

# SLT's SchoolNet Connects Schools Islandwide

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Sri Lanka Telecom (SLT) is proud to be the infrastructure and service provider for SchoolNet, a new online educational system, which will improve efficiency and increase academic achievement within public schools across the nation. Part of the Secondary Education Modernisation Project under the Ministry of Education, the initiative allows

teachers and students to access reference material, tutorials, e-mails and other educational programmes over the internet. In addition, teachers, for the first time, will be able to access several lesson plans on their computers.

A total of 1,100 schools are to be connected under the first phase of the project, with 5,000 schools to be connected to the network by 2010. The Network Operations Centre (NOC) will be located at the University of Moratuwa. The planned network can carry Internet Protocol (IP) traffic - voice, video, mission critical, and standard class data. SLT's commitment will be a direct cost saving to the Ministry of Education.

"Our involvement in SchoolNet demonstrates SLT's commitment to collaborate with the Government of Sri Lanka to take the education system to greater heights. Since education is of extreme importance to the country, it will bring necessary facilities to improve and enhance the methods of learning and teaching further," P N E Abeysekara, Acting CEO of SLT said.