

Debate No. 9

Parliamentary Questions - 20 May 2003

MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Questions of which notice has been given Requiring an Oral answer
Sitting of Tuesday 20 May 2003

Questions addressed to the Right Honourable Prime Minister

B/320 The Honourable Third Member for Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac
(Mr Baloomoody)

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

Whether, in regard to fixed penalty offences, he will consider the advisability of allowing the offenders to pay the fine in a jurisdiction of their choice, rather than at the place or in the district where the offence was committed?

B/321 The Honourable Fourth Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Dr David)

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, state if it is an established policy at the MBC to use pin codes to monitor the phone calls of journalists?

B/322 The Honourable Third Member for Grand' Baie and Poudre d'Or (Mr Dullo)

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, ascertain if the Police is inquiring into cases of embezzlement of funds deposited at the Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd. by the National Pension Fund, the National Savings Fund, the State Insurance Company of Mauritius Ltd., the Sugar Insurance Fund Board and Air Mauritius and, if not, why not and will he further ascertain what actions, if any, are being taken?

B/323 The Honourable Third Member for Grand' Baie and Poudre d'Or (Mr Dullo)

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, ascertain if the Police is carrying out a full fledged inquiry into cases of embezzlement, forgery and other criminal offences in the managing and transferring of funds at the National Pension Fund and in the National Savings Fund, particularly in the transactions these two Funds hold with the Mauritius Commercial Bank Ltd. and, if not, why not and will he further ascertain what actions, if any, are being taken?

B/324 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Central
(Dr Beebeejaun)

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

Whether Government proposes to introduce a rural tax and, if so, will he, in regard to the NDU, state whether (a) it will be dissolved (b) the budget previously allocated to it will be added to the total grant in aid of the local authorities and (c) members of its senior staff have been invited to take early retirement and, if so, how many have responded positively?

B/325 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Central
(Dr Beebeejaun)

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

Whether Government is contemplating replacing or restyling the post of Parliamentary Private Secretary and, if so, will he provide details as to the appellation and responsibilities of the new post?

B/326 The Honourable Third Member for Pamplemousses and Triolet (Mr Hurnam)

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

Whether steps have been taken or are being taken for the setting up of a special court to hear expeditiously cases of accused parties who have been caught red handed or intend to plead guilty before the *Tribunal des Flagrants Delits* in France?

B/327 The Honourable Third Member for Pamplemousses and Triolet (Mr Hurnam)

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, ascertain the date on which a Sex Discrimination Division has been set up within the National Human Rights Commission and indicate if a Vice-Chairman and another member have been identified and, in the affirmative, will he state their conditions of employment or proposed employment and whether the posts were advertised?

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

B/328 The Honourable Second Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Sakaram)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether, in regard to the importation of motor vehicles, he will for the period 01 January to 30 April 2003 (a) give a monthly breakdown of the number of reconditioned vehicles for which permits were issued and (b) give the number of new cars imported?

B/329 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Information Technology and Telecommunications-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House (a) ascertain the investment effected by the Mauritius Telecom for its subsidiary company in South Africa and (b) in regard to that subsidiary, (i) state its present status and the date of its setting up and (ii) state the name of its Chairman and his remuneration and (iii) table its financial statement/s to date?

B/330 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dowarkasing)

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

Whether, in regard to the *Chateau Mon Plaisir*, he will state (a) if any renovation work was carried out between year 1995 and year 2000, and, if so, will he state (i) the contract value (ii) the name of the contractor, indicating if any overpayment has been effected and, if so, the quantum thereof and (b) the action, if any, taken against the contractor?

B/331 The Honourable Second Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mrs Labelle)

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

Whether, in regard to courses followed by primary school teachers, he will state whether the latter are attending such courses during primary class hours?

B/332 The Honourable Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle (Dr Boolell)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Labour & Industrial Relations:-

Whether there were established criteria for the selection of labourers to be transferred to SIT Land Holdings Ltd. when it acquired the 7000 A in the Illovo deal?

B/333 The Honourable Second Member for Vieux Grand Port and Rose Belle (Dr Boolell)

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

Whether he will state when the toilets at the Aryan Vedic Primary school will be repaired?

B/334 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Chumroo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life:-

Whether, in regard to the Long Mountain hospital, he will state (a) when the renovation work at the female ward will be completed and when the ward will be operational and (b) whether the block damaged by cyclone Dina will be reconstructed?

B/335 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Chumroo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Food Technology and Natural Resources:-

Whether he will give the composition of the Small Planters Welfare Fund Board and state the activities carried out by the Fund so far?

B/336 The Honourable Second Member for Rodrigues (Mr Speville)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Fisheries:-

Whether he will state if it has come to light that, as a result of heavy rains over the past months, there has been an increase of stone-fish in the lagoon around mainland Mauritius and Rodrigues and, if so, will he state (a) what measures he proposes to take to eradicate or to reduce their number and (b) whether he will initiate a sensitization campaign around the coastal regions amongst fishermen and villagers on the danger thereof and the first aid precautions to be taken in case of bite?

B/337 The Honourable Second Member for Rodrigues (Mr Speville)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life:-

Whether he will state if anti-virus serum is available in all health centres and dispensaries in mainland Mauritius and Rodrigues on the coastal region and the SAMU?

B/338 The Honourable Second Member for Rodrigues (Mr Speville)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, ascertain (a) the number of applications for electricity supply in Rodrigues and for which applicants have already paid the costs, but have not been connected since 01 March 2003 (b) if the delay is due to lack of output in the power supply and lack of manpower and, in the latter case will he consider the advisability of arranging for the appointment of work inspectors on the CEB establishment in Rodrigues?

B/339 The Honourable Second Member for Rodrigues (Mr Speville)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether, having regard to the merger of the MCB and the Post Office Savings Bank, he will state if he has any plan for the transfer of the undertaking of the Savings Bank in Rodrigues and, if so, will he make a statement thereon?

B/340 The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite
Rivière (Mr Allet)

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

Whether Government envisages to put up a primary school at Albion village and, if so will he say when and if land therefor is available?

B/341 The Honourable Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite
Rivière (Mr Allet)

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

Whether, in regard to the Petite Rivière Social Security Office, he will state if facilities available thereat, such as public toilets and benches for those attending the office, especially the senior citizens, will be upgraded?

B/342 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Central
(Dr Beebeejaun)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether there is a ban on the importation of beef and beef products from Europe and, if so, will he give the reasons thereof?

B/343 The Honourable Third Member for Grand' Baie and Poudre d'Or (Mr Dulloo)

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

Whether, in regard to the merger of the MCB and the Post Office Savings Bank to form the Mauritius Post and Co-operative Bank Ltd., he will (a) state when and how all the depositors and savers of the Savings Bank were so informed to obtain their consent and when and how was the said consent of all depositors and savers so obtained and (b) table all the papers and correspondence in connection therewith?

B/344 The Honourable Third Member for Grand' Baie and Poudre d'Or (Mr Dulloo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Rodrigues and Minister of Housing and Lands:-

Whether, in regard to the joint hotel venture between St Félix S.E. and Ananda Resorts, he will state if (a) a lease of Pas Géométriques or State land has been applied therefor and whether it has been granted and, if so, will he make a statement on the terms and conditions attached thereto and (b) a permit to remove or dredge sand has been applied for and granted, indicating the way the sand is to be disposed of and the total market value of the whole amount of sand?

B/345 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Hookoom)

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

Whether any request for the setting up of a Dental College and Hospital in Mauritius by the KM Shah Charitable Trust has been considered by Government and, if so, whether he will state what has been the outcome?

B/346 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Hookoom)

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

Whether, in regard to the visits abroad by the present Chairman and the previous Chairman of the Technical School Management Trust Fund Board (TSMTF), he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain (a) the number (b) the countries and institutions visited (c) the amount disbursed from the TSMTF funds in terms of air tickets, allowances and other expenses?

B/347 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Dr Hookoom)

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

Whether he will make a statement on the various hotel projects approved since October 2000 by Government, indicating their respective values and whether any of such projects have actually started?

André Pompon
Clerk of the National Assembly

National Assembly
Parliament House
Port Louis

14 May 2003

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A/20 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr
Dowarkasing)

*To ask the Honourable Minister of Local Government and Rodrigues and Minister of
Housing and Lands:-*

**Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Grand
Port/Savanne District Council information as to (a) the number and names of
roads resurfaced in the villages of Midlands 16^eme Mille since October 2000 (b)
the number of drains and pavements constructed since October 2000 and (c)
the amount of money spent in the construction of sports facilities since
October 2000?**

A/21 The Honourable Second Member for Vacoas and Floreal (Mr Sakaram)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Commerce and Co-operatives:-

**Whether he will, for the benefit of students, consider the advisability of
arranging for the price of coloured ink for the purpose of printing of
documents for their projects to be brought down?**

André Pompon
Clerk of the National Assembly

National Assembly
Parliament House
Port Louis

14 May 2003