

SOME PARLIAMENTARY QUESTIONS ON EDUCATION, from government website

### **Mbaakanyi explains transfer policy**

14 February, 2006

PARLIAMENT - The the transfer policy stipulates that a minimum of three years for teachers and six years for those in management positions should be served in one station before one can be considered for transfer, Moggie Mbaakanyi, the assistant minister of education, said.

She however said the application and administration of the policy has not been smooth, owing in part to the large number of teachers and administrative and financial costs involved in moving the teachers every three or six years.

Mbaakanyi said subsequent to recommendation 109 (1) of the Revised National Policy on Education (RNPE) that proposes a rotational transfer system, a task force was appointed in 2001 to formulate a transfer policy for teachers.

### **Ministry pilots double shift due to limited resources**

14 February, 2006

The Ministry of Education has decided to pilot the double shift system in nine secondary schools with effect from last month, Assistant Minister Moggie Mbaakanyi told Parliament last week.

She said the ministry consulted the concerned schools to determine their capacity to sustain the programme and its implications.

Mbaakanyi said the double shift was one of the recommendations of the 1993 National Commission on Education.

She said the commission carried out extensive consultations countrywide and internationally, and conducted a comprehensive review of the entire education system and made recommendations to government.

The ministry observed the double shift programme in Malaysia and Singapore, and concluded that it was a strategy worth adopting as an interim measure to deal with the demand for secondary education in large settlements.

"Now that piloting has started, my ministry will evaluate the project to inform any decision on the way forward.

Should the project be a success my ministry will work on the modalities for the rollout to other schools," she said.

"It is natural that with a shift from the status quo, there is always anxiety and fear of the unknown.

It is therefore normal that the teacher organisations might claim not to have been

consulted, for fear of the unknown," she added.

She said ministry reserved the right to decide on whether or not to go ahead with implementation.

As a result of the double shift 1 800 more students were admitted while 75 new teachers were employed. BOPA

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