

PQ A/222 of 9 July 2012

A/222 The Honourable First Member for Grand Baie and Poudre D'or (Mr Gungah)

To ask the Honourable Attorney General –

Whether, in regard to the State Law Office, he will for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Judicial and Legal Services Commission, information as to the vacancies that presently exist on the establishment thereof, indicating in each case, when same will be filled?

Mr Speaker, Sir, the number of vacancies at the Attorney General's Office is as per Annex 1.

In June 2012, 7 State Counsels were recruited at the AGO and 9 at the Office of the DPP. It is to be noted that due to lack of physical space no further recruitment is envisaged at the Attorney General's Office for the immediate future, until the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions moves to its new quarters at the Garden Towers which is expected sometime at the end of August 2012.

As regards newly created posts of Assistant Solicitor-General and Assistant Parliamentary Counsel (2 + 2) and potentially some posts in the lower cadre, consideration is being given, in view of continuing and drastic loss of trained professional staff (24 officers since 2008) to other departments of Government and other sectors, hence causing disruption in the functioning of the Office, in particular to the Legislative Drafting Unit, to converting these posts into a new grade in the Attorney General's Office with a view to ensuring greater degree of continuity in the effective delivery of legislative and related legal services in the specialised units of the Office.

As regards vacancies in previously created posts of Assistant Solicitor General and Assistant Parliamentary Counsel which have recently arisen, recommendations will shortly be made to the JLSC for the posts to be filled.

ATTORNEY-GENERAL'S OFFICE

Statement of vacancies as at 05 July 2012

A	B	C	D	E
Title of post	No. of posts in Civil Establishment Order	Funded positions 2012	No. of posts filled	No. of funded vacancies (C-D)
Solicitor General	1	1	1	-
Parliamentary Counsel	1	1	1	-
Deputy Solicitor General	1	1	1	-
<i>Assistant Solicitor General</i>	6	6	2	4
Chief State Attorney	1	1	1	-
<i>Assistant Parliamentary Counsel</i>	4	4	2	2
Deputy Chief State Attorney	1	1	1	-
<i>Principal State Counsel</i>	11	7	4	3
Principal State Attorney	2	2	2	-
<i>Senior State Counsel</i>	14	10	10 <i>(include 1 post filled by an officer seconded to Judicial Dept)</i>	-
<i>Senior State Attorney</i>	4	4	2	2
<i>State Attorney</i>	16	16	3	13
<i>State Counsel</i>	36	30	15 <i>(include 1 post filled by an officer on secondment to Judicial Dept)</i>	15