

PRIMARY

CURRICULUM

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PRIMARY SCHOOLS - *KREOL MORISIEN* - EDUCATORS

(26/04/2022)

(No. B/464) 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 the *Kreol Morisien*, she will state the number of teachers available for the teaching thereof in primary schools, indicating –

- (a) the number of in-service General Purpose Educators seconded for duty therefor since 2012 to date, indicating the conditions of employment thereof;
- (b) the number of Educators therefor recruited since 2013 to date, indicating the conditions of employment thereof, and
- (c) if consideration will be given for the granting of the status of *Kreol Morisien* Educator to the General Purpose Educators seconded for duty therefor since 2012 to date and, if not, why not.

The Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun): Mr Speaker, Sir, following the decision to introduce *Kreol Morisien* (KM) in Grade 1 as an optional subject in primary school curriculum, an Expression of Interest was launched amongst substantive Primary School Educators (General Purpose) and Deputy Headmasters in post to teach *Kreol Morisien*. It was never a question of them being seconded for duty as these Primary School Educators and Deputy Headmasters were already on the establishment of the Ministry.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I wish to inform the House that there were some 40 in-service Primary School Educators who opted for the teaching of *Kreol Morisien* in 2012. The number of Primary School Educators teaching *Kreol Morisien* rose to 80 in 2015, and there are now 57 of them still teaching KM. These Primary School Educators retained all their terms and conditions of service, including seniority placing and promotional prospects. They followed a training course in KM at the Mauritius Institute of Education.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as regards part (b) of the question, additional teaching resources were required with the growing number of pupils opting for *Kreol Morisien* and to that effect, 115 Primary School Educators to specifically teach *Kreol Morisien* were appointed in 2015 after successful completion of two years' training course at the MIE. As at date, there are 166 Primary School Educators in post and the services of a new batch of 22 Trainee Primary School Educators have been enlisted on 13 April 2022. Arrangements are being made for these Trainee Primary School Educators to follow a training course at the MIE.

Mr Speaker, Sir, in so far as part (c) of the question is concerned, all Primary School Educators have the same conditions of service and status as they all fall under the grade of Primary School Educator. They are all governed by the same scheme of service.

Mr Quirin: M. le président, plusieurs de ces *General Purpose Educators* m'ont exprimé leurs craintes à l'effet qu'après plus que 10 ans au service du *Kreol Morisien*, qu'ils soient appelé à reprendre leurs anciennes fonctions. La ministre, peut-elle rassurer ces *General Purpose Educators* qui enseignent actuellement le *Kreol Morisien* par rapport à leur appréhension ?

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: Mr Speaker, Sir, they will all remain as Educators for *Kreol Morisien* as long as they wish to do so. There is no intention on part of the Ministry to revert them back to their original position. In any way, they will continue to benefit from the same conditions of service, same status and all their promotional prospects will be maintained.

Mr Quirin: M. le président, la ministre peut-elle nous indiquer le nombre d'écoles primaires où l'enseignement du *Kreol Morisien* n'est pas dispensé et peut-on connaître la raison et pourrait-elle déposer une liste de ces écoles ?

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: Mr Speaker, Sir, we have 181 schools offering KM; 135 Government Primary Schools and 46 R.C.A. Schools.

Mr Speaker: Next question! You still have one?

Mr Quirin: *One.* Dans l'éventualité qu'il y ait un exercice de promotion au niveau justement de l'enseignement du *Kreol Morisien*, l'honorable ministre peut-elle nous dire si, encore une fois, les *General Purpose Educators* auront la possibilité de postuler eux aussi ?

Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun: Certainement, M. le président, puisque c'est basé sur la séniorité et ces enseignants auront la possibilité d'être promus dépendants de leur temps de service, etc.

PRIMARY
CURRICULUM

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
PRIMARY SCHOOLS - *KREOL MORISIEN* - TEACHERS
(19/04/2022)

(No. B/427) 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 the *Kreol Morisien*, she will state the number of teachers available for the teaching thereof in primary schools, indicating –

- (a) the number of in-service General Purpose Educators seconded for duty therefor since 2012 to date, indicating the conditions of employment thereof;
- (b) the number of Educators therefor recruited since 2013 to date, indicating the conditions of employment thereof, and
- (c) if consideration will be given for the granting of the status of *Kreol Morisien* Educator to the General Purpose Educators seconded for duty therefor since 2012 to date and, if not, why not.

(Withdrawn)

PRIMARY
CURRICULUM

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS
KREOL MORISIEN - TEACHERS - PRIMARY SCHOOLS
(12/04/2022)

(No. B/289) Mr F. Quirin (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of
, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology whether, in regard to the Kreol Morisien, she will state the number of teachers available for the teaching thereof in primary schools, indicating –

- (a) the number of in-service General Purpose Educators seconded for duty therefor since 2012 to date, indicating the conditions of employment thereof ;
- (b) the number of Educators therefor recruited since 2013 to date, indicating the conditions of employment thereof, and
- (c) if consideration will be given for the granting of the status of Kreol Morisien Educator to the General Purpose Educators seconded for duty therefor since 2012 to date and, if not, why not.

(Withdrawn)

PRIMARY

CURRICULUM

YEAR 2022

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

GRADE 1 PUPILS – CURRICULUM

(29/03/2022)

(No. B/39) 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 the recent proposed implementation of a dedicated curriculum for Grade 1 pupils born between 01 January and 31 May 2015 which would allow them move to Grade 2, she will state –

- (a) the number of pupils born between 01 June to 31 December 2015 currently following the said curriculum, and
- (b) who will be in charge thereof, indicating the proposed criteria applicable for promotion from Grade 1 to Grade 2.

Reply: The COVID-19 pandemic has brought significant disruptions to education since March 2020, with forced school closure and a sudden and unanticipated shift to remote learning. These led to an obvious reduction in face-to-face instructional time resulting in the extensions of the school calendars in both 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 in a bid to facilitate recovery from learning loss.

Where Grade 1 is concerned, the age difference between the youngest and the oldest pupils turned out to be one and a half years. By the end of the Academic Year, the youngest pupils would reach around 6½ years and the oldest nearly 8 years.

With regard to part (a) of the question, I am informed that 3610 pupils from Grade 1 born between 01 January and 31 May 2015 are following the dedicated curriculum. Around 450 pupils refused to take the dedicated curriculum and chose to remain in Grade

1. No pupil born between 01 June and 31 December 2015 is allowed to follow this curriculum.

As regards part (b) of the question, the dedicated curriculum prepared by the Mauritius Institute of Education, in close collaboration with practitioners at the ground level, is taught by the class teacher.

A school-based evaluation will be carried out to determine the readiness of the pupils to progress to Grade 2.