

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

MADAGASCAR – POLITICAL CRISIS

(No. B/16) Mr N. Bodha (First Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs whether, in regard to Madagascar, he will state the latest political development, indicating –

- (a) the role of the regional and international organisations of which both Mauritius and Madagascar are members in finding a solution to resolve the crisis, and
- (b) the situation of the Mauritian community living in Madagascar.

Reply: The accession to power of Mr Rajoelina has been condemned by the International Community. The U.S. has stated that it will suspend all non-humanitarian aid to Madagascar, calling the forced departure of Ravalomanana was "tantamount to a *coup d'Etat*". The Indian Ocean Commission has condemned the transfer of power while the Southern African Development Community, has refused to recognise Mr Rajoelina. Norway, which gives about \$14 m. in annual aid, has frozen funding. The EU Presidency has also denounced what has happened as a "*coup d'Etat*". The African Union has suspended Madagascar and also asked that all steps be taken to ensure the safety of the former President.

An Extra Ordinary Summit of the SADC Troika of the Organ on Politics, Defence and Security was held on 19 March and the Executive Secretary of SADC, Dr Salomao, was mandated to engage the African Union, the United Nations and all other role players to help define a comprehensive and coherent strategy that would lead to the resolution of the situation in Madagascar.

A SADC delegation visited Madagascar from 23 to 25 March and has called for the return to constitutional order, and requested Mr Rajoelina to hold Presidential elections at the earliest.

As the House may be aware, a SADC Extraordinary Summit of Heads of State and Government to discuss the political crisis in Madagascar took place yesterday in Swaziland, which Dr the hon. Prime Minister personally attended.

With regard to part (b) of the Parliamentary Question, I wish to inform the hon. members of the House that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade, has been in contact with our Ambassador in Antananarivo to ensure that the Mauritian Community living in Madagascar are safe. So far, there has been no Mauritian casualty. Mr. Lemaire, our Ambassador, has been interacting constantly with the security forces in Madagascar and intervened to ensure that security be reinforced in regions where there are large numbers Mauritian community. Our nationals have been advised to remain vigilant and cautious and have been reassured that Government will provide necessary assistance as and when the security situation warrants.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration & International Trade is closely monitoring the developments and is in touch with our Mission in Antananarivo on regular basis.

**FACT FINDING COMMITTEE – MRS I. M.
– ALLEGATIONS AGAINST**

(No. B/22) Mr J. C. Barbier (Third Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs whether, in regard to the Fact Finding Committee set up to inquire into the allegations made against Mrs I. M., Board Member of the Independent Commission Against Corruption, he will state the fees paid or to be paid to the Chairman of the Committee.

(Withdrawn)

ELECTIONS – CODE OF CONDUCT

(No. B/23) Mr S. Naidu (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Prime Minister, Minister of Defence and Home Affairs whether he will state if Government proposes to amend the electoral legislations to make provisions for a Code of Conduct to complement the legal provisions in force regarding the holding and conduct of elections in Mauritius.

(Withdrawn)

CITÉ LOYSEAU AND CITÉ MANGALKHAN – FOOTBALL GROUNDS – LIGHTING

(No. B/61) Mr N. Bodha (First Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Minister of Environment and National Development Unit whether, in regard to the football grounds at Cité Loyseau and Cité Mangalkhan in Constituency No. 16, Vacoas and Floreal, he will state if he will consider installing lighting facilities thereat and, if so, when.

Reply: I shall shortly request the Consultant Luxconsult to effect a site visit on both sites and provide the cost estimates. Once the cost estimates would be made available, necessary action would be initiated.

LE REDUIT/TERRE ROUGE – LINKING ROAD

(No. B/62) Mr N. Bodha (First Member for Vacoas & Floreal) asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the project for the construction of a new road linking Le Réduit to Terre Rouge, he will state where matters stand.

Reply: Following approval of the China Exim Bank, bids for the Terre Rouge-Verdun Road was invited from the four short listed Chinese bidders in September 2008. The bids received ranged between Rs2.8 to Rs3.4 billion whereas the project was estimated at Rs2.1 billion (inclusive of vat) in 2008.

In view of the variance between the estimated costs and the bids, the Central Procurement Board decided to call for fresh financial proposals from all the bidders. The matter was challenged in February 2009 by one of the bidders, Beijing Construction Engineering Co. Ltd.

Subsequently, in March 2009 the Supreme Court ordered that negotiations be conducted with the lowest responsive bidder. The Central Procurement Board has started negotiations.

AIR MAURITIUS LTD. – HEDGING CONTRACTS

(No. B/63) Mr A. Ganoo (First Member for Savanne and Black River) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications whether, in regard to the financial situation of Air Mauritius Ltd. he will state –

- (a) the losses incurred by the Company on its hedging contracts up to period ending 15 March 2009;
- (b) the projected amount of unrealized losses on unexpired hedging contracts maturing up to August 2010 based on current fuel price;
- (c) the amount of money the Company has had to issue in terms of collaterals so far;
- (d) the amount of money Government has pledged as guarantee so far, and
- (e) the projected losses at the end of March 2009.

(Vide reply to PQ No. B/30)

MAURITIUS TELECOM - TRADE UNIONISTS – RE-INSTATEMENT

(No. B/64) Mr A. Ganoo (First Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment whether, in regard to the re-instatement of the two trade unionists of the Mauritius Telecom, Mr R. R. and Mr I. C., he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Telecom, information as to where matters stand.

(Vide reply to PQ No. B/28)

BERJAYA HOTEL – EMPLOYEES – NUMBER

(No. B/65) Mr A. Ganoo (First Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment whether, in regard to the Berjaya Hotel, he will state –

- (a) the number of employees still in employment out of the previous total work force;
- (b) if renovation works are still in progress and, if so, when same will be completed, and
- (c) if the new owners took an undertaking not to lay off any employee pending the re-opening of the establishment.

Reply: I am informed that as at 26 March 2009, 124 employees were still in employment. Of the 190 employees in employment as at July 2008, as mentioned in my reply to PQ No. B/962 of last year, 66 have left following payment of a package negotiated by them with management.

As regards part (b) of the question, I am informed that renovation works are ongoing and, according to management, these works will be completed during the first quarter of 2010.

As for part (c) of the question, I am given to understand that the answer is in the negative. However, I am informed that in a letter dated 13 April 2007, the new owners had assured my Ministry that the interest and rights of the employees will be safeguarded in accordance with the laws of the country.

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT 2008 – EMPLOYEES – LAID OFF

(No. B/66) Mr A. Ganoo (First Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment whether, in regard to the layoff of employees, since August 2008, he will state –

- (a) the number thereof;
- (b) the names of the companies which have laid off their work force and
- (c) if Government proposes to review the Employment Rights Act 2008 to amend the procedure relating to layoffs.

(Vide reply to PNQ)

TERTIARY EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS (FOREIGN) – PERMITS

(No. B/67) Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun (Third Member for La Caverne & Phoenix) asked the Minister of Education, Culture and Human Resources whether, in regard to the granting of permits to foreign tertiary educational institutions wishing to operate in the Republic of Mauritius, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Tertiary Education Commission, information as to the criteria used by the Commission for the granting thereof.

(Withdrawn)

MAURAS SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY – OPERATION

(No. B/68) Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun (Third Member for La Caverne & Phoenix) asked the Minister of Education, Culture and Human Resources whether, in regard to the Mauras School of Dentistry, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Tertiary Education Commission, information as to –

- (a) the date on which the application for its operation was made;
- (b) the date of approval;
- (c) the institution to which the Mauras School of Dentistry is affiliated, and
- (d) the number of students who have completed the Bachelor in Dental Surgery Course from the School of Dentistry.

(Withdrawn)

MAURAS SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY – STUDENTS - REGISTRATION

(No. B/69) Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun (Third Member for La Caverne & Phoenix) asked the Minister of Health and Quality of Life whether, in regard to the students of the Mauras School of Dentistry, he will state the number thereof who have been registered at the Dental Council of Mauritius.

(Withdrawn)

EMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT 2008 – EMPLOYEES – LAIDOFF, WORKFORCE PROGRAMME

(No. B/70) Mr S. Soodhun (Fifth Member for La Caverne & Phoenix) asked the Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations and Employment whether, in regard to the layoff of employees since the promulgation of the Employment Rights Act 2008, he will state the number of employees who have –

- (a) been laid off and paid compensation;
- (b) registered for the workforce programme after being laid off .

(Vide reply to PNQ)

ENTERPRISES – CLOSING DOWN

(No. B/71) Mr S. Soodhun (First Member for La Caverne & Phoenix) asked the Minister of Industry, Science and Research whether in regard to the financial crisis, he will state –

- (a) the number of enterprises which have closed down in the Export Processing Zone and the non Export Processing Zone sectors since July 2008 to date, and
- (b) the remedial measures that are being taken.

Reply: At the very outset, I would like to state that closures and establishment of new enterprises have always been part of the dynamic environment of the Export Oriented Enterprises Sector, formerly called the EPZ Sector. Not all the closures registered, therefore, since July 2008 can be attributed exclusively to the financial crisis. After this clarification, I wish to inform the House that -

- (i) 15 enterprises in the Export Oriented Enterprises (EOE) Sector, formerly the EPZ sector, closed down since July 2008 to date; and
- (ii) 4 non-EOE manufacturing enterprises employing 10 or more persons closed down between July 2008 and March 2009.

As regards to part (b) of the question, Government is implementing in a proactive matter various remedial measures to support the export and domestic enterprises. Some specific measures have also be taken to deal with the current financial crisis. A highlight of these measures include -

First, the creation of a Rs500 m. Manufacturing Adjustment and SME Development Fund within the 2008/2009 Budget with a view to sharpening the competitiveness of Mauritian enterprises to face the challenges of globalization. As at today the fund has already approved 51 projects amounting to Rs474 m. Some of the major projects comprise the Technology Diffusion Scheme, the Productivity and Competitiveness Improvement Scheme. Equipment Modernisation Scheme and the Market Intelligence and Export Promotion Schemes. Enterprise Mauritius has already embarked on the implementation of 25 projects aiming at upgrading the export capability of enterprises through a range of interventions in such

areas as productivity improvement, product development, market diversification and export promotion.

Second, as the house is aware, Government introduced an Additional Stimulus Package in December 2008 to the tune of Rs10.4 billion to shore up the economy and to mitigate the adverse effects of the global economic slow down. Under this package one billion rupees have been provided for easing the cash flow problems of enterprises. The Mechanism for Transitional Support to the Private Sector (MTSP) under the Additional Stimulus Package has so far received 10 applications for a financial rescue package. Each application is evaluated on its own merit on a case to case basis before a decision is taken. One application has been approved and the other cases are being processed.

Let me seize this opportunity to clarify that the Mechanism for Transitional Support to the Private Sector (MTSP) caters also for Small and Medium Enterprises and not only for large enterprises.

Third, the repo rate has been revised downward to reduce the cost of finance and to enhance the competitiveness of the Mauritian enterprises while stimulating demand.

Fourth, 13 projects will be implemented through a grant of Rs70 m. from the *Agence Française de Développement* (AFD) to enhance the trade capacity of our export-oriented sector. The agreement was signed between my Ministry and AFD on 18 February 2009.

Fifth, Enterprise Mauritius is implementing a project relating to export readiness of enterprises with financial assistance from the European Union under the Decentralised Cooperation Programme.

On the other hand, the UNIDO under a SADC initiative is developing an Industrial Upgrading and Modernisation Programme (IUMP) for Mauritius. The aim of this programme is to support the process of modernisation, growth and competitiveness of industries and related services.

Over and above these measures, Enterprise Mauritius (EM) conducts regular visits and carries out health checks to identify the needs of enterprises in terms of productivity, coaching, capacity building, finance, marketing and provide appropriate assistance. Moreover, my Ministry is organizing the AGOA week to sensitise economic operators to tap

opportunities generated with the derogation of 3rd Country Fabrics under AGOA.

All these foregoing measures clearly demonstrate the commitment and seriousness of the Government to support the manufacturing sector to mitigate the adverse effects of the global economic downturn and meet future challenges with confidence.

In fact, the current difficulty facing our enterprises is also an opportunity for us to revisit our business models and strategies and to move up the global value chain.

RODRIGUES – CAPITAL BUDGET – AMOUNT DISBURSED

(No. B/72) Mr A. Nancy (First Member for Rodrigues) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to the capital budget earmarked for Rodrigues in the 2008-2009 Budget, he will give a detailed breakdown of the amount of fund disbursed as to today.

Reply (The Minister of Local Government, Rodrigues & Outer Islands): I am informed that as at 30 March 2009, an amount of Rs118,308,205.83 (one hundred and eighteen million three hundred and eight thousand two hundred and five rupees and eighty-three cents) has already been disbursed to the Rodrigues Regional Assembly. A detailed breakdown of the amount disbursed is being laid in the Library of the Assembly.

RODRIGUES – TOURISM SECTOR - ADDITIONAL STIMULUS PACKAGE

(No. B/73) Mr A. Nancy (First Member for Rodrigues) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to the economic crisis prevailing in Rodrigues, he will state if Government will propose an Additional Stimulus Package to boost up the tourism sector and other small enterprises which are encountering difficulties.

(Vide reply to PQ No. B/27)

RODRIGUES/MAURITIUS – PEOPLE TRAVELLING BY SHIP - NUMBER

(No. B/74) Mr A. Nancy (First Member for Rodrigues) asked the Minister of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands whether, in regard to people travelling from Rodrigues to Mauritius by ship, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Shipping Corporation Ltd., information as to the number thereof on a monthly basis from January 2008 to date.

Reply: I am informed by the Mauritius Shipping Corporation Ltd that a total number of 8,390 passengers have travelled from Rodrigues to Mauritius on the vessels of the Mauritius Shipping Corporation, that is, Mauritius Pride and Mauritius Trochetia for the period January 2008 to February 2009. The breakdown on a monthly basis is being tabled.

ADDITIONAL STIMULUS PACKAGE – AMOUNT DISBURSED - COMPANIES

(No. B/75) Mr J. Cuttaree (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to the Additional Stimulus Package, he will state –

- (a) the amount of funds disbursed or earmarked for disbursement, and
- (b) the names of the companies which have benefited or will benefit from the package, indicating the funds disbursed or earmarked to be disbursed to each of them.

(Vide reply to PQ No. B/27)

PRIVATE SECTOR - EMPLOYEES – WAGES – 1% DEDUCTION

(No. B/76) **Mr J. Cuttaree (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill)** asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to the wages of the employees of the private sector, he will state what the total amount of one percent deduction therefrom represents monthly.

Reply (The Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity & Senior Citizens Welfare & Reform Institutions): The new legislation requiring private sector employees to pay to the National Savings Fund, contributions representing 1% of their basic wage (up to a ceiling of Rs9,435) came into effect as from 02 February 2009.

Given that big employers, that is those having 50 or more employees, pay their contributions electronically and have up to the 31 March 2009 to effect payment for the month of February 2009, we cannot at this stage give the exact amount to be collected as 1% contributions.

However, on the basis of the 2.5% NSF contributions paid for the previous months, we estimate that the additional 1% contributions will represent approximatively Rs16.4 m. per month.

I need to point out that the 1% contributions are payable on the basic wage up to a ceiling of Rs9,435; hence the maximum contributions payable by an employee earning above Rs9,435, will be Rs94 per month; and for an employee earning below Rs9,435, the contributions will be less than Rs94 per month.

For example, an employee with a basic wage of Rs4,000 will pay only Rs40. per month;

I must draw the attention of the house that, where the worker has never claimed the Transitional Unemployment Benefit, his 1% contributions and any recycling fee in his account, along with accrued interests, will be refunded to him on retirement.

CAMP LEVIEUX NHDC ESTATE – WATER LEAKAGE

(No. B/77) Mr J. Cuttaree (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Housing and Lands whether he will state if he is aware of the water leakage problem in the apartments at the NHDC Estate at Camp Levieux and, if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the National Housing Development Company Ltd. information as to the remedial measures it proposes to take.

(Withdrawn)

DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS - ADDITIONAL STIMULUS PACKAGE

(No. B/78) Mr J. Cuttaree (Second Member for Stanley & Rose Hill) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to the Additional Stimulus Package, he will state if Government proposes to extend to first time buyers of residential property for development projects exemption from registration duty.

(Vide reply to P. Q. No. B/27)

RODRIGUES – ECONOMIC BULBS – SALE

(No. B/79) Mr J. R. Spéville (Second Member for Rodrigues) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities whether, in regard to the sale of economic bulbs to consumers in Rodrigues, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Central Electricity Board, information as to if a delegation of the Board recently proceeded to Rodrigues for the launching thereof and, if so, will he state -

- (a) its composition, and
- (b) a breakdown of the expenses incurred in connection therewith.

Reply: I am informed that a delegation comprising the Chairman, the General Manager and the Corporate Planning and Research Manager proceeded to Rodrigues for the launching of the sale of CFL lamps, which was held on Monday 16 February 2009.

The expenses incurred in connection with the visit of the delegation is -

Air Tickets	Rs25,725
Hotel Accommodation	Rs13,061.25
Food and Beverages	Rs 8,809.00

An amount of Rs42,173 was spent for the launching ceremony which included about 150 guests and Rs13,834 for a Working Dinner with the Chief Commissioner and other members from the Rodrigues Regional Assembly.

RODRIGUES – VULNERABLE GROUPS – HOUSING ALLOCATION

(No. B/80) Mr J. R. Spéville (Second Member for Rodrigues) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Empowerment whether, in regard to the allocation of houses to the vulnerable groups in Rodrigues, he will state if any housing project has recently been approved and, if so –

- (a) indicate the eligibility criteria, and
- (b) table a list of the beneficiaries thereof.

Reply: I am informed that on 10 October 2008, the Management Committee of the Trust Fund for the Social Integration of Vulnerable Groups approved the construction of 21 housing units for vulnerable families in Rodrigues for a total sum of Rs2,221,795.

With regard to part (a) of the question, the beneficiary should satisfy the following criteria –

- (a) household income being less than Rs4,000 monthly;
- (b) beneficiary should be the owner of land or should have a lease agreement, and

- (c) the existing house is in poor state, is overcrowded or the beneficiary does not own a house;

As far as part (b) of the question is concerned, the list of 21 beneficiaries is being tabled.

RODRIGUES –SIR GAËTAN DUVAL AIRPORT - RUNWAY

(No. B/81) Mr J. Von-Mally (Fourth Member for Rodrigues) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications whether, in regard to the construction of a new runway at the Sir Gaëtan Duval Airport, Plaine Corail, he will state where matters stand.

Reply: (The Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications): The existing runway at the Sir Gaëtan Duval Airport is of 1278 m and only ATR 72 crafts are able to service Rodrigues Island. Thus, the present airport infrastructure do not cater for cargo operations and impacts negatively on the number of passengers visiting the island.

With a view to promoting the economic development of the island, Government decided to undertake a feasibility study of the airport development project which will comprise –

- (a) a new runway of 2100 m length (for the short-term) with the possibility of extension up to 3000m;
- (b) the reduction in cost of the project through a new alignment of the proposed runway; and
- (c) a cost-benefit analysis.

At this stage, I am informed that the draft terms of reference for the feasibility study has been prepared by the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and is being finalised. In the meantime, the Rodrigues Regional Assembly is in the process of identifying an alternative site for the relocation of some 17 houses falling within the new proposed runway alignment.

RODRIGUES – TOURISM INDUSTRY – MEASURES

(No. B/82) Mr J. Von-Mally (Fourth Member for Rodrigues) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism, Leisure and External Communications whether he is aware of the economic difficulties being faced by the tourism industry in Rodrigues and, if so, will he state the measures he proposes to take to reduce its downward trend and stimulate its growth.

Reply: I am advised that the responsibility for the formulation and implementation of policy in the tourism sector rests with the Rodrigues Regional Assembly, in accordance with section 26 of the Rodrigues Regional Act.

The responsibilities and functions are exercised on behalf of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly by the Commission for tourism which is allocated with a budget and staffed with the appropriate manpower. However in order to support the tourism industry to overcome the economic difficulties that it is presently facing, my Ministry, through the MTPA, has taken a series of measures as follows –

- (a) Allocation of an additional amount of Rs6M. to Rodrigues to promote the island, in addition to the budget allocated by the Rodrigues Regional Assembly;
- (b) Facilitation of the participation of the Rodrigues Tourism Operators and the Rodrigues Tourism Office in major international and regional tourism fairs;
- (c) Carrying out of promotional campaigns in Mauritius such as advertising in the local media, on the MTPA website, on billboards, at point-of-sales of hypermarkets;
- (d) Use of plasma screens at the SSR International airport to advertise the attractions of Rodrigues;
- (e) Production of promotional materials for Rodrigues such as maps, brochures; and
- (f) Organisation of visits for foreign journalists as well as familiarisation trips for foreign tour operators and travel agents.

In addition to the above measures, my Ministry has arranged for the passenger service charge on the Rodrigues route to be waived.

I am sure that the hon. Member will appreciate the efforts being made by my Ministry to assist the tourism sector in Rodrigues to overcome its present economic difficulties.

REDUIT DRAINS - CONSTRUCTION

(No. B/83) Mr S. Naidu (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to flood prone areas in Réduit, he will state if necessary clearances have been obtained from the Moka/Flacq District Council for the construction of drains thereat.

Reply (The Minister of Environment): Drain projects are normally undertaken by either the Road Development Authority or the National Development Unit for Local Authorities. I am informed that the Road Development Authority has no drain project in the region of Réduit.

However, for the same region, the National Development Unit has, after consultation with Moka/Flacq District Council, identified three specific locations along Soobiah Avenue for the construction of drains.

The projects are still under consideration.

SUMMER TIME – GOVT. POLICY

(No. B/84) Mr S. Naidu (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Renewable Energy and Public Utilities whether he will state if Government proposes to maintain summer time this year.

(Vide reply to P.Q. No. B/31)

VANDERMEERSCH STREET – TRAFFIC CONGESTION

(No. B/85) Mr S. Naidu (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the traffic congestion at the Vandermeersch Street, between Beau Bassin and Rose Hill, especially in the morning, he will state the remedial measures Government proposes to take.

(Withdrawn)

**SIR SEEWOSAGUR RAMGOOLAM STREET, PORT LOUIS –
STREET LIGHTING**

(No. A/1) **Mr S. Lauthan (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port-Louis East)** asked the Minister of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands whether he will state if he is aware of the lack of street lighting points along the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam Street, Port Louis and, if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Port Louis, information as to if consideration will be given for the reviewing of the whole street lighting system thereat, in view of the fact that the lighting points are far apart and that the street is busy at night.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipality of Port Louis that the issue of reviewing the whole street lighting system along Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam street has already been considered and it is envisaging the installation of 24 additional poles and lanterns along that street.

**IBRAHIM ABDOOLLAH MARKET FAIR, CITÉ MARTIAL –
OPERATIONAL**

(No. A/2) **Mr S. Lauthan (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port-Louis East)** asked the Minister of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands whether he will state if he is aware that the pedestrian underpass leading to the Ibrahim Abdoollah Market Fair, Cité Martial, from Fouquereaux Street, is not operational and, if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Port Louis, information as to the remedial measures that will be taken.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipality of Port Louis that the pedestrian underpass from Fouquereaux Street to the Ibrahim Abdoollah Market Fair is operational.

I am further informed that the underpass is meant to be operational on Fair days only, that is, Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. During the remaining days, access to the Fair through the pedestrian underpass is prohibited for security reasons.