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Media Release

A call to address flaws in teacher appointment process

A new NRI report released today finds evidence of flaws and corrupt practices in the teacher appointment process in Papua New Guinea.

The report reveals that although there are guidelines to appoint teachers in the *Teaching Service Act of 1995*, the *Education Act of 1983* and by the Teaching Service Commission, teachers are being appointed illegally.

Through a recent analysis of primary schools in the country the study reveals that some teachers are being appointed through nepotism, bribery and by force.

The study found this to be disrupting the education process with about 43.5% of teachers challenging appointments and a quarter or 23.3 % of teachers refusing their appointments.

The study also found that some teachers who were unhappy with the appointment process were resuming work late or even leaving the teaching profession.

Other issues identified from the study also include the education gazette being late and the late confirmation of teaching appointments which should be done before the end of each school year.

The report suggests that these problems have continued because authorities who are responsible are not following legal guidelines and lack clarity on their roles and responsibilities, and are not being transparent and accountable.

Ensuring that the teacher appointment process is efficient and effective is essential for students' learning and the welfare of all teachers throughout the country.

The teacher appointment process continues to be a major concern among teachers, parents, Boards of Management (BoM) and Boards of Governors (BoG) in schools around the country.

The National Research Institute - hosting the policy discussions that will shape Papua New Guinea's future development.

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