

SECONDARY EXAMINATIONS

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

GRADE 10 – EXAMINATIONS 2023 – PERFORMANCE ASSESSMENT

(12.12.2023)

(No. B/1746) **Dr. M. Gungapersad (Second Member for Grand' Baie & Poudre d'Or)** asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology whether, in regard to students having sat for the Grade 10 third term examinations in 2023 in State Secondary Schools, she will state if consideration will be given for an assessment to be carried out to determine the –

- (a) performance thereof subject-wise, and
- (b) number thereof who have obtained five credits or more, including in the 3 core subjects.

The Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education Science and Technology (Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun): Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to inform the House that the Quality Assurance and Inspection Division of my Ministry gathers and analyses data in respect of the summative internal assessment of students of all grades in all secondary schools.

All State Secondary Schools submit data on the performance of all students in all grades at the end of each term in each subject, including the end of year assessment. The Quality Assurance Division, based on the findings, identifies gaps and provides guidance on necessary pedagogical measures to be adopted.

Dr. Gungapersad: Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir. May I ask the hon. Vice -Prime Minister how far is it true or is she aware that rector's have had to review the promotion criteria, that is, the promotion from Grade 10 to Grade 11 in order to ensure that State Secondary Schools have the required number of student to run Grade 11 classes?

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: Mr Speaker, Sir, no such information has been conveyed to my office.

Dr. Gungapersad: Thank you, hon. Vice-Prime Minister. May I ask you whether you are contemplating in the years to come to organise standardised assessments in Grade 10 for the different subjects in different State Secondary Schools so that all the papers in all the State Secondary Schools are standardised?

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: No, Mr Speaker, Sir.

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KREOL MORISIEN – HSC EXAMINATIONS – CONSIDERATION TO STUDENTS

(12.12.2023)

(No. B/1741) **Mr F. Quirin (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière)** asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology whether, in regard to Kreol Morisien, she will state if consideration will be given for the 182 students who took part in the Kreol Morisien Cambridge School Certificate Examinations this year, to be allowed to sit therefor as a main subject for the Higher School Certificate examinations in 2025.

The Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun): Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to remind...

Mr Speaker: I heard...

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: I wish to remind the House...

Mr Speaker: Just wait a minute. I heard a voice saying “*dimounn pe riy twa*” and if the hon. Member does not...

Hon. Members: *Laba sa!* On the other side!

(Interruptions)

Mr Speaker: I will know, don't you worry...

(Interruptions) I

need no help!

(Interruptions) I

need no help!

An hon. Member: Check the recording!

Mr Speaker: And, if the hon. Member does not apologise when I review the recording, I will ask the hon. Member to withdraw from the Chamber! *(Interruptions)* Hon. Minister, continue!

(Interruptions)

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to remind the House that a systemic and progressive approach has been adopted in the teaching of Kreol Morisien in our schools involving curriculum development as well as training of educators.

In fact, KM was first introduced in grade 1 in 2012 as an optional subject and around 3,000 pupils in grade 1 opted for the subject. The first examination in KM was held at PSAC Assessment level in 2017 with 2,480 pupils on grade 6 sitting for the paper and a pass rate of 79.6%.

In 2018, around 2,000 students opted for KM in grade 7. In 2021, the first National Certificate in education assessment in KM was held with around 1,200 candidates sitting for the paper. KM is being offered as an optional subject in grade 10 as from 2021 and a first cohort of 182 students have taken the National School Certificate in KM which is organised by the National Examination Board and which will be awarded by the UOM.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would like to refer the hon. Member to my reply to PQ B/1344 where I had informed that the introduction of KM at AS level and subsequently at A level is being looked into by a technical team. We intend to proceed stepwise, Mr Speaker, Sir, building up experience at School Certificate level and developing readiness of the system in terms of human resource and availability of literary resources in the standardised form of the language.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as stated earlier, my Ministry is committed to a stepwise implementation of KM at AS level and subsequently at A level.

Mr Quirin: M. le président, l'honorable ministre se rend-t-elle compte qu'à ce jour, 182 étudiants, donc près de 200, sont pénalisés puisque le ministère de l'Éducation les privent de la possibilité de continuer à étudier le Kreol Morisien au niveau de la *HSC* ?

Donc, n'est-on pas en train, M. le président, de démotiver ces étudiants...

Mr Speaker: No, but...

Mr Quirin: ...dans la poursuite...

Mr Speaker: Hon...

Mr Quirin: ...de leurs études?

Mr Speaker: Hon. Member... **Mr**

Quirin: Yes, I am done.

Mr Speaker: ...bear with me. Put your question directly!

Mr Quirin: Yes!

Mr Speaker: Do not make a long statement... **Mr**

Quirin: No, it is not long.

Mr Speaker: ...like inviting comments from the Minister. If not I will break your statement in pieces and let the Minister answer piece by piece. Okay?

Mr Quirin: It was not a statement, Mr Speaker, Sir.

Mr Speaker: Either we are in question time or debate!

Mr Quirin: It was not a statement.

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: Mr Speaker, Sir, let me remind the hon. Member that we have all intention of implementing KM at AS and A level but as I have said earlier, we need to be ready for that and we have to build up the system's readiness for that. And secondly, it is worth noting that there are a number of subjects which are offered at SC level but not at A level. So, it is not as if we are sort of penalising one particular group or another group. It is the normal practice that until and unless we are sure that we can offer the subject at A level, have sufficient teachers, have sufficient literary material, we will obviously go for it, Mr Speaker, Sir.

Mr Quirin: Une dernière question, M. le président. Concernant le personnel enseignant qui paraît-il est insuffisant pour enseigner le Kreol Morisien au niveau de la *HSC*, je me base sur votre réponse précédente, l'honorable ministre peut-elle nous dire ce que fait son ministère actuellement pour remédier à cette situation ?

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: Mr Speaker, Sir, we have been recruiting supply teachers, we have been asking teachers teaching languages if they wish to teach KM and go for training for that. We are also recruiting at the level of PSC, teachers for the teaching of KM.