



No. 09 of 2025

EIGHTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

TUESDAY 25 MARCH 2025

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BEL AIR RIVIÈRE SÈCHE SSS – LACK OF FENCING

(No. B/227) Mr C. Baboolall (First Member for Montagne Blanche & GRSE) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resource whether, in regard to the Bel Air Rivière Sèche State Secondary School for girls, he will state if he has been made aware that same is not fenced at the back by the river side constituting a very serious security issue to the students and, if so, indicate –

(a) when the works will be carried for the fencing thereof, and

(b) the expected completion date thereof.

Dr. Gungapersad: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am informed that the Bel Air Rivière Sèche State Secondary School was constructed some 15 years ago. I wish to inform the House that the riverside of the school is secured with 1.8 m chained linked fencing. This was meant to be a deterrent for students to leave the school premises and have access to the river.

However, I have to admit that the fencing does not prohibit intruders from entering the school. I am also informed whilst the fencing is still in good condition, yet it might not have been placed at the right place.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, with a view of enhancing security at the school, I have instructed that the possibility of having another fence be explored along the alignment of the existing retaining wall over a stretch of some 120 m, further upwards which will be a more suitable deterrent to intruders. This new proposed structure would go a long way towards ensuring the safety and security of our students.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I wish to inform the House that subject to technical feasibility and availability of funds. This work can be completed in a short span of time approximately four weeks as from the date of start of the works.