Teacher Education Curriculum Review in Nauru

Jerelyn Jeremiah

Nauru does not have a Teacher's College. It used to have one that trained Infant teachers but it only existed when the need arose.

Pre-service

Trainee teachers are recruited and are based in schools. As part of their training, they undertake courses at the University of the South Pacific Centre, Nauru. The infant teacher trainees take the Pre-School Certificate, while the Primary teacher trainees do the Certificate in Education.

After successful completion of a one-year practical programme, the Primary teacher trainees are placed at the Lautoka Teachers' College, while the secondary teacher trainees attend the University of the South Pacific. This placement is subject to funding.

In-service

Teacher assistants (with no previous teaching experience and qualifications) and teachers have also been attaining qualifications from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. The beginning of 1996 marked the graduation of the last group of teachers who had been doing the R.M.I.T. Programme.

For future training needs, the inclination will be to focus on regional services which institutions such as the University of the South Pacific offer.

Staff Development Programmes

Curriculum Officers for the schools are concentrating on the development of curriculum and programmes catering for pupils' and teachers' needs.

The staff development programmes have been based on the schools' assessment of their needs. Some programmes on Management for the Head Teachers will be initiated in the coming weeks. Another on Special Education is being planned.

These programmes are subject to the availability of funds.

* * * *