

Minister's Statements and Speeches

STATEMENT BY MINISTER *KREOL MORISIEN* - UPPER SECONDARY LEVEL (25.05.2021)

The Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Education, Tertiary Education, Science and Technology (Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun): Mr Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I propose to make a statement on the rollout of *Kreol Morisien* at the upper secondary level in the wake of the recommendations made by the Ministerial Committee chaired by the hon. Prime Minister on the subject.

For recall, *Kreol Morisien* was introduced in primary schools in 2012. Much progress has been achieved since then. In 2017, 2480 pupils of Grade 6 completed the six-year of cycle of primary schooling and sat for the first PSAC assessment in *Kreol Morisien*. Following which, the subject was introduced at the lower secondary level in 2018. Three years later, in 2021, the subject has been offered at the First Edition of the National Certificate of Education assessment. Around 1200 students thus sat for the *Kreol Morisien* for this assessment.

Mr Speaker, Sir, we are now at a stage where after having been studied for nine years, it is important for the subject to be on offer as an examinable subject for those keen on pursuing the study of *Kreol Morisien* up to Grade 11.

It is keeping this expectation in view that the Ministerial Committee under the Chair of the hon. Prime Minister, came up with a roadmap for the unfurling of *Kreol Morisien* at upper secondary level. I'm pleased to inform the House that Government has agreed to the recommendations made by the Ministerial Committee for the teaching of *Kreol Morisien* at that level.

Kreol Morisien, as a taught subject, will now be reality in Grade 10 as from the resumption of studies in June 2021 and, thereafter, in Grade 11. At the end of Grade 11, there shall be a National School Certificate examination in *Kreol Morisien*. This certificate will be awarded by a National Examination Board. This award will be pitched at Level 3 of the National Qualifications

Framework at par with an O-level certificate and will be reckoned for the purpose of promotion to Grade 12.

Mr Speaker, Sir, I would now like to apprise the House of the steps being taken at the level of my Ministry to implement the decision taken by Government. The production of pedagogical resources and the training of Educators will be within the purview of the Mauritius Institute of Education. The University of Mauritius has been designated as the awarding body for the National School Certificate in *Kreol Morisien*. A National Examination Board will be set up for that purpose. The University of Mauritius and the MIE will be responsible for the design and development of the curriculum, as well as the elaboration of an assessment framework.

The Mauritius Examinations Syndicate, in collaboration with the University of Mauritius, will be responsible for the organisation and conduct of the examinations in *Kreol Morisien* and necessary amendments will be brought to the relevant legislations. My Ministry will steer and monitor the effective implementation of the whole project so that the First Edition of the National School Certificate in *Kreol Morisien* is successfully held in 2023.

Mr Speaker, Sir, the House will agree that *Kreol Morisien* is a vibrant language understood and spoken by all Mauritians. It plays an important role in national cohesiveness and its introduction at the upper secondary level is indeed a step-up towards giving greater recognition to this language.

Thank you, Mr Speaker, Sir.