



REPUBLIC OF MAURITIUS

**EIGHTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES**

**17 March 2026**

**WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS**

**FOUNDATION PROGRAMME IN LITERACY, NUMERACY AND SKILLS – IMPLEMENTATION & GOVERNANCE**

(No. A/3) Dr. Ms B. Thannoo (Second Member for Quartier Militaire & Moka) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resource with regard to the implementation and overall governance of the Foundation Programme in Literacy, Numeracy and Skills, he will state –

- (a) the established process and criteria used for the appointment of key coordinating positions within the programme;
- (b) composition, mandate and responsibilities of the Technical Committee overseeing same;
- (c) the number of official meetings held to date in relation thereto, and
- (d) whether members serving on the Technical Committee receive any remuneration or allowances in connection with their responsibilities.

**Reply:** As regards part (a) of the question, I am informed that the appointment of key coordinating positions within the FPLNS is being undertaken in accordance with established procedures. This particular exercise requires the prior clearance of the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms and delegation of powers from the Public Service Commission. Final clearances are being awaited.

On 4 December 2025, my Ministry obtained the clearance of the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms to proceed with a selection exercise to enlist the services of six Coordinators for the FPLNS for an initial period of two years against payment of a monthly allowance of Rs12,000, subject to the necessary clearances being obtained. Eligible candidates were to be drawn from officers in the grades of Quality Assurance Officer/Senior Quality Assurance Officer, Senior Educator (Secondary) and Educator (Secondary), reckoning at least 15 years' service.

On 19 December 2025, the Public Service Commission delegated its powers to my Ministry to enlist the services of six Coordinators as per the aforesaid criteria. The position of Coordinator, FPLNS was advertised on 6 January 2026 among the concerned officers, and the closing date for submission of applications was set for 26 January 2026.

However, on 16 January 2026, the Government Services Employees Association (GSEA) made a representation requesting that teaching personnel in the Pre-Vocational Sector also be considered for the position of Coordinator for the FPLNS.

This Ministry agreed to the request of the GSEA and consequently, on 5 March 2026, the Public Service Commission was informed accordingly. In the same context, establishment clearance from the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms has been sought anew on 5 March 2026. Once the clearance of that Ministry is obtained, the position of Coordinator FPLNS will be advertised again.

In view of the tight deadline for the preparation and implementation of the programme as from January 2025, Mr Vijay Sookharee, Quality Assurance Officer/Senior Quality Assurance Officer, was assigned the task of coordinating the work of the Technical Team set up, ensuring the preparation of the curriculum and overseeing the organisation of training workshops for Educators, Senior Educators and Rectors.

Approval has been obtained from the Ministry of Public Service and Administrative Reforms for the payment of a monthly ad hoc allowance of Rs14,150 to Mr Vijay Sookharee for performing the aforesaid tasks. The allowance is payable with effect from January 2025 and will remain in force until the recruitment of a Project Manager for the Foundation Programme in Literacy, Numeracy and Skills.

My Ministry is presently in the process of drafting of the Scheme of Service for the post of Project Manager. Once the Scheme of Service is finalised and approved by the relevant authorities, the necessary steps will be taken for the recruitment to the post.

As for part (b) of the question, I am informed that the Technical Committee set up for overseeing the design and implementation of the FPLNS was composed of representatives from key institutions and stakeholders in the Education sector, namely –

- Mr Nemorin, Chairperson (former Manager, National Social Inclusion Foundation (NSIF))
- Mr V. Sookharee, Quality Assurance Officer/Senior Quality Assurance Officer of the Ministry who is also coordinating the implementation of FPLNS;
- Representatives of my Ministry from different sections;
- Dr. Ajay Ramful Head of Curriculum of the Mauritius Institute of Education;
- Dr. Shalena Fokeera Wahedally, Principal Research and Development Officer, of the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate;
- Dr. D. Patpur; representative of the Private Secondary Education Authority;
- Mr B. Pitchen representative of the Service Diocésain de l'Education Catholique (SeDEC);
- Mrs Claire Ayoung-Herry representative of Loreto Institute;

- Dr. S. Ramful representative of the Mahatma Gandhi Institute;
- Mr P. Sawon representative of the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development, and
- Mr Ramchurrun representative of the Mauritius Qualifications Authority.

The Technical Committee was entrusted with providing technical expertise and guidance for the development and implementation of the FPLNS Programme, developing guidelines and procedures for the programme, advising decision-makers on technical matters, reviewing and evaluating technical proposals, projects or policies related to the programme; ensuring alignment with best practices and professional standards; gathering relevant technical data to support decision-making; and monitoring the implementation of technical guidelines.

With regard to parts (c) and (d) of the question, I am further informed that the Technical Committee held 20 meetings with different stakeholders and that members of the Committee have not been remunerated for their services.