INSPECTORATE

07.11.60

MINISTRY OF EDUCATION - AUDIT SQUAD

(No. <u>B/194</u>) Dr. R. Beebeejaun (Second Member for Port Louis South & Port Louis Central) asked the Minister of Education & Scientific Research whether he will –

- (a) state the intended functions of the Audit Squad of his Ministry;
- (b) indicate in what way they are different from those of the former inspectorate, and
- (c) give the reasons why the inspectorate has been disbanded.

Mr Obeegadoo: Sir, the hon. gentleman may be interested to learn that there is no Audit Squad in operation at my Ministry. Accordingly, parts (a) and (b) of the question do not arise.

I am informed that the so-called Audit Squad was set up in September 2000 following a decision of my predecessor with the purported objective of reinforcing management and promoting teaching within the quality assurance perspective.

Following my assumption of office, I received numerous representations from trade unions of the primary education sector objecting to the said Audit Squad. Their objections can be summarised as follows:

- The Audit Squad duplicated the work of the existing inspectorate represented a wastage of resources.
- (2) Members of the Squad were requesting teachers and other staff in school to perform tasks which went beyond their official scheme of service and/or schedule of duties.
- (3) The Audit Squad had been conceived and set up without any consults with the trade unions or other stakeholders of that education sector.

Having reached the conclusion that these objections were well taken and that quality assurance can only be achieved with the participation and support of all concerned, I decided to freeze the activities of the Squad pending an overall review of the quality assurance strategy in the educational field. The Squad's members have accordingly been reverted to their previous positions within the inspectorate.

PRIMARY SCHOOL INSPECTORS – APPOINTMENT (25/07/06)

(No. B/1115) Mr S. Naidu (Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the posts of primary school inspectors, he will state if there exist any vacancies and if so, the steps that are being taken to have them filled.

Mr Gokhool: Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to inform the House that the staffing position of Primary School Inspectors is as follows – No. of posts of Primary School Inspector on the Ministry's Establishment as at today

No. of posts of Primary	No. of Primary School	No. of vacancies
School Inspector on the	Inspectors in post	as at today
Ministry's Establishment	as at today	
as at today		
48	47	1

My Ministry is fully aware of the important role of the primary school inspectors in providing World Class Quality Education. To this end, my Ministry has been proactive and I am pleased to inform the House that twenty-six primary school inspectors have been appointed on 21 July 2006

Mr Mohamed: May I ask the hon. Minister whether he would kindly lay on the Table of the House the names of those people who have been recruited?

Mr Gokhool: There is no problem. I'll do that.

PRIMARY SCHOOL – TELEGU LANGUAGE – SUPERVISOR (15/05/07)

(No. B/393) Mrs D. Perrier (Fourth Member for Savanne and Black River) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the posts of supervisor, for the Telegu language at primary level, he will state if vacancies exist in respect thereof and, if so, since when.

Reply: There is only one post of Supervisor of Oriental Languages (Telugu) at my Ministry. I wish to inform the House that the post is vacant since 22 February 2007 following the retirement of the substantive holder. Action has already been initiated by my Ministry to request the Public Service Commission to promote the senior-most Assistant Supervisor (Oriental Languages) (Telugu) as Supervisor of Oriental Languages (Telugu) with effect from 22 February 2007.

PRIMARY SCHOOLS – TELEGU LANGUAGE – ASSISTANT SUPERVISOR

(No. B/1001) Mrs D. Perrier (Fourth Member for Savanne and Black River) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the post of Assistant Supervisor for the Telegu language at primary school level, he will state if vacancies exist and, if so —

- (a) the number thereof, and
- (b) since when.

Mr Gokhool: Mr Speaker, Sir, one vacancy for the post of Assistant Supervisor for Oriental Languages (Telegu) was filled in July 2006.

There are presently two vacancies in the grade of Assistant Supervisor for Oriental Languages (Telegu) as from 22 February and 28 June 2007 respectively.

Action is being taken to fill these vacancies.

Mrs Perrier: Can I know the time frame for filling these posts?

Mr Gokhool: My Ministry will usually write to PSC and PSC will start the procedures. I cannot say how long it will take, Mr Speaker, Sir.

SCHOOLS (PRIMARY) – DEPUTY HEAD TEACHERS/ASSISTANT SUPERVISORS (TAMIL) – POSTS (29/07/08)

(No. B/994) Mr J. Cuttaree (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Education & Human Resources whether, in regard to the post of Deputy Head Teachers (Tamil) and of Assistant Supervisors (Tamil) in the primary schools which are vacant, he will state if they will be filled, and if so, when.

Mr Gokhool: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the existing vacancies for the post of Deputy Head Teacher (Tamil) as at 30 June 2008 have already been filled. As at today there is only one vacancy for Deputy Head Teacher which occurred on 15 July and will soon be reported to the Public Service Commission.

As regards Assistant Supervisor (Tamil), there are presently 4 vacancies. The vacancies will be filled upon the finalisation of the scheme of service by the Ministry of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms and the Public Service Commission. I cannot give a date at this point in time when the vacancies will be filled as there are various procedures to be completed. However, as soon as the scheme of service will be finalised, the post will be advertised for filling of the vacancies and selection will be carried out by the Public Service Commission.