SCHOOLS (PRE-PRIMARY) – PEDAGOGICAL MATERIALS - PURCHASES

(No. B/1172) Mrs F. Labelle (Third Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Minister of Education & Human Resources whether, in regard to the financing of educational and pedagogical materials to pre-primary schools, he will state the amount disbursed per school during each of the financial years 2004-2005 and 2005-2006.

Mr Gokhool: Mr Speaker, Sir, pedagogical materials for pre-primary schools are being financed under item 08.101.400 from Recurrent Budget of the Pre-School Trust Fund (PSTF) and school fees. Materials purchased from the Recurrent Budget are based on recommendations from the zonal offices after approval of the PSTF Board. All materials are purchased in bulk.


However, I would like to point out that for 2004-2005 a total sum of Rs1,405,364 has been spent and for 2005-2006 a sum of Rs1,139,900 has been spent.

I am tabling details of the spending that has been made.

Mrs Labelle: Mr Speaker, Sir, may I know from the hon. Minister when was the amount paid to pre-primary schools and what was the amount paid for financial year 2004-2005?

Mr Gokhool: I do not know the exact date, but all I know is that when I became Minister, I did approve payment for the amount that was due to the schools.

Mrs Labelle: May I ask the hon. Minister whether a second phase for payment to pre-primary schools has been effected?
Mr Gokhool: All that I know is that there were sums earmarked which had not been paid and which I approved and payment has been made. If there is any other sum that has to be paid, I'll have to check. As at now, if there is any other sum that was earmarked, I shall look into it.

Mrs Labelle: May I ask the Minister to look into this matter? Because pre-primary schools are waiting for a second payment which has not been effected during financial year 2005-2006.

Mr Gokhool: I will do so.