

## **PRIMARY**

### **CURRICULUM**

#### **WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

#### **SC & HSC EXAMINATIONS MAY/JUNE 2021 - ADDITIONAL COSTS**

**(30.06.2020)**

**(No. B/189) Mrs A. Navarre-Marie (Fourth Member for GRNW & Port Louis West)** asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology whether, in regard to the additional costs claimed by the University of Cambridge Local Examinations Syndicate of the Cambridge International Examinations board for the holding of the School Certificate and Higher School Certificate examinations in May/June 2021, she will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate (MES), information as to if same will be borne by the MES or by the students sitting therefor.

**Reply:** I am informed that Cambridge International has agreed to conduct the SC/HSC Examinations in May/June 2021 and has informed that this will entail financial implications as it will have to review its operational and IT systems and deploy more resources to cater for the operational activities, training and grading for the May/June 2021 exams.

The extra cost involved in the rescheduling of the SC/HSC exams to May/June 2021 will be borne by Government.

It is to be outlined that the May/June 2021 SC/HSC exams fees will be sponsored by Government as per the existing scheme.

## **PRIMARY**

### **CURRICULUM**

#### **ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

#### **RECOVERY CURRICULUM – INTRODUCTION**

**(30.06.2020)**

**(No. B/184) Mr J. Léopold (Second Member for Rodrigues)** asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology whether, in regard to the schools, she will state if consideration will be given for the introduction of a recovery curriculum prior to the reopening thereof.

**The Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun):** Mr Speaker, Sir, for the academic year 2020, learning in schools had taken place in part of the first semester from Monday 13 January to Wednesday 18 March 2020.

Since then, due to the lockdown and sanitary curfew, schools have remained close. My Ministry has taken a series of measures to ensure the continuity of education during this period of school closure through the conduct of distance education and online learning programmes including TV broadcast lessons to students of primary and secondary subsectors.

Mr Speaker, Sir, to make up for the loss of instruction of time and date due to the confinement, my Ministry has reviewed the school calendar in order to provide adequate time and space for learners to reconnect with schooling and cover their programmes of study. This is crucial since it is known that knowledge acquisition can best be assessed through face to face interaction.

Mr Speaker, Sir, on resumption, schools will work out catch-up and remedial programmes for students requiring additional support. At Primary School level, this will be done through the Early Support Programme.

Moreover, while keeping in view the specificity and reality at school level, the programme of study would be adjusted to facilitate the reengagement of learners. This will enhance the self-confidence, allowing positive development.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we will reprioritise the curriculum and the course of study while maintaining a focused learner-centered pedagogical approach. In this regard, the MIE, the MES and other stakeholders are holding consultations.

My Ministry will ensure that all students get sufficient time to complete their course of study so that meaningful learning takes place.

**Mr Speaker:** Hon. Léopold!

**Mr Léopold:** Has your Ministry made an assessment to see how many students have been able to follow courses while they were in confinement?

**Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun:** Mr Speaker, Sir, the very fact that we were under confinement period, we know that most of the students have been able to follow the courses online and on TV, but yet we are aware that there are a number of students who have not been able to avail this facility and this is why the school calendar has been readjusted in such a way as to allow ample time for the completion of the school programme.

**Mr Speaker:** Hon. Léopold!

**PRIMARY**  
**CURRICULUM**

**YEAR 2020**

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**ABDOOL RAMAN ABDOOL GOVERNMENT SCHOOL PROJECT, PHASE II**

**(09/06/2020)**

(No. A/40) Mr A. Ameer Meea (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology whether, in regard to Phase II of the reconstruction of the Abdool Raman Abdool Government School Project, she will state where matters stand, indicating the

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- (a) cost involved, and
  - (b) expected completion date thereof.

**Reply:** With regard to part (a), the estimated cost is Rs70.5 m.

As for part (b), bids were initially launched on 25 April 2019. However, as no bids were received, the exercise had to be cancelled.

In view of the procedures involved in the procurement process after re-launching the bids, it is expected that the contract will be awarded by 01 November 2020.

Works are expected to start by 01 December 2020.

Expected Completion Date: June 2022 (Duration of Works – 18 months)