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Debate No. 33 of 19.08.2003

UNREVISED

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

DENTAL COLLEGE, ARSENAL - OPERATION

**The Leader of the Opposition (Dr. N. Ramgoolam)** (*By Private Notice*) asked the Minister of Education & Scientific Research whether, in regard to the Dental College, Dental Hospital and Oral Institute operated by the R.F. Gandhi A.K. Trust, he will state -

- (a) if all the relevant permits had been obtained at the time of the inauguration, giving details thereof, and
- (b) whether the Dental College had started to run courses, prior to obtaining all licenses and in breach of any condition/s laid down by the Ministry, and if so, what action has been taken.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** Mr Speaker, Sir, allow me to briefly state the background against which Government has considered with great interest private initiatives as regards tertiary education generally, but also this proposed course in dental surgery.

Mr Speaker, Sir, as the Members of the House would be aware, at present the tertiary enrolment rate, defined as the number of persons undergoing full time tertiary training as a percentage of the target population aged between 20 and 24, stands at 17% which is far below the corresponding percentages for the newly industrialised countries of south East Asia which average 35%. In addition, it is estimated that about half a number of students successfully completing the Higher School Certificate do not proceed to further studies whether locally or abroad. Indeed, at present, our two public Universities enroll only about 45% of qualified applicants each year due to limited capacity. Such a state of affairs represents considerable wastage of our human resource potential and is definitely not in line with the vision that Government holds for the future economic and social development of the country. Hence, the very many initiatives taken by

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Government and my Ministry to lay the basis to create the environment for the gradual development of Mauritius into a knowledge hub. It is against such a background that should be viewed Government's keen interest to support private initiatives to open up opportunities in the educational and training fields including dentistry, subject to norms and standards being established or maintained as appropriate and the quality assurance mechanism being put into place.

I am informed that in 1997, the then Government approved a project proposal of the Indian Ocean Medical Institute Trust, promoters of the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Medical College to run a school including a training course in Dental Surgery. However, there was no follow up on that specific proposal by the SSR Medical College until 2001.

In the meantime, on 12 August 2001, the R.F. Gandhi A.K. Trust wrote to my Ministry expressing its interest to set up a 100-seat Dental College to run a Bachelor Dental Surgery (BDS) Course in Mauritius. A Technical Committee was set up on 27 September 2001 under the Chairmanship of the Executive Director of the Tertiary Education Commission with officials of the Ministry of Health, the Mauritius Institute of Health, representatives of the University of Mauritius and the Dental Council to study the proposal.

In February 2002, the Committee reported that the proposal of the R.F. Gandhi A.K. Trust to establish a Dental College affiliated to Bhavnagar University in India would be beneficial to Mauritius. At the same time, the K.M. Shah Charitable Trust of Gujarat, India wrote to my Ministry indicating its interest to set up a Dental College and hospital. In addition the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Medical College submitted a proposal to proceed with its project to run a BDS programme. Accordingly, the Technical Committee was requested to consider all proposals submitted and consult with parties concerned.

contd./

DR/D33/P02/1  
(PNQ Cont'd)  
(Mr Obeegadoo)

In March 2002, the University of Mauritius informed my Ministry that subject to approval from Ministry of Health, it would agree for the SSR Medical College to run the BDS programme since that college is affiliated to the University of Mauritius.

In May of the same year, the Ministry of Health gave its agreement to the BDS syllabus as proposed by Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Medical College. It should be pointed out that in June of that year, the SSR Medical College was called to order after it came to light that it had advertised a BDS programme in India without formal approval of Government being obtained.

In July 2002, the Technical Committee recommended that provisional permission be granted to R.F. Gandhi A.K. Trust to enable the Trust to start its project while final permission would be granted subject to the satisfactory report of a Monitoring Committee to be set up. The Technical Committee did not find merit in the proposal of K. M. Shah Charitable Trust and proceeded to further examine the SSR Medical College's proposal.

R. F. Gandhi A. K. Trust was informed in August 2002 that provisional permission had been granted but that final permission was conditional upon, *inter alia*, creation of appropriate infrastructure and related facilities, satisfactory inspection by Bhavnagar University, affiliation to Bhavnagar University and the local Monitoring Committee's green light.

In April 2003, information came to light that the R. F. Gandhi A. K. Trust had already started running courses at its Dental College in Arsenal. State Law Office's advice was sought and a letter issued to the Director of the Trust informing him that he was in breach of the conditions laid down by the Ministry and instructing him to cease forthwith the running of courses. The course, described by the Director as an induction one, was immediately interrupted as confirmed by an inspection team of my Ministry.

In June this year, Government agreed to give provisional permission to the SSR Medical College to run the first two years of the Bachelor of Dental Surgery Programme and in July of this year the Technical Committee reported that in the case of the R. F. Gandhi A. K. Trust affiliation to Bhavnagar University had been obtained and the conditions laid down for the grant of final permission had been complied with.

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DR/D33/P02/2  
(PNQ CONT'D)

The Technical Committee, accordingly, recommended that final permission be granted to the Trust for the operation of a private Dental College and that was linked to a number of conditions adherence to which would be monitored on an ongoing basis.

These were *inter alia* that -

- (i) there should be no discriminatory practices by the Trust in recruitment of students;
- (ii) that students below a certain standard should not be recruited;
- (iii) the Trust should not use ambiguous or give misleading information in its marketing activities;
- (iv) for any reason the College would cease to operate in Mauritius. The existing students should be given the opportunity to complete their course at the Trust College in India at no extra cost to students;
- (v) students from overseas should return to their respective countries after completing the course; and
- (vi) the Trust should comply with the laws of Mauritius and should any dispute arise it would be settled in Mauritius.

The implementation and monitoring process was entrusted to the Tertiary Education Commission. I wish to stress that the same criteria were used by the Technical Committee to evaluate both the proposals of the R. F. Gandhi A. K. Trust and the SSR Medical College proposal. These criteria being entry requirements, syllabus, duration, award institution, infrastructure requirements, teaching scheme, teaching and non-teaching staff requirements, assessment in examinations, internship guarantee to ensure completion of studies and finally insurance and other liability related issues.

So, the final permission was communicated to the Trust in July of this year and the inauguration of the Dental College was set to 15 August. A few days earlier, I am informed that a case was entered before the Courts to seek an order *inter alia*, restraining the Trust from holding its inauguration ceremony and that order was not granted by the Courts.

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**(PNQ CONT'D)**

As regards the specific points mentioned in the question, I am informed that all the relevant permits were indeed obtained at the time of inauguration, that is, clearance from Education had been obtained as well as registration from the Mauritius Qualifications Authority and as Members would know, the Mauritius Qualifications Authority registration is premised on other clearances being obtained, such as fire clearance, trade licence and health clearance.

As regards the second part of the question, yes, I did refer earlier in my answer to the episode of April 2003 when the Trust was called to order by the Ministry for the running of what it termed was an induction course.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** The hon. Minister mentioned that the SSR college had made the application, I think, in 1999 or sometime around that date. Can he confirm that they did not go ahead at that time because there were several conditions attached to it and they were trying to satisfy those conditions?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** Mr Speaker, Sir, factually, the promoters of the SSR Medical College did not go ahead with the BDS programme. The promoters did explain to me that they were fully engrossed with the setting up of the Medical College which has now reached its third year, I believe; and it was only in 2001 that they submitted a new and detailed proposal concerning the BDS programme.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** I want to confirm whether they did not go ahead, because I was told, at that time, there were several conditions that needed to be satisfied and, therefore, they would try to see if they can satisfy them. Can the hon. Minister tell the House how many Dental Colleges have been granted permission to operate by the Ministry actually?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** Let me again state that I am not in a position to inform the House why SSR Medical College did not go ahead after 1997 or 1998 with its project. What the promoters have told me is that they were fully engrossed with the setting up of the Medical College and they decided to move ahead concerning the Dental College in 2001.

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**DR/D33/P02/4**  
**(PNQ CONT'D)**

Concerning the second question, as at present only one Dental College promoted by the R.F. Gandhi A.K. Trust has final permission to proceed, whereas the SSR Medical College holds provisional permission so that they can make progress on their proposal before final provision is eventually granted.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Can the hon. Minister say whether the policy of the Ministry is to allow as many Dental Colleges as we want to operate in Mauritius or is it going to be limited?

**Mr Obegadoo:** I explained, at the very beginning, that our tertiary enrolment rate is far from satisfactory. So, Government is fully committed to providing opportunities both in the public sector and in the private sector for expansion of capacity at tertiary level so that we may provide all our qualified young people with the opportunity to proceed beyond secondary, with tertiary education or vocational training as appropriate. I am aware that the Technical Committee has looked at the number of dentists actually working in Mauritius. I understand there are presently some 150 dentists of which about 50 are in the public sector, that there is a scarcity of dentists in the public sector. Overall for Mauritius in 2002, the ratio of dentists to Mauritians was 1:8 thousand which compares favourably with many African countries, but which does not compare favourably with the developed countries where the ratio is approximately 1:2 thousand. So, the strategy is to gradually improve this ratio until such time that we can attain the standards set by the developed countries. This is why, I will repeat, Government is following, with keen interest, the expressions of interest in the private sector. We shall support the materialisation of initiatives both in the public and private sector, provided norms and standards are established and complied with; and as we go along, an ever improving quality assurance mechanism is performed.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Can the hon. Minister confirm whether there is a report dated 01 July of last year whereby TEC advised the Ministry that only one Dental College was needed in Mauritius and that only one such institution should be allowed to operate?

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**D33P03CO1  
PNQ (contd)**

**Mr Obeegadoo:** The advice of the technical committee was that we should start with one Dental College, which is indeed the attitude of Government. We start with one, it is given final permission, it begins to operate, we are satisfied with that operation and then we could move to others. Let me be very clear about this. The Dental College which is in operation, I speak from memory has, as its objectives to recruit 80% of its students abroad and only 20% locally. Now, if we want to make progress on the ratio of dentists to our population and ensure that we are convened to address the scarcity of dentists right now in the public sector, we will consider more than one Dental College provided it is in the national interest to do so.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** I take it, therefore, that the TEC did not advise the Minister that there is only a place for one Dental College. That is why I wanted a confirmation from him. Can he confirm that some of the permits for the Gandhi Trust Dental College were obtained on the very date of the inauguration?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** I am aware that the registration from the Mauritius Qualifications Authority was indeed delivered on 15 August 2003, but I must point out that the application was made on 07 May 2003. This application was processed with visits carried out by the Mauritius Qualifications Authority to the premises in Arsenal. Certain recommendations made remedied steps taken, inspected anew other clearances, as I said, Fire Services, trade licence, health communicated and the whole process was reviewed by a Board meeting at the Mauritius Qualifications Authority on 01 August 2003 where the recommendations of their technical committee was approved before letters were issued and certificate of registration granted on 15 August 2003.

In other words, the final green light of MQA came on 15 August, but that was the end point of a long process which had begun in May and had followed all the appropriate steps.

*(Interruptions)*

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Does he realise that in spite of what he is saying the permits were given on the day as he has confirmed, but that invitations had already gone out for the inauguration? Is he aware of that?

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D33P03CO2  
PNQ (contd)

**Mr Obeegadoo:** That is indeed the case.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** So, does not the Minister find it strange that invitations have been issued before actually all the permits have been obtained?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** As I said the role of the Ministry of Education is to ensure that conditions are complied with. The implementation of the conditions, which were imposed by Government in July were closely monitored. The Ministry of Education was at all times satisfied that the processing of application to MQA was under way. I am not responsible for issuing invitations for the inauguration as I am sure the Leader of the Opposition would agree, but I have been put a question to which I am providing a factual answer: yes at the time of the inauguration all clearances had been obtained.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** The Minister must be aware that there were three Ministers present at the day of the inauguration, I hardly think that they were given invitation on the very day. Can he confirm that?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** Well, I received my invitation earlier and I would have been present had I not had another pressing commitment. As I said, the Dental College is operating with all the authorisation required.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** I would have liked to have the confirmation that the Minister was invited before. Can he confirm that the Gandhi Trust made an application for affiliation with the Gujarat University and that this was turned down?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** I do not have such information in my possession. All I do know, Sir, is that from the very outset, this proposal concerned affiliation to Bhavnagar University which already runs a Dental College and such affiliation was obtained prior to Government giving its green light.

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** Order!

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**D33P03CO3**  
**PNQ (contd)**

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** May I remind him that there was a question in Parliament before to ask him to check whether in fact Bhavnagar University runs Dental Colleges and he said that he would look into it. Can he confirm that this University actually runs Dental Colleges?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** The information which has been provided to me by the technical committee is to the effect that yes, the Trust runs a Dental College, a Dental Hospital and an Oral Research Institute in Vadoodarah Gujarat and that this college has the necessary approval of Dental Council of India and is affiliated to Bhavnagar University.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Is he aware that a newspaper, Sandesh Bhavnav Edition newspaper had an article on 06 March saying that Bhavnagar University has wrongly given affiliation to the Dental College in Mauritius? Is he aware of that? // 1

**Mr Obeegadoo:** No, Sir, I try to read each and every newspaper published in the country, but I obviously missed that article.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Would he, therefore, look into that, because it is a serious accusation that this newspaper has made.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** Certainly, Mr Speaker, I have endeavoured in my answer to show that we have had all along a principle stand and we have been looking at all the different applications on the basis of the very same criteria. Now, should Members of the Opposition be privy to any information suggesting impropriety, I would invite them to communicate such information to me and it will be fully investigated.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** I would have thought that the Minister would have more resources to do that than the Opposition! Can I ask him if he is aware that there are three Senate Members from Bhavnagar University who have issued a writ in Court challenging the right of the University to give affiliation? // 1

**Mr Obeegadoo:** No, Sir.

**D33P03CO4**  
**PNQ (contd)**

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Well, I would have asked him to look into this very seriously because this is a writ in Court. It is actually ...

*(Interruptions)*

I can give him evidence later, because I do not have it with me. But I would have thought the Ministry which is running with a panoply of officials can get the evidence for him! Do we have to do his job now?

*(Interruptions)*

He should be doing his job and it is not for us to do the job of Government! The Opposition is here to oppose and to make suggestions.

*(Interruptions)*

But it is for Government to take its responsibility and do its job!

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** The hon. Deputy Prime Minister is taking a point of order.

**The Deputy Prime Minister:** Mr Speaker, you have given your ruling on this precise point. Statements are made to the effect that a given newspaper article has appeared, that three Members of the Senate have entered an action and so on. Surely, as per your ruling, whatever evidence the Leader of the Opposition has, should be put before the House, Mr Speaker.

**Dr. David:** On a point of order, Mr Speaker.

**Mr Speaker:** Let me give my ruling first. It is true that when hon. Members put questions to Ministers, the purpose is to seek information and not to give information. It is true that if the hon. Leader of the Opposition has information, he has to give it, because it is in fact a statement being contained in the question.

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**D33P03CO5**  
**PNQ (contd)**

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** I would like to know whether the Minister is aware. If he is not, I will tell him. If he cannot do the job, I will do the job for him, but can I ...

**The Deputy Prime Minister:** On a point of order, it is very unfair to pass a comment "if he cannot do his job, I will do his job for him" Mr Speaker. If the Leader of the Opposition does not lay evidence of what he is saying, what is saying is useless and he should not be allowed to pass a comment on the performance of the Minister, Mr Speaker.

**Dr. David:** On a point of order, Mr Speaker, Sir ...

**Mr Speaker:** Let me give my ruling on this point of order and I will call you. I have given my ruling last time and I take it that Members have understood what I have said. As I said, last time, information cannot be framed in the form of a question and put in the House. This is not fair. If the hon. Leader of the Opposition has the information - of course, what he is stating is a statement of fact contained in the newspaper. Where is it?

What is your point of order, hon. David?

**Dr. David:** My point of order, Mr Speaker, Sir. There was a question from the Leader of the Opposition. He asked whether the Minister is aware of it or not. He said he is not aware.

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** Order! Order, please! Hon. David! Can I draw the attention of the House to paragraph (h) of Standing Order 22, this is what it says, I hope you will listen to this paragraph well -

- (h) a question shall not include the names of persons or statements of facts unless they are necessary to make the question intelligible and, in the case of statements of facts, can be authenticated by the Member concerned, (...)
- (i)

It is clear, is the Leader of the Opposition prepared to authenticate it?

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Yes, Sir.

D33P03CO6  
PNQ (contd)

**Mr Speaker:** If you are prepared, please do it now.

**Mr Dulloo:** Yes, why not?

**Mr Speaker:** Hon. Dulloo, I am not talking to you. I have given my ruling.

**Mr Dulloo:** I am a Member of the House.

*(Interruptions)*

If I may, Mr Speaker, on a point of order, when you are addressing the House, you are addressing me also. I am a Member of the House.

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** Order! Yes, but you cannot comment on my ruling and the more so from a sitting position. Did you ask for the floor, hon. Dulloo.

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PNQ (cont'd)

**Mr Dulloo:** Yes, on a point of order, Sir. This subsection (h) refers. We are ready to authenticate it at any time.

**Mr Speaker:** Can the hon. Member do it now?

**Mr Dulloo:** Not right now!

*(Interruptions)*

This is investigation! This is not a Court of law! We are not lying as people have lied in a Court of law. Courts of law have seen them to be liars. We are not liars here!

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** Order, please! The hon. Member can keep his comments for himself. I know it is not a Court of law. This is the National Assembly.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** May I allow to respond, Mr Speaker, Sir? After all these points of order, let me say that I take strong objection to the assertion that I should not be properly fulfilling my mission. We have results to show and the comparison with the *bilan* of the Opposition is damning.

*(Interruptions)*

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Mr Speaker, Sir, ask the Minister to sit down.

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** Order, please! The question is clear. The Minister cannot speak of the *bilan* of the former Government.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** Mr Speaker, can I be allowed to give my answer?  
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D33P04cl/2

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PNQ (cont'd)

**Mr Speaker:** Yes, but there is no need for the Minister to refer to the *bilan* of the previous Government. This is clear.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** But then there is no need surely to refer to the way I do my job!

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** Order, please! Order! Hon. Bhagwan! Hon. Paya!

**Mr Obeegadoo:** I have been asked two questions. Over the last half hour I have been endeavouring to answer questions ...

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** On a point of order, Sir. The Minister should answer the question that I was asking by short answers instead of making long *bla-bla-bla*. This is because he cannot answer. In fact, I put it to him that there have been fraudulent practices in this case.

*(Interruptions)*

**Mr Speaker:** Order, please! This is an accusation against the Minister that there have been fraudulent pretences. I do not think this is fair. The hon. Leader of the Opposition has to withdraw it. It is an accusation against a Member of this House.

*(Interruptions)*

**Dr. Boolell:** On a point of order, Sir. Is the Deputy Prime Minister allowed to make comments from a sitting position?

**Mr Speaker:** Nobody has the right to do so.

Cont'd...

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D33P04cl/2

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PNQ (cont'd)

*(Interruptions)*

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Mr Speaker, Sir, the Minister himself has just confirmed in his answer at the beginning that there were administrative fraudulent practices.

**The Deputy Prime Minister:** On a point of order, Mr Speaker, Sir, you have given a ruling. The Leader of the Opposition should abide by your ruling and withdraw the allegation which he has made that money has changed hands.

**Mr Speaker:** For the sake of the dignity of the House, it is better for the Leader of the Opposition to withdraw and reframe what he wants to say.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** I withdraw. But I say that the Minister had said that there was breach of conditions and that the induction courses had to be stopped ...

**The Deputy Prime Minister:** On a point of order, Mr Speaker, Sir. When your ruling is for a Member to withdraw he has to withdraw unconditionally. The Leader of the Opposition can put other questions, but he has to withdraw unconditionally.

**Mr Speaker:** I think he has done so.

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** That is what I have done. Can I ask the Minister whether he does not agree that there was breach of conditions? Did he not say that the induction courses had to be stopped?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** Mr Speaker, Sir, let me make two things clear. All questions have been answered. There have been two allegations. A press article which we have never seen and which has not been laid on the Table of the House and a wild allegation concerning a case in India, again no tangible evidence has been placed before the House. These are the only two allegations.

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PNQ (cont'd)

As regards the last question, this is already in my answer. I did explain that the Ministry had cause to call to order, at one time, the SSR Medical College, and, at another time, the Gandhi Trust.

**Dr. Boolell:** Can I ask the hon. Minister when were the proposals submitted to the Board of Investment and what were the conditions attached to the proposals?

**Mr Obeegadoo:** I cannot give the date for submission of the proposals to the Board of Investment. What I can say is that, at the time Government gave provisional permission to the Gandhi Trust to forge ahead, the BOI also wrote to the Gandhi Trust, laying down conditions amongst which compliance with the points raised by the Ministry of Education.

**Dr. Boolell:** Mr Speaker, Sir, there has been no compliance.

*(Interruptions)*

I have a right to stand up and speak! Mr Speaker, Sir, it was clearly spelt out ...

**Mr Speaker:** Order, please! Hon. Beebeejaun, please! Hon. Boolell, I have given you the floor to put questions.

**Dr. Boolell:** Can I ask the Minister whether, amongst the proposals, there should be transfer of foreign direct investment amounting to more than Rs135 m. and there should be the construction of a dental school on a five acres of land? I would like to know why these criteria have not been fulfilled.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** All the conditions laid down by the Technical Committee have been fully spelt out. It was on the basis of recommendations of the Technical Committee comprised of respected

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PNQ (cont'd)

personalities from the Tertiary Education Commission, the Ministry of Health, the Mauritius Institute of Health and other institutions that a recommendation of the Technical Committee was made to Government and final approval granted. I have also stated that, as regards the broad conditions which have got to be complied with, the Tertiary Education Commission has been entrusted with the task of implementation and monitoring. That is an ongoing process.

**Dr. Chady:** As far as I can remember, Mr Speaker, Sir, we did put two questions in April where we were asking the Minister to check whether the training is up to the standard. The answer was: "after careful consideration the Technical Committee did not recommend the proposals from K.M. Shah Charitable Trust as it had serious doubts as to the quality of training." I then put a question concerning the affiliation which is important. The Minister answered that he would check. Can he say whether he has checked the list according to the Dental Act of India? The problem is whether this dental school is operating under the norms that are required because life of people is at stake.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** First of all, the hon. Member should guard against any possible confusion between the Shah Charitable Trust which has not been recommended by the Technical Committee and the Gandhi Trust which we are debating today.

Secondly, affiliation was verified and I am thankful to the hon. Member for his helpful suggestions at the time. We verified not only with Bhavnagar University, but also with the Dental Council. It was only when the Technical Committee came with a statement of fact that affiliation was there both with the Dental Council and the University that permission was granted.

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PNQ (cont'd)

**Dr. Ramgoolam:** Is the Minister aware of an advertisement that was made in India that the College of Dentistry was going to be opened and is affiliated with Bhavnagar University and that, in fact, this permit has not been given, that this advertisement was put in India before the permits were given? Is he aware of that? I can lay copy of it on the Table of the Assembly.

**Mr Obeegadoo:** In several advertisements both locally and abroad, and, as I stated earlier, the Technical Committee did call to order various promoters concerning advertisements before final permission was granted.

**Mr Speaker:** Time is up. Before we proceed to the next item, let me make it clear once for all that these rules have been made by this Assembly and we have to observe them. I have given my ruling, precisely, because I want to protect Members of the House and people who have no protection, from being defamed because under the cloak of immunity and under the cloak of questions I would not allow any person to do mud-slinging. This should be very clear. Next item!

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