career readiness	10-11	3
Senior Secondary 2 (Collegiate Level)	2 Years	Foundation for academic and professional life	12-13	3

SLIDE 8: CURRICULUM REFORMS - INITIATIVES

5 Curriculum Reforms – Initiatives

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Stages of the Education	Initiatives/Major Changes
Senior Secondary Phase 2 Education (Grade 12-13)	Introducing... - Modular and Credit based curricular - 4 Academic Streams and a Skills Stream
Senior Secondary Phase 1 Education (Grade 10-11)	Introducing... - Modular and Credit based curricular - Introducing both Academic and Skills path ways for elective and further learning subjects - National Level Assessment for 7 subjects
Junior Secondary Education (Grade 6-9)	Introducing... - Modular and Credit based curricular - - Introducing Essential learning and further learning - Introducing Skill Assessment in Grade 9
Primary Education (Grade 1-5)	Introducing - Activity based Integrated curricular
Early Childhood Education	Introducing - Pre-education Policy has been drafted

SLIDE 9: CURRICULUM REFORMS - STRUCTURE

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Primary Education Grade 1-5

9 Common learning areas for all three key stages:

Key Stage 1 – Grade 1&2

Key Stage 2 – Grade 3&4

Key Stage 3 – Grade 5

Allocated time for learning may differ with the key stages

Learning Areas:

Mother tongue

English Language

Second National Language

Mathematics

Religion and Value Education

Elementary Science and ERA

Integrated Aesthetic Education

Health and Physical Education

Co-Curricular Activities

SLIDE 10: CURRICULUM REFORMS – STRUCTURE

Junior Secondary Education (Grade 6-9)

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Junior Secondary Education (Grade 6-9)

- 14 Essential Subjects +Sports, Clubs and Societies (participation only) – 30 Credits
- For each essential subject further learning modules of one credit each (Maximum three credits per term) – 3 Credits
- Transversal skills – 2 Credits

35 Credits per term

SLIDE 11: CURRICULUM REFORMS - STRUCTURE

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Junior Secondary Education (Grade 6-9)

Essential Subjects	Credits	Further Learning	Transversal Skills
1. Mother tongue	3	For each Essential Subject, students may pick Further Learning Modules of one credit each. Per term, students may pick Modules that earn them up to a maximum of three credits.	▪ Appreciation of Literature ▪ Media Studies (Grade 8 onwards Industrial Exposure) ▪ Service Sector Studies ▪ Global Studies ▪ Social Services ▪ Health and Sports ▪ Aesthetics Appreciation ▪ Foundation for Career Readiness ▪ Digital Citizenship
2. English Language	3		
3. Second National Language	1		
4. Mathematics	3		
5. Science	3		
6. Health and Physical Education	2		
7.Information and Communication Technology	2		
8. Technology for Life	2		
9. Geography	1		
10. History	2		
11. Civic Education	1		
12. Religion and Value Education	2		
13. Aesthetic Education	2		
14. Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy	1		
15. Sports, Clubs and Societies (participation only)	2		
Total Credit	**30**	**3**	**2**

SLIDE 12: CURRICULUM REFORMS STRUCTURE

Junior Secondary Education – National Skills Assessment at Grade 8

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Junior Secondary Education

National Skills Assessment at Grade 9

- Skill assessment and Psychometric Test will be introduced to Grade 9 students from year 2029 onwards.
- This will include
  - Assessment on Literacy and Numeracy skills
  - Career Interest Test to assess the tendency to pursue further studies in a specific field.

SLIDE 13: CURRICULUM REFORMS – STRUCTURE

Senior Secondary Education Phase 1 (Grade 10-11)

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Senior Secondary Education Phase I (Grade 10-11)

- **Common core curriculum** (5 Compulsory subjects+ 2 Elective subjects) – 18 Credits
- **Further Learning**: - 14 credits
  1. Academic pathway (3 steams)
  2. Skills pathway
- **Transversal Skills*** - 3 Credits
  (These modules can be introduced when system fulfils human and physical resources)

35 Credits per term

SLIDE 14: CURRICULUM REFORMS – STRUCTURE

Senior Secondary Education Phase 1 (Grade 10-11)

Five Compulsory Subjects / Credit / Two Elective Subjects / Credit

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Senior Secondary Education Phase I (Grade 10-11)			
Five Compulsory Subjects	**Credits**	**Two Elective Subjects**	**Credits**
1. Mother tongue	3	▪ Second National Language	2 each
2. English Language	3	▪ Information and Communication Technology	
3. Mathematics	3	▪ History	
4. Science	3	▪ Civic education	
5. Religion and Value Education	2	▪ Health and Physical Education	
		▪ Technology	
		Agriculture management Technology	
		Design and Engineering Technology	
		Food and Consumer Technology	
		Artistic Product Technology	
		Aquatic Bio-resources Technology	
		▪ Geography	
		▪ Aesthetics Education (Oriental Music, Western Music, Carnatic Music, Dancing, Bharatha Natyam, Arts Drama and Theatre)	
		▪ Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy	
Total Credits	**14**		**4**

SLIDE 15: CURRICULUM REFORMS STRUCTURE

Senior Secondary Education Phase 1 (Grade 10-11)

Further Learning Academic Path

Further Learning Academic Path (Skills Path)

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Senior Secondary Education Phase I (Grade 10-11): Further Learning Academic Path			Further Learning Academic Path Skills Path
STEM	**Humanities and Social Sciences**	**Management & Entrepreneurship**	
Applied Mathematics	Language and Literature	Economics	Construction and Infrastructure
Pure Mathematics	Media and Communication	Mathematics	Creative Industries
Biology	Foreign Languages	Information & communication Technology	Primary Industries
Chemistry	Classical Language	Accounting	Social and Community Service
Physics	Civic Education	Business Studies	Manufacturing and Technology
Health & Physical education	History	Business Statistics	
Computer Science	Geography	Entrepreneurship and Financial Literacy	
Data Science	Social Science	Supply Chain Management*	
Agricultural Science	Philosophy/Logic?		
Engineering Technology	Oriental Music		
Bioengineering Technology	Western Music , Carnatic Music		
Food and Consumer Technology	Dancing , Bharatha Natyam , Arts		
Aviation Studies	Drama and Theatre, Film Studies		

SLIDE 16: CURRICULUM REFORMS STRUCTURE

Transversal Modules -3 credits

Rationale Selection for subject streams

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Transversal Modules - 3 credits

- Appreciation of Literature
- Media Studies
- Industrial Exposure
- Service Sector Studies
- Global Studies
- Social Services
- Health and Sports
- Applied Technology
- Aesthetics Appreciation
- Film Studies
- Foundation for Career Readiness
- Digital Citizenship

Rationale Selection for subject streams

Students' Primary Stream	STEM	Humanities and social science	Management & Entrepreneur ship	Skills
STEM	4	2 (History & Aesthetic)	-	1
Humanities and social science	2 (ICT & Technology)	4	-	1
Management		2 (History & Aesthetic)	4	1
Sills Development		2 (History & Aesthetic)	1	4

SLIDE 17: CURRICULUM REFORMS STRUCTURE

Senior Secondary Education Phase 1 (Grade 10-11)

Conditions for selection of further learning modules

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Senior Secondary Education Phase I (Grade 10-11)
Conditions for selection of further learning modules

Compulsory 14 credits	Elective 4 credits	Further learning 14 credits	Transversal- 3 credits
5 Subjects	Two subjects out of elective subjects	**STEM stream** 1. Maximum four subjects from the stream 2. Aesthetic and History from Humanities & Social Science stream* 3. One subject from skill path	
		Humanities & Social Science stream 1. Maximum four from the stream 2. ICT and Technology for life from STEM stream* 3. One subject from skill path	
		Management & Entrepreneurship 1. Maximum four from the steam. 2. Aesthetic and History from the liberal art stream* 3. One subject from skill path	
		Skill path 1. Maximum four from the stream 2. Aesthetic and History from the liberal art stream* 3. One subject from any other stream	

SLIDE 18: CURRICULUM REFORM STRUCTURE

Senior Secondary Education (Grade 12-13)

5 Curriculum Reform – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Senior Secondary Education (Grade 12-13)

- **5 Subjects streams and one can be specialized** (Science, Technology, Management Entrepreneurship and Business Studies, Humanities and Social Sciences, Vocational Studies)
- **3 Subjects from a specialized stream**
- **Enrichment modules** - modules that students can select from the same subject stream excluding the three specialized subjects selected
- **Interdisciplinary modules-** selected number of modules from the subject disciplines other than the selected subject stream
- **Compulsory Module-** General English and GIT

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SLIDE 19: CURRICULUM REFORMS STRUCTURE

Senior Secondary Education Phase 1 (Grade 12-13) Academic Path

5 Curriculum Reforms – Structure

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Senior Secondary Education Phase I (Grade 12-13): Academic Path				Vocational Path
Science	**Technology**	**Management & Entrepreneurship**	**Humanities and Social Sciences**	
Applied Mathematics	Engineering Technology	Economics	Language and Literature	Construction and Infrastructure
Pure Mathematics	Science for Technology	Accounting	Media and Communication	
Biology	Bioengineering Technology	Business Studies	Foreign Languages	Creative Industries
Chemistry	Food and Consumer Technology	Business Statistics	Classical Languages	Primary Industries
Physics	Mathematics	Entrepreneurship and Financial. Lit.	Buddhism, Buddhist Civilization	Social And Community Service
Computer Science	Aviation Studies	Mathematics	Hinduism . Hindu Civilization	
Data Science		Supply Chain Management*	Christianity, Christian Civilization	Manufacturing and Technology
Agricultural Science			Islam, Islamic Civilization	
Fisheries and Aquatic.			Political Science	
			History, Geography , Social Science	
			Philosophy/Logic?	
			Oriental, Western , Carnatic Music	
			Dancing, Bharatha Natyam, Arts	
			Drama and Theatre, Film Studies	

Compulsory Subjects: General English and General Information Technology (GIT)

SLIDE 20: CURRICULUM REFORMS – Special Features

5 Curriculum Reforms – Special Features

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

- Implementation of Curriculum Reforms from Year 2026 for Grade 1 and 6.
- Each classroom period will be 50 minutes, and the total school time will be extended by 30 minutes.
- A Skill Test will be introduced for Grade 9 students from the year 2029 onwards. This assessment will evaluate: a) literacy b) numeracy c) the tendency to pursue further studies in a specific field.
- Students will be given the opportunity to select subjects from academic or vocational streams.
- The first G.C.E. (O/L) Examination under the new education reforms will be conducted in 2029, followed by the G.C.E. (A/L) Examination accordingly.

SLIDE 21: CURRICULUM REFORM – ASSESSMENT

Assessment in all stages of learning

5 Curriculum Reform – Assessment

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Assessment in all stages of learning

- **Assessment Implementation Across Learning Stages:**
  - Primary: Predominantly activity-based and qualitative assessments
  - Junior Secondary: Learning module-based assessments; National Assessment at Grade 9
  - Senior Secondary: Learning module-based assessments; National Assessments at Grades 11 and 13 (GCE qualifications)
- **Key Aspects of Assessment Reform:**
  - **National Level:**
    - Enhanced alignment with international benchmarks
  - **School Level:**
    - Incorporates both summative and formative assessments
    - Closely integrated with the teaching and learning process
    - Functions as a continuous feedback mechanism for tracking student progress

SLIDE 22: CURRICULUM REFORM – ASSESSMENT

Implementation of Assessment

5 Curriculum Reform – Assessment

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

Implementation of Assessment

- **National-Level Assessments**
  - GCE OL Examination will be based on 7 subjects of the common core curriculum
    - 5 compulsory subjects
    - 2 subjects selected from 9 elective subjects
  - Grade 9 National Assessment
    - Comprises two components: Literacy Assessment in Mathematics, Language, and Scien; Ability and Interest Test (Non-graded)
    - Conducted at provincial level under national standards set by respective authorities (MOE, DOE, NIE)
- **School-Level Assessment**
    - Primarily based on learning modules
    - Each module includes: Formative Assessment – 70% of the final grade; Summative Assessment – 30% of the final grade
- Student performance is reported through a GPA system

SLIDE 23: CURRICULUM REFORM ASSESSMENT

Implementation of Assessment

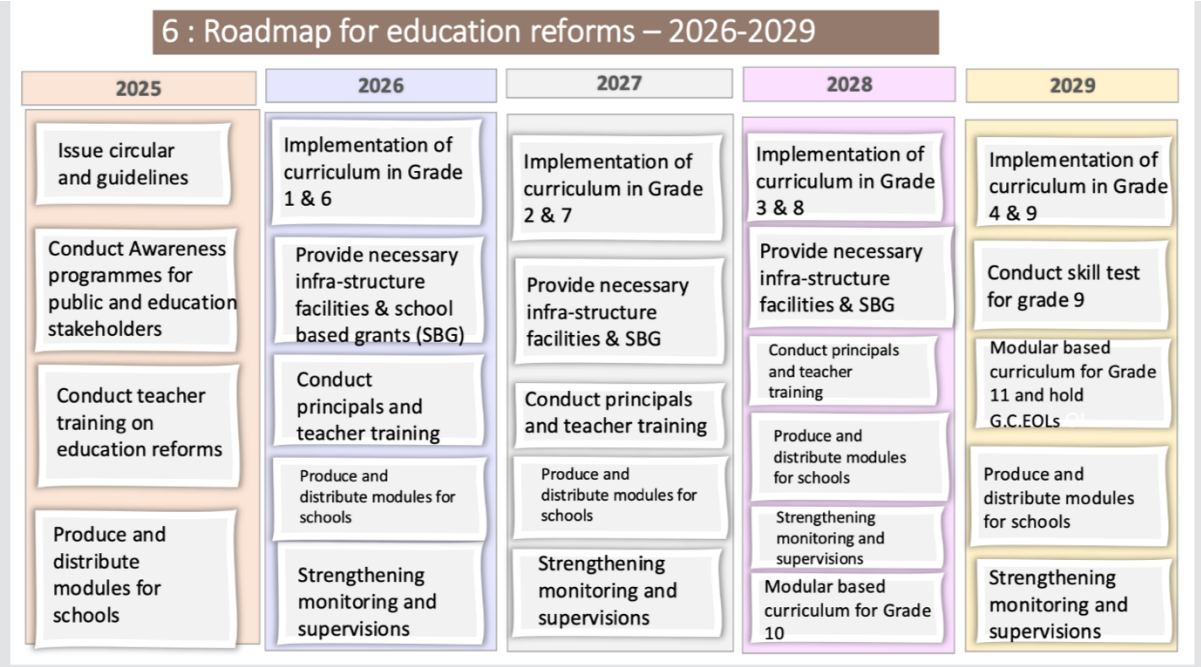
5 Curriculum Reform – Assessment

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

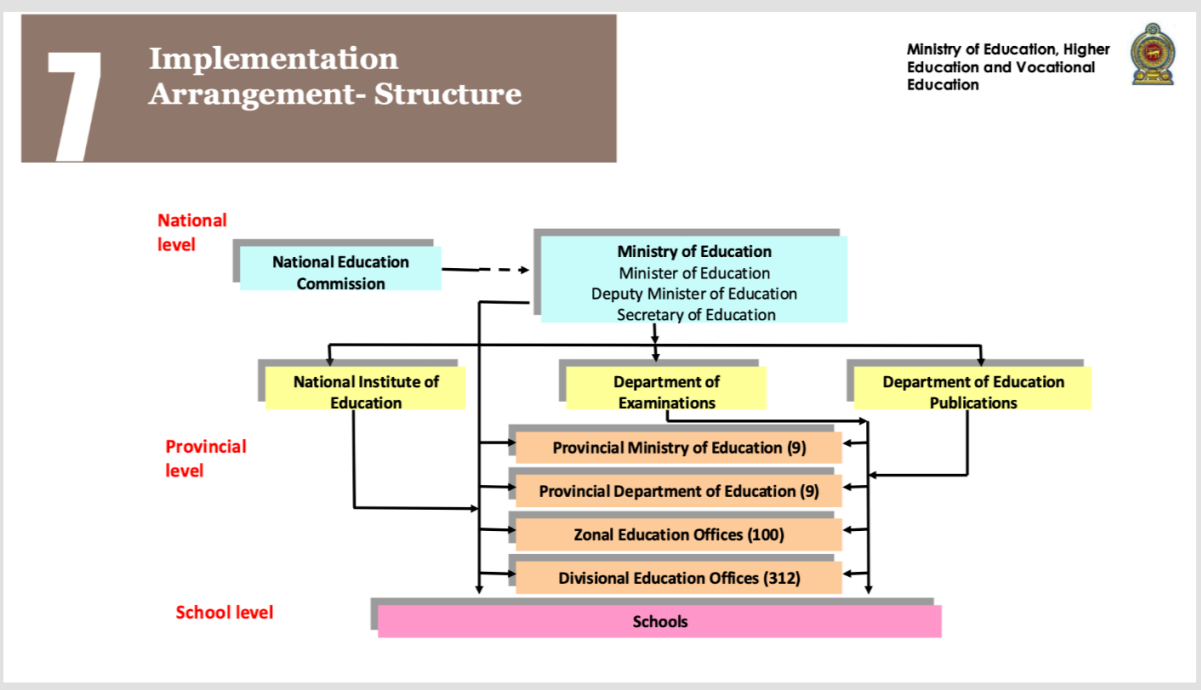
Implementation of Assessment

- **Flexible, User-Friendly Assessment Data System**
  - Centralized in NEMIS – the National Education Management Information System
  - Integrates assessment data with student, teacher, and school profiles
  - Supports linkage with local systems (e.g., LMSs) for a unified national education data ecosystem
- **Quality Oversight & Monitoring**
  - Enables multi-tiered oversight at provincial, zonal, and school levels
  - School-level assessment data to be moderated both qualitatively and statistically
    - Initial focus on Grade 10 & 11

SLIDE 24: ROADMAP FOR EDUCATION REFORMS – 2026-2029



SLIDE 25: IMPLEMENATION ARRANGEMENT – Structure



SLIDE 26: IMPLEMENTATION ARRANGEMENT

7 Implementation Arrangement

Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Vocational Education

- Establish a **Task Force for Education Reforms.**
- Establish an **Operating center** for Education Reforms at the Ministry of Education (Teams for 5 Pillar) .
- Strengthening the coordination with all relevant national level institutions and provincial level institutions.
- Strengthening both external and internal monitoring and supervision level at schools.

Task Force for Education Reforms consists of ;

- National Education Commission
- Ministry of Education, Higher Education & Vocational Education.
- National Institute of Education (Academic Affairs Board and Governing Council NIE)
- Department of Examination
- Department of Educational Publications
- Private Sector