MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Questions of which notice has been given

Requiring an Oral Answer

Sitting of Tuesday 15 February 2005

Questions addressed to the Honourable Prime Minister

B/56 The Honourable Third Member for Pamplemousses and Triolet (Mr Hurnam)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether he will state if (a) there were negotiations between the British Government and the Mauritius Shipping Corporation in respect of an agreement for the chartering of the MV Trochetia to ferry representatives of the Ilois Community to visit the Chagos Archipelago, and (b) the agreement has been cancelled and, if so, the reasons therefor?

B/57 The Honourable Third Member for Pamplemousses and Triolet (Mr Hurnam)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether Government will consider making a request to the British Government for arranging a visit by representatives of the Ilois Community accompanied by some Honourable Members of the House to the Chagos Archipelago?

B/58 The Honourable Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Michel)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police information on (a) the number of female and male prisoners on remand for more than 3 years (b) the reasons as to why cases against them have not yet
been dealt with and (c) the measures he proposes to take to reduce long periods of remand?

B/59 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr Armance)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether he will state what steps Government has taken at the international level to seek compensation for descendants of slaves and indentured labourers?

B/60 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Chumroo)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether, in regard to the Commission of Inquiry on Sale by Levy, he will state if at the time of his nomination as Chairman of the said Commission, Sir Victor Glover was the legal adviser of the Mauritius Bankers’ Association?

B/61 The Honourable Fourth Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Duval)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether he will state if there has been an increase in the fees for the issue of new passports and, if so (a) by how much and (b) the effective date?

B/62 The Honourable First Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Jeetah)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether, in regard to the Advisers recruited by Government, he will give the total expenditure incurred thereon for the month of November 2004?
B/63 The Honourable Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle (Dr Boolell)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:--

Whether, in regard to the by-election scheduled to be held in Constituency No. 3 in April 2005, he will give details of (a) the sum earmarked for expenses related thereto and (b) the amount spent so far?

B/64 The Honourable Second Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Sakaram)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:--

Whether, in regard to the incident which occurred on Monday 31 January 2005 at the seat of the Municipality of Quatre Bornes, he will state (a) whether the incident was reported to the Police and, if so, by whom (b) the details of the extent of the damages, if any, caused to the municipal infrastructure (c) the name of the organization at whose disposal the hall was placed (d) whether pistol shots were fired and cases of injury if any, reported and (e) whether the Police inquiry has now been completed?

B/65 The Honourable Third Member for Rodrigues (Mr Von Mally)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:--

Whether, in regard to television reception in the regions of Anse Goeland and Fond Labonté in Rodrigues he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to (a) whether reception is clear and free from interference and (b) if not, the reasons therefor and what remedial measures are being envisaged?
B/66 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr Armance)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether, in regard to the Light Railway Project, he will state if any study has been carried out to assess whether the project will jeopardize the Aapravasi Ghat?

Questions addressed to Honourable Ministers, other than the Honourable Prime Minister

B/67 The Honourable Third Member for Pamplemousses and Triolet (Mr Hurnam)

To ask the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development:-

Whether he is aware that a petition has been submitted to the United States Secretary, John Snow, by the Jubilee and Africa Action, in connection with the writing off of public debts of “poor countries” and, if so, will he say if Mauritius has in any way been associated therewith?

B/68 The Honourable Third Member for Pamplemousses and Triolet (Mr Hurnam)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport:-

Whether he will state when the following projects will be implemented (a) the enlargement of the Pont Bruniquel bridge and (b) the resurfacing of the main road starting from the Pont Bruniquel bridge and passing through the village of Baie du Tombeau up to St Joseph?
B/69 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (Dr Beebeejaun)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Scientific Research:-

Whether, in regard to the results of the School Certificate examination for the year 2004 he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate the date on which the results were (a) received and (b) released to secondary schools?

B/70 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (Dr Beebeejaun)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Scientific Research:-

Whether, in regard to the post of Director of the Technical School Management Trust Fund, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain the following information as to (a) when the post became vacant (b) when the vacancy was advertised and (c) whether the post has now been filled and, if not, why not?

B/71 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (Dr Beebeejaun)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he will state if it is proposed to construct a footbridge linking the two parts of Rue Hungarian between Rues Chalets and Alma, at Vallée Pitot and, if so, whether the Ministry will consider constructing a proper bridge at this site?

B/72 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (Dr Beebeejaun)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Senior Citizen Welfare and Reform Institutions:-

Whether he will say if applicants for pensions at Social Security Offices are turned away at a set time in spite of having been allowed to queue up waiting for their turn and, if so, will he say what remedial measures will be taken?
B/73  The Honourable Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Michel)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the CEB information as to whether Mr Joochan Salaye of Curepipe Road has made an application for electricity supply at La Vigie, Midlands and, if yes, (a) whether the application has been approved (b) if so, the nature and scope of the works and (c) the amount claimed by the CEB for carrying out same?

B/74  The Honourable Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Michel)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Regional Co-operation:-

Whether he is aware that Mr Adam Thian, spokesperson of the chairperson of the African Union Commission has made a statement regarding the reactivation of the AU Committee on compensations for descendants of slaves in Africa and, if yes, will he consider tabling a copy of the statement?

B/75  The Honourable Third Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Michel)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Arts and Culture:-

Whether, in regard to the Genealogy Project for the descendants of slaves, he will state (a) if an Advisory Committee has been set up, and if yes, (i) when (ii) its composition (iii) the number of sittings held to date (b) the financial implications of the project and (c) when the final report will be submitted?

B/76  The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr Armance)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands and Minister of Fisheries:-

Whether he will state if (a) the site situate between the Ambre hotel and the Vacances Plus at Belle Mare has been earmarked for a hotel project (b) the beach thereat has been decreed as a public beach and (c) a lease has already been awarded to the promoter/s of the project and, if so, when?
B/77 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr Armance)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he will state if certain families at Cité EDC, Olivia have no water supply and, if so, will he give the number thereof and state what remedial measures are being taken?

B/78 The Honourable Second Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Sakaram)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport:-

Whether, in regard to existing rainstorm drains island-wise, he will state (a) if there is a team responsible for their regular cleaning and maintenance and (b) the measures which his Ministry proposes to take to tackle the problems of floods in flood prone areas?

B/79 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Chumroo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands and Minister of Fisheries:-

Whether he will inform the House if any study has been carried out to establish the number of squatters on State lands in Mauritius?

B/80 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Chumroo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he is aware that during heavy rainfalls, the inhabitants of Père Pivaut Street, Piéton Père Laval Ste Croix and Rue de la Plaine at Le Hochet, Terre Rouge face serious flooding problems and, if so, what actions are being taken?
B/81 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Chumroo)

The Honourable Attorney-General and Minister of Justice and Human Rights:-

Whether, in regard to applications for Sale by Levy before the Master’s Court, he will state if any departmental inquiry has recently been opened by the relevant authorities on alleged acts of malpractice by some officials, especially ushers and, if so, will he provide details thereof?

B/82 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Hookoom)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Solid Waste Management:-

Whether, in regard to the Rivière du Rempart market, he will state (a) the name of the contractor to whom the tender was awarded (b) the initial cost of the project (c) the delivery date (d) the date and the reasons as to why extensions of the first floor were approved and the subsequent date of completion and (e) whether the project has now been completed and, if not, why not?

B/83 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Hookoom)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Arts and Culture:-

Whether, in regard to the Lois Lagesse Centre, he will (a) state whether any complaint has been made against the management of the Centre and, if so the nature thereof and (b) give a breakdown of expenditure incurred by the Centre for each of the last four financial years?

B/84 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Hookoom)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Scientific Research:-

Whether, in regard to teachers who have completed their training at the MIE in the year 2004, he will state (a) the number thereof who have been posted to the Zones d’Education
Prioritaires (ZEP) schools (b) the number of complaints, if any, from these teachers regarding their postings and (c) the number of cases which have been considered and, the outcome thereof?

B/85 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Hookoom)

To ask the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development:-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information from the Bank of Mauritius as to whether the investigation carried out by the Forensic Expert, Mr Nicky Tan on the MCB/NPF fraud is now completed and, if so, whether it will be made public?

B/86 The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Allet)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport:-

Whether, in regard to the works being carried out at the Chebel Branch road, he will state (a) the scope of the works (b) the name of the contractor (c) the value of the contract and (d) the expected completion date of the works?

B/87 The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Allet)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport:-

Whether he is aware that during heavy rainfalls, the front yard of the Tulsi Sham Mandir at Beau Bassin is flooded and if yes (a) ascertain the causes thereto and (b) state what measures he proposes to take in connection therewith?
B/88  The Honourable Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle (Dr Boolell)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Scientific Research:-

Whether he will state the reasons for which Mrs Faeza Diouman posted at the Mesnil Government School since August 2003 (a) was interdicted as from 17 January 2005 and (b) has been transferred to the Pandit Sahadeo Government School during term on 28 January 2005?

B/89  The Honourable Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle (Dr Boolell)

The Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development:-

Whether he will give a breakdown of the amount collected as VAT for each of the financial years 1999-2000 to date?

B/90  The Honourable Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle (Dr Boolell)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether he is aware that the gasoline/fuel presently imported is of substandard quality and, if yes, will he state if his Ministry proposes to establish a benchmark for the import of the product?

B/91  The Honourable Fourth Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Duval)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether, in regard to the proposed construction of the Club Méditerranée Hotel at Albion, he will state (a) if an Environment Impact Assessment has been submitted and (b) the effects of the project, if any, on the nearby fisheries research centre?
B/92 The Honourable Fourth Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Duval)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment:-

Whether he will state the number of expatriates presently working at the Club Méditerranée Hotel at Pointe aux Cannoniers and say if there is any plan for their replacement by Mauritian nationals?

B/93 The Honourable First Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Jeetah)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, International Trade and Regional Co-operation:-

Whether he will state if there is any control over the telephone charges incurred by our Missions, High Commissions and Embassies and, if not, why not?

B/94 The Honourable First Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Jeetah)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether, in regard to the Grand’ Baie Sewerage Project, he will (a) give the initial cost of the project and (b) state if there has been an increase in the contract value and, if so, by how much and the reasons therefor?

B/95 The Honourable First Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Jeetah)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether, in regard to the extension of the St Martin Treatment Plant, he will (a) give the initial cost of the project and (b) state if there has been an increase in the contract value and, if so, by how much and the reasons therefor?

R. R. Dowlutta
Clerk of the National Assembly

11 February 2005
A/1 The Honourable Second Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Sakaram)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether he will state if it is proposed to construct a Police post in the region of Floréal//Mangalkhan housing estate and, if so, when?

A/2 The Honourable Second Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Sakaram)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs:-

Whether he will state when the newly constructed Police station at John Kennedy Avenue, Vacoas, will be operational?