

Question No : 123

Question : Demographic Projections for Haasts Bluff and Finke Schools

Question Date : 11/08/92

Member : Mr BELL

To : MINISTER for EDUCATION and TRAINING

1. Is there any documentation to support the fact that the projected enrolment for 1991 was 18 at Haasts Bluff school and not 23; if so, does the minister accept that this was an error in projections.
2. Did the minister say that 'the transience of population in small Aboriginal communities makes 12 month enrolment projections difficult'; if so, will demographic projections be abandoned given that projections vary when compared to actual enrolments.
3. Did the minister comment that 'it is not possible to predict ad hoc population shifts which occur from time to time in remote communities'; if so, is it government policy to deny education to those children whose families shift.
4. If the minister did describe population shifts in Aboriginal communities as 'ad hoc', does he accept that this is caused by the government's failure to understand the reasons that families sometimes move between communities and to subsequently plan for these moves.