

TERTIARY - TECHNICAL SCHOOL MANAGEMENT TRUST FUND

14/7/09
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SECOND CHANCE PROGRAMME - IMPLEMENTATION

(No. B/834) Mrs F Labelle (Third Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Minister of Education, Culture and Human Resources whether, in regard to the Second Chance Programme announced in the 2008-2009 Budget Speech, he will state if it has been implemented and, if so, indicate –

- (a) since when;
- (b) the number of trainees involved, and
- (c) the outline of the proposed programme.

Reply: The Second Chance Programme is operated under the Human Resource, Knowledge and Arts Development Fund as announced in the 2008-2009 Budget Speech. The programme is being implemented by the Industrial and Vocational Training Board (IVTB) and has started since 04 May 2009. The training programme is of 300 hours duration and is being held at the rate of 3 days per week in 8 regional training centres and State Secondary Schools. It is due to be completed by 21 December 2009.

220 participants have been enrolled for the training programme in Mauritius. I wish to inform the House that the training programme will also be conducted in Rodrigues and is expected to start on 27 July with 75 trainees.

The Second Chance programme aims to provide basic numeracy and literacy skills and life skills management to young people, within the age bracket of 16 to 21 who have dropped out of the school system and are neither in full time education nor in fulltime employment. It consists of 3 modules, namely

- (i) Life Skills Management of 50 hours duration;
- (ii) Basic Literacy & Numeracy of 125 hours duration; and
- (iii) Advance Literacy & Numeracy of 125 hours duration.

Psychological support by Psychologists from the IVTB is also provided to those trainees having personal or family problems.

52-17/8/10

NATIONAL TRADE CERTIFICATE FOUNDATION - TRAINERS

(No. 1A/81) Mr K. Ramano (Second Member for Belle Rose & Quatre Bornes) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the trainers under Instructor B category working for the National Trade Certificate Foundation, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Foundation, information as to -

(a) the number thereof, indicating their;

- (i) respective date of appointment;
- (ii) scheme of duties, and
- (iii) salary scale.

(c) the number thereof presently working in an acting capacity at the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development, indicating -

(i) the duration of the actingship;



- (ii) their present salary scale as compared to that of the trainers with same qualifications at the MITD, and
- (c) if, following representations made by these officers, he will favorably consider confirming them on a permanent basis on the MITD establishment.

Reply: The information sought is given below -

- (a) No. of Instructors - 99

The 99 Instructors have been employed on contract basis as follows -

- on one-year contract - 64
 -on month-to-month contract - 35

- (i) Respective dates of appointment

The respective dates of appointment for Instructors employed on one-year contract:

Number of Instructors	Year of Appointment
2	2004
12	2005
20	2006
16	2007
14	2008

The respective dates of appointment for Instructors employed on month to month contract:

Number of Instructors	Year of Appointment
10	2009
25	2010

- (ii) Copy of the relevant Scheme of duties is enclosed.

- (iii) The salary scale is as follows -

Rs 12,300 x 300 - 13,800 x 400 - 15,000 x 500 - 16,000 x 600 -
 23,200

- (b) Number of Instructors presently serving in an acting capacity – 34
 - (i) Instructors enlisted for the National Certificate Foundation course have been assigned responsibilities to run NTC3 courses. The duration of the assignment of duties ranges from 6 months to 2 years.
 - (ii) The salary scale is similar to that at part (a) (iii) above but an additional allowance equivalent to 3 increments is being granted to the Instructors.
 - (c) The NTC Foundation course is being integrated within the course programme of the new Mauritius Institute of Training and Development (MITD) and it is contemplated to transform it to the National Certificate Vocational within the National Qualification Framework (NQF) so that there is a proper pathway for students completing that particular programme. Provision is being made for the grade of Instructors in the new organisation structure of MITD and the modalities to employ them on the permanent establishment will be looked into.
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16/11/10
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FASHION & DESIGN INSTITUTE - EXHIBITION

(No. 1B/611) Mrs F. Labelle (Third Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Minister of Tertiary Education, Science, Research and Technology whether, in regard to the exhibition held on 22 October 2010 by the Fashion and Design Institute, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to the reasons for the holding thereof, indicating the expenses incurred in relation thereto.

Dr. Jeetah: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am informed by the Fashion and Design Institute that an exhibition was held in the evening of 22 October 2010 at the ex-Textile and Apparel Development Centre of Enterprise Mauritius, in Vallée Des Prêtres, to showcase the best of the institute in terms of realisation, design work, garments and other facilities which the Foundation Art & Design, Fashion & Textile and Graphic Design & Multimedia Departments are presently offering.

Further, the exhibition also aimed at marketing the institute, enhancing its visibility and raising awareness on all the possibilities, facilities and services that the industry could benefit.

The total expenses incurred for the holding of the exhibition amounted to Rs397,463.37 including also uplifting works.

The House may wish to note that students have made strong representations. The FDI Board has appointed an independent enquiry to look into those representations and to submit its recommendations.

Mrs Labelle: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, may I ask the hon. Minister whether he is aware that usually at the end of the course, there is an exhibition to promote the work of the students. Has there been a change in this policy this year and for which reason it was not for the promotion of the works of the students and whether the works of the lecturers too were being exhibited on that particular day?

Dr. Jeetah: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I do appreciate the point being raised by the hon. Member. This has been sorted out. There is going to be an exhibition as has been the usual practice, in December.

Mr Bérenger: My question is we spent Rs3 m. from the public funds. Already the exhibition *qui a foiré* has cost Rs3 m. Am I right in saying that the Minister is requesting the Fashion and Design Institute *de corriger le tir* to have the new exhibition and, if yes, how much money is that going to cost?

Dr. Jeetah: I think the hon. Leader of the Opposition did not get me right. It is not Rs3 m.; it is Rs397,000. And to shed more light, I did enquire. An exhibition normally costs between Rs650,000 to about Rs2 m. I did say that part of the funding was for the upgrading of the facilities at the Vallée des Prêtres site.

Mrs Labelle: As regards the exhibition which will be held, may I ask the hon. Minister what will happen to the works produced by these students? Their works have been damaged and were taken off their personal dummies and thrown into the staircase. I am going to table a picture of that. What will happen to this and who will bear the cost for the new works of the exhibition that the hon. Minister is proposing?

Dr. Jeetah: I am aware of what the students have as concern, Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir. That's why the Board has appointed an independent inquiry and it would be a matter of a couple of weeks until we would know of the outcome and then we'll take the proper decisions.

Mrs Labelle: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, one last question. Must I take it from the hon. Minister that consideration will be given to help the students whose works were damaged to produce new works? Will consideration be given to that?

Dr. Jeetah: If this is the case, Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, the Fashion and Design Institute will have to take its responsibility.

Mr Bérenger: Can we know the composition of this Board or Committee that is going to carry out an independent inquiry?

Dr. Jeetah: I know that he is a person who is acting as a PAS in another Ministry. It is the Ministry in charge of public infrastructure.

23/11/10 574

**HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL - 24/7 EVENTS - COST
INCURRED**

(No. 1B/679) Mr D. Nagalingum (Second Member for Stanley and Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the editions of 24/7 organised by the Human Resource Development Council, he will –

(a) for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Council, a breakdown of the cost incurred in each case, indicating -

(i) the names of the sponsors and the respective amount donated, and

(ii) if tenders were launched for the provision of services, and

(b) state if public funds were used therefor, and if so, under which item of expenditure.

Reply: With regard to the five editions of the 24/7 events organised by the Human Resource Development Council (HRDC) I am arranging to table the following information -

(i) a breakdown of amount incurred in each case; and

(ii) the names of the sponsors and the respective amount donated.

I am informed that for all the five (5) editions of the 24/7 events, prescribed tender and procurement procedures for all services were followed in accordance with the Public Procurement Act 2006.

With regard to part (b), I would like to inform the House that no public funds were utilised. The expense involved for the 24/7 Events were met from donations by sponsors as well as from the National Training Fund (NTF) made up of contributions from Employers of the Private Sector. Necessary funds were earmarked in respect of the Project: "National Sensitisation Campaign to change work attitude and implementation of the 24/7 Economic model", which has been duly approved by the Human Resource Development Council.

357/11/10 55

ROSE HILL - 24/7 FESTIVAL

(No. 1B/699) Ms L. Ribot (Third Member for Stanley and Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the last edition of the 24/7 festival in Rose Hill, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, information as to –

- (a) if it has received complaints from the traders of the town and if so, if inquiries have been carried out thereinto, indicating the outcome thereof, and
- (b) if public funds have been used for the provision of services therefor and if so, under which item of expenditure.

Mr Aimée: Mr Speaker, Sir, I am informed by the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill that no complaints have been received from traders of the township regarding the organisation of the last edition of the 24/7 event.

With regard to part (b) of the question, I am informed that no public funds have been used by the Council for the provision of additional services, except its normal statutory services, namely scavenging and street lighting.

Mr Bérenger: It is an awful mess and it is in our constituency. The Minister is responsible for Local Government; it has been a total mess. Has the Minister checked with the State Law Office whether the HRDC is entitled under the law to organise such events?

Mr Aimée: Mr Speaker, Sir, as far as the request of the hon. Leader of the Opposition is concerned, I think - probably for me - it is a decision that the Council should take, not the Ministry.

Mr Bérenger: The HRDC has nothing to do with the Municipality. They are cooking up things to make money.

Mr Aimée: Mr Speaker, Sir, I think then the question should be addressed to the Ministry of Education HRDC is under the aegis of the Ministry of Education.

Mr Bérenger: Is the hon. Minister aware that there have been complaints by all the traders, by everybody? In fact, hundreds of hawkers came from outside on that occasion. It is a total mess, it is chaos and there is absolutely no security, pickpockets are all over the place, food is cooked with oil when kids, women, everybody is walking around on the pavements. There is going to be trouble before long. Can I request the hon. Minister to liaise with the Minister of Education and stop this?

Mr Aimée: The HRDC does not fall under my Ministry, but I would liaise with the Ministry of Education. In any case, I am going to look into it with the Minister of Education whether we will continue with 24/7. I think the Prime Minister himself was agreeable that the 24/7 happens all over the big cities. So, it is difficult for me to be against the project of 24/7.

Mr Bhagwan: Mr Speaker, Sir, I was an eye-witness of what happened in Rose Hill. I stay in Rose Hill. It was organised on the main road. Now that we have come to learn that there would be another 24/7 in Port Louis, can the hon. Minister, at least, give assurance to the House, as Minister of Local Government, that there won't be the same problem? I am not mentioning of the many other things which have happened.

Mr Speaker: You are talking of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill now.

Mr Bhagwan: No, no...

Mr Speaker: If the question relates...

(Interruptions)

You are talking of Port Louis.

(Interruptions)

If you want to come on a policy-decision of 24/7, you can do so.

Mrs Labelle: May I ask the hon. Minister whether he will liaise with the Municipal Council when there are such events that proper arrangements are being made for all aspects, even for security, for the traffic and so on, because there was none on that particular day at Rose Hill? I live there and I have experienced it.

Mr Aimée: Yes, hon. Member. Mr Speaker, Sir, I am going to liaise with all municipal authorities with regard to the question asked by the hon. Member.

Mr Bhagwan: Has the attention of the Minister been drawn to the fact that the Municipality of Beau Bassin which falls under *l'Alliance Sociale* has failed in its responsibility towards even their own Government in the organisation of that activity? I am requesting, through the Minister, to the Prime Minister to make an enquiry on the security of people on that particular occasion at Rose Hill, and whether there were cases of assaults and other types of theft which have occurred in Rose Hill?

Mr Aimée: Mr Speaker, Sir, I think I can only advise the Council, because the Council is autonomous. Once they take a decision to have things happen in the city of Rose Hill, then they are responsible to decide, not the Ministry. The Ministry can only advise.

(Interruptions)

Mr Lesjongard: May I ask the hon. Minister which is the lead Ministry in organising this 24/7 event and at what level is the coordination done?

Mr Aimée: Mr Speaker, Sir, with the brouhaha, I have not been able to listen to the hon. Member.

Mr Lesjongard: May I ask the hon. Minister which is the lead Ministry for organising that 24/7 event and at what level is the coordination being done?

Mr Aimée: Mr Speaker, Sir, I don't have the information, but I will look into it and place it in the Library.

Mr Obeegadoo: Mr Speaker, Sir, if I may make a suggestion? Would the hon. Minister, as Minister responsible for Local Government, before this 24/7 event is extended to any other towns, recommend to Government the setting up of an inter-ministerial taskforce to assess the

experience of Rose Hill, taking into account all the complaints we have heard here, before any Council is allowed to transpose the same initiative?

(Interruptions)

Mr Speaker: Order! Order!

Mr Aimée: Mr Speaker, Sir, before the launching of the 24/7, I have just mentioned that the Prime Minister has been in contact with the Ministry of Education and he decided to have the 24/7. I don't know who am I now, not to be agreeable to the 24/7, unless Cabinet takes another decision.

(Interruptions)

Mr Speaker: Address the Chair, please! I suspend for one and a half hour.

At 12.57 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

On resuming at 2.32 p.m. with the Deputy Speaker in the Chair.

12/4/11

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FLACQ - MITD

(No. B/203) Mr D. Khamajeet (Second Member for Flacq & Bon Accueil) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to land made available near the Flacq Fire Station, earmarked for the training needs of the Mauritius Institute of Training and Development, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the MITD, information as to -

(a) the date of the acquisition thereof;

(b) the extent thereof, and

(c) if any project related to training has been identified and, if not, why not.

(Withdrawn)