

QUESTIONS ORAL

TEACHERS POSTED AT REDCO COLLEGES

B/117 Mrs. Prosper (**The six Island Region Member**) asked the Commissioner responsible for Education with regard to the Teachers posted in REDCO colleges, would the Commissioner obtain information on the following:-

- (a) Whether there was any problem with one Alex Nancy as regards his academic qualifications for his enrolment as a Teacher in one of the REDCO Colleges;
- (b) When did he start working as Teacher and when did he stop and in what grade was he employed;
- (c) Was he requested to confirm the authenticity of his certificate, and, if yes, did he confirm same and, if no, why he was not requested to do so;
- (d) Whether there was a case fit to be referred to the appropriate authorities for enquiry and, if yes, what has been the result; and
- (e) Whether the board of REDCO has already reached a final decision as regards this matter?

Mr. Chairperson: Yes Deputy Chief Commissioner

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, the information is as follows:-

Mr. Alex Nancy applied for the post of Teacher Grade A in a letter dated 12 November 1992 in which he enclosed photocopies of his birth and education certificates namely: School Certificate (1984), Higher School Certificate (1986), Diplome D'études Universitaires Générales Science de la Nature et de la vie from the University of Reunion Island (1990), Licence de Biochimie (Certificat provisoire 1991) from the university of Nancy I in France.

On 27 November 1992, the then late Island Secretary and Manager of REDCO colleges referred the application for employment to the secretary of REDCO. The Board of REDCO then decided in a letter dated 11 December 1992 to offer Mr. Nancy appointment as Teacher Grade A at Marechal and Le Chou College with effect from 07 January 1993 on a month to month basis in the first instance. In a letter dated 24 June 1993, the PSSA conveyed authority to the manager of REDCO to employ Mr. Alex Nancy as Teacher Grade A on full time basis at Marechal college.

Mr. Nancy Started to work as from 07 January 1993 and he resigned on 13 September 2000 as Teacher Grade A.

Mr. Nancy was not requested by the then Manager REDCO to confirm the authenticity of his certificate as he was on vacation leave from 21 August to 31 October 2000.

In a letter dated 4th September 2002, the Secretary of REDCO requested the Manager to submit a report following press articles on the matter. In a letter dated 29 September 2000, the then Manager of REDCO referred the matter to the Commissioner of Police and to the PSSA on 4 October 2000.

The matter was not further pursued by the board.

Mrs. PROSPER: Mr. Chairperson Sir, could the Commissioner for Education inform the house who was the Manager of REDCO, when the matter was discovered?

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I am informed that the then Manager of REDCO was Mr. KUNDHEN.

Mrs. Prosper: Mr. Chairperson Sir, could the Commissioner tell us in what grade the Teacher was employed and in what grade he would have been employed without the suspected certificate.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, as I have just said, the teacher was given employment as a grade A teacher. And of course if he had not been in possession of the required qualification he couldn't of course have been employed at the same grade and according information I have the Mauritius Public

Service: Vacancies for the post of Education Officer: all those falling on that category the qualification are:

- (i) Cambridge school certificate,
- (ii) Cambridge higher school certificate,
- (iii) or a joint degree from a recognize institution.

It is not mentioned according to information I have that the teacher, Mr. Nancy, the then Teacher would have been employed with such a certificate that he said he possess.

Mrs. Prosper: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I am tabling an article in the newspaper where it is mentioned that Mr. Nancy has not satisfied the university.

Mr. Chairperson: Tabling? No, I don't think this is regular if we are to base a statement upon the newspaper but you can ask a question without referring to the newspaper articles of course if you wish.

Mrs. Prosper: Oui, Monsieur le Président, d'après cet article Monsieur Alex Nancy n'a pas réussi.

Mr. Chairperson: You can't say that. You can't ask whether a press article is correct.

Mrs. Prosper: Mais est ce que Monsieur Nancy a produit son certificat?

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Yes, Mr. Chairperson Sir, according to information I have, there is a letter dated from the French Embassy in 20 September 2000, where it is said exactly what qualification Mr. Nancy possess. With your permission I would like to read what is said in the letter:-

“Embassade de France a Maurice, Service de coopération et d'action Culturel, Monsieur le Principal, la lettre est adresser a monsieur Ram Bhowany du Maréchal College : vous avez bien voulu me faire part de vos interrogations concernant la validité du certificat provisoire de licence que vous a fourni l'un de vos professeurs, Monsieur Jean alex Nancy. J'ai solliciter le service de

la scolarité de la faculté de science de l'université Henry point carré Henry point carré – Nancy qui m'a fait parvenir la réponse dont vous trouverez ci joints copie. Je vous en souhaite bonne réception et vous prie de croire Monsieur le Principal à l'expression de ma parfaite considération. D'après la lettre que l'Ambassade de France a soumise, il est dit clairement dedans que Monsieur Nancy avait un certificat provisoire."

Mrs. Prosper : Mais si c'est provisoire, c'est pas un vrai certificat, c'est pas authentique. Yes, I would like to know if Mr. Nancy resigned by himself or the board resigned him?

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I've got a letter dated 30th September 2000 which Mr. Alex Nancy addressed to former Manager of REDCO Mr. Lelio Roussety, with your permission I would like to read what is said in the letter:-

"Sir, first of all congratulation for your affectation as Manager REDCO, in view of my re-election as a member of the National Assembly, I wish to inform you that I will not be able to continue to work as Education Officer at Marechal college, I therefore resign with immediate effect. I apologies for any conveniences due. I wish you good luck in your new post."

That is, he wrote a letter to signify his intention to resign from office with immediate effect.

Mr. GUILLAUME: Mr. Chairperson Sir, could the Commissioner of Education think that there has been any cover in this affair. If any what concrete action he intend to take in this matter?

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I cannot at this time justify that there has been any cover-up. But as far as I know this matter is, there has been a police enquiry, this matter has been sent to court, and now according to information I have it is with the DPP and what action on my part have I to take, I have to inform the respected member, my colleague Mr. Guillaume that since Mr. Nancy was an ex employer of the REDCO, since there is evidence according to information I have that he did not possess the expected qualification, it is up to the REDCO or to the PSSA to review the matter just to see whether there has been any forgery, I should say because the Manager don't forget the employer of Mr. Nancy

as a Teacher was the REDCO, he was paid from the PSSA. He has to satisfy the regulation then in force concerning his employment as an employee of the REDCO or the PSSA. Therefore it's up to these institutions to see whether they will initiate the case, to see whether Mr. Nancy has been faulty and if so it's up to the course of the justice to see again whether there is need to take any legal action against him.

Mrs. Prosper: Mr. Chairperson Sir, would the Commissioner say whether his Commission is enquire the board of REDCO to claim the excess payment of salaries.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Yes, of course Mr. Chairperson Sir, as I have just said if there is the evidence that Mr. Jean Alex Nancy has fraudulently acquired employment from the REDCO therefore if he is found guilty he will have of course to pay what he has been paid in excess. I think this is a normal thing and of course Mr. Chairperson Sir, let's take time to see what action has to be taken on this matter.

Mrs. Prosper: Mr. Chairperson Sir, can we know the total amount paid to Mr. Nancy.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Yes, Mr. Chairperson Sir, I have not in my possession the amount of money paid to him but of course I will ask for the relevant information and maybe in due time I will be able to give to this house the required information.

Mrs. Prosper: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I would like to ask the Commissioner who was the Minister for Rodrigues and the Minister for Education when the matter was discovered and whether the matter was referred to them.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Unfortunately, Mr. Chairperson Sir, am not in a position to say because I haven't got the information but according to the dates, the years, these things occurred, we can certainly guess who was the Minister for Rodrigues and who was the minister for Education. But I can't give the required information because I don't have it at hand.

Mrs. Prosper: Monsieur le Président, d'après la loi c'est un crime mais est ce que la personne a été arrêté et enfermer pour sa.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: As far as I know, Mr. Chairperson Sir, the person has not been arrested and I don't know whether he should have been arrested but I think what the respected member is telling the house it is true. If somebody is employed using fraudulent manors to get employment I think it's as she said it's a crime and it's up to the police and the court of justice to say what action has to be taken on such a person. But as far as I am concern Mr. Chairperson Sir, I can't say whether that person should be arrested or not but as far as I know he hasn't been arrested and I don't know again whether he will be arrested if this matter is referred again to the police or the court of justice.

Mrs. Prosper: Monsieur le président, je voudrais aussi savoir qu'est ce que la commission compte faire pour activer les choses, pour accélérer les procédures.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, according to the information I have, on 27 November 2000 a police enquiry was referred to the director of public prosecutions and on 28 may 2003, no further action was advised by the DPP. Therefore, the matter is still there at the DPP but on my part as far as I am concern since I have evidence that the ex Teacher Jean Alex Nancy has not been employed with the required qualification. On my part Mr. Chairperson Sir, I would request the board of RECO and the PSSA to go deeply into the matter and to see what will be the course of action in the light of what will be found on these files. But of course Mr. Chairperson Sir, I will take this as an urgent matter, I don't know how long it will take from these institutions to give the required and relevant information.

Mrs. Prosper: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I would like also to know what classes Mr. Nancy taught when he was a Teacher at Marechal.

Mr. Chairperson: Well, this is not strictly within the purview of the question. But of course the Commissioner would like to response to this question and he can.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: No, Mr. Chairperson Sir, I don't have any information here telling me exactly what classes he has been in charge. But the only information I have here from the PSSA datedi don't find any date.

But here it is said that condition: the Manager, Marechal College Rodrigues with reference here it is in 1993, with reference to your application for authority to employ received on March 1993. Authority has no objection to your employing

Mr. Alex Nancy as a Teacher at Marechal College subject to the following conditions right. Grants will be paid toward the salary of Mr. Alex Nancy on grade A salary scale from January 07 1993 to end of first term 1994 on a full time basis. That is from this period he was employed on a full time basis. As far as I know because that ex teacher Mr. Jean Alex Nancy who was also a member of the National Assembly he was not given to work on higher classes in the secondary School. That is I think he worked only with the lower classes that is form 1 to form 3 or 4.

Mrs. Prosper: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I would like also to know whether the person is now a holder of a post graduate certificate. If he not even a graduate whether the matter will be referred to the appropriate institution for the challenge of the post graduate certificate.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I don't have the required information but since he is no more a Teacher, I think we should see to it that whether by the time he was employed as a Teacher, he possessed the required qualification. But now I don't see how this matter concerns me because he is no more a teacher. Whether he holds a post graduate or not for the time being I don't think I should be interested in that. The only thing that I would like to know is at the time he was employed a Teacher whether his qualification satisfied the required criteria expected at that time.

Mr. GUILLAUME: Monsieur Le Président, est ce que le Commissaire de l'éducation peut informer la Chambre s'il y a des dépositions concernant ces cas a la police de Rodrigues concernant les élèves qui ont été échouer.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Yes Mr. Chairperson Sir, I have in my possession information coming from the police department in Rodrigues where I will read with your permission.

On 27 November 2000, a police enquiry bearing PF100No.57/2000, PMP 4217/2000, OB 862/2000 Port Mathurin. Pre measure was referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions following a complaint made on 30th September 2000 by Mr. Desiré Laval PERRINE, cemetery worker, residing at Bigarade to the effect that his son Joseph Nicole did not succeed at the Cambridge School Certificate Exams in 1996 after Honorable Alex Nancy had been one of his Teachers at Marechal college. He was made aware through a copy of a document produced to him by an unknown person that Honorable Alex Nancy was not a qualified

Teacher, hence his son being unsuccessful at exams. On 28.05.2003 no further action was advised in the present case by the DPP. This is a letter from Divisional Commander of Rodrigues.

Mrs. PROSPER: Monsieur le Président, est ce que c'est pas du a son incompétence et est ce que le Commissaire peut nous dire qu'elle action a été prise.

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, there is a case where a parent as I've just said call to the police for an action against that ex Teacher. He complained that his son did not succeed due to the, I can't say its incompetency but it is stated in the enquiry that that Teacher didn't possess the required qualification. And of course Mr. Chairperson Sir, since I have just said this case is with the DPP for the time being all I have to do is to wait what will the DPP say. But of course if the DPP say that he will have to be condemn for that, therefore he will be condemn otherwise I don't know what I have to do unless as I've said there are other cases lodge against him just to see in the course of these being employed at the time in the colleges concerned maybe there could have been other pupils, students who could have failed due to the incompetency or because the Teacher was not qualified then of course this will be other cases that will have to follow other courses of justice.

In the time being Mr. Chairperson Sir, as I've just said according to what information I have now, I can't, the Commission can't pursue any action as such against Mr. Alex Nancy. Let us wait and see what will be the decision of the DPP and then we will decide what action we are going to take.

Mr. Chairperson: No more supplementary. Can we move on?

Commissioner JABEEMISSAR: Mr. Chairperson Sir, I have the following statement to make. First of all Mr. Chairperson Sir, let me express my gratitude and thanks to the chair of this Assembly for having assigned me the responsibilities of the Chief commissioner due to the absence of Mr. Johnson ROUSSETY from the country from 18th to 26th September 2006 and as such I have been assigned the responsibilities vested in the Chief Commissioner. And am very proud and glad to assume such responsibilities and once again I thanked the chair for that. Mr. Chairperson Sir, as Deputy Chief Commissioner, and Commissioner for Education, trade, commerce and licensing, library services etc. I would like to make a brief statement on what has been done in my Commission up to now. I will first start with the pre primary education.

Admission in pre primary schools has started as from Monday 18 September up to Friday 23rd September in all private and pre primary schools under the pre school trust fund. Three pre primary schools attached to the government primary school, namely Terre Rouge, Basile Allas Port Mathurin and Batatran Government School operated under the AGIES of the preschool trust fund.

PRIMARY EDUCATION

CPE examinations. The CPE examinations will be held on Thursday 26, Friday 27, Monday 30 and Tuesday 31st October 2006. In this context my commission is now working on the posting of staff who will be involved in the examination center wise.

ADMISSION IN FORM 1 IN 2007 IN COLLEGES ON A NATIONAL BASIS.

An information session on the admission procedures in the following colleges on a national basis was held with responsible parties of pupils of standard six at pupil's primary school on Saturday 16 September last. These colleges are for boys: John Kenedy College Beau Bassin, Royal College Curepipe, Royal college Port louis, sukdeo Beesoondoyal college, Rose Belle. Girls: Droop Nauth Ramphul colleges at calebasse, Gaetan Reynolds state colleges at Quatre Bornes, Queen Elizabeth College Rose Hill, Docteur Maurice Curé state college vacoas, and the Mahatma Ghandi institute Moka which is for both boys and girls.

All responsible parties were given an information pack which comprises the following documents:

- (i) notes for guidance,
- (ii) an information sheet indicating facilities available in secondary schools to which people will be admitted on National Basis; and
- (iii) a copy of the application form.

Responsible parties who are interested to secure a seat in the colleges mentioned will be invited to call again at the pupil's primary school to fill in the original application form on Saturday 23rd September next. A briefing session was also

held on Friday 15 September at nine hours to brief all head teachers, deputy head teacher and school clerk and other staff on the filling of application form and the information pack.

THE ARPEGE PROJECT

In the context of the Arpege project, Mrs. Monique andreas ----- Secretary general of the commission of the Indian Ocean will visit Rodrigues from 23 to 27 September. The aim of the project is to promote Environmental Education to students of 9 to 13 years old in member countries of the Indian Ocean Commission. The project is being implemented in 2004 at the Port Sud Est Government School, Don Bosco RCA School and Grande Montagne College in collaboration with shoals Rodrigues and the Mauritian Wide Life.

SECONDARY EDUCATION

Following the first meeting of the board of the REDCO held on Friday 08 September 2006, the board members representing the Rodrigues Regional Assembly has completed a series of visit to the five colleges. They had a first contact with the Heads of Schools and visited the school premises and facilities. I wish to inform my colleagues that an Education Officer of Grande Montagne College has been interdicted after having been bailed out in connection with a case of abortion.

VISIT OF THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND HUMAN RESOURCES

I have the pleasure to inform the house that the Minister of Education and Human Resources Honourable Dharam GOKHOL is proposing to visit Rodrigues from 27 to 28 September 2006. The Minister has expressed the wish to visit one school involved in the following projects:-

- (i) School information technology project
- (ii) Bridging the gap project
- (iii) Special education needs school

He will also visit pre-primary, primary and secondary schools and had meeting with various stakeholders involved in education and training sectors.

THE HUMAN RESOURCE CENTRE

The Human Resource Centre is currently accommodating the Diploma in Software Engineering for a batch of 14 students. My Commission have received three bids as regard repairs to the roof structure and renovation work at the Human Resource Centre, Malabar. The bids will be sent to the Commission for Public Infrastructure for evaluation. The Centre for Social and Applied Science Research the CASAR. A team from the CASAR was in Rodrigues from 4 to 6 September last in connection with study on the causes of CPE failures. The objective of this mission was to collect background on information to be used for this survey.

Resource person from the *Institut Supérieure de Technologie* was in Rodrigues last week for delivery course in the context of the Diploma in Genie Civil being followed by Inspector and Assistant Inspector of the Public Infrastructure Division. The staff of the Human Resource Centre is currently completing the preparation of a project proposal regarding literacy and numeracy to be submitted to the DCP, that is the Decentralised Cooperation Programme on Friday 22 September 2006 and that all Mr. Chairperson Sir, I thank you for your attention.

STATEMENT

Commissionner GRANDCOURT: Monsieur le Président, permettez-moi de remercier le leader du parti l'honorable Nicolas VONMALLY, le président l'honorable Christian LEOPOLD, le Chef Commissaire Monsieur Johnson ROUSSETY et mes collègues ainsi que mes mandants.

Monsieur le Président on a beaucoup de défi à relever, on a eu beaucoup de retard mais quand même on est comme l'a si bien dit le Chef Commissaire, ont est les serviteurs du peuple, on est les serviteurs du peuple et ont a le courage de travailler Monsieur le Président pour faire bouger Rodrigues d'ailleurs les événements qui se sont passer on a parler. Même si Monsieur le Président, il y a certains qui ont failli devant leurs responsabilités vis-à-vis le peuple.

Mr. Chairperson, sir, I wish to inform the House that since my appointment my Commission has approved the grant of an interim assistant to Fishermen pending

the decision of the Government to review the newly established criteria. In that connection I had a meeting with the representative of the *Association des Pecheurs de l'ile Rodrigues (l'APIR)* et *l'organisation des pecheurs professionnels de Rodrigues (l'OPPR)* and NDO's to discuss on proposal to be transmitted to the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Fisheries. My objective is now to develop a fishing industry in Rodrigues and to encourage investment in the Fisheries sector to provide job opportunities for the fishers. To facilitate the navigation of fishing boat at Pointe Monier we are planning to dredge the channel leading to Oyster Bay and the Bassin at Pointe Monier to become a fishing port and provide a better place for mooring of fishing boats. The work will be done in collaboration with the Mauritius Port Authority.

In that connection Mr. Chairperson Sir, we received the visit of Mr. Gilbert PHILLIPE, Senior Adviser of the Prime Minister's office and Mr. CHEDDY, Chairperson of the Mauritius Port Authority. My Commission will also introduce the Regulation, the Fisheries and Marine Reserve Regulation 2006 to ensure the protection, conservation and sustainable exploitation of our marine resources. The Regulation was discussed with the members of the Rodrigues Coordinating Committee on fisheries during a meeting which was held on 14 September 2006.

Mr. Chairperson Sir, the government of Mauritius will soon introduce the fishermen investment trust bill whose aim is to invest in fishing activities, fish processing and marketing and other related activities. The Ministry of fisheries will also carry out a socio economic survey on fishermen in Rodrigues.

Mr. Chairperson Sir, we want also to develop Aquaculture in Rodrigues and in that connection there is a workshop which will be held on 16 and 17 October this year to see to it that we develop the fishing sector in Rodrigues in a sustainable manner. I wish to inform the house of the recent visit of honourable Dr. Arvind BOOLELL, Minister of Agro Industry and Fisheries.

Mr. Chairperson Sir, we have also taken the decision to start the distribution of galvanized wire to basket trap fishermen and this will be done shortly. I also wish to inform the house that my Commission in collaboration with the Chief Commissioner's Office, Commissioner for Health, Rodrigues Council of Social Services and the private firms has launched a clean up campaign on 16 September 2006. The aim of the campaign is to sensitize and create awareness of the population on the production of the environment and also to fight against chikungunia. The campaign will last for one month and will end on 15 October with the cleaning of the northern part of the island.

Mr. Chairperson Sir, my Commission will introduce a new scheme of low cost housing in Rodrigues on self help basis. The scheme will consist of the donation of construction material to 100 needy persons. They will also be provided with a plan of the building. The plan provides the construction of a flat roof concrete building with the possibility of extension to one history. In addition Mr. Chairperson Sir, my Commission will donate housing materials to 160 elderly identified by the Commission of Social Security who are facing housing problems. Letter of award -
----- (gaps on cassette)

On a pris la decision d'enrober toutes la route qui mène a Riviere Coco. C'est-à-dire de le l'école jusqu'a Chue Tive on va faire toute cette partie. Il y a la route de Piment aussi qu'on va voir on a sa sur les projets. il a aussi Monsieur le Président les *track roads* qu'ont a beaucoup de demandes. On va voir dans les endroits qui ont été négliger par l'ancien régime, on va voir il y a toutes une liste qui va être approuver par les conseilles exécutif bientôt. Ces *track roads* vont êtres donner dépendants des critères très définie. Il y a des critères qu'on a établis avec le nouveau gouvernement. Ce sera un critère très défini ou tous le mondes veulent avoir accès, tout le monde va avoir des facilités. Avec ces quelques mots Monsieur le Présidents, je sais que le travail a Rodrigues, tous le monde demande sa part du gâteau. Il y a les gestion qui vient et Monsieur le Président, comme je vous est dit ont est la pour travailler et ont va faire de notre mieux merci.

Mr. Chaiperson: yes.

Commissioner Mrs. Clair: Mr. Chairperson, Sir, in the light of various evils affecting the world and in a view to protect the Rodriguan society my Commission has taken steps to address the most important problem in order of priority. First, a social enquiry into the cases of teenage pregnancy sponsored by the Commission is being finalised.

A meeting with my colleagues, Commissioners for health and youth and all stake holders will be held next week to discuss the final enquiry and consider appropriate remedial action.

Secondly, Mr. Chairperson, Sir, my Commission has requested the Mauritius Institute of health to undertake a research to the delicate subject of domestic violence to determine its causes and effects on the family at large. The survey will survey will be finance by the Mauritius Research Council and carried out by

medical sociologist and by research officers. My Commission will provide logistic support to the team.

Thirdly, Mr. Chairperson Sir, the shelter for victims of violence and abuse is being reorganized in view to providing a more efficient service. In this context, a Matron will be recruited to the day to day management of the shelter and she will be in attendance throughout the day and will be on call at night.

Fourthly, all the employees attached to the working of the shelter will be given more training for their relevant responsibilities. Arrangement has already been made with the Ministry of the Women Affairs in Mauritius with relevant resource person.

The shelter is being provided with additional items including a children caller where toys would be provided to the children to make environment more friendly and give it a real family environment for the development of these children under the care of my Commission.

Our parental empowerment programme, Mr. Chairperson Sir, will continue in order to ensure that parents are aware to their duties and responsibilities towards their children and their participation on social activities, and last but not least;

In a few days resource person from Mauritius from the Child Development Unit will join their counterparts in Rodrigues to provide training of two persons having the responsibility of working in nurseries. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson Sir, for your attention.

Mr. Chairperson: Any other statements.

Commissioner Mrs. Castel: Mr. Chairperson Sir, 4 August 2006 will be an (undearable) mark in the history of the autonomous island of Rodrigues. When a new Chief Commissioner and a new team had sworn in before the President of Republic of Mauritius to serve the people of our beloved island. The swearing in of the new members of the third executive council of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly as well as the election of the Deputy Chairperson has created new opportunities to improve the living condition of the Rodriguan population when all of us had taken a pledge to serve our beloved island of Rodrigues and to be at the disposal of our mandate when the “*politique de proximit *” has become our moto.

Mr. Chairperson Sir, in the light of the new socio écominique political and cultural environment from the very first of the swearing in, new responsibilities have been assigned to each Commissioner.

I therefore expressed my heart full thanks to the Chief Commissioner for having placed his trust and confidence in me by confirming upon me the responsibilities of the port folio of community development, health, postal services and prison and reform institutions immediate action has been initiated so as to bring some major changes in the different sector

HEALTH SECTOR

En ce qui concerne le secteur de la santé Monsieur le Président, je tiens ardemment a faire ressortir ici que des démarches ont déjà été encouru afin d'apporter des changements qui aideront a améliorer le service. Les procédures pour l'achat des nouveaux équipements appareils pour le *Queen Elizabeth* a Creve Cœur et les deux centres de santés de Mont Lubin et La Ferme qui sont déjà enclenché.

Monsieur le Président, puisque la population doive se jouir d'une bonne santé ont tient beaucoup a apporter des amélioration dans les différents départements, c'est-à-dire aux niveau de pédiatrie, maternité et centre de dialyse et autre. De nouveaux équipement seront mise a dispositions des travailleurs pour le nettoyage des différents salles. L'achats des oreiller et des draps se feront dans de très prochain avenir.

Monsieur le Président, d'orénavant les associations des planteurs et des planteurs individuels fourniront des légumes à l'hôpital à Creve Cœurs et les deux centres de santés. Des démarches ont déjà encouru afin que des tests sanguins soient effectués à Rodrigues. On apportera des amélioration en s'approvisionnant des équipements adéquat pour le laboratoire de Creve Cœur.

Monsieur le Président, la décision a déjà été prise pour l'achat d'une nouvelle ambulance qui sera un plus pour le transport des malades. Afin d'éviter des dépenses accéssif, actuellement l'aménagement d'un *quarters* situe a la proximité de l'hôpital de Creve Cœur est en cours car les frais encourues pour les médecins spécialistes a l'hôtel tourne autour de 80,000 roupies mensuellement. On a réviser le système de *roster* du personelle afin de diminuer les heurs supplémentaire et de ce faite ont dépensera moins d'argent pour le paiement des *overtimes*.

Monsieur le Président, je tiens à informer la chambre que le contrat de la compagnie qui paie est arrivé à sa fin le 31 août dernier. On a donc décidé que désormais décider que se sont les *Watchmen* de la fonction publique qui assurera la sécurité dans le secteur de la santé.

En ce qui concerne le développement communautaire Monsieur le Président, ma Commission et celle des Infrastructures Publiques ont aidé les villageois à donner un *nouveau look* à leurs Centres Communautaires en leur octroyant de la peinture et d'autres matériels qui seront destinés à ériger des jardins récréatifs.

Mr. Chairperson, sir, Rodrigues today is very different from Rodrigues of yesterday. The Rodriguan political landscape is about to take yet another different shape. Our **(slokers)** have undergone massive changes and will continue to do so making our perspective wider and other opportunity for growth more abundant. Mr. Chairperson, Sir, I am fully confident that this new team will not fail in its endeavor to improve the living condition of the population. Our guiding principle Mr. Chairperson, Sir, will be to stay true to what we are. A political movement born by no special interest depending on no special privileges, but is a political movement for all the people of Rodrigues and it is accountable to the Rodriguan people in meeting the responsibility to build a better future for all of them. Mr. Chairperson, Sir, I thank you for your attention.

(Applause)

Mr. Chairperson: Yes you wish to add a statement Commissioner. Yes you may proceed.

Commissioner Agathe: Mr. Chairperson, Sir, I am very pleased to apprise the Assembly of the successful mission of Commission to Mauritius. It was a three days mission that is from 13 to 15 September 2006. Members of the delegation were myself as Commissioner, Mr. SOOPRAYEN, Departmental Head, Mrs. BHUNWARY, Senior Agricultural Officer, Mr. Salomon ALBERT, Officer in Charge, Water Resource Unit, Mr. Laval GUILLAUME, Member of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and Mr. RAFFAUT, Trainer at IVTB

AGRICULTURAL SECTOR

The major objective of the mission was to visit our major collaborators in Mauritius in order to reinforce, I say reinforce because there has been a dismantling in the Commission for Agriculture and the different Ministries in Mauritius. There has been a link which has been reinforce and to discuss also the future avenues for collaboration. Moreover, lots of efforts were also done in order to find prospective buyers for local agricultural product.

Mr. Chairperson, Sir, first of all we have been to ----- and we have met the Manager with Mr. Gerard Defonteney we have been visited the nursery where seedling production was done with the collaboration of Roger Faydherbe. We have also visited the processing unit to see a wide variety of process products such as juices, fruit bar, jam, jelly, marmalade.

Mr. Chairperson Sir, Mr. DeFonteney mentioned that interest to purchase 100 to 300 tonnes pamplemousses rose. 50 tonnes combava local lemon and Grenade from Rodrigues.

Mr. Chairperson Sir, we have also been at the agricultural marketing board at Moka. Here we have met the General Manager Mr. Ram NAWAZ. He was agreeable to review the price offered to local onion producers and to propose a price to potato producers also. The Agricultural marketing board is also ready to purchase banana, lemon, cassava, sweet potatoes from Rodrigues. The General Manager will soon be visiting Rodrigues to meet onion producers and all those involve in agriculture.

THE MSIRI AT RÉDUIT

The MSIRI is agreeable to continue its support to Rodrigues in the field of potato, maize, palm and pitaya production. Mr. Chairperson, Sir, we were ashamed to hear that no field trial and reporting from Rodrigues the result was not sent to Mauritius and we are going to remedy that situation. The delegation also went to -----at Réduit. Here we had the opportunity to see equipment for seed treatment prior to soil namely the water bath. My Commission will soon buy some water bath to be place on the five agricultural stations. The delegation has the opportunity to visit the food processing lab where a variety of products such as juice, chips, food bars and dehydrated products made from local fruits and vegetables. A number of low cost equipment were also seen at the lab.

The training unit at AREU was also visited for the World Food Day. I also apprise the assembly, Mr. Chairperson Sir that in Rodrigues we have one Mrs.

COMMARMOND who is doing a lot in agro industry. She is turning lime fruit into wine. But we are going to discuss whether this industry can be registered.

AREU mushroom unit at La Brasserie

The officer in charge of the Unit gave us a presentation of how mushroom are produced at her station. Mushroom production has enormous potential in Rodrigues and the officer is ready to help us in the setting up of a small mushroom unit at Citronelle.

MILK

Milk Mr. Chairperson, Sir. he have also the opportunity to visit the livestock unit at Curepipe. He have met the Manager accompanied by some research scientist there. We had the opportunity to visit the different sections goat, sheep, cows, rabbit, biogas, feed production at the station. The staff at the station are most willing to help Rodrigues in upgrading its livestock production system and I also want to say that in Rodrigues he have also someone who want to manufacture yoghurt from milk.

On Friday we had the opportunity to meet the Honourable Arvin BOOLELL, Minister for Agro Industry and Fisheries. The Minister thank the Commissioner and the team for the welcome during his recent visit in Rodrigues. He renewed his support to Rodrigues and also invited myself to Mauritius during the visit of the Indian Minister for Agriculture and we met also the General Manager of the Irrigation Authority at Port Louis so that to set up irrigation projects in Rodrigues. He also gave us a copy of the study he had done on the irrigation status of Rodrigues since the 1990's.

Mr. Chairperson, Sir, the Minister also introduce us to one Mr. Professor CHAN and Dr. HI TONG WA. They stated us Mr. Chairperson Sir for the setting up of a pilot project on an integrated farm in Rodrigues. The team will be visiting Rodrigues at the end of September or early October 2006.

To conclude Mr. Chairperson, Sir that the mission was very enriching and instructive to all members of the delegation, all parties met were ready to give full support, in order to give a boost to agricultural development in Rodrigues. Now it is up to the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and agricultural services to make optimum use of facilities available in order to help our agricultural sector to take off in Rodrigues.

Mr. Chairperson, Sir, I want to thank all those who has made the visit to become a success. Thank you, Mr. Chairperson, Sir.

(Applause)

Mr. Chairperson: Next item, please.

The Clerk: Motions.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Chairperson: Yes, adjournment.

Commissioner Jabeemissar: Mr. Chairperson, Sir, I move that the Assembly be adjourned to Tuesday 3rd October 2006 at 10.30 a.m.

Mr. Chairperson: Question. That the House be adjourned to Tuesday Tuesday 3rd October 2006 at 10.30 a.m. Those in favour say ayes those against say no.

Mr. Chairperson: Ayes have it. Any intervention at this stage. No.
The House stands adjourned.

(On its rising at 11.35 hours, the Assembly stood adjourned to Tuesday 3 October 2006, 2006 at 10.30 a.m.)