



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EARLY EDUCATION

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE 2014 GRADE 12 SCHOOL
CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION RESULTS

FEBRUARY, 2015

MR. SPEAKER,

I WISH TO THANK YOU FOR THIS OPPORTUNITY TO GIVE A MINISTERIAL STATEMENT ON THE 2014 GRADE 12 SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION.

SIR, I WISH TO INFORM THE HOUSE THAT THE EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ZAMBIA WORKING WITH THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, VOCATIONAL TRAINING AND EARLY EDUCATION COMPLETED THE PROCESSING OF THE 2014 SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION ON 3RD FEBRUARY 2015.

MR. SPEAKER,

THE DETAILS AND PERFORMANCE OF THE CANDIDATES THAT SAT FOR THIS EXAMINATION ARE AS FOLLOWS:

- A TOTAL OF 122,056 CANDIDATES ENTERED FOR THE EXAMINATION, OUT OF WHOM 54,236 WERE FEMALE AND 67,823 WERE MALE. THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 14.1 PERCENT ON THE 106,956 CANDIDATES THAT ENTERED FOR THE SAME EXAMINATION IN 2013; AND
- OUT OF THE 122,056 CANDIDATES THAT ENTERED FOR THE 2014 EXAMINATION, A TOTAL OF 119,862 CANDIDATES SAT FOR THE EXAMINATION, OF WHOM 53,173 WERE GIRLS AND 66,689 WERE BOYS. THIS REPRESENTED AN INCREASE OF 14.4 PERCENT ON THE 104,809 CANDIDATES WHO SAT THE 2013 GRADE 12 EXAMINATION.

ABSENTEEISM

MR. SPEAKER,

A TOTAL OF 2,197 CANDIDATES WERE ABSENT FROM THE EXAMINATION, REPRESENTING A MARGINAL DECREASE IN ABSENTEEISM RATE FROM 2.0 PERCENT IN 2013 TO 1.8 PERCENT IN 2014.

WHILE A HIGHER PROPORTION OF GIRLS (18.07%) THAN BOYS (11.17%) WERE ABSENT FROM THE EXAMINATION, IN ABSOLUTE TERMS, THERE WERE MORE BOYS (1,134) THAN GIRLS (1,063) WHO WERE ABSENT FROM THE EXAMINATION.

HOWEVER, IT IS GRATIFYING TO NOTE THAT ALL PROVINCES RECORDED A DECLINE IN ABSENTEEISM WITH THE EXCEPTION OF MUCHINGA AND LUAPULA PROVINCES.

MR. SPEAKER,

LET ME NOW HIGHLIGHT THE PERFORMANCE OF THE CANDIDATES THAT SAT FOR THE EXAMINATION:

GENERAL PERFORMANCE

1. OVERALL, THE PROPORTION OF CANDIDATES OBTAINING SCHOOL CERTIFICATES FOR THE 2014 EXAMINATION SESSION DECREASED FROM 60.21 PERCENT IN 2013 TO 55.87 PERCENT IN 2014. IN TERMS

OF GENDER, THERE WERE 58.47 PERCENT (38,992) BOYS AND 52.62 PERCENT (27, 979) GIRLS THAT OBTAINED SCHOOL CERTIFICATE.

2. THE PICTURE AT PROVINCIAL LEVELS IS AS FOLLOWS: FOUR PROVINCES NAMELY, LUAPULA, SOUTHERN, EASTERN, AND CENTRAL PROVINCES RECORDED ^{Improvement} INCREASES IN THE PROPORTION OF CANDIDATES OBTAINING SCHOOL CERTIFICATES WHILE THE OTHER SIX PROVINCES RECORDED ^{Reduction} DECREASES IN THE PROPORTION OF CANDIDATES OBTAINING SCHOOL CERTIFICATES. THE COPPERBELT PROVINCE RECORDED A SHARP DECREASE IN THE PROPORTION OF CANDIDATES OBTAINING SCHOOL CERTIFICATES FROM 60.2 PERCENT IN 2013 TO 43.9 PERCENT IN 2014.

SIR, THIS DECLINE IN THE PROPORTION OF CANDIDATES OBTAINING SCHOOL CERTIFICATES ESPECIALLY IN THE COPPERBELT PROVINCE IS A MATTER OF GREAT CONCERN TO US. I WILL NOT ALLOW THIS TO CONTINUE AND I HAVE SINCE INSTRUCTED MY STANDARDS OFFICERS TO INVESTIGATE THE FACTORS BEHIND THIS SO THAT MEASURES ARE TAKEN TO ADDRESS THE PROBLEM.

MR. SPEAKER,

IN TERMS OF PERFORMANCE PER CATEGORY OF SCHOOLS, THE RESULTS SHOWED THAT GRANT-AIDED SCHOOLS PERFORMED BETTER, FOLLOWED BY PRIVATE SCHOOLS AND IN THE THIRD PLACE WERE THE GRZ SCHOOLS. COMMUNITY SCHOOLS PERFORMED THE LEAST IN THE FOURTH POSITION.

IN TERMS OF GENDER, GIRLS IN GRANT AIDED SCHOOLS PERFORMED THE BEST FOLLOWED BY BOYS IN GRANT AIDED SCHOOLS. THE LEAST PERFORMANCE WAS RECORDED BY FEMALES IN COMMUNITY SCHOOLS.

I COMMEND THE LEADERS OF GRANT AIDED AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS FOR PRODUCING GOOD RESULTS. I THEREFORE URGE THE LEADERS IN GRZ AND COMMUNITY SCHOOLS TO LEARN BEST PRACTICES FROM THEIR COUNTERPARTS IN GRANT AIDED AND PRIVATE SCHOOLS.

MR. SPEAKER,

I NOW WISH TO ADDRESS THE SCOURGE OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICES

I WOULD LIKE TO EMPHASIZE THAT ALTHOUGH THERE WERE REPORTED CASES OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE AT THIS LEVEL DURING THE 2014 EXAMINATION, THE EXAMINATION WAS LEAKAGE FREE. 108 SUSPECTED EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE CASES WERE REPORTED COMPARED TO 450 CASES IN 2013. THE EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE CASES MAINLY INVOLVED ASSISTANCE AND COLLUSION.

FOR THE 108 CASES OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE REPORTED:

1. I DIRECTED THE EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ZAMBIA TO FOLLOW UP ALL CASES OF ASSISTANCES AND COLLUSION SO THAT ALL THE PERPETRATORS OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE ARE BROUGHT TO THE FORE.

2. ON THE SAME, I DIRECTED ALL THE PEOS, THE DEBS AND HEAD TEACHERS, TO ADMINISTRATIVELY DISCIPLINE, WITHOUT FAIL, THE PERSONNEL IN THE MINISTRY WHO WILL BE IMPLICATED IN ANY FORM OF EXAMINATION MALPRACTICE.

MR. SPEAKER,

I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO INFORM MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE THAT IN AN EFFORT TO EFFECTIVELY AND EFFICIENTLY CONDUCT THE 'O' LEVEL EXAMINATIONS IN THE COUNTRY, THE EXAMINATIONS COUNCIL OF ZAMBIA HAS DELINKED THE GRADE 12 SCHOOL CERTIFICATE EXAMINATION FROM THE GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION (GCE) EXAMINATION, EFFECTIVE THIS YEAR 2015.

THE OCTOBER/NOVEMBER GRADE 12 INTERNAL EXAMINATION WILL BE STRICTLY FOR REGULAR SCHOOL GOING CANDIDATES, WHILE THE EXTERNAL GCE EXAMINATION WILL BE FOR OPEN AND DISTANCE LEARNING (ODL) AND OUT OF SCHOOL CANDIDATES.

THE HOUSE SHOULD NOTE THAT WHILE THE SCHOOL CERTIFICATE (GRADE12 INTERNAL) EXAMINATION WILL CONTINUE TO BE CONDUCTED IN OCTOBER/NOVEMBER, THE GCE EXAMINATION WILL RUN IN AUGUST, EACH YEAR EFFECTIVE 2015. THERE WILL BE NO RESTRICTION TO THE NUMBER OF SUBJECTS THAT GCE CANDIDATES CAN ENTER. THIS MEANS THAT GCE CANDIDATES CAN ENTER FOR AS MANY SUBJECTS AS THEY WISH.

MR. SPEAKER,

IN CLOSING, I WISH TO THANK YOU SIR AND ALL THE HONOURABLE MEMBERS FOR THE SUPPORT YOU CONTINUE TO RENDER TO MY MINISTRY

I THANK YOU.