

MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Questions of which notice has been given

Requiring an Oral Answer

Sitting of Tuesday 19 August 2008

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

B/1136 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 he will state the number of foreigners who have acquired immoveable property in Mauritius, since the proclamation of the Business Facilitation (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act 2006?

B/1137 The Honourable First Member for Vacoas and Floréal
(Mr Bodha)

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 criminal offences, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number of reported cases thereof in which tourists are involved, since March 2007 todate?

B/1138 The Honourable First Member for Vacoas and Floréal
(Mr Bodha)

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 drugs, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the amount thereof seized in 2007,

indicating (a) the category (b) the name and (c) if they have been disposed of?

B/1139 The Honourable First Member for Vacoas and Floréal
(Mr Bodha)

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 suspects who have been released on bail and who are under an objection to departure, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number thereof who have, since July 2005 to date, been (a) given permission to leave the country and (b) involved in new police cases?

B/1140 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue **(Mr Jhugroo)**

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 suspects who have been released on bail in connection with drug cases, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number of overseas trips undertaken by each of them, since July 2005 to date, indicating in each case (a) the countries visited and (b) the airport of destination?

B/1141 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière **(Mr Bhagwan)**

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 Ms C. L., he will state if she has been granted any lounge facilities on arrival and on departure, at the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam International Airport, since July 2005 to date, and if so, indicate (a) on whose request and (b) the dates?

B/1142 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 will state if Government proposes to set up a Race Relations Commission, having as object, the promotion of inter-communal harmony?

B/1143 The Honourable First Member for Curepipe and Midlands (**Mr Guimbeau**)

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 Mr B. C., former Comptroller of Customs, he will state if he has information that he has been forced to resign because he has exposed to the Mauritius Revenue Authority and the Ministry of Finance & Economic Development, numerous cases of fraud and corruption, amongst others, in respect of (a) a customs officer, posted in Rodrigues (b) a case of undervaluation of whisky, which was not prosecuted and (c) a case of smuggling of cigarettes by a broker?

B/1144 The Honourable First Member for Curepipe and Midlands (**Mr Guimbeau**)

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 he has been made aware of the existence of alleged cases of malpractice at the Customs Department and, if so, will he consider setting up a Commission of Inquiry to inquire thereinto?

B/1145 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Jhugroo**)

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 now table the list of the officers recruited at the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation, either on a contractual or a permanent basis and in all grades, since July 2005 to date, indicating in each case (a) their names and addresses (b) their qualifications (c) their postings (d) their terms and conditions of employment and (e) the procedure followed?

B/1146 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mrs Juggoo**)

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 Constituency No. 4, Port Louis North and Montagne Longue, he will state if he has been made aware that a particular group of drug addicts is creating disturbances and causing inconveniences to the inhabitants of the region of Du Cray Ste Croix, particularly, near the Citizens Advice Bureau, and if so, will he consider requesting the Commissioner of Police to inquire thereinto?

B/1147 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (**Mr Guinness**)

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, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Director General of the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation, information as to if the car put at the disposal of the Director, Radio, of the Corporation, met with an accident, on or about 07 August 2008 and, if so, if the Director General had phoned the Commissioner of Police in relation thereto on the following day, indicating the reasons therefor?

B/1148 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East **(Mr Gunness)**

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 statues in the Hindu temples, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number thereof which have been demolished by acts of vandalism, since January 2008 to date, indicating if inquiries have been carried out thereinto and the outcome thereof?

B/1149 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East **(Mr Lauthan)**

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 assaults, larceny and larceny with violence committed in the regions falling under the jurisdiction of the Roche Bois Police Station, over the past two years, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number of reported cases thereof?

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

B/1150 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes **(Ms Deerpalsing)**

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

Whether, in regard to the gaming house *Ti Vegas*, operating in Quatre Bornes, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Gambling Regulatory Authority, information as to if it is considering revoking the licence thereof, following an alleged case of fraud *vis-à-vis* the Central Electricity Board, and, if not, why not?

B/1151 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes **(Ms Deerpalsing)**

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether, in regard to one Mr D., who has recently been granted a trade licence by the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Council, information as to if he is selling counterfeited CDs and DVDs in public, opposite the Town Hall and, if so, the remedial measures that will be taken?

B/1152 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes **(Ms Deerpalsing)**

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

Whether, in regard to the bus traffic center, adjacent to the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes, he will state if he will consider conducting a road traffic safety review thereat with a view to ensuring the safety of the bus passengers and of the pedestrians?

B/1153 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix **(Mr Soodhun)**

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

Whether, he will state if his Ministry is in presence of information to the effect that there are companies which have paid a salary compensation over and above the quantum prescribed in the Additional Remuneration Act 2008 and, if so, the number thereof?

B/1154 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix **(Mr Soodhun)**

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

Whether, in regard to foreign investors, self employed and foreign professionals who have applied for an occupation permit, since August 2007, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Board of Investment, information as to the number of applications received and approved?

B/1155 The Honourable First Member for Vacoas and Floréal
(Mr Bodha)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Agro Industry and Fisheries:-

Whether, in regard to the project for the construction of the vegetable auction market in Port Louis, he will state if he has had meetings with the stakeholders thereof and, if so, where matters stand?

B/1156 The Honourable Third Member for La Caverne and Phoenix
(Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun)

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

Whether, in regard to the patients who cannot be operated in Mauritius and who required to be operated in foreign health institutions, since July 2005 to date, he will state the number thereof, indicating the amount of money that have been spent by Government in terms of financial assistance?

B/1157 The Honourable Third Member for La Caverne and Phoenix
(Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun)

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

Whether, in regard to the Integrated Resort Scheme, he will state the number of projects which have been implemented, since July 2005 to date, indicating the number of foreigners who have purchased units therein and the revenue generated to Government by the sale thereof?

B/1158 The Honourable Third Member for La Caverne and Phoenix
(Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun)

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

Whether, in regard to the University of Mauritius, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the University (a) information as to the number of students admitted thereat for the academic year 2008-2009 and (b) a list of the courses, which are no more offered, indicating the reasons therefor, in each case?

B/1159 The Honourable Third Member for La Caverne and Phoenix
(Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun)

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

Whether he will state if the Government of the People's Republic of China has awarded scholarships to the Mauritian students for the academic year 2008-2009 and, if so, indicate (a) the fields of study therefor and (b) the number of scholarships awarded for postgraduate courses in medicine, giving a list of the Mauritian doctors who have been awarded scholarships?

B/1160 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue **(Mr Jhugroo)**

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

Whether, in regard to Mr B. C., former Comptroller of Customs, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Revenue Authority, information as to (a) the date of his appointment (b) the posts he has occupied at international level and (c) the date his employment was terminated, indicating the reasons therefor?

B/1161 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue **(Mr Jhugroo)**

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

Whether he will state if he has received any representation from the Government Teachers Union, regarding an increase in the payment of the invigilators' allowances for the Certificate of Primary Education Examinations and, if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate, information as to if their request will be acceded to and, if not, why not?

B/1162 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (**Mr Bhagwan**)

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

Whether, in regard to the Chairperson of the Mauritius Port Authority, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Authority, information as to the number of overseas missions he has undertaken, since his appointment to date, indicating in each case (a) the countries visited and (b) the amount of money spent?

B/1163 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (**Mr Bhagwan**)

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

Whether, in regard to the privatization of the casinos owned by State Investment Corporation, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Corporation, information as to where matters stand?

B/1164 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (**Mr Bhagwan**)

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

Whether, in regard to Les Domaines Les Pailles, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the State Investment Corporation, information as to where matters stand in relation to the project for the sale thereof or the entering into strategic partnership?

B/1165 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands (**Mr Dowarkasing**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Agro Industry and Fisheries:-

Whether he will state if a new Fisheries Partnership Agreement has been finalized with the European Union and, if not, why not?

B/1166 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands
(Mr Dowarkasing)

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

Whether, in regard to smoking of cigarettes in public places, he will state if the Steering Committee set up to look thereinto has submitted its report and, if so, indicate the main recommendations thereof?

B/1167 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, obtain from the Central Water Authority and the Waste Water Management Authority, information as to if they are negotiating the taking over of their management and/or maintenance by the British Company, Severn-on-Trent?

B/1168 The Honourable Third Member for Curepipe and Midlands
(Mr Dowarkasing)

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

Whether he will state if his Ministry has registered complaints from the employees of the Keep Pace company in relation to their contract of employment with the company?

B/1169 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East **(Mr Guinness)**

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

Whether, in regard to the termination of employment of Mr B. C., former Comptroller of Customs, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Revenue Authority, information as to (a) the circumstances thereof and (b) the reasons therefor?

B/1170 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Varma**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether he will state if he will consider upgrading the Muslim cemetery in Rivière des Créoles and, if so, when?

B/1171 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Varma**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Agro Industry and Fisheries:-

Whether, in regard to tuna fish, he will state if he is aware that there is a drop in the catches thereof in the Indian Ocean and, if so, will he state (a) the reasons therefor and (b) how it affects Mauritius?

B/1172 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Barbier**)

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

Whether, in regard to the recommendation of the Pay Research Bureau for the educators to work up to 1500 hrs, he will state if it is being implemented and, if so, the measures that are being taken in relation thereto?

B/1173 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mrs Juggoo**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands:-

Whether, in regard to the NHDC complex of Cité La Cure and that of La Croisée, Vallée des Prêtres, he will state if he has received complaints from the inhabitants thereof in relation to security problems they are facing within the complexes and, if so, indicate the remedial actions, if any, that have been or will be taken?

B/1174 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East **(Mr Guinness)**

To ask the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports:-

Whether, in regard to the construction of the swimming pool of Mare d'Albert, he will state (a) the name of the contractor (b) the date on which the contract was awarded, indicating the terms and conditions thereof (c) the date on which the project was completed and (d) the amount of liquidated damages, if any (i) claimed from the contractor and (ii) written off?

B/1175 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix **(Mr Soodhun)**

To ask the Honourable Minister of Arts and Culture:-

Whether, in regard to the Hajj, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Islamic Cultural Centre, information as to if the Centre has received complaints from the organisers thereof regarding the changes in the bond value and the registration fees payable?

B/1176 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka **(Mr Dayal)**

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Bank of Mauritius, information as to the number of its employees who have been either suspended or dismissed, since March 2008 to date, indicating the reasons therefor, in each case?

B/1177 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 recommendation of the Pay Research Bureau to extend the working hours of the educators by thirty minutes daily, he will state if his Ministry has carried out any study of its pedagogical effects, prior to the implementation thereof? (R)

The letter (R) indicates that the Honourable Member has declared his interest

B/1178 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Barbier**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Agro Industry and Fisheries:-

Whether, in regard to the aquaculture projects, he will state the number of sites identified island wise for fish farming, indicating (a) the projects which will be set up and the time frame for their implementation and (b) the number of applications received and for which regions?

B/1179 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Varma**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether, in regard to the proposed renovation of the football ground in Plaine Magnien, he will state where matters stand?

B/1180 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Lesjongard**)

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

Whether, in regard to the additional teaching time of thirty minutes daily in the secondary schools as per the recommendation of the Pay Research Bureau Report, he will state if his Ministry has set up a mechanism for the implementation thereof?

B/1181 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Lesjongard**)

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

Whether, in regard to the introduction of music as an examination subject at the Cambridge Higher School Certificate as from November 2009, he will state (a) the colleges offering music at Form V level and (b) the requirements for taking the subject at the Cambridge Higher School Certificate?

B/1182 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Lesjongard**)

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

Whether, in regard to the cafeteria of the University of Mauritius, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the University, information as to if any outstanding amount is due by the operator thereof and, if so, indicate the measures that have or will be taken to recover same?

B/1183 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Lesjongard**)

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

Whether, in regard to the Small Enterprise Handicraft Development Authority, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Authority, information as to if any driver posted thereat has been demoted, indicating the reasons therefor?

B/1184 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (**Mr Dayal**)

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

Whether, in regard to the Northern View Point, also known as the Malinga-Crève Coeur View, he will state if his Ministry will consider (a) embellishment and refurbishment works to be carried out at the foot of the Pieter Both Mountain and (b) including the site on the list of tourist attractions?

B/1185 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (**Mr Lauthan**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether, in regard to the road adjacent to the Sunni Surtee Muslim cemetery, leading to the motorway, Riche Terre, he will state if he is aware of the defective street lighting thereat and the presence of bushes obstructing the pavements along both sides of the road and if so, will he, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Pamplemousses/Rivière du Rempart District Council, information as to the remedial measures that will be taken?

B/1186 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (**Mr Lauthan**)

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

Whether, in regard to the Methadone Substitution Therapy, he will state the measures, if any, that have been taken to enable the drug addicts of Muslim faith to procure their daily Methadone, during the month of Ramadhan?

B/1187 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (**Mr Dayal**)

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Bank of Mauritius, information as to if foreign consultants have prepared a programme for the restructuring of the Bank and, if so, if the members of its Board have been provided with copy of the report for approval and implementation?

R. R. Dowlutta

Clerk of the National Assembly

Parliament House

Port Louis

14 August 2008