

MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Questions of which notice has been given

Requiring an Oral Answer

Sitting of Tuesday 06 May 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/370 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, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to whether counterfeit drugs are being sold on the local market and, if so, will he consider toughening the law in relation thereto?

B/371 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 each of the Police Stations in the Constituency No. 4, Port Louis North and Montagne Longue, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to (a) the number of Police Officers (i) on the establishment thereat and (ii) posted thereat, indicating their respective grades and (b) the number of vehicles attached thereto?

B/372 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, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number of cases of social unrest reported within the jurisdiction of the Class A Police Stations since July 2005 to date, indicating if additional logistic and human resources will be made available thereat?

B/373 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (**Mrs Hanoomanjee**)

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 Police Force, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number of male and female Police Officers, who have, since July 2005 to date (a) been sent abroad for training (b) benefited from training one year prior to retirement?

B/374 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 if it is Government policy to recruit officers of the administrative cadre on contract after they have retired from service by reason of age or while being on pre-retirement leave and if so, state (a) the criteria used and (b) if he is aware that these recruitments may cause prejudice and frustration amongst the younger officers, in view of the fact that they will have to wait longer before being promoted?

B/375 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Lesjongard**)

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, on or about January 2008, he has received a letter from the *Groupement Civique* of Camp Marcelin, Flacq, stating their grievances in relation to the insufficient or lack of infrastructural facilities thereat and, if so, if any action has been taken?

B/376 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 rice and other food commodities like pulses, he will state if Government proposes to initiate actions, through the diplomatic channels, requesting the Indian and Pakistan Governments to remove the restriction on the export thereof to Mauritius?

B/377 The Honourable First Member for Savanne and Black River (**Mr Ganoo**)

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 last recruitment exercise of Police Constables, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, a list of the new recruits, indicating their respective academic qualifications and residential addresses, and table copy thereof?

B/378 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 drug related cases, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to the number thereof, since July 2005 to date, in which the Police has not objected to the granting of bail to suspects against whom provisional charges have been lodged?

B/379 The Honourable First Member for Vacoas and Floreal (**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 Commissioner of Police, he will state when he is expected to resume office?

B/380 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 Government publicity in newspapers since December 2005 to date, he will state the amount paid to each daily and weekly newspaper?

B/381 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (**Mr Issack**)

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 media, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to (a) the names of the (i) dailies, weeklies, monthlies and other periodicals published in Mauritius, indicating the names and addresses of their publishers (ii) holders of press passes of each of these publications and (b) if it is proposed for the Ministry of Information to issue passes to members of the press according to the status of each member?

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/382 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Varma**)

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

Whether, in regard to the projects for tourism development in Constituency No. 12, Plaine Magnien and Mahebourg, he will state where matters stand?

B/383 The Honourable First Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Varma**)

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Board of Investment, information as to if it has carried out investment promotion exercises in the Indian States of Haryana, Punjab and Gujarat and, if so, the outcome thereof and, if not, why not?

B/384 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 he is aware of the increasing danger and inconveniences to which the residents of the Residence St Jean and of lower Morcellement Sodnac are subjected to as a result of the Avenue Tulipes, Quatre Bornes, being now used as a main thoroughfare, and, if so, will he state the remedial measures that will be taken?

B/385 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (**Ms Deerpalsing**)

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

Whether he is aware that the “Hey-Math”, web-based mathematics learning tool, is currently being used in the curriculae in many countries to encourage the teaching and the learning of mathematics and, if so, will he state if he proposes to introduce the use thereof in our schools?

B/386 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (**Ms Deerpalsing**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether he will state if he will consider introducing measures to re-organise the garbage collection services in the local authorities, with a view to encouraging recycling and to ensure a proper and safer disposal of garbage?

B/387 The Honourable Third Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (**Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether, in regard to the Bagatelle Dam Project, he will state where matters stand as to the design studies thereof?

B/388 The Honourable Third Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (**Mrs Dookun-Luchoomun**)

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

Whether, in regard to the small land owners, he will state the number thereof who are presently involved in the Integrated Resorts Scheme projects?

B/389 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Jhugroo**)

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

Whether he will state if, on or about 10 April 2008, one Ms S. G. called at the Sir Seewoosagur Ramgoolam National Hospital, and, if so (a) what she was diagnosed for (b) the treatment which was administered to her (c) the circumstances in which she passed away and (d) the cause of her death?

B/390 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Jhugroo**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether, in regard to the Cité Roma Riche Terre Community Centre, he will state (a) when was the project initiated (b) the amount of money spent on the construction thereof and (c) if it is operational and, if so, since when and, if not, why not?

B/391 The Honourable First Member for Savanne and Black River (**Mr Ganoo**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities:-

Whether he will state if Government proposes to set up a Renewable Energy Authority?

B/392 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (**Mrs Hanoomanjee**)

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

Whether, in regard to the relief of the families who have suffered hardships following the torrential rains of March last, he will state if Government has received financial support and donations from the private sector and individuals and, if so, the amount of money and the nature of the donations received?

B/393 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (**Mrs Hanoomanjee**)

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

Whether he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Cargo Handling Corporation, information as to if the Corporation has acquired two mobile shore cranes and, if so, obtain the name of the (a) manufacturer (b) exporter and (b) local representative?

B/394 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (**Mrs Hanoomanjee**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government:-

Whether he will state if he will consider allocating a plot of land for the construction of a second cemetery in Rivière Noire, in view of the difficulties being encountered by the inhabitants thereof for the funerals?

B/395 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (**Mr Soodhun**)

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

Whether, in regard to the production of hydroponic food, he will state (a) the number of producers who carry out same and (b) if he will consider improving the fiscal incentives granted to the small planters for the acquisition of the required equipment and material, in view of the high investment costs involved?

B/396 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (**Mr Soodhun**)

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

Whether, in regard to the region of Belle Mare, he will state if any portion of the land under onion cultivation has been released for the construction of hotels and other non-agricultural projects and if so, indicate the extent thereof?

B/397 The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix
(Mr Soodhun)

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

Whether, in regard to the decrease in the production of food crops by 11.3%, from 106,002 tonnes in 2006 to 94,822 tonnes in 2007, as indicated in the latest report of the Central Statistics Office, he will state if his Ministry has examined the causes therefor?

B/398 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka **(Mr Dayal)**

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether, in regard to the retaining wall, steps and platform at Bassin Loulou, Saint Julien d'Hotman, which were completely damaged during the recent heavy rainfalls, he will state if he will consider the advisability of reinstating same before the forthcoming Ganesh Chaturthi Festival?

B/399 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 absence of footpaths and handrails, near the bus shelter, at the junction of the road leading to Montagne Ory and the one leading to the Mauritius Standard Bureau at Moka constitutes accident hazards to the road users and, if so, will he state if it is proposed to have footpaths and handrails constructed thereat?

B/400 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (**Mr Guinness**)

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

Whether, in regard to the Community Centre of Pont Lardier, she will state (a) since when was the Centre handed over to her Ministry (b) if prior consultations were held with the *forces vives* of the region before the handing over and (c) the facilities that are being offered thereat?

B/401 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (**Mr Guinness**)

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

Whether she is aware that one Mrs G. R., of Lesur, Sebastopol, has been disallowed the Basic Invalidity Pension and if so, will she state the reasons therefor?

B/402 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (**Mr Guinness**)

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

Whether, in regard to the road leading from Bel Etang to Melrose, he will state if it has been resurfaced and, if so, indicate (a) the extent thereof (b) the cost incurred as at todate and (c) the area thereof which remains to be resurfaced?

B/403 The Honourable Third Member for Montagne Blanche and Grand River South East (**Mr Guinness**)

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

Whether, in regard to the proposed strike of the employees of the private secondary schools, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Private Secondary Schools Authority, information as to if the Authority had issued a communiqué dated 22 April 2008 which was addressed to all the employees of the private secondary schools and, if so, indicate (a) the content thereof and (b) the reasons therefor?

B/404 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Lesjongard**)

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

Whether, in regard to the post of director at the Gambling Regulatory Authority, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Authority, information as to if it has been filled and, if so (a) the number of applications received and (b) the terms and conditions attached thereto?

B/405 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mr Lesjongard**)

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

Whether, in regard to betting on foreign football matches, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Gambling Regulatory Authority, information as to if letters of intent have been issued to the companies which have submitted proposals therefor and, if so, indicate the composition of the (a) panel which has analysed the proposals (b) technical committee which has analysed the software component of the proposals?

B/406 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 consignment of flour which was to be purchased and imported from China, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the State Trading Corporation, information as to (a) the names of the persons who have travelled thereto for the purpose of the verification and certification thereof and (b) the costs incurred in terms of airfares and *per diem* allowances?

B/407 The Honourable Second Member for Quartier Militaire and Moka (**Mr Dayal**)

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

Whether, in regard to the payment of tax, he will (a) for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Revenue Authority, for the last financial year, information as to (i) the total amount of money claimed as refund by the tax payers and (ii) the number of taxpayers who have not yet been refunded, indicating the reasons therefor and (b) if he will consider amending the law to provide for a delay for the refund, failing which the Authority will have to pay interest on the amount to be refunded?

B/408 The Honourable First Member for Vacoas and Floreal (**Mr Bodha**)

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

Whether, in regard to the Dentistry School MAURAS, situated at Arsenal, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Tertiary Education Commission, information as to (a) when (i) was it accredited and (ii) the first degrees will be awarded, indicating by which examining body and (b) the validity of the certificates in relation to practice in Mauritius and abroad?

B/409 The Honourable First Member for Vacoas and Floreal
(Mr Bodha)

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

Whether, in regard to the EU Sugar Sector Reform, he will state (a) where matters stand concerning the disbursement of funds to the African Caribbean Pacific sugar supplying states under the sugar protocol and (b) if he will consider the advisability of holding fresh discussions, with a view to reviewing the modalities thereof, in the light of the increase in the prices of commodities on the world market?

B/410 The Honourable First Member for Curepipe and Midlands
(Mr Guimbeau)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands:-

Whether, in regard to the compensation payable on the compulsory acquisition of landed property by Government since September 2005 to date, he will now table the information with regard to (a) the purpose of acquisition (b) the names of the former owners (c) the location and extent (d) the amount of compensation payable, as assessed by the Government Valuer and (v) the actual amount of compensation paid?

B/411 The Honourable First Member for Curepipe and Midlands
(Mr Guimbeau)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands:-

Whether, in regard to leases on *Pas Géométriques*, he will state the number thereof, indicating if all of them will be subject to the payment of (a) a premium (b) an annual rental and (c) the National Residential Property Tax and, if not, why not?

B/412 The Honourable First Member for Curepipe and Midlands
(Mr Guimbeau)

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

Whether, in regard to each of the overseas missions undertaken by Honourable Ministers since May 2007 to date, he will state (a) the dates, the countries visited and the purposes thereof (b) the composition of the respective delegations and (c) the amount of *per diem* and other allowances paid?

B/413 The Honourable First Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West **(Mrs Navarre-Marie)**

To ask the Honourable Minister of Housing and Lands:-

Whether, in regard to the occupiers of the NHDC flats, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the National Housing Development Company Ltd., information as to the number thereof who have been issued with a letter requesting them to vacate their premises and, if so, will he state the reasons therefor?

B/414 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East **(Dr Husnoo)**

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

Whether, in regard to the University of Mauritius Trust, he will state (a) its composition and (b) the courses being presently offered by the Trust?

B/415 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 occupiers of State Land at Karo Kalyptus, situated in the Constituency No. 4, Port Louis North and Montagne Longue, he will state where matters stand in relation to their title deeds?

B/416 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mrs Juggoo**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether, in regard to the project for the construction of drain works at Ruisseau, Terre Rouge, namely Impasse Eugène, he will state if works thereat have started and, if so, the expected date of completion?

B/417 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue (**Mrs Juggoo**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment and National Development Unit:-

Whether, in regard to the project for the construction of drain works at the Bernardin de St Pierre Road to Cypaye Brulé, Vallée des Prêtres, he will state the remedial measures that will be taken to avoid the flooding of the houses during rainy seasons and cyclonic periods?

B/418 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 building presently housing the village hall of Petit Verger, St Pierre is in a bad state and, if so, will he consider the advisability of putting a new building?

R. R. Dowlutta
Clerk of the National Assembly

***Parliament House
Port Louis***

02 May 2008