

STUDENTS - MODES OF TRANSPORT - SURVEY

sub no 11 of 11/10/05
(P)

(No. I B/334) **Mr G. Guinness (Third Member for Montagne Blanche & GRSE)** asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the survey carried out by his Ministry on the different modes of transport used by students he will state –

- (a) if the survey has been completed and, if so, the results thereof, and,
- (b) whether any agreement has now been reached with the owners of "school vans".

Mr Gokhool: Mr Speaker, Sir, following Government decision to provide free transport to students, my Ministry was entrusted with the responsibility to carry out a comprehensive survey in the primary and secondary schools, polytechnics, IVTB and tertiary institutions to capture all information on the student population, the modes of transport used, and the travelling cost per day.

Survey forms have been distributed to students in all educational institutions (accommodating full time students only) since the resumption of studies in August 2005 for the compilation of the required information.

I am informed to date, that not all the institutions concerned have submitted those information to the respective focal points which are the Zonal Directorates, the PSSA, IVTB, the Technical School Management Trust Fund, the Tertiary Education Commission and the Rodrigues Education Administration.

The data are now being processed and analysed at the level of the respective focal points. It is expected that the survey will be completed by the end of the month of October, this year; thereafter a comprehensive report will be submitted to the Ministry of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping.

As regards part (b) of the question, I do understand that owners of "school vans" have made representations to the Central Monitoring Committee and the Committee is examining these representations. A decision on the representations of the owners of "school vans" will only be taken in the light of the findings of the survey.

Further, I would like to refer the hon. Member to reply made to PQ No. B/259.