

MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**Questions of which notice has been given****Requiring an Oral Answer****Sitting of Tuesday 09 August 2005****Questions addressed to Dr the Honourable Prime Minister,
Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service &
Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands**

I B/1 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether he is aware that the Police Complaints Investigation Bureau is being perceived as being party and judge at the same time by reason of the fact that the Bureau is part of the Police Force and, if so, will he consider the advisability of having the Bureau detached from the Force?

I B/2 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (Mr Soodhun)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether there have recently been changes in the composition of some Boards of parastatal organizations and, if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, ascertain whether the employees thereof have been paid their wages and other benefits within the time limit laid down in the Labour Act?

I B/3 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether he will state if during his recent meeting with the French President at the COI Meeting in Madagascar he raised the issue of Tromelin Island and, if so, will he state if he claimed sovereignty over same, and whether he will give details on the issue raised and, if no such issue was raised, will he say why?

I B/4 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr Barbier)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether, in regard to the case of Mr Steeve Labonne who died as a result of an incident at the GRNW prison, he will state the cause of the incident and say whether any inquiry into the matter has been conducted?

I B/5 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr Barbier)

To ask Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister of Rodrigues & Outer Islands:-

Whether he is aware that at a recent landing of the ADSU at the Beau Bassin prison, 22 small packets (*sachets*) of heroin were discovered and, if so, will state if any Prison Officer has been arrested or suspended?

**Questions addressed to Honourable Ministers, other than
Dr the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence & Home
Affairs, Minister of Civil Service & Administrative Reforms and Minister
of Rodrigues & Outer Islands**

I B/6 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Mr Boodhoo)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether, in regard to the new market at Rivière du Rempart, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart District Council, information as to (a) the cost of the project (b) the procedures laid down for the lease of a stall and the cost thereof (c) who will be responsible for the allotment of stalls and (d) the number available as well as the number of applicants therefor todate?

I B/7 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Mr Boodhoo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports:-

Whether he is aware that there is a lack of football playgrounds in the village of Rivière du Rempart and, if so, whether he will consider the advisability of arranging for an additional one to be put up?

I B/8 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Mr Boodhoo)

To ask the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications:-

Whether, in regard to development in the tourism sector, he will state if he is aware that the North East coastal area of Mauritius has been completely neglected and, if so, will he consider its development as a matter of priority?

I B/9 The Honourable Second Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Mr Boodhoo)

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

Whether, in regard to double taxation agreements entered into by Mauritius he will (a) give the number of such new agreements signed by Mauritius between 01 October 2000 and June 2005 and (b) the reason/s, if any, for the cancellation of the agreement between Mauritius and Indonesia and the steps taken then to prevent such cancellation?

I B/10 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

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

Whether he is aware that landslides often occur at Mont Ory along the road leading from the trunk road to the village and, if so, will he consider the advisability of arranging for retaining walls to be constructed thereat and, if so, when and, if not, why not?

I B/11 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether, in regard to the Heads of the Mahatma Gandhi Secondary Schools and the Rabindranath Tagore Secondary School he will state (a) when such schools became operational (b) the title of the posts at their respective inception and their respective title to date (c) if the same privileges, pay packet, allowances and title of post in State Secondary Schools and/or Confessional Secondary Schools were resorted to and, if not, why not and (d) upon whose advice or recommendation was the practice followed?

I B/12 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether, in regard to the Mahatma Gandhi Secondary Schools he will state (a) if they are equipped with (i) a Biology, Chemistry or Physics laboratory, volleyball pitch, basketball pitch and football playground (b) if any sporting facility and Domestic Science Room and/or a Design and Communication Room and Library exist and, if not, why not (c) if the prevocational classes conducted thereat are equipped with any workshop facilities and, if not, why not and (d) the arrangements, if any, made or to be made for the provision of the above basic facilities?

I B/13 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (Mr Dayal)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether he is aware that the cremation ground of Ripailles, St Pierre is in a pitiable state and, if so, will he make necessary arrangements towards upgrading same, including its fencing and the provision of other basic amenities and, if so, when and, if not, why not?

I B/14 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

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

Whether Government has decided to reopen the Mahebourg Hospital and, if so, will he state if Government proposes to extend and modernize the said hospital and indicate the steps he proposes to take in this connection?

I B/15 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands:-

Whether there are legal or other implications regarding the lease of land on which stand the houses of the inhabitants of Cité Tole, Mahebourg and whether he will state what steps he has taken or proposes to take for them to obtain their relevant documents?

I B/16 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (Mr Varma)

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

Whether, having regard to the textile and other factories that have closed down in the Constituency of Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien, he will (a) give the number of workers (i) sent away (ii) redeployed and (iii) unemployed and (b) state the steps, if any, taken to find suitable or corresponding jobs for them?

I B/17 The Honourable Second Member for Flacq and Bon Accueil (Dr Mungur)

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

Whether, in regard to the renovation and refurbishment of the State House, he will state the amount spent for (a) furniture and (b) the purchase of kitchen equipment?

I B/18 The Honourable Second Member for Flacq and Bon Accueil (Dr Mungur)

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

Whether, in regard to the last exercise carried out for the recruitment of 388 Health Care Assistants, he will state if an inquiry is being carried out or will be carried out thereinto at the level of his Ministry with a view to

determining the circumstances of such recruitment and, if so, by whom is the inquiry being or will be conducted?

I B/19 The Honourable Second Member for Flacq and Bon Accueil (Dr Mungur)

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

Whether, in regard to the HIV/AIDS, he will state (a) the number of cases for each of the years (i) 1995 to 2000 (ii) 2000 to 2005 and say if any Committee or Task Force was set up to look into all the aspects of the problem and, if so will he give the composition of such Committee or Task Force, indicating the name of its Chairman and the number of meetings held?

I B/20 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (Mr Soodhun)

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

Whether any accident occurred at the Samlo Koyenco Ltd premises in June 2005 and, if so, whether (a) (i) it was reported that 4 workers sustained severe injuries (ii) an inquiry has been carried out by his Ministry to ascertain the cause thereof and its outcome, indicating if legal action has been initiated by his Ministry (b) any remedial action has been taken by the employer and (c) any compensation has been paid by the employer to the workers and, if so, the quantum thereof?

I B/21 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports:-

Whether it is the practice of Government to put at the disposal of elected members of the National Assembly the different sports complexes or other premises falling under the aegis of his Ministry to enable them to receive their respective constituents and, if so, will he table a list of premises that may be used for the above purposes?

I B/22 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands
(Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, ascertain (a) the rate chargeable for waste water users under the Sector Policy Paper adopted by Government in January 1998 and (b) if a fresh policy will be implemented to bring down the waste water charges and, if so, will he state the new rates thereof?

I B/23 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands
(Mr Dowarkasing)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Arts and Culture:-

Whether, in regard to the Millennium Tower, he will state (a) the initial cost of the project (b) the amount spent on its maintenance on (i) a monthly basis (ii) a yearly basis, and say if there is at present a crack in its structure and, if so, whether it has been reported to him that such crack constitutes a threat to visitors and indicate (i) the number of visitors since its construction to date and (ii) the arrangements, if any, made to have it included in the touristic itineraries ?

I B/24 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (Mr Gunness)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether colleges which were previously not admitting pupils in Form I such as the Royal Colleges and the Queen Elizabeth College will do so for the January 2006 intake and, if so, will he state the criteria that will be used for such admission?

I B/25 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (Mr Gunness)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands:-

Whether, in regard to squatters occupying NHDC houses, he will state if (a) any social inquiry relating thereto has been conducted and, if so, if it has been completed and the outcome thereof and (b) any action is being taken to determine the real and genuine hardship cases?

I B/26 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (Mr Gunness)

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

Whether he is aware that certain squatters are now residing under tents and, if so, will he state if they are being medically followed up?

I B/27 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (Mr Lauthan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Women's Rights, Child Development, Family Welfare and Consumer Protection:-

Whether she is aware of the recent dramatic death of baby Anita Konsita Jolita and the positive awareness and responsible response from NGOs and the public at large condemning same and, if so, will she state the preventive measures that her Ministry intends to take to avoid as far as possible the recurrence of similar crimes?

I B/28 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (Mr Lauthan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources:-

Whether he will state if there is a problem of space for the admission exercise of January 2006 in State Secondary Schools and, if so, will he state the measures he proposes to take to remedy same?

I B/29 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (Mr Lauthan)

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

Whether he will state if the National Plan of Action on HIV/AIDS, particularly in the fields of sensitization, screening and the provision of anti-retrovirus drip to HIV/AIDS patients has been implemented and, if so, will he state if his Ministry will continue such implementation?

I B/30 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (Mr Barbier)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Industry, Small & Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether he will state if the price of powder milk, butter, Kraft cheddar cheese and chicken has gone up and, if so, will he state the reason/s therefor and say what measures he proposes to take to address the issue of increase in the price of these commodities?

I B/31 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Jhugroo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Industry, Small & Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether he is aware that there has been an increase in the sale price of flavoured Complan from Rs 178.50 to Rs 185.00 and Casilan from Rs 223.50 to Rs 230.00 and, if so, will he state what measures, if any, he has taken to prevent the price of such commodities from going up?

I B/32 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (Mr Jhugroo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Industry, Small & Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Co-operatives:-

Whether he is aware that the price of the Mauvilac and the Permoglaze paints has gone up in each case by approximately 10% since 11 July 2005 and, if so, will he state what preventive measures he has taken in that connection?

R. R. Dowlutta
Clerk of the National Assembly

Parliament House

Port Louis

04 August 2005