

LE MORNE AND BAMBOUS – BUS SERVICE

(No. B/593) Mrs S. Hanoomanjee (Second Member for Savanne and Black River) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping whether he will state if he has received representations from parents regarding transport problems faced by students of the Swami Sivananda State Secondary School, Bambous, on the route from Le Morne to Bambous and back and, if so will he state the remedial measures that will be taken.

The Ag. Prime Minister: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, I am informed by the National Transport Authority that the PTA made a verbal request for a dedicated school bus service between Le Morne and Bambous.

I am further that only 15 students travel along that segment and that 19 buses are in operation along Route 5 (Baie du Cap – Le Morne – Bambous) and are available at 15 minutes interval during school hours and 3 buses along Route No. 120 (Baie du Cap – Bambous – Port Louis) at an hourly interval.

I have, however, requested the NTA to monitor the services along these routes and during school hours closely so as to ensure a satisfactory service to the students and to take appropriate action if necessary.

Mrs Hanoomanjee: I heard the Ag. Prime Minister saying that a verbal request was made. In fact, I have a copy of a letter which was addressed to the hon. Deputy Prime Minister and copied to several persons, including the NTA. Can the Ag. Prime Minister state whether he is aware that students travelling on this route have to wait for more than two hours everyday before catching a bus to go to school and back?

The Ag. Prime Minister: Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, as I have said in my answer, the information I received is that there are 19 buses at 15 minutes interval. I asked the NTA to monitor it and if such is not the case, I'll take appropriate action.