LABOUR LAWS – AMENDMENTS

(No. B/87) Mr S. Obeegadoo (Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands) asked the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment whether, in regard to the proposed amendments to be brought to the labour laws, as recommended by a Government High Powered Committee set up to look thereinto, he will state if he has been informed of the decision of the trade unions of the private sector to reject same and, if so, will he consider meeting the representatives of the said trade unions.

Reply: As at date, I have not been informed of the decision of Trade Unions of the private sector, rejecting the proposed amendments to the Employment Rights Act and Employment Relations Act as recommended by the High Powered Committee.

However, in a letter dated 4 May 2012 addressed to Dr the hon. Prime Minister, a copy of which has been transmitted to me, the Confédération Syndicale De Gauche (CSG Solidarité) requested for an official meeting to discuss their contentions on the proposed amendments. In its letter, the CSG Solidarité has not rejected the proposed amendments but has highlighted contentions on five specific issues.

I wish to inform the House that following consultations and submissions of various memoranda from both workers and employers organisations, the High Powered Committee endorsed a series of proposed amendments to the labour laws, which I announced publicly at a press conference on 23 April 2012.

I will meet both workers and employers organisations in due course.

STC – POWDERED MILK - IMPORTS

(No. B/90) Mr P. Jugnauth (First Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka) asked the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection whether, in regard to powdered milk, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the State Trading Corporation, information as to the different imports thereof undertaken, since 2005 to-date, indicating in each case, the –

(a) quantity thereof
(b) trade name thereof
(c) country of origin thereof
(d) amount of money spent therefor, and
(e) selling price thereof on the local market.
Reply: I am informed by the State Trading Corporation (STC) that since 2005, the
Corporation imported a total of 235.5 tons of Milk Powder.

Regarding parts (a), (b), (c) and (e) of the question, I wish to inform the House as
follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>(a) Quantity in Metric Tons</th>
<th>(b) Trade name</th>
<th>(c) Country of Origin</th>
<th>(d) Landed cost</th>
<th>(e) Selling price per kg wholesale/retail (Rs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1 October 2005</td>
<td>45 (3750 x 12 x 1 kg)</td>
<td>Amul Full Cream Milk Powder</td>
<td>India (Gujarat Cooperative)</td>
<td>Rs3,706,080</td>
<td>88.69/93.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2 November 2005</td>
<td>25 (1000 x 25 kg)</td>
<td>Agri Best</td>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>Rs1,930,900</td>
<td>81.17/86.40 (per bag of 25 kg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3 November 2005</td>
<td>30 (2500 x 12 x 1 kg)</td>
<td>Amul Full Cream Milk Powder</td>
<td>India (Gujarat Cooperative)</td>
<td>Rs2,469,701</td>
<td>88.69/93.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4 December 2005</td>
<td>81 (6750 x 12 x 1 kg)</td>
<td>Amul Full Cream Milk Powder</td>
<td>India (Gujarat Cooperative)</td>
<td>Rs6,697,651</td>
<td>88.69/93.06</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5 December 2007</td>
<td>14.5 (580 x 25 kg)</td>
<td>Oasis Full Cream Milk Powder</td>
<td>China (Qingdao United Dairy Co Ltd.)</td>
<td>Rs1,509,653</td>
<td>116.60/121.49 (per bag of 25 kg)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6 April 2008</td>
<td>40 (1666 x 24 x)</td>
<td>Oasis Full</td>
<td>China (Qingdao)</td>
<td>Rs3,797,170</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIGHT RAIL TRANSPORT PROJECT

(No. B/91) Mr C. Fakeemeeah (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the Light Rail Transport project, he will state where matters stand.

Reply: I refer the hon. Member to the reply I gave to the Private Notice Question in December 2010 with regard to the Metro Leger Project.

The introduction of a Mass Transit System (MTS) is one among the many major projects that will be implemented by this Government. In our programme for 2012 – 2015 we announced that an infrastructure project with significant potential for people and business is the creation of a major nationwide Mass Transit System. Work on the first phase of the MTS – the Light Rail Transit – will start by 2013. This project will eventually connect the whole island.

The Singaporean Co-operation Enterprise (SCE) has submitted a proposal which would cover Project Management Services consisting of:

(i) determination of a feasible alignment for the whole LRT corridor running between Curepipe and Port Louis;

(ii) economic analysis, including financial structuring, for the implementation of the LRT system;

(iii) development of concept and preliminary design sufficient to attract market interest in the project from suitably qualified delivery entities and to invite priced tenders from the entities; and

(iv) high level consideration of potential future northbound and southbound extension to the Curepipe to Port Louis corridor.

I wish to inform the hon Member that only two weeks ago, Cabinet decided to carry out a due diligence exercise on the proposal made by the SCE for the implementation of a Light Rail Transit System in Mauritius with the collaboration of the Government of Singapore.
The hon. Member is surely aware that in accordance with the Public Procurement Act, a due diligence should be carried to ensure value for money deliverable for goods and services project driven through a Government to Government procurement.

The Committee set up for the purpose has already started its work and will submit its report in one month. This Report will have to be validated by an expert in the field, who is being identified.

I wish to assure the hon. Minister that the first “coup de pioche” for this dream project is expected next year.

LA ROUTE DU SUCRE – CUREPIPE/FLOREAL - HAZARDS

(No. B/92) Mr N. Bodha (First Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to La Route du Sucre, particularly on the strip thereof between the Curepipe Road and the Floréal Petrol Station, he will state if his attention has been drawn to the high risks of accident prevailing thereat, and if so, indicate if consideration will be given for measures to be taken to minimize the risks.

Reply: The “La Route du Sucre”, that is, Sivananda Avenue from its junction with Phoenix - Plaisance Road and Floréal Road is considered as a black spot.

In order to minimise the risks of accident thereat and to enhance safety, the following measures have been taken by the Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit of my Ministry:

(i) both the pedestrian crossing near Charles Regnaud Lane and the junction at Monseigneur Barry/Riviere Seche have been signalised;

(ii) See through handrails have been installed at the same corner with Sivananda Avenue;

(iii) footpaths have been constructed in settlement areas for the safety of pedestrians, and

(iv) road markings have been effected and speed limits signs of 60 km/h have been posted.

Furthermore, my Ministry is seriously envisaging the installation of a speed camera there to deter speeding.

YOUTH CENTRES - USE - ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA

(No. B/93) Mrs P. Bholah (First Member for Piton & Rivière du Rempart) asked the Minister of Youth and Sports whether, in regard to the Youth Centres, he will state the
eligibility criteria for the use thereof for the carrying out of activities by members of the public.

(Withdrawn)

JONCTION, PAILLES - CENTRE POLYVALENT

(No. B/94) Mrs A. Navarre-Marie (First Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Centre Polyvalent, at Jonction, Pailles, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to whom the management thereof has been entrusted.

Reply: I am informed that the basement and first floor of the Polyvalent Centre at Jonction, Pailles are managed by the Black River District Council for the provision of indoor game activities to the inhabitants of the region.

I am further informed that the whole ground floor area has been put at the disposal of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life for the setting up of a Health Centre.

MINISTRY OF SOCIAL SECURITY PREMISES - OLD-AGED PERSON - PASSED OUT

(No. B/95) Mrs A. Navarre-Marie (First Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions whether, in regard to the old-aged person who passed out whilst being on the premises of the Ministry of Social Security, on Monday 7 April 2012, she will state if an inquiry has been carried out into the circumstances and causes thereof and if so, indicate the outcome thereof.

(Withdrawn)

TOBACCO INDUSTRY (LOCAL) - WORKERS AND STAKEHOLDERS - INTERESTS

(No. B/96) Mr S. Obeegadoo (Third Member for Curepipe & Midlands) asked the Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security whether, in regard to the local tobacco industry, he will state the steps taken by Government to safeguard the interests of the workers and those of the stakeholders thereof, following the decision of the British American Tobacco to stop purchasing tobacco leaves on the local market.

Reply: As the House may be aware, following the closure of the British American Tobacco (BAT) factory, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed in year 2009 between the BAT and the Tobacco Board which stipulates that the BAT would purchase tobacco leaves till the year 2015.
The BAT has now made a request to purchase tobacco leaves up to December 2012 and has also proposed to pay compensation to the growers. Discussions are ongoing between the BAT, growers and the Tobacco Board on the quantum of compensation.

I am informed by the Tobacco Board that workers employed by growers are either full time or seasonal workers who do not work solely in the tobacco plantation but also in the sugar cane and vegetable plantations. They are, therefore, fully employed.

As regards employees of the Tobacco Board, my Ministry is looking into the possibilities of redeploying them in the public sector.

**CEB - EMPLOYEES - TRANSFER**

(No. B/97) Mrs P. Bholah (First Member for Piton & Rivière du Rempart) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the Central Electricity Board, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Board, information as to the number of employees who have been transferred from their respective posting, since January 2012 to-date, indicating in each case, the reasons therefor.

(Withdrawn)

**PANCHAVATI, RIVIERE DU REMPART – PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL**

(No. B/98) Mrs P. Bholah (First Member for Piton & Rivière du Rempart) asked the Minister of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to Panchavati, found in the district of Rivière du Rempart, he will -

(a) for the benefit of the House, obtain from the National Empowerment Foundation, information as to the social assistance brought to the needy people living thereat, if any, indicating the amount of money disbursed, since August 2011 to date, and

(b) state where matters stand regarding the setting up of a pre-primary school thereat.

(Withdrawn)

**CITE MICHAEL LEAL & CITE DURGAHEED, PAILLES - FOOTBALL GROUND**

(No. B/99) Mr V. Baloomoody (Third Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the football ground situated between Cité Michael Leal and Cité Durgaheed, in Pailles, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to whom the management thereof has been entrusted, indicating if the football team of the locality will be granted access thereto.
Reply: I wish at the very outset to inform the House that the so-called football ground situated between Cité Michael Leal and Cité Durgaheed in Pailles is not a football ground per se, but a playing field whereat teenagers of the region practice football. In fact the plot of State land on which stands the playing field is only 150 sq ft x 80 sq ft and is not according to standard.

I am informed that this plot of State land was formerly being used for dumping of waste and my Ministry decided in year 2009 to clean same, fence and convert it into a playing field for the benefit of the youngsters of that region.

I am further advised that football teams of the locality do not use this playing field as there already exists two football grounds at Morcellement Raffray and St Louis Street.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS - LEGAL ADVISERS & ATTORNEYS AT LAW

(No. B/100) Mr. A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Legal Advisers and Attorneys at Law whose services have been retained by the Municipal Council of Port Louis, since 20 November 2010 to-date, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Council, information as to the names thereof, indicating, in each case -

(a) since when;
(b) the terms and conditions on which their services have been retained, and
(c) the total amount of retainer or any other fees which have been paid to them.

Reply: The information requested by the hon. Member is being compiled by the City Council of Port Louis and will be placed in the Library of the National Assembly as soon as same will be available.

ROCHE BOIS - QUARTIER SHELL REGION - PEDESTRIAN FLYOVER

(No. B/101) Mr. A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the Quartier Shell region, in Roche Bois, he will state if he is aware of the inconveniences caused to pedestrians due to the absence of a pedestrian flyover on the motorway and, if so, if remedial measures will be taken, indicating when.

Reply: I am aware of the problem being encountered by pedestrians in the Quartier Shell region, in Roche Bois.
In the context of the Road Decongestion Programme, the whole area between Quay D roundabout and Mer Rouge roundabout will be subject to grade separation to cater for the merging of the harbour bridge with motorway M2. Due consideration will be given to the design and appropriate measures will be taken to ensure safe pedestrian movement.

The bid evaluation exercise for the recruitment of a Service Provider for the PPP Road Decongestion Programme is ongoing.

MAURICE ILE DURABLE FUND – RESIDENTIAL GARBAGE

(No. A/44) Mrs J. Radegonde (Fourth Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development whether, in regard to the Maurice Ile Durable Fund, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to if any research has been carried out to assess the percentage of residential garbage that is recycled as compost, glass and plastic, and if so, give details thereof.

Reply: The Maurice Ile Durable Fund has not carried out any research in respect of residential garbage as Solide Waste Management is under the purview of the Ministry of Local Government and Outer Islands.

SOLAR WATER TANK SCHEME – BENEFICIARIES

(No. A/45) Mrs J. Radegonde (Fourth Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Environment and Sustainable Development whether, in regard to the Solar Water Tank Scheme, he will state the measures taken to inform the public of the eligibility criteria and conditions attached to benefit from the grant thereunder and give, as at to-date, a list of the beneficiaries thereof, indicating their respective addresses.

Reply: The Development Bank of Mauritius Ltd. in collaboration with the Maurice Ile Durable Fund is currently implementing Phase II of the Solar Water Heater Grant Scheme, and the Bank is, in the first instance, processing the backlog of 20,000 eligible applications for grants received since 2009.

Once these applications are processed, DBM Ltd. will invite new applications through a Press Communiqué giving details on the criteria as well as the terms and conditions for the new applicants to benefit from the grant under the Solar Water Heater Scheme.
As regards the list of beneficiaries and their addresses, the Bank has informed that it is against its practices to disclose such information to third parties.

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF PORT LOUIS - PERISHABLE GOODS - SEIZURE**

(No. A/46) Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South & Port Louis Central) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the perishable goods seized by the Municipal Council of Port Louis, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Council, information as to the description and quantity thereof seized, on a yearly basis, since 2005 to date, indicating if same have been distributed and, if so, to whom and in what quantity.

Reply: The information requested by the hon. Member and provided by the City Council of Port Louis is being placed in the library of the National Assembly.

**WARD IV, PORT LOUIS - SEWERAGE SYSTEM**

(No. A/47) Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South & Port Louis Central) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Waste Water Management Authority, information as to if it has received representations from the inhabitants of the region commonly known as Ward IV, in Port Louis, for the connection of their houses to the sewerage system and, if so, indicate if consideration will be given thereto.

Reply(The Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities): I am informed by the Wastewater Management Authority that applications for house connections are regularly received and dealt with under house connection contracts. To date, 17 applications for house connections in the region of Ward IV, Port Louis are pending and will be attended to under the forthcoming house connection contract which is presently at award stage.

**VANDERMEERSCH STREET, ROSE HILL - TRAFFIC CONGESTION**

(No. A/49) Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to Rose Hill, particularly at the roundabout on the Vandermeersch Street, at the level of the office of the Central Electricity Board, he will state if a study has been commissioned on the traffic congestion occurring thereat during peak hours, under the Road Decongestion Programme, and if so, give details thereof and if not, why not.
Reply: The study conducted by SPP Projects Solutions (Pty) Limited, transaction advisor for the Road Decongestion Programme, identified the need to construct a major bridge to link Belle Etoile to Montebello. Traffic simulations carried out by the transaction advisor showed that, with the implementation of this project, called the A1-M1 bridge, the region of Lower Plaine Wilhems, including Rose Hill, Beau Bassin and Coromandel will have faster route to motorway M1 and the Ring Road. The project constitutes an important component of the PPP Road Decongestion Programme, which is expected to start in 2013. The bid evaluation exercise for the selection of the Service Provider for the PPP Road Decongestion Programme is underway at the Central Procurement Board.

Moreover, the Road Development Authority is proposing to extend, within this financial year, the third lane from Vandermeersch roundabout towards Beau Bassin further down beyond the junction with Malartic Street. The project will be implemented this year.

As a short-term measure, the Traffic Management and Roads Safety Unit will re-programme the traffic lights at the junction of Vandermeersch/Malartic Streets with different phases and render them adaptable to traffic conditions during different periods of the day, especially the afternoon peak period.

The implementation of the abovementioned projects is expected to address the traffic congestion problem at the roundabout on Vandermeersch Street, both during peak and off-peak hours

**RUISSEAU TERRE ROUGE PROJECT - COST**

(No. A/50) Mr G. Lesjongard (Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the Ruisseau Terre Rouge project, he will state if it is completed and if so, indicate -

(a) which authority is now vested therewith;
(b) the actual total cost thereof, indicating the cost incurred for variation works, and
(c) the total amount paid as penalty fees.

Reply: Major works at Ruisseau Terre Rouge were completed in December 2010. Some snag tasks were completed thereafter.

The handing over of the project to the Municipal Council of Port Louis is in process. The actual cost of the project is Rs49,624,492.95. This includes cost incurred for variation works is Rs3,703,768.40.
Penalty fee is not applicable due to many unforeseen situations. The delay has been mainly due to -

(i) Very bad river conditions (namely muddy and bushy river banks, and high flood flows during rainfall.

(ii) Continuous discharge of waste water from dyeing industries in the vicinity.

TERRE ROUGE – BRIDGE - CONSTRUCTION

(No. A/51) Mr G. Lesjongard (Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the construction of a bridge at Terre Rouge, near the Police Station, he will state the -

(a) name of the contractor therefor;
(b) total contract value thereof, and
(c) start and completion dates thereof.

Reply: The information requested in connection with the construction of bridge at Terre Rouge, are as follows -

Name of Contractor : Best Construct Ltd
Contract Value : Rs 14,066,439.48
Start Date : 03 March 2011
Expected completion date : End of June 2012

PUBLIC TRANSPORT – SUBSIDIES - CRITERIA

(No. A/52) Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development whether, in regard to public transport, he will state the total amount of subsidies disbursed in 2011 -

(a) indicating the eligibility criteria therefor;
(b) give a list of the bus operators who have been in receipt thereof, indicating in each case, the amount thereof, and
(c) state the measures taken to ensure efficiency and prevent wastage and fraudulent practices, if any.
Reply (Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping): A total amount of Rs (m) 138.9 has been disbursed to bus companies and individual bus operators grouped into bus cooperative societies during the year 2011 as subsidy on price of diesel.

(a) Payment of subsidy on diesel is meant to compensate bus operators for the difference between the market price and the base price of Rs 35.00 per litre for bus companies and Rs 40.00 per litre for individual bus operators, which was determined in December 2010, when the increase in bus tariff was worked out.

The prevailing price of diesel per litre is Rs 41.20. Bus companies are thus compensated Rs 6.20 per litre of diesel consumed whereas the individual bus operators are compensated Rs 1.20 per litre of diesel consumed. The difference in subsidy per litre is based on the cost of operation of buses operated by individual operators and those by bus companies.

(b) A list of the bus operators who have been in receipt of subsidy is being placed in the library.

(e) Bus operators are by law required to submit monthly returns giving details of traffic operations. The important element necessary for the calculation of subsidy on diesel is the number of kilometers operated by each operator. These are converted into amount of diesel consumed using established formula e.g. 34 litres of diesel / 100 km operated. This formula ensures that operators maintain a minimum level of efficiency. It also provides them guidance for the type of engine efficiency for future purchases.

As for the individual bus operators, they have to submit individual returns as compared to bus companies, in addition to a route by route analysis of the number of trips and kilometers run per month by each bus.

Bus operators providing reduced bus services are penalized by a reduction in their amount of subsidy.
Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Social Integration and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to the placement schemes for the training of the youth and of the educated unemployed, he will give a list thereof implemented, since 2005 to-date, indicating in each case the -

(a) date of commencement thereof;
(b) selection criteria therefor;
(c) amount of stipend paid to each trainee;
(d) duration thereof;
(e) number of trainees who have successfully completed the training, indicating the number thereof who subsequently obtained employment;
(f) total cost to Government therefor, on a yearly basis, and
(g) if an evaluation has been carried out on the effectiveness thereof.

Reply: With regard to the placement schemes for the training of the youth and the educated unemployed, the information is provided below.

(a) Date of Commencement

NEF took over the placement and training scheme from HRDC with effect from April 2009. The list of trainees as from that date including date of commencement of their training, duration of training and amount of stipend paid to each trainee is being compiled.

(b) Selection Criteria

The selection of candidates by the employers is made from the EPIP System online along the following criteria:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Selection Criteria</th>
<th>Parameters before 20 August 2011</th>
<th>Parameters after from 20 August 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Applicants recruited must be unemployed</td>
<td>Applicants recruited must be unemployed (16yrs and above)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(16yrs and above) and registered free of charge with the NEF</td>
<td>and registered free of charge with the NEF</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Applicants must not previously benefitted from the Placement and Training Scheme</td>
<td>Applicants must not have previously benefitted from the Placement and Training</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Applicants must be available full-time for both formal training and for on-the-job placement.
Applicants undertake to complete both the training and placement for the period specified by the employer.
Applicants will be entitled to a certificate recognized by MQA and may be offered an employment by the employer.
Applicant’s profile is registered on a database to which employers have access.
Employer contacts the potential trainee/s for an interview.
Placement period is for a minimum of 3 months and to a maximum period of 12 months.
Employer will retain at least 75% of the trainees after their placement and training.

(c) Stipend payable to trainees under the scheme is as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Parameters after 20 August 2011</th>
<th>Parameters after 20 August 2011</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Minimum monthly stipend payable to trainee (Rs.)</td>
<td>Contribution by employer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below HSC (others)</td>
<td>4 000</td>
<td>2 000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below HSC (for trades)</td>
<td>5 000</td>
<td>2 500</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Retrenched and unemployed women above 40 | 4 000 | 1 000 | 3 000 | - | - | -
---|---|---|---|---|---|---
HSC | 7 000 | 3 500 | 3 500 | 8 000 | 4 000 | 4 000
Diploma | 8 000 | 4 000 | 4 000 | 10 000 | 5 000 | 5 000
Degree | 10 000 | 5 000 | 5 000 | 12 000 | 6 000 | 6 000
Tele agents, marketing agents, BPO | - | - | - | 6 000 | 3 000 | 3 000

The contribution of NEF for the training costs is 60% and 40% for the employer of the approved rate up to a ceiling as follows:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Contribution of NEF to training costs</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Parameters before 20 August 2011</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Retrenched and unemployed women above 40</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Below HSC holders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>HSC Holders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Diploma holders</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Graduates</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tele agents, marketing agents, BPO</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(d) Duration of Placement

Before 20 August 2011, the placement period was for a minimum of 3 months and up to a maximum of 12 months.
As from 20 August 2011, the placement period is for a maximum of 6 months, except for teleagents, marketing agents and people of the BPO ICT sector for whom the duration is 3 months.

Table below shows the number of trainees placed and trained as from April 2009 to Dec 2011.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1</td>
<td>Agriculture</td>
<td>29</td>
<td>74</td>
<td>38</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2</td>
<td>ICT/BPO</td>
<td>2883</td>
<td>343</td>
<td>1127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3</td>
<td>Hotels + entertainment</td>
<td>378</td>
<td>322</td>
<td>349</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>Construction</td>
<td>201</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>111</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Textile</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>257</td>
<td>368</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>Child Care-Givers</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>53</td>
<td>234</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Other Services (security, cleaning, etc)</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>1523</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Admin &amp; Consultancy</td>
<td>47</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>84</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>9</td>
<td>Sales and Marketing</td>
<td>104</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>166</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Total</td>
<td>3813</td>
<td>1819</td>
<td>4000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

10 Number of trainee who have completed training and placement

| Sn. | Number of trainee who have secured employment | 3546 | 1782 | 987 (810 trainees is still in placement as at March 2012) |

11. Number of trainees who have secured employment

|     | 2974 | 1487 | 3013 |

(f) Total cost to Government

The NEF has since April 2009 to date disbursed Rs. 139,173,001. Details are as follows -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Total amount disbursed (Rs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>April to December 2009</td>
<td>30,127,570</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January to December 2010</td>
<td>40,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January to December 2011</td>
<td>68,000,000</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>January 2012 to March 2012</td>
<td>1,045,430.72</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
(g) Evaluation of the Placement and Training Programme

NEF has informed that the evaluation of the effectiveness of this scheme is carried out on a regular basis.

**BEAU BASSIN - BIJOUX GARDEN - BENCHES AND LIGHTING POINTS**

(No. A/54) Mr F. Quirin (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Bijoux Garden at Beau Bassin, 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 the lighting points found thereat are damaged and, if so, indicate if remedial steps will be taken, including consideration for the installation of additional benches and lighting points, cleaning and planting of flowers and grass.

**Reply:** I am informed by the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill that the Bijoux Garden at Beau Bassin is not in a bad state and that regular cleaning is being effected by a private contractor.

Moreover, the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill is rehabilitating the Bijoux Garden. Pedestrian alley has already been resurfaced. The Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping (NDU Division) is also providing an amount of Rs500,000 to the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill for laying of bricks, fixing of lighting points, installation of additional benches and planting of flowers and decorative plants.

**CITÉ LOYSEAU - FOOTBALL STADIUM - UPGRADING**

(No. A/55) Mr N. Bodha (First Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the project for the upgrading and the provision of lighting at the football stadium at Cité Loyseau, he will state where matters stand.

**Reply:** Financial clearance has already been issued to the Municipal Council of Curepipe for fencing works of the football ground at Cité Loyseau.

The initial contract for the provision of lighting at the football ground at Cité Loyseau was awarded on 13 September 2010 to Eight Oceans Ltd but the contract was cancelled as the latter did not comply with the contractual requirements. Subsequently, the contract was
awarded to Como Construction Ltd on 14 February 2011, but had to be cancelled due to non-compliance to technical specifications.

Lighting thereat will now be considered as a separate project after completion of the fencing works.

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF QUATRE BORNES – VEHICLES – DAMAGES**

(No. A/56) Mr K. Ramano (Second Member for Belle Rose & Quatre Bornes)

asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the vehicles belonging to the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes which were damaged whilst being on the premises thereof and under security supervision at night, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Council, information as to the extent of the damages in money terms, indicating the measures if any, taken against the Security Company entrusted with the responsibility for providing security services thereat.

**Reply:** I am informed by the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes that the extent of damages in money terms is as follows –

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lorry Registration No.</th>
<th>Extent of damages in money terms (Rs)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4Z91</td>
<td>180,463.75</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4Z109</td>
<td>69,249.55</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

The Council’s Insurance Company, Sicom General Insurance Ltd has already effected the repairs to lorries 4Z91 and 4Z109 and the excess to the tune of Rs12,000 per lorry will be recouped from any payment due to Special Security Guards Ltd.

As regards measures taken against the Security Company, I am informed that –

(i) the contract which the Council had with Special Security Guards Ltd for the provision of security services for the year 2012 was rescinded on 07 March 2012, and

(ii) payments due to Special Security Guards Ltd for period 16 January 2012 to 07 March 2012 have been withheld until the matter is settled.

**MUNICIPAL COUNCIL OF QUATRE BORNES – LIBRARIES - NEWSPAPERS**

(No. A/57) Mr K. Ramano (Second Member for Belle Rose & Quatre Bornes)

asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the municipal libraries, reading points and social halls, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes, information as to its policy concerning
the availability of newspapers thereat, indicating if it has received representations from the public in relation thereto.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes that following a decision taken by the Council on 15 September 2011, the policy for the provision of newspapers in Municipal Libraries, Reading Points and Social Halls has been revised for the year 2012 and only L’Express and Le Mauricien are being provided.

However, 18 local newspapers are being provided at the Simon de Beauvoir Library.

Only one letter of representation was received on 12 January 2012 from the public attending Prof. B. Bissoondoyal Complex for the provision of the following additional newspapers –

(i) Le Matinal;
(ii) Le Defi Plus;
(iii) Le Socialiste;
(iv) Star;
(v) Mauritius Times;
(vi) 5 Plus, and
(vii) other business and educational magazines.

MICHELLE LELIO STREET, CITE ROCHE BOIS - DRAINS

(No. A/58) 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 drains at the Michelle Lelio Street, in Cité Roche Bois, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Port Louis, information as to if it is filled with waste thereby causing foul smells and, if so, indicate if urgent remedial measures will be taken.

Reply: I am informed by the City Council of Port Louis that –

(i) following an inspection carried out on 10 May 2012, it was noted that the drain at Michelle Lelio Street in Cité Roche Bois was not filled with wastes;
(ii) foul smell was occasionally caused by illegal dumping of urine and faecal matter thereon by unknown residents, and
(iii) whenever such a situation occurs, urgent remedial action is taken by the Council for the removal of the wastes.

MILITARY ROAD, PORT LOUIS - HOUSING PROJECT
(No. A/59) Mr A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Housing and Lands whether, in regard to the housing project at Military Road, Port Louis, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the National Housing Development Company Limited, information as to –

(a) if the construction permits therefor have been issued and, if so, in each case
   (i) indicate when, and
   (ii) give details thereof

(b) the number of housing units that will be constructed;

(c) the name of the initial contractor therefor, indicating -
   (i) the total amount of money paid thereto, and
   (ii) why he left the site, and

(d) when construction works will start anew.

Reply: In regard to part (a) of the question, the NHDC has informed that, following a tender exercise for the construction of 18 duplex (36 housing units) at Military Road, Port Louis, the contract for the works was awarded to Messrs. Yangtze Construction Co. Ltd.

The contract is a Design and Build one and provides for the successful bidder to apply for a Building and Land Use Permit prior to start of works.

Since the selected Contractor did not honour his obligations, no construction permit has been obtained from the local authority.

Regarding part (b) of the question, the project proposal comprises 18 Duplex (36 housing units) to be constructed at Military Road, Port Louis.

As regards part (c) of the question, the NHDC has informed that following the award of the contract, the site was handed over to Messrs Yangtze Construction Co. Ltd. As per the conditions of the contract, the Contractor failed to honour his obligations by non-submission of basic contract documents such as Performance Bond and the Contractor’s All Risks Insurance Policy. Furthermore, as he could not mobilize resources on site, the contract was terminated. As such no payment was effected.

With regard to part (d) of the question, the NHDC is looking into alternative means and resources for implementing the project.