(No. B/465) Mr P. Jhugroo (First Member for Mahebourg & Plaine Magnien) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to the water pumps at the Police Quarters, in Coromandel, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to if they are out of order, and if so, indicate –

(a) the number thereof;

(b) since when, and

(c) if remedial measures have been or will be taken.

Reply: In regard to part (a) of the question, I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that there are ten water pumps at the Police Quarters situated at Montreal, Coromandel.

In regard to parts (b) and (c) of the question, the water pumps were operational until 2006 when they were disconnected as the water supply was adequate.

I am informed that in late 2011, due to drought which the country was experiencing the water supply became irregular. A Technical Team of the Special Support Unit proceeded with the connection of water pumps and it was found out that these were not functioning properly. As these pumps are electronically operated, the Technical Team will proceed with their repairs with the help of private expertise.
RODRIGUES – POLICE STATIONS – PREMISES

(No. B/466) Mr J. F. François (Third Member for Rodrigues) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to the Police Stations, in Rodrigues, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to –

(a) the number thereof which are housed in rented premises, indicating in each case –
   (i) the rent payable;
   (ii) since when they are being rented,
   (iii) the names of the owners thereof, and
   (iv) the total amount of money paid as rent, as at to date, and
(b) if consideration will be given for the construction of Government-owned buildings for the housing thereof in the next financial year.

Reply: In regard to part (a) of the question, I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that there are two Police stations in Rodrigues which are housed in rented buildings since October 2004. These are –

(i) Petit Gabriel Police Station at a monthly rental of Rs20,500, and
(ii) Grande Montagne Police Station at a monthly rental of Rs18,500.

Mrs D.L.C. is the owner of the building which is situated at Petit Gabriel, and Mr E.D. the one at Grande Montagne.

As at end of June 2012, an amount of Rs1,537,080.65 has been paid as rent for Petit Gabriel Police Station and Rs1,419,080.65 for the one at Grande Montagne.
In regard to part (b) of the question, I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that in line with its policy to construct new Police stations in Mauritius and Rodrigues, it is planned to construct new Police stations at Petit Gabriel and Grande Montagne in 2014/2015. The Rodrigues Regional Assembly is being requested to vest additional land in order to construct new Police stations of the required standard.

**FORENSIC MEDICINE DEPARTMENT – SETTING UP**

(No. B/467) Dr. S. Boolell (Second Member for Curepipe & Midlands) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether in regard to forensic medicine, he will state if consideration will be given for the setting up of an independent Forensic Medicine Department, and if so, when and if not, why not.

(Withdrawn)

**DRIVING LICENCES – APPLICANTS – CRITERIA**

(No. B/468) Dr. S. Boolell (Second Member for Curepipe & Midlands) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to the driving licences, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the criteria used for the issue thereof to applicants suffering from —

(a) disabilities, and
(b) diseases, including epilepsy.

(Withdrawn)
PIRATES – TRIAL

(No. B/469) Mr V. Baloomoody (Third Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to the pirates, he will state when the first trial thereof will take place in Mauritius, indicating –

(a) who will bear the cost thereof, and

(b) in case of conviction, where will the sentence be served.

(Withdrawn)

MAURITIUS SOCIETY OF AUTHORS – DIRECTOR – COMPLAINT AGAINST

(No. B/470) Mr P. Roopun (Third Member for Flacq & Bon Accueil) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to the complaint lodged by the local representative of Sony Music against Mr G. L., Director of the Mauritius Society of Authors, on or about mid 2011, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to if the inquiry carried out thereinto is now complete, and if so, indicate the outcome thereof.

Reply: I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that on 29 June 2011, Mr G. L., Director General of the Mauritius Society of Authors was arrested and brought before the District Court of Port Louis Third Division for “Conspiracy” in breach of section 109 of the Criminal Code (Supplementary) Act in connection with the case reported by the local representative of Sony Music Entertainment Proprietary Ltd.
He was bailed out on the same day after having furnished a surety of Rs5,000 and a recognizance of Rs10,000.

Inquiry in the case has been completed and referred to the Director of Public Prosecutions for advice.

**SCHOOLS - DRUG OFFENCES**

(No. B/471) Mr N. Bodha (First Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to drugs, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number of reported cases of offences in relation thereto having been committed in the schools, since 2010 to date, indicating in each case, if an inquiry has been carried out thereinto and, if so, the outcome thereof.

**Reply:** I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that since January 2010 to 06 July 2012, four cases of possession of gandia were reported in a secondary school. In one case, the accused has been sentenced to pay a fine of Rs2,000; in two cases, the Director of Public Prosecutions has advised no further action and in the fourth case, Police is continuing its investigation, the offence having been committed in March this year.

**ASSAULTS – CASES**

(No. B/473) Mrs A. Navarre-Marie (First Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to physical assault, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of
Police, information as to the number of reported cases thereof, since January 2012 to date, indicating, in each case, the –

(a) nature thereof;
(b) number thereof having led to the death of the person/s involved therein, and
(c) additional measures taken to prevent the commission thereof.

Reply: In regard to parts (a) and (b) of the question, I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that during the period January to 30 June 2012, 6,294 cases of physical assault have been reported to the Police as follows –

(i) 6,182 cases of simple assault;
(ii) 43 cases of assault against agent of Civil Authority;
(iii) 6 cases of assault with corrosive substance;
(iv) 16 cases of assault causing effusion of blood;
(v) 29 cases of assault with premeditation, and
(vi) 18 cases where there has been loss of life.

In regard to part (c) of the question, I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that over and above regular policing operations triggered at Force, Divisional and Station levels, Police have adopted a series of measures at strategic and technological levels.

In fact, Police launched a National Policing Strategic Framework in February 2010 aimed at paving the way for a modern Police service more mindful of public concerns, needs and expectations. Under its Reform Programme Police has taken the following measures –
(i) setting of special units such as the Police Planning and Reform Unit to, *inter alia*, carry out studies on crime and non-crime occurrences, identification of threats, and analysis of Police operations methodology so as to work out efficient and effective policing and control strategies;

(ii) setting up of Tasking and Coordination Groups at Strategic and Tactical level at Force and Divisional level for active decision-making to ensure operational effectiveness and efficiency;

(iii) implementation of community policing for identification of community concerns and sharing of information to better address their policing needs through crime prevention and sensitisation campaigns;

(iv) implementation of Victim Support and Advice Programme in June 2011 and visits to victims of crime by the Crime Prevention Unit to provide advice and psychological support to victims and to reassure and reduce fear of crime among the public at large, and

(v) setting up of Crime Intelligence Units for collection, analysis and dissemination of criminal intelligence for targeted operations against criminals likely to commit crimes.

The installation of CCTV Surveillance System at Flic en Flac, Port Louis, Quatre Bornes and Grand’Baie has contributed to detect criminal activities.

**TROU FANFARON POLICE STATION – HEALTH & SAFETY OFFICERS – VISIT**

(No. B/474) Mr A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs
and External Communications, Minister for Rodrigues whether, in regard to the Trou Fanfaron Police Station, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to if the Health and Safety Officers recently carried out a visit thereat and, if so, indicate the outcome thereof.

Reply: I am informed by the Commissioner of Police that on 26 January 2012, two Safety and Health Officers carried out an inspection at Trou Fanfaron Police Station and the report containing the findings and recommendations was submitted to the Commissioner of Police on 14 March 2012.

The recommendations concerning first aid requirements, replacement of electrical fittings, fire safety and frequency of cleaning of water tanks have been implemented. However, recommendations with respect to the structure of the building could not be implemented as the building is listed as a National Heritage. Furthermore, any major renovation to the building will entail high investment and will not provide additional working space.

The Police, therefore, envisage to shift the Trou Fanfaron Police Station to a new building. A plot of land of an extent of 4200 m² in the vicinity of Quay D Round About and belonging to the Mauritius Ports Authority has been identified for the relocation. The construction of the new building is scheduled to start in 2013.

AGALEGA - PROJECTS EARMARKED

(No. B/494) Mr J. F. François (Third Member for Rodrigues) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to Agalega, he will state where matters stand in relation to the projects earmarked therefor in the 2012 budget.
Reply: I wish to inform the House that the following six projects have been earmarked in the PBB 2012 for implementation by the Outer Islands Development Corporation in Agalega -

(i) the upgrading and rehabilitation of the Agalega airstrip;
(ii) the renovation of three quarters on South Island;
(iii) the construction of two duplex-typed quarters;
(iv) the construction of a Refugee Centre on South Island;
(v) the purchase of a Fire Fighting vehicle, and
(vi) the rehabilitation of coconut fields.

Procedures for the implementation of the abovementioned projects are well under way. The renovation of three existing quarters on the South Island are in progress and are expected to be completed by end of August 2012. The labour contracts for the construction of two duplex-type quarters and that of the Refugee Centre will be awarded shortly, and construction works for both projects are expected to be completed by next year.

As regards the acquisition of an airport crash and rescue fire vehicle, I am informed that following a tender exercise, a Letter of Acceptance has been issued to the successful bidder on 26 June 2012. The Letter of Award will be subsequently issued after submission of a Performance Security within 28 days as from date of Letter of Acceptance. The vehicle will be delivered within one year.

The rehabilitation of coconut fields in both the North and South Islands is an ongoing project. Furthermore, tenders for the procurement of two coconut dehusking and two deshelling machines have already been launched in the press and the purchase of these machines are expected to be effected by September 2012.
As regards the upgrading of the Agalega airstrip, I am informed that tenders had been invited but in view of the fact that bids received were far beyond the estimated costs, the procurement exercise has been put on hold and other proposals are being examined for the implementation of the project.

RODRIGUES - HUMAN RESOURCE KNOWLEDGE AND ARTS DEVELOPMENT FUND - SCHOLARSHIP

(No. B/495) Mr J. F. François (Third Member for Rodrigues) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the scholarship or Government guarantee under the schemes of the Human Resource Knowledge and Arts Development Fund, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Fund, for Rodrigues and under each scheme, since the setting up thereof to date, information as to the -

(a) number of applications;

(i) granted, and

(ii) rejected

(b) amount of funds disbursed;

(c) present number of beneficiaries thereof, and

(d) current difficulties, if any, faced by the applicants therefor, indicating the remedial measures taken in relation thereto.

Reply: The HRKAD Fund which was set up under the Finance and Audit (HRKAD Fund) Regulations 2008 provided for the setting up of a Scholarship Scheme and a Government Guarantee/Student Loan Scheme for needy students of
the Republic of Mauritius having secured a seat in a local Tertiary Education Institution.

Under the Scholarship Scheme, eligible Rodriguan Students benefit from a fully funded scholarship of a maximum of Rs210,000 per academic year covering tuition fees, examination fees and books. This includes a monthly stipend of Rs8,000 as opposed to Rs3,000 for a Mauritian beneficiary.

Since the setting up of the Scheme to-date, a total number of 76 scholarships have been awarded to Rodriguan students under the HRKAD Fund and 44 applications have been rejected. A total amount of Rs7,523,834 have been disbursed so far.

It is a fact that the procedures for approval take on average 3 months. This is due to the fact that applications are submitted to the Sub Committee on Tertiary Education for processing. The latter scrutinises applications and examines whether it conforms with prescribed criteria. A social enquiry for each case to determine the household income is then carried out. Officers of the Ministry of the Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions carry this exercise.

On receipt of the social enquiry report, the Subcomittee on Tertiary Education recommends applications and submits to my Ministry for award of scholarship and disbursement of funds. Fees are paid directly to Tertiary Institutions while stipend is paid on a quarterly basis into the bank account of the student.

I have requested for streamlining of procedures to reduce the time taken for award of scholarships. The staffing of the scholarship secretariat will be reinforced.

As regard the Government Guaranteed Loan Scheme for period August 2008 to date a total number of 79 applications have been received, out of which, 67
have been provided bank guarantee, 10 have withdrawn and 2 have been rejected. Government has provided guarantee for a total amount of Rs17.1 m.

Procedures for approval of Government Guaranteed loans take on average 2 months. Applications received at the secretariat are submitted to the Subcommittee on Tertiary Education for processing. The latter recommends government guarantees on students loans after ensuring that the applicants, their parents or spouses cannot provide guarantees for the student loans.

On receipt of the recommendations of the Subcommittee on Tertiary Education to my Ministry for the issue of bank guarantees, my Ministry informs the beneficiaries accordingly. Bank guarantees are thereafter issued by my Ministry after the signing and registration of bonds by the beneficiaries. It is to be noted that no delays are encountered for the provision of government guarantee on student loans.

**CEB – POWER SECTOR EXPANSION PLAN**

(No. B/500) Mr P. Jugnauth (First Member for Quartier Militaire & Moka) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the electricity power requirements of the country, he will –

(a) state the -

(i) firm Energy Power Plant projects being currently considered by his Ministry, indicating in each case, where matters stand, and

(ii) progress achieved in relation to the Energy Plan submitted to the European Union, as at to date, and
(b) for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Central Electricity Board, information as to the impact of the expected significant decrease in unit cost from the Belle Vue Power Plant, with effect from 01 July 2012, on the Board and on the consumers.

Reply: I wish to inform the House that the power sector expansion plan of the CEB for the short and medium terms is as follows -

(i) installation of 4 units of heavy fuel engines of 15MW each at Fort Victoria Power Station. The engines have already been installed and are being tested prior to commercial operation;

(ii) redevelopment of St Louis Power Station with the installation of heavy fuel oil engines in phases. The redevelopment study and the EIA report are almost completed. The procurement process for the first two units of around 15 MW, will be initiated shortly for the engines to be operational in 2014;

(iii) a 100 MW coal-based plant comprising two units of 50 MW each to be operational by 2015 and 2019 respectively. The Ministry of Finance and Economic Development has already launched an Expression of Interest for the appointment of a Transaction Adviser to structure the project as a Public Private Partnership venture, with the aim of obtaining the lowest electricity purchase price for CEB. Forty-one (41) applications have been received and are being evaluated;

(iv) the CT Power project to set up a 100 MW coal plant at Pointe aux Caves which is still at the level of the Environment Appeal
Tribunal. The Power Purchase Agreement signed with CEB will become effective if the Tribunal rules in favour of CT Power. Under this option the CEB will have to review its power sector expansion plan to cater for this project, and

(v) the technology option of Liquefied Natural Gas is also being explored.

With regard to part (a) (ii), one of the indicators agreed with the European Union for the fixed tranche of Euro 39.411 M for 2011, to be disbursed in 2012, is an open international tender for a 100 MW coal plant. The process for the appointment of a Transaction Adviser is considered by the EU as a first step towards the implementation of the indicator. This process must lead to an open international tender for the condition to be fully satisfied.

In this respect, the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development has sought assistance from the ADB with regard to the appointment of a Transaction Adviser.

As regard part (b) of the question, I am informed by the Central Electricity Board that the Power Purchase Agreement signed with Compagnie Thermique de Belle Vue (CTBV) provides for an adjustment in the purchase price of electricity as from 01 July 2012, that is, after the debt period. The unit cost (Rs/kWh) will decrease by about 20% as from that date. The impact of this adjustment is a reduction in the purchase price of electricity from Centrale Thermique de Belle Vue, by around Rs100 m. in 2012 and Rs200 m. as from 2013.

As the Centrale Thermique de Belle Vue contributes to around 13% of total generation of electricity, the reduction in price after the debt date will account for
only 1.4% of CEB’s turnover and will, therefore, have no significant impact on tariff.

MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY, COMMERCE AND CONSUMER PROTECTION - TRADERS/COMPANIES - RAIDS

(No. B/501) Mr N. Bodha (First Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection whether, in regard to the traders/companies, he will state the number of raids carried out on the premises thereof by officers of his Ministry, since 2010 to date, indicating the number of offences registered against them as a result thereof.

Reply: I wish to inform the House that one of the most prominent and visible mandates of my Ministry is the promotion and protection of Consumer Rights and interests while ensuring that the trading and commercial activities are done in the most effective and transparent manner.

In this context, my Ministry has constantly taken appropriate measures (both policy and administrative) including legal mechanisms, safety regulations, national standards and policies to ensure and facilitate fair trading practices in the market place. The different agencies of my Ministry namely, the Consumer Protection Unit, the Legal and Metrological Services, the Trade Division and the Assay Office act not only as facilitators and providers of services, but also as enforcement organs as far as the compliance regarding rules and regulations are concerned.

The House may also note that with the advent of technology, consumers are better informed and therefore relevant structures to develop, implement and monitor consumer protection policies have been put in place. One of such structure
is the Hot Line service (185) at the Consumer Protection Unit which operates on a 24/7 basis since September 2010. This service has indeed contributed towards reinforcing measures aiming at further protecting the rights of consumers.

Mr Speaker Sir, I am informed that the various services operating under the aegis of my Ministry have carried out 19625 inspections and established 1146 contraventions since 2010 till today.

**UNEMPLOYMENT**

(No. B/504) Mr C. Fakeemeeah (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment whether, in regard to unemployment, he will state the current rate thereof, indicating the -

(a) rate per age group;

(b) scarcity fields for which labour has to be imported, and

(c) number of foreign expatriates employed in the tourism industry, indicating the level of activities concerned therewith.

**Reply:** According to Statistics Mauritius (formerly the Central Statistics Office) the unemployment rate for year 2011 stands at 7.9% (5.2% for men and 12.5% for women). I am tabling the figures in respect of part (a) of the question.
As regards part (b) of the question, 35,221 work permits have been issued, as at 05 July 2012, in different sectors; the highest being in the manufacturing sectors: 26,094 (textile and other manufacturing) followed by the construction sector: 6,240. I am also tabling information in respect of the importation of labour in the different sectors.

Concerning part (c), the employment of foreign expatriates in the Tourism Industry is regulated by two schemes, namely the Occupational Permit (OP) under the Board of Investment (BOI), and Work Permit System under my Ministry. I am informed that, in general, Occupational Permit is issued to professionals or investors (other than in the ICT sector) earning or drawing a monthly income of Rs45,000 or more.

As at 06 July 2012, according to figures submitted by BOI, 473 expatriates working in the Tourism Industry are holders of an Occupational Permit. To date, some 215 are holders of a Work Permit. I am also tabling the level of activities in which these expatriates are employed.

BOI - PERMITS

(No. B/505) Ms S. Anquetil (Fourth Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development whether, in regard to the Board of Investment, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Board, for the period May 2010 to-date -
(a) details of the applications for the issue of permits;

(i) submitted;

(ii) approved, and

(iii) rejected, indicating if irregularities have been reported in connection therewith, and

(b) information as to the number of officials recruited thereat.

(Vide reply to PQ No. B/481)

CYBER CRIMES - MEASURES

(No. B/506) Ms S. Anquetil (Fourth Member for Vacoas & Floreal)

asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology whether, in regard to internet, he will state the concrete measures that have been/or are being taken by his Ministry to -

(a) create awareness on the safety aspects of the use thereof at -

(i) schools;

(ii) for parents, and

(iii) for the youngsters, and

(b) combat cyber crimes.
Reply: My Ministry is very much concerned with the safety of children on the Internet and is working in close collaboration with the National Computer Board and the ICT Authority to sensitize school children and parents regarding the risks associated with the use of Internet and the precautionary measures to be taken to avoid children being victims of predators and cyber criminals.

I am enumerating some of the measures that have been taken so far by the National Computer Board -

- Formulation of a Child Safety Online Action Plan.
- Implementation of a sensitisation campaign to raise awareness on “Internet Safety and Security” in primary and secondary schools targeting both teachers and students and in cyber caravans targeting parents. I was personally present at the awareness sessions on Child Online Safety held, this year, at Queen Elizabeth College, Gaëtan Raynal SSS, Frank Richard SSS and M. Sangeele SSS.
- Dissemination of information through video clips on different aspects of the subject matter, e.g. a clip on “Zanfan bizin Proteksion Kont Cyber Explwatation” was prepared in collaboration with the Mauritius College of the Air and broadcast on MBC.
- Circulation of brochures on Internet Safety and Fact Sheets on ‘Cyberbullying’ and social networking in schools and community centres.
- Organisation of a workshop on the Safer Internet Day at the Mahatma Gandhi Institute for ICT Teachers and Rectors of both private and state
secondary schools to promote safer and responsible use of online technologies and mobile phones.

- Launching of a “Cybersmart Guide for Parents”.
- Radio programmes on “Cyberbullying” and “Grooming” targeting both youngsters and parents.
- Creation of a dedicated portal on “Cyber Security” providing advice on various security issues such as malicious software, protection of personal information, parental control, etc.

The ICT Authority has disseminated an Information Guide on the diligent use of the Internet in, *inter alia*, primary and secondary schools, the University of Mauritius and the University of Technology, Mauritius, the National Library, and the Municipal and District Councils. The Authority has also implemented a Child Sexual Abuse (CSA) filtering system to filter access to child sexual abuse websites for Internet users in Mauritius.

As regards part (b) of the question, a Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-MU) has been set up at the National Computer Board to combat cyber attacks and crimes. It provides services such as -

- Information Security Incident Handling and Management for the general public.
- Issuing security alerts including vulnerability notes and virus alerts on a daily basis.
- Technical Assistance to computer security incidents such as spamming, phishing etc.
Moreover, the CERT-MU raises awareness on Information Security and publishes Information Security Guidelines. CERT-MU also organises training, in collaboration with international organisations, to create a pool of qualified Information Security Professionals.

**CRIMINAL PROCEDURE ACT – FINES - PAYMENT**

(No. B/507) Mr A. Ganoo (First Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Attorney General whether, in regard to the accused parties on whom fines have been imposed, he will state if consideration will be given for amendments to be brought to the Criminal Procedure Act, to extend the delay for the payment thereof.

*(Withdrawn)*

**LA GAULETTE GOVERNMENT SCHOOL - OPERATIONAL**

(No. A/211) Mrs J. Radegonde (Fourth Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the La Gaulette Government School, he will state -

(a) when construction works thereat were scheduled to start and be completed;

(b) the cost thereof, and

(c) the date on which it will be operational.
Reply: In regard to part (a) of the question, works at La Gaulette Government School were scheduled to start on 14 July 2011 and completed after 6 months by 14 January 2012.

Regarding part (b), I am informed that the contract value of the project is Rs5.31 m. including a Contingency sum of Rs 0.6 m.M and VAT.

Insofar as part (c) is concerned, I am informed that there has been delay on the part of the contractor who has been granted an extension of time of 25 working days due to additional works, such that the contractual completion date was extended to 16 February 2012. The actual completion date was 19 June 2012. In the circumstance, maximum liquidated damages of Rs300,000 due to the delay in the completion of works would be applied in the next payment certificate.

The practical handing over of the project has been carried out on 05 July 2012, and the school would be operational as from resumption of classes in the third term in order not to disrupt second term examinations which are starting as from next week.

ICTA V/S MR S.G - AGREEMENT

(No. A/213) Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology whether, in regard to the case of Mr S. G. v/s the Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA), he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the ICTA, information as to if same has been settled and, if so, indicate -
(a) when, and

(b) the terms and conditions of the agreement in relation thereto.

**Reply:** The Information and Communication Technologies Authority (ICTA) has informed my Ministry that the case between Mr S. G. and the Authority has been settled, and that an agreement has been reached between the two parties on 08 May 2012.

As regards part (b) of the question, the ICTA has advised that the agreement reached is governed by a non-disclosure clause, which prevents the terms and conditions thereof to be disclosed.

**ROSE HILL MUNICIPAL MARKET - CONSTRUCTION**

(No. A/214) Mr D. Nagalingum (Second Member for Stanley and Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Rose Hill municipal market, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, information as to if it is in a bad state and that unhygienic conditions prevail thereat and, if so, indicate if consideration will be given for the construction of a new modern market in replacement thereof.

**Reply:** I am informed by the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill that the Rose Hill municipal market is not in an unhygienic condition as major renovation works were undertaken thereto it recently.
I am, however, informed that there is an urgent need for the construction of a modern market subject to availability of the required funds.

COROMANDEL - POLICE QUARTERS – WATER SUPPLY

(No. A/215) Mr P. Jhugroo (First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the Police Quarters, at Coromandel, he will state if he has been informed of the irregular supply of water thereat, especially during weekends, and if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Central Water Authority, information as to the –

(a) name of the reservoir from which water is supplied thereto, and
(b) measures that will be taken for the provision of regular water supply thereat.

Reply: I am informed that water is supplied to the Police Quarters at Coromandel from Meldrum Service Reservoir at Beau Bassin. Water supply from this reservoir to the nearby localities including Coromandel is twice daily between 4.00 a.m to 9.00 a.m and 4.00 p.m to 9.00 p.m.

The Police Quarters are located in a NHDC block of flats. The CWA’s pipe supplies water to a ground storage tank through a bulk meter. The water is then pumped into the internal network which feeds each building block.

I am further informed that the pump at the ground storage tank is not working. The Police Department has by-passed the pump and the residents are being supplied water directly from CWA pipe between 4.00 a.m to 9.00 a.m and 4.00 p.m to 9.00 p.m respectively.
Officers of the Ministry of Public Infrastructure and CWA carried out a joint site visit at the request of the Police Department and requested that the defective pump be replaced by the Police Department.

HARBOUR BRIDGE – LAND ACQUISITION

(No. A/216) Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the Harbour Bridge, he will state if part of the State Land leased to Patel Engineering Ltd. for the Les Salines Waterfront Development Project, commonly known as the Neo Town Project, needs to be compulsorily acquired, and if so, indicate the –

(a) extent thereof required therefor;
(b) value thereof;
(c) terms and conditions negotiated with the lessee for compensation or otherwise;
(d) amount of lease payment made as at to date, and
(e) Government expenditures incurred for the provision of services thereto, since the date of the signature of the lease agreement to date.

Reply: The construction of the Harbour Bridge will not require retrieval of land which has been leased to Les Salines Development Limited for the Neo Town Project as the Lease Agreement makes provision for a perpetual right of way in favour of the Government of Mauritius for the proposed construction of the Harbour Bridge.
(No. A/218) Mr P. Roopun (Third Member for Flacq and Bon Accueil) asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade whether, in regard to the patents, industrial designs, marks, collective marks and trade names, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from Industrial Property Office, information as to the number of applications received therefor, in each case, over the past five years, indicating the –

(a) number thereof received from
   (i) Mauritian national entities, and
   (ii) foreign national entities respectively, and

(b) number thereof
   (i) approved;
   (ii) rejected, and
   (iii) subject to appeal to the Industrial Property Tribunal and to the Supreme Court.

Reply: The information has been placed in the Library of the National Assembly.

(No. A/221) Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central) asked the Attorney General whether, in regard to the consultants whose services have been retained for the drafting of pieces of legislation by Government, since 2005 to date, he will state, in each case, the names thereof, indicating the –
(a) amount of fees paid out thereto;
(b) piece of legislation concerned, and
(c) criteria used for the selection thereof.

Reply: The information is being compiled and will be placed in the Library.

STATE LAW OFFICE - VACANCIES

(No. A/222) Mr A. Gungah (First Member for Grand’ Baie & Poudre d’Or) asked the 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.

Reply: The number of vacancies at the Attorney General’s Office is as per Annex.

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 some time 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.

**Annex**

**ATTORNEY-GENERAL’S OFFICE**

Statement of vacancies as at 05 July 2012

<table>
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<th>B</th>
<th>C</th>
<th>D</th>
<th>E</th>
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<td>Funded positions 2012</td>
<td>No. of posts filled</td>
<td>No. of funded vacancies (C-D)</td>
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MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS - PARKS AND GARDENS

-SUPERINTENDENT

(No. A/223) Mr D. Nagalingum (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Municipal Council of Port Louis, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Council, information as to the number of departments that existed thereat prior to and after the promulgation of the Local Government Act 2011, indicating if the Department of Parks and Gardens still exist, and if not, if the post of Superintendent of Parks and Gardens has been downgraded to that of a Head of Section.
**Reply:** I am informed that prior to the promulgation of the Local Government Act 2011, eight departments existed at the City Council of Port Louis as follows –

(i) Chief Executive Department;
(ii) Treasury Department;
(iii) Works Department;
(iv) Welfare Department;
(v) Health Department;
(vi) Planning Department;
(vii) Library Department, and
(viii) Parks and Gardens Department.

The Local Government Act 2011, however, makes provision for six departments as follows –

(i) Administration Department;
(ii) Finance Department;
(iii) Land Use & Planning Department;
(iv) Public Infrastructure Department;
(v) Public Health Department, and
(vi) Welfare Department.

I am informed that prior to the promulgation of the Local Government Act 2011, the Parks and Gardens Department was headed by two technical staff namely by a Superintendent and Deputy Superintendent of Gardens respectively.

With regard to the last part of the question, I am informed that the post of Superintendent of Parks and Gardens has not been downgraded and it now falls under the Administration Department of the Council.

**AGALEGA - LEISURE PARK - CONSTRUCTION**
Mr A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the project for the construction of a leisure park in Agalega, he will state if land has already been earmarked therefor, and if so, indicate –

(a) the extent thereof;
(b) the location thereof;
(c) the estimated cost thereof, and
(d) where matters stand as to the implementation thereof.

Reply: I wish to inform the House that a plot of State land of an extent of 9A 48P which had been vested in my Ministry on 08 February 2012 has been made available to the Outer Islands Development Corporation (OIDC) for the creation of a Leisure Park at Village 25 in Agalega.

The project is estimated at Rs1 m. and is being financed by the Employees Welfare Fund (EWF). I am informed by the OIDC that a procurement exercise for the purchase of construction materials and children’s play equipment is underway and the materials and equipment will be shipped to Agalega in the next voyage scheduled for August 2012. Furthermore, tenders will shortly be launched for the labour component of the project.

AGALEGA - MATERNITY UNIT - CONSTRUCTION

Mr A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the project for the construction of a maternity unit in Agalega, he will state if land has already been earmarked therefor, and if so, indicate –

(a) the extent thereof;
(b) the location thereof;
(c) the estimated cost thereof, and
(d) where matters stand as to the implementation thereof.

Reply: I am informed by the Outer Islands Development Corporation that there are two hospitals in Agalega which provide a 24-hour health coverage to the inhabitants of the North and South Islands. The staff is all posted permanently on the island and comprises a Medical Health Officer/Senior Medical Health Officer, one female Charge Nurse and two male nurses.

The services provided, amongst others, are antenatal care and family planning. As regards pregnant women, they follow antenatal care on the island, but are advised to be transferred to Mauritius for delivery and post natal care.

I am also informed by the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life that following a letter dated 10 February 2012 from the inhabitants of Agalega concerning several issues including health services, especially the Obstetrics and Gynecology Services provided on the island, a Technical Committee has been set up at the level of the said Ministry to look into the matter and to make appropriate recommendations.

**DR. REGIS CHAPERON SSS - RENOVATION WORKS**

(No. A/226) Mr M. Seeruttun (Second Member for Vieux Grand Port & Rose Belle) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the Phase I of the renovation works to be carried out at the Dr Regis Chaperon State Secondary School, he will state the –

(a) detailed scope of works therefor;
(b) name of the contractor therefor, and
(c) cost thereof.

Reply: Phase I comprises extension works while renovation works have been scheduled in Phase II.
In regard to part (a) of the question, the detailed scope of works for the Phase I consists in the construction of -

   a) a Ground+1 toilet block of an approximate floor area of 115 m² with a total of 19 cubicles including two for disabled students and two stainless urinals of 3.6 metres each;
   b) a Ground+3 specialist room block that will accommodate one laboratory each for Biology, Chemistry, Physics and two computer rooms of an approximate floor area of 1,416 m²;
   c) a boundary wall of about 150 metres in length;
   d) covered links of about 80 metres in length;
   e) covering of the canal crossing the school compound over a distance of about 100 metres, and
   f) a parking area for some twenty vehicles.

   Phase I also provides for electrical works, gas & plumbing installations and for fixed furniture and fittings.

In regard to parts (b) and (c) of the question, the contract has been awarded to Canakiah Associates Co. Ltd on 06 June 2012 in an amount of Rs76.95 m.

BAGATELLE MALL OF MAURITIUS - SEWERAGE SYSTEM

(No. A/227) Mr M. Seeruttun (Second Member for Vieux Grand Port & Rose Belle) asked the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development whether, in regard to the Bagatelle Mall of Mauritius, he will state if he has been informed of the foul smells emanating from the sewerage system thereof which
cause inconveniences to the surroundings and, if so, indicate if urgent remedial measures will be taken.

**Reply:** Since the coming into operation of the Bagatelle Mall of Mauritius in September 2011, complaints have been received relating to foul smell emanating from the sewerage treatment plant of the mall.

Several investigations have been carried out by officers of my Ministry and the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life. On 28 October 2011, the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life issued a Sanitary Notice to ENL Property Limited (Owner of Bagatelle Mall) to take appropriate steps to stop the foul odour emanating from its premises. On 09 November 2011, a contravention was established by the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life, which is the enforcing agency for odour as per the Environment Protection Act 2002, against ENL Property Limited for non-compliance with the notice. The case is still pending at the Moka District Court.

Given that the odour nuisance was still persisting, a joint site visit was effected on 12 January 2012 at the Bagatelle Mall by all authorities concerned. During the joint site visit, the representatives of the Bagatelle Mall informed that the number of people visiting the mall daily was much more beyond their expectations. It was also noted that activities of the food courts and restaurants were putting up additional load and pressure on the sewerage treatment plant. Subsequently, the Bagatelle Mall started the carting away of the excess effluents to the Roche Bois Pumping Station of the Wastewater Management Authority.

To remedy the situation, ENL Property Limited has constructed a second sewerage treatment plant at the mall, which is fully operational since the end of
May 2012. The treated effulgent from the treatment plant is being carted away to the Roche Bois Pumping Station.

The Bagatelle Mall has therefore been requested to improve the treatment process so as to ensure that the effluent is in compliance with the Environment Protection (Standard of Effluent for Use in Irrigation) Regulations 2003. They have also been requested to submit analysis reports of the effluents to the Ministry and seek prior approval for the use of the treated water for irrigation purposes.

A considerable improvement has been noted in the odour problem with the coming into operation of the second treatment plant. However, a mild odour nuisance is being reported intermittently near the first treatment plant. In this respect, the Bagatelle Mall has been requested to improve the efficiency of the first sewerage treatment plant so as to abate the odour nuisance.

ENL Property Ltd has now informed my Ministry that they have hired the services of a Consultant to recommend a permanent solution to the problem.

All authorities concerned, including my Ministry, are closely monitoring the situation.