



MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

HON. ASERI RADRODRO

MINISTER FOR EDUCATION

FRIDAY 21 AUGUST 2026

194/2026

WRITTEN QUESTION

Hon. Hem Chand to ask the Minister for Education – Can the Minister inform Parliament on the number of students found in possession of drugs in primary and secondary school premises in the last 3 years.

Response

1. Tabulated below is the data on the number of students found in possession of drugs in primary and secondary school premises in the last 3 years :

Number of Students found in possession of drugs	2023	2024	2025
Primary	1578	1658	1508
Secondary	2049	1383	1635
Total	3627 [1.6%]	3041 [1.36%]	3143 [1.4%]

2. The increase in the numbers indicate the reported cases at the Counselling Hubs which were opened from 2023 to 2025 at Natabua High School, Labasa College, Levuka Public School and Nasinu Secondary School. Cases were also reported to the Child Protection Officers and the Counsellors in school. Most of the cases in schools are formally reported to the Counselling Hubs from school as compared to previous years which were referred to Substance Abuse Advisory Council [SAAC] Office.
3. The overall data indicates that a small percentage, which is less than 2% of students were involved in drug-related cases and this refers to the use of suki, cigarette, vaping, alcohol, inhalant glue and marijuana. It should be noted that there are no reported cases on the use of methamphetamine in school.
4. The Ministry, through the SAAC and schools, not only records drug and substance-related incidents but also provides intervention support to students identified to be using drugs so they live a healthy life. The Ministry of Education also has School Drugs Policy, Child Protection Policy, Behaviour Management Policy and Counselling Policy in place that guide the teachers on standard procedures to address students who are involved in any drug cases.
5. The Ministry also works in collaboration with the parents, Police department, Health authorities, Child Welfare Unit, communities, faith-based organizations and other partners to address the issue of drugs.
6. The Ministry of Education has preventive programme which includes child protection training for teachers, student leaders, faith-based leaders on how to tackle drugs and social issues affecting students. Apart from this, awareness programme are also carried out in schools and communities. The intervention programme includes Psychosocial Support, counselling services, and mentoring support and this ensured that proper professional guidance is provided to students' harm by drugs.

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