



EIGHTH NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES

21 July 2026

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS – SEN UNITS

(No. B/1119) Dr. Ms R. Daureeawo (Third Member for Rivière des Anguilles & Souillac) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resource whether, in regard to students with special education needs, he will state the –

(a) primary schools and respective location thereof wherein SEN Units have been set up to cater therefor, and

(b) number of additional SEN Units and SEN Regional Development Centres earmarked for implementation in financial year 2026-2027, indicating the proposed locations thereof.

Dr. Gungapersad: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I thank the hon. Member for interest in the SEN sector. I wish to reaffirm my Ministry's commitment to ensuring equitable access to quality and inclusive education for all learners with a special attention for those with a special education needs.

In this regard, my Ministry continues to expand specialised educational facilities and support services to all children who require special education needs. I wish to inform the

House that my Ministry takes into account the following while planning for the specialised services in the SEN sector –

1. the demand for placements;
2. the educational needs of learners, and
3. the availability of financial resources with a view to ensuring that every child receives appropriate educational support in a conducive learning environment.

As regards part (a) of the question, there are presently 12 Special Education Needs integrated units operating in 11 Government Primary Schools to cater for learners with a special education needs. One

school namely D. Hurry Government School, Goodlands operates two SEN integrated units. I am tabling the list of these schools together with their respective locations. In addition, my Ministry operates seven SEN Resource Development Centres. I am also tabling the list of these centres together with their respective locations.

Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, with regard to part (b) of the question, I wish to inform the House that for the financial year 2026-2027, four additional SEN integrated units are scheduled to be established at –

(i) Noé Nemorin Government School, Trou Aux Biches;

(ii) Beau Séjour Government School, Belle Rose;

(iii) Barlow Government School at Barlow;

(iv) Quinze Cantons Government School, Vacoas.

Furthermore, a new SEN Resource Development Centre will be established at Montagne Ory. The above locations have been identified following an assessment of requests for admission, the demand for specialised educational services, the needs of learners according to the nature and severity of their disabilities, and the objective of improving equitable geographical access to a special education need services. Thank you.

The Deputy Speaker: Yes, hon. Member.

Dr. Ms Daureeawo: Can Dr. the hon. Minister state how many children with special education needs are expected to benefit from the additional units and centres?

Dr. Gungapersad: I can tell you, hon. Member, Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir for the time being, we have around 3,000 children who are concerned by the SEN sector and definitely,

the figures will differ depending upon the level, the severity of their disability and the region where they will be located.

The Deputy Speaker: Yes.

Dr. Ms Daureeawo: Can Dr. the hon. Minister also confirm whether consideration is being given to establish a SEN unit in each educational zone to ensure equitable access to all students?

Dr. Gungapersad: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, there is a lot of coherence in whatever the hon. Member is saying. Definitely, we want to bring the centre closer to these children because we do not want them, given their physical or mental situation, bring these institutions closer to them and that is why officers of my Ministry always take that into consideration while earmarking a centre for these SEN students. Thank you.