WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

PLAINES WILHEMS SOUTH SEWER CONTRACT – PRICE INCREASE

(No. B/533) Mr G. Lesjongard (Second Member for Port Louis North & Montagne Longue) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the Plaines Wilhems South Sewer Contract No. 73F, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Waste Water Management Authority -

(a) information as to if -

(i) a Fact Finding Committee was set up to inquire into the 50.3% increase of the original contract price thereof, and

(ii) the approval of the Central Procurement Board was sought and obtained prior to effecting payments in connection therewith, and

(b) a list of the major variations, indicating the corresponding cost thereof.

Reply: I am informed by the Wastewater Management Authority that contract No. 73F for the construction of a trunk sewer from Curepipe to St. Martin was awarded on 24 April 2005 with the approval of the then Central Tender Board. Works started in May 2005 and were completed in February 2008. The final contract price amounted to Rs1,332,490,648 inclusive of VAT representing an increase of 49.92% on the initial contract price, made up of variations up to 29.92% and 20% contractual cost escalation.

The increase in the contract price was approved by the then Central Tender Board and by the Ministry of Finance and Economic Development following the coming into force of the Public Procurement Act in 2008. Accordingly, the need for setting up of a Fact Finding Committee did not arise.

With regard to part (b) of the question, I am tabling the information.
CEB - VALUE ADDED TAX OUTPUT TAX

(No. B/536) Mr M. Seeruttun (Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the Value Added Tax Output Tax amounting to Rs26,192,222.62 unclaimed by the Central Electricity Board, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Board, information as to if any legal advice was sought and obtained for the recovery thereof and, if so, from whom, indicating if the Board or the Management thereof acted upon the advice given by the Board’s Legal Adviser and if not, why not.

Reply: I am informed that in September 2009, the CEB made a request to the Mauritius Revenue Authority (MRA) for the refund of an unclaimed amount of Rs27,192,222.62.

The MRA, in December of the same year, replied that in the light of the advice it had received from the State Law Office it could not accede to the request of the CEB as the delay of 24 months within which the input tax ought to have been claimed had lapsed.

The CEB subsequently consulted its Legal Adviser who advised that the Board was entitled to a refund of the unclaimed VAT and to contemplate legal action against MRA, if no refund is made.

At the request of the CEB, my Ministry sought advice from the State Law Office as to whether the CEB was legally entitled to a refund of the unclaimed VAT, in light of the views expressed by the Legal Adviser of the CEB. The State Law Office advised the Ministry, that after having given due consideration to views expressed by the Legal Adviser of the CEB, it was of the view CEB was not legally entitled to a refund of the unclaimed VAT, in accordance with existing provisions of the Law.

The CEB was accordingly informed of the advice tendered by the SLO, following which the Board resolved not to proceed further.

TRAFFIC SIGNALS EQUIPMENT - MAINTENANCE
(No. B/537) Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South & Port Louis Central) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the tender launched for the maintenance of the traffic signals equipment, he will state where matters stand.

Reply: The contract for the maintenance of the traffic signal equipment has already been awarded on 12 July 2012.

PLAINES WILHEMS SEWERAGE PROJECT – BIDDERS

(No. B/538) Dr. R. Sorefan (Fourth Member for La Caverne & Phoenix) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the Plaines Wilhems Sewerage Project, contract No. WW80F, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Waste Water Management Authority, information as to -

(a) the names of the bidders therefor, indicating the value quoted in respect of item 3.1.5, in each case, and

(b) if the recommendation of the Evaluation Committee set up therefor was followed for the award of the contract.

Reply: The names of the bidders for Contract No. WW80F of the Plaines Wilhems Sewerage project, are as follows -

(i) China Jiangsu/PAD & Co. Ltd. JV
(ii) A & J Maurel Construction Ltée
(iii) China International Water & Electric
(iv) Thymian Holding GbR/Sotravic Ltée JV
(v) Jan De Nul NV

The contract was awarded by the Central Procurement Board further to the no objection of the EIB, the funding agency. Information with regard to the value quoted in respect of item 3.1.5 of the Bill of Quantities and part (b) of the question have been sought from the Central Procurement Board.
FIRE SERVICES AND RESCUE BILL - INTRODUCTION

(No. B/539) Mr D. Nagalingum (Second Member for Stanley and Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the fire services, he will state if Government proposes to introduce a new Fire Services and Rescue Bill and, if so, when.

Reply: As the House is aware, one of the measures announced in the Government Programme 2012-2015, is to introduce into the National Assembly, a new Mauritius Fire and Rescue Service Bill, by August 2012.

A first version of the draft Bill has been worked out by my Ministry and the Fire Services Department after numerous working sessions under my chairmanship. Following consultations with relevant Ministries and Departments, the final draft Bill has recently been submitted to the Attorney General’s Office for vetting. Once the Bill is cleared by the Attorney General’s Office and the approval of Cabinet is obtained, the Bill will be introduced into the Assembly.

CEB – ELECTRICITY BILLS & ELECTRICITY POLES

(No. B/543) Mr A. Gungah (First Member for Grand’ Baie and Poudre D’or) 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 therefrom, information as to, since 2006 to date, the -

(a) loss incurred due to the -

(i) charging of excessive electricity bills, and
(ii) omission for reclamation to the Mauritius Revenue Authority, and

(b) expenditure incurred for the setting up and removal of electricity poles on the premises of the Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund.

Reply: With regard to part (a) (i) of the question, I am informed by the Central Electricity Board that there has not been any excessive billing charged to consumers. However, I am informed that in December 2008, the excessive bills arose because of end of year festivities, exceptional climate and, for around 3 % of domestic customers, a billing period exceeding the normal meter reading tour of 28-35 days, was applied and gave rise to higher amount claimed.
Subsequently, a decision was taken to align the consumption of all domestic customers for that period to that of the preceding month. This has resulted into a shortfall to the tune of Rs 118.6 million to the CEB.

I have already replied to Part (a) (ii) of the question in my reply to PQ B/536.

Regarding part (b) of the question, I am informed that an amount of Rs3,050,482.66 has been incurred for the setting up and removal of electricity poles on the premises of the Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund. I understand that the Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund objected to the erection of the 66 kV overhead network at Le Morne, claiming that it was situated in the buffer zone of the Le Morne Heritage.

**LES SALINES WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT - IMPLEMENTATION**

*(No. B/550)* Mr P. Jugnauth (First Member for Quartier Militaire & Moka) asked the Minister of Housing and Lands whether, in regard to the Les Salines Waterfront Development Project, commonly known as the Neotown Project, he will state the scheduled date for implementation thereof according to the conditions of the lease agreement therefor, indicating if same has been or is expected to be adhered to.

**Reply:** In respect of the lease in favour of Les Salines Development Limited for the implementation of the Waterfront Development Project, there is no specific date mentioned in the Lease Agreement for that purpose. However, the Lease Agreement and the attached Framework Agreement provide for the setting up of a Joint Monitoring Committee consisting of representatives of my Ministry and other relevant authorities.

The said Committee has been meeting on a fairly regular basis to monitor the implementation of the project and take stock of developments thereof. It has been agreed that, in the first instance, the lessee would arrange for the provision of onsite infrastructural works. The hon. Member may refer to the reply to PQ B/452 of 03 July 2012 for the progress achieved. The promoter has been requested to expedite matters as regards the infrastructural works and to submit a schedule of works accordingly.

Additionally, it must be pointed out that the company has submitted detailed designs for the construction of residential apartments on the site and same are being examined at the level of my Ministry. The construction of the residential apartments is one of the components of the
approved Master Plan; the other components being, *inter alia*, the construction of a hotel, boardwalks and marine gardens, a tourist heritage centre, a luxury condominium complex with a boutique hotel, marina club, office buildings, shopping malls, office campus, tourist attractions and entertainment facilities.

INFORMATION & COMMUNICATION – AFROBAROMETER - SURVEY

(No. B/553) Mr C. Fakeemeeah (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Information and Communication Technology whether, in regard to the new information and communication tools, he will state if he has taken cognizance of the findings of the recent survey carried out by Afrobarometer as to the use thereof in Mauritius, and if so, indicate the additional measures that will be taken in relation thereto.

Reply: I have taken cognizance of the findings of Afrobarometer 2012, a survey carried out by Straconsult in January and February this year among a randomly selected sample of 1200 Mauritians aged 18 and above.

Afrobarometer 2012 indicates that the percentage of persons who have never used a computer is 59% and those who have never used the Internet is 64%.

The survey does not, however, give a correct picture of the actual situation as the findings contrast sharply with those contained in the 2012 survey of Statistics Mauritius which revealed that 51.3% of persons age 5 years and above reported that they could use a computer.

With regard to Internet, actual figures show that at the end of 2011, number of Internet subscriptions stood at 370,000 representing 31% of internet penetration and the proportion of household having a computer has reached 38%. With mobile penetration having now reached more than 100%, more and more people are using the mobile to access the Internet. With these figures, it can be safely concluded that a higher percentage of Mauritians are presently using the Internet.

My Ministry is implementing numerous programmes aimed at promoting ICT literacy and this is giving the opportunity to a larger proportion of the population to have access and use both the computer and the internet. Some of the measures taken are as follows -

- all 275 Primary schools have free Broadband Internet Access;
- all State and Private Secondary Schools have free Broadband Internet Access;
• 160,000 people have been trained on IC3 under the Prime Minister’s Universal ICT Education Programme;
• 173 computer clubs with free Broadband Internet Service have been set up around the island in Women centres, Youth centres, Social Welfare centres, Community Centres, Day Care Centres, with more than 400,000 people having already availed of same;
• 95 Public Internet Access Points across Mauritius and Rodrigues (5) -140,000 people have used the service, and
• 3 Cyber Caravans have trained more than 120,000 persons

The National Strategic Plan 2011 – 2014 and the National Broadband Policy have already enumerated the strategies and actions required to increase both computer and internet usage. The measures include, *inter alia*, the following -

- stimulate competition to bring the price of telecommunication further down;
- encourage and facilitate new entrants in the telecommunication service (e.g. Bharat Telecom implementing the Fibre to Home Project);
- encourage the development of Mobile Application;
- additional 100 computer clubs to be set up;
- accelerate the Universal ICT Education Programme;
- encourage the setting up of more Wifi Zones across the island, and
- set up training facilities specifically targeting the handicapped and old aged.

**POINTE AUX SABLES COASTAL ROAD - UPGRADING**

*(No. B/554)* Mr J. C. Barbier *(Second Member for GRNW & Port Louis West)* asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the project for the widening of the Pointe aux Sables Coastal Road, he will state where matters stand as to the implementation thereof.

**Reply:** The Road Development Authority is currently undertaking an in-house study with respect to the upgrading of part of the Pointe aux Sables Road from its junction with Albion Road (B78) at Petite Rivière towards Petit Verger over a length an approximate length of 3km.
The topographical survey has been completed and the design is currently in progress.

**TERASSON, POINTE AUX SABLES - WASTE WATER CONNECTION**

(No. B/555) Mr J. C. Barbier (Second Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the waste water connection network, he will state if same will be made available to the region of Terasson, at Pointe aux Sables, and if so, when.

Reply: As I have already informed the House in reply to previous PQ’s, on the same subject the region of Terasson at Pointe aux Sables is found in a low lying area and cannot be connected to the sewerage network by gravity.

A project proposal is under preparation for submission to the Project Plans Committee.

**HOTEL DEVELOPMENT - STATE LANDS - LEASE**

(No. B/556) Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Housing and Lands whether, in regard to the State lands leased for hotel development, since 2005 to date, he will give a list thereof, indicating -

(a) the names of the lessees;
(b) where matters stand as to the implementation thereof, in each case, and
(c) if any lease has been retrieved for non implementation of the hotel project.

Reply: The information requested is being compiled and will be placed in the Library of the National Assembly as soon as completed.

**JIN FEI ECONOMIC TRADE AND COOPERATION ZONE - BUILDING AND LAND USE PERMIT**

(No. B/557) Mr K. Ramano (Second Member for Belle Rose & Quatre Bornes) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Jin Fei Economic Trade and Cooperation Zone, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart District Council, information as to a list of the applications received relating to the building and land use permit, indicating in each case, the names of the applicants and the nature of the businesses to be carried out thereat.
Reply: I am informed by the Pamplemousses-Riviére du Rempart District Council that the following Building and Land Use Permits have been issued within the Jin Fei Economic Trade and Cooperation Zone -

- To Mauritius Jin Fei Economic Trade and Cooperation Zone Co. Ltd on 24 October 2011 for the construction of a Ground Floor building to be used as a warehouse.
- To Mauritius Jin Fei Economic Trade and Cooperation Zone Co. Ltd on 16 May 2012 for the construction of reinforced concrete residential apartments.
- To Goldox Construction Ltd on 06 July 2012 for the construction of a reinforced concrete building to be used as dormitory, a reinforced concrete building to be used as offices and dormitory, a building in steel bars covered with corrugated iron sheets to be used as factory.

CEB - LA MIVOIE OFFICE - CLOSING TIME

(No. A/232) Mrs J. Radegonde (Fourth Member for Savanne & Black River) 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 therefrom, information as to if it has been informed that the office thereof, at La Mivoie, closes before the normal closing time, and if so, indicate the reasons therefor.

Reply: I am informed by the Central Electricity Board that all its offices, including La Mivoie, operate from 08.30 hours to 16.00 hours.

However, the Cash Desk Service at La Mivoie is operational only on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays, from 08.45 to 12.00 hours in the morning and from 12.30 to 14.30 hours in the afternoon. On Tuesdays and Thursdays, the officers of the Cash Desk Service are redeployed to the CEB office located in Bambous.

I am further informed that all Cash Desk Services of the CEB are normally open up to 14.30 only hours to allow sufficient time to the cashiers to make banking arrangements of the daily takings.

FISHERMEN WELFARE FUND - SCHEMES - BENEFICIARIES
(No. A/233) Mrs J. Radegonde (Fourth Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Fisheries whether, in regard to the Fishermen Welfare Fund, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Fund, information as to the

(a) activities that are carried out thereat, and

(b) schemes offered, indicating in each case, the beneficiaries thereof, over the past five years.

**Reply:** The information is being placed in the Library.

**CITÉ CORPS DE GARDE - WATER SUPPLY**

(No. A/234) Mr D. Nagalingum (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the Cité Corps de Garde, in Constituency No. 19, Stanley and Rose Hill, he will state if he has been informed of the irregular supply of water thereat and, if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Central Water Authority, information as to if urgent remedial measures will be taken in relation thereto.

**Reply:** I am informed by the Central Water Authority that Cité Corps de Garde in Stanley, Rose Hill is supplied from Stanley service reservoir.

The normal hours of supply are -

- 3.00 a.m to 9.00 a.m, and
- 3.00 p.m to 9.00 p.m.

However, there is low pressure in the network supplying Cité Corps de Garde due to its close proximity to the service reservoir. CWA carries out valve operations daily between 3.00 p.m and 6.00 p.m to increase pressure in the network supplying Cité Corps de Garde.

So as to address this problem, CWA will install additional valves and connect Cité Corps de Garde to Candos service reservoir. The works will be completed by the end of this month.
ROAD DECONGESTION PROGRAMME
(No. A/235) Dr R. Sorefan (Fourth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the original Road Decongestion Programme, he will state the date on which same was finalised, indicating who participated in the committee held during which same was finalised.

Reply: The Road Decongestion Programme comprising the Harbour Bridge, the Ring Road, the Terre Rouge-Verdun-Ebène Link Road, the Bus Way for Bus Rapid Transit and the East West Connector, was set up following protracted discussions involving my Ministry and the then Ministry of Finance and Economic Empowerment. This was a follow-up on the 18 measures approved by all stakeholders participating in the Mauritius Transport Consensus Forum in September 2006 on Transport Policies and Actions under the chairmanship of Mr Jonathan Richmond, Transport Adviser to the Government of Mauritius.

The project received the approval of Government on 26 March 2009.

CITÉ CORPS DE GARDE – BARE LANDS
(No. A/236) Mr D. Nagalingum (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Cité Corps de Garde, in Constituency No.19, Stanley and Rose Hill, he will state if he has been informed that several bare lands thereat have been converted into dumping sites and, if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, information as to the remedial measures that will be taken in relation thereto.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin-Rose Hill that the Residence Corps de Garde comprises of four plots of land within a radius of 200 metres. The area has several bareland spots which has been cleaned several times within a distance of 10 metres from the roads.

I am further informed that cleaning interventions have recently been done by the Council as follows -
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Dates</th>
<th>Sites/Lands</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>05/06 April 2012</td>
<td>Sirius Lane, Surcouf Lane and Peroud lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 June 2012</td>
<td>Emile Laval</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25-29 June 2012</td>
<td>Sirius Lane, Surcouf and Peroud Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>27 June 2012</td>
<td>Résidence Corps de Garde</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>02-05 July 2012</td>
<td>Flat Bhunjun, Ravinale Lane, Sirius Lane</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12 July 2012</td>
<td>Emile Laval</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

I am informed that cleaning of bareland is an ongoing exercise which includes brush cutting, removal of undergrowth and of refuse deposited with the help of a backhoe loader and by manual cleaning. Spraying of herbicide has also been effected all along the road sides and scavenging service is regularly provided on a weekly basis.

In addition to the above measures, the Council has indicated that there is an urgent need for an environmental sensitisation campaign backed by the community policing to raise the general awareness of the danger of dumping and illegal creation of wastelands to inhabitants of Residence Corps de Garde.

**BOIS MARCHAND CEMETERY – TOMBS - PROFANATION**

(No. A/237) Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Bois Marchand Cemetery, he will state if inquiries have been carried out into the cases of acts of profanation of the tombs thereat and if so, indicate in each case, the -

(a) outcome thereof, and

(b) measures that have been/will be taken to prevent the recurrence of similar acts.

**Reply:** I am informed by the Pamplemousses - Rivière du Rempart District Council that cases of acts of profanation of tombs have been noticed at the Bois Marchand Cemetery as follows –
(a) on 22 May 2012, following a site visit effected, it has been noted that two (2) vaults in Chinese Section F belonging to Wong S.K. Yeun and Wong Fa Shing families have been broken and opened, and

(b) on 29 May 2012, following a site visit effected, it has been noted that three (3) vaults in Chinese Section B belonging to Lee Chung family, Ng Hing Cheung family and Lee Kan Chun families have been damaged and opened.

I am informed that these cases have been reported to the Terre Rouge Police Station for further inquiries.

With regard to part (a) of the question, I am informed that up to now no suspect has been arrested in these cases.

As regards part (b) of the question, the Police has been requested to effect regular patrol in the region and action has been initiated at the level of the Council to clean the cemetery.

SECURITY SERVICES COMPANIES - GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS

(No. A/238) Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second 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 the security services companies, he will give a list thereof to which Government awarded contracts in 2011 and for the period January to June 2012, indicating in each case, the -

(a) names and addresses of the owners thereof;
(b) total amount of money paid thereto, and
(c) duration of the contract.

Reply: The details of the Contracts awarded are being laid in the Library.

NDU - CAPITAL PROJECTS

(No. A/239) 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 the capital projects, he will state the total amount of money spent by the National Development Unit, constituency-wise, since 2005 to 2011, on a yearly basis and for the period January to June 2012.

Reply: The information is being compiled and will be placed in the Library of the National Assembly.
BUS SERVICES - SAINT HUBERT

(No. A/240) Mr M. Seeruttun (Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the bus route No. 11, along Saint Hubert/Mahebourg and the bus route No. 87 along Saint Hubert/ Curepipe, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the National Transport Authority, information as to if it has received representations in relation to the irregular bus services thereat, thus causing inconveniences to the inhabitants of Saint Hubert and, if so, indicate if remedial measures have been/will be taken in relation thereto.

Reply: The reply is as follow -

ROUTE 11

Six buses are licensed to operate along Route 11(St Hubert to Mahebourg) which extends over a distance of 11 kms. Buses are released at an interval of 20/30 minutes.

ROUTE 87

Six buses are licensed to operate along Rouge 87 (St Hubert to Curepipe) which extends over a distance of 25 kms. The release of buses varies between 20 minutes during peak hours and one hour during off peak period.

In both cases, most of the buses are over 10 years and they are unfortunately prone to breakdowns.

Repeated complaints have been received in the past from the travelling public to the effect that the bus services along the abovementioned routes are irregular. This happens when one or two buses of either route are off the road and as such the time table of operation is disrupted. On the other hand there are no buses available to supplement the bus service.

Bus operators were informed of the repeated complaints in meetings held at the National Transport Authority (NTA) and they were requested to replace their old buses. However, operators are reluctant to do so. This might be because the routes are not economical.

Regular checks are being carried out by the inspectorate of the NTA to closely monitor the situation.
STC – WHITE OIL – LOSS INCURRED

(No. A/241) Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South & Port Louis Central) asked the Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection whether, in regard to the losses incurred due to discrepancies in the quantities of white oil found onboard the vessel, prior to discharge and after delivery, in the tanks of the oil companies, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the State Trading Corporation, information as to the monetary value thereof, since 2005 to 2011, on a yearly basis, and for the period January to June 2012.

Reply: I am informed by the State Trading Corporation that the losses due to discrepancies in the quantities of white oil found on board of vessels prior to discharge and after delivery in the tanks of oil companies for the period 2005 to 2011 and January 2012 to June 2012 stood as follows -

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>No. of vessels</th>
<th>B/L quantity (quantity found on vessel prior to discharge) in MT</th>
<th>Quantity after delivery to tanks in MT</th>
<th>Difference in MT</th>
<th>% loss/gain</th>
<th>Estimated value of discrepancy in USD</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2005</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>698,604</td>
<td>697,601</td>
<td>-1,003</td>
<td>-0.144</td>
<td>518,644</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2006</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>659,637</td>
<td>658,461</td>
<td>-1,176</td>
<td>-0.178</td>
<td>744,880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2007</td>
<td>21</td>
<td>671,313</td>
<td>670,222</td>
<td>-1,092</td>
<td>-0.163</td>
<td>739,158</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2008</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>707,664</td>
<td>707,170</td>
<td>-1,494</td>
<td>-0.211</td>
<td>1,389,671</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2009</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>644,163</td>
<td>642,411</td>
<td>-1,752</td>
<td>-0.272</td>
<td>963,481</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2010</td>
<td>18</td>
<td>677,353</td>
<td>675,247</td>
<td>-2,107</td>
<td>-0.311</td>
<td>1,499,445</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2011</td>
<td>19</td>
<td>689,246</td>
<td>687,999</td>
<td>-1,247</td>
<td>-0.181</td>
<td>1,226,413</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012 up to end June</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>352,106</td>
<td>351,263</td>
<td>-842</td>
<td>-0.239</td>
<td>863,575</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

In my reply to the Parliamentary Question B385 on 26 June 2012, I informed the House, on the basis of information given to me by the State Trading Corporation, that petroleum
products are volatile by nature. Volume discrepancies attributable to vaporisation do occur when petroleum products are shipped over distances and when transferred from tanker to on-shore fuel tanks via pipelines.

I am further informed that according to international norms, it is the practice in commercial contracts to provide for up to 0.5% discrepancy to allow for evaporation, changes in density and temperature, and especially, measurement variations.

From the records of the State Trading Corporation for the periods 2005 to 2011 and from January to June 2012, discrepancies between the readings of quantities of white oil found onboard arriving tankers prior to discharge and after delivery into the tanks of the oil companies, have never reached 0.5% of the quantities manifested on the respective Bills of Lading. These discrepancies, being immaterial, for all intents and purposes, cannot be termed as losses and cannot be quantified in monetary terms as they are not accounted for.

**PORT LOUIS SOUTH AND PORT LOUIS CENTRAL - NDU - PROJECTS**

(No. A/242) Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South & Port Louis Central) asked the vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the projects undertaken by his Ministry and the National Development Unit, in Constituency No. 2, Port Louis South and Port Louis Central, since May 2010 to-date, he will give a list thereof, indicating in each case, the -

(a) scope of works therefor;
(b) cost involved, and
(c) start and completion dates thereof.

**Reply:** The information is being compiled and will be placed in the Library of the National Assembly.

**MONTAGNE BLANCHE - FIRE STATION - CONSTRUCTION**

(No. A/244) Mr P. Jhugroo (First Member for Mahebourg & Plaine Magnien) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the proposed construction of a new fire station in Montagne Blanche, he will, for the benefit of the House,
obtain from the Government Fire Services, information as to if land has already been earmarked therefor and if so, indicate the -

(a) location thereof;
(b) extent of land therefor, and
(c) expected start and completion dates thereof.

Reply: I am informed that the -

(a) Ministry of Housing and Lands had, in September 1999, vested a plot of land located along the road B27 Bel Air - Montagne Blanche, near the Montagne Blanche Fair, in my Ministry, for the construction of a Fire Station;

(b) extent of the land is 3,758m² (OA89), and

(c) project has been scheduled for implementation in years 2014-2015 as per the Government Programme 2012-2015.

GRAND’BAIE - MR. F. A. – SEWERAGE HOUSE CONNECTION

(No. A/246) Mr A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Waste Water Management Authority, information as to if one Mr. F. A. has submitted an application for a house connection to the sewerage system, at the Iqbal Road, in Grand’Baie, and if so, indicate if same has already been effected, indicating when and, if not, why not.

Reply: I am informed by the Wastewater Management Authority that Mr F. A. has, on 04 May 2012, submitted an application for connection of his premises to the sewerage network.

Application for house connections are dealt with on a first come first serve basis. I am informed that Mr F. A.’s application ranks 221 on a list of 451 applications for the regions of Port Louis, Baie du Tombeau and Grand’Baie.

WMA has requested the contractor appointed to execute the work, to carry out a preliminary field reconnaissance survey and preparation of the detailed design drawing. Subject to wayleave being obtained from the District Council, the works will be undertaken.