

**ADOLESCENT NON FORMAL EDUCATION NETWORK (ANFEN)  
CENTRES - STUDENTS - FREE TRANSPORT SCHEME**

Oral Answers  
Debate no. 5 of  
13 18/04/06

(No. B/312) Mrs F. Labelle (Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether he will state if students attending the ANFEN (Adolescent Non Formal Education Network) Centres benefit from free transport and, if so, since when and, if not, why not.

**Mr Gokhool:** Mr Speaker, Sir, free transport is provided to all students attending primary schools and secondary schools (fee paying and non fee paying), students following fee paying and non fee paying post HSC full-time tertiary courses and students following fee paying and non fee paying full-time courses in technical and vocational education in recognised institutions and running approved programme of studies. It is to be noted that ANFEN is a non-formal education network;

ANFEN is a network of non-Governmental organisation working for the benefit of adolescents with no formal education. Each of these NGOs has its own structure and management and offers informal courses/assistance to these children according to their own specificities.

These NGOs are not recognised nor are they affiliated with my Ministry or the PSSA nor do they offer approved programme of studies and as such do not at present satisfy the criteria for free transport.

**Mrs Labelle:** Is the Minister aware that since November of last year ANFEN has been in contact with his Ministry for recognition and registration?

**Mr Gokhool:** Mr Speaker, Sir, ANFEN has applied for registration to the Special Education Needs Unit of my Ministry and this Unit approves cases for grants and not for transport purposes.

**Mrs Labelle:** Is the Minister aware that in November last ANFEN was asked by his Ministry to get registered with the PSSA?

**Mr Gokhool:** I do not think that this is correct, Mr Speaker, Sir, because ANFEN is not a secondary school nor a primary school nor does it run recognised programme of studies. The advice that has been given to ANFEN is to first register with the Special Education Needs Unit of my Ministry for grant purposes.

**Mrs Labelle:** Mr Speaker, Sir, I want to get it clear. Can I ask the hon. Minister as to why ANFEN was asked by his Ministry to get registered with PSSA in November last?

**Mr Speaker:** The Minister has already answered that question.

**Mr Gokhool:** I have said that ANFEN should register with the Special Education Needs Unit of my Ministry.

**Mrs Labelle:** Mr Speaker, Sir, I am tabling a copy of the letter sent by his Ministry to ANFEN.

**Mr Gokhool:** I am putting on record what ANFEN should do.

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** If the hon. Member has a letter, she can table it.

**Mr Bérenger:** This is what I was going to say, namely, that the evidence is available. Can I ask the hon. Minister to inform this NGO which is doing a great work what they should do immediately?

**Mr Gokhool:** I am not aware of this letter.

*(Interruptions)*

An organisation like ANFEN should normally register with the Special Education Needs Unit of my Ministry.