MAURITIUS NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Questions of which notice has been given

<u>Requiring an Oral Answer</u>

<u>Sitting of Tuesday 15 September 2015</u>

Questions addressed to the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit

B/473 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Bhagwan)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the Police Riders, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police (a) information as to (i) if there has been a change in the policy for the allocation of the services thereof, since January 2015 to date and, if so, indicate the reasons therefor (ii) the grade of officers attached thereto (iii) the official posting thereof within the Mauritius Police Force and (b) the personalities who are entitled to the services thereof, indicating in each case, the number thereof attached thereto?

B/474 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Bhagwan)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to Air Mauritius Ltd., he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain therefrom, information as to the amount of losses incurred following the last hedging exercise thereat, indicating if (a) actions are being contemplated against those who are responsible therefor and (b) consideration will be given for the reviewing and rescinding of the policy regarding the entitlement of the Board Members thereof of free air tickets for life, indicating (i) the present number thereof who are concerned therewith and (ii) if representations have been received from some small shareholders thereof in relation thereto? B/475 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Mr Ramano)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the proposed introduction of a Freedom of Information Bill, he will state where matters stand, indicating if consideration will be given for the draft Bill thereof to be circulated for the information of the public?

B/476 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (**Mr Uteem**)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the air access policy, he will state the actions Government proposes to take in relation thereto, indicating the impact thereof on Air Mauritius Ltd.?

B/477 The Honourable Fourth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (Dr Sorefan)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the Prevention of Corruption Act, he will state if consideration is being given for proposed amendments to be brought thereto and, if so (a) give details thereof and (b) indicate when same will be introduced?

B/478 The Honourable Second Member for Grand' Baie and Poudre d'Or (Mr Rughoobur)

> To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

> Whether, in regard to the Commission of Inquiry on Horse Racing in Mauritius which was set up on 24 September 2014, he will state the quantum of the (a) fees paid to the Commissioners thereof and (b) related expenses incurred in relation thereto until the submission of the final report thereof in March 2015, indicating if, in the light thereof, consideration will be given for the introduction of proposed amendments to be brought to the Prevention of Corruption Act to empower the Independent Commission against Corruption to investigate into cases of corruption on horse racing activities?

B/479 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Mr Ramano)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the financing of political parties, he will state if Government is considering introducing legislation in relation thereto and, if so, indicate the expected date of introduction thereof?

B/480 The Honourable First Member for Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac (**Mr Gobin**)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the projects implemented by the National Development Unit in Constituency No. 13, Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac, he will give a list thereof, indicating in each case where matters stand and, with regard to those which have not yet been completed, indicate the reasons therefor?

B/481 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (Mr Lesjongard)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the Waste Water Management Authority, he will state if consideration will be given for the setting up of a Commission of Inquiry to look into the alleged malpractices and excess payments made over the past years thereat, as mentioned in the recent Report of the Director of Audit?

B/482 The Honourable Fourth Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Quirin)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the Land Research and Mediation Commission which was set up in February 2013 following the recommendation of the Truth and Justice Commission for a Land and Monitoring Research Unit, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain therefrom, information as to where matters stand with regard to the work thereof? B/483 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Baloomoody**)

> To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

> Whether, in regard to the longstanding proposition for the introduction of a Police and Criminal Evidence Bill, he will state if consideration will now be given thereto with the objective, *inter alia*, of putting an end to the existing abusive and arbitrary use of provisional charges?

B/484 The Honourable Third Member for Piton and Rivière du Rempart (Mr Rutnah)

To ask the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit –

Whether, in regard to the Roches Noires case, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Commissioner of Police, information as to where matters stand as to the inquiry being carried out thereinto, indicating the number of suspects against whom provisional charges have been lodged, further indicating (a) the number thereof who are presently on bail and (b) when formal charges will be lodged against them?

Questions addressed to Honourable Ministers, other than the Right Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Defence, Home Affairs, Minister for Rodrigues and National Development Unit

B/485 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Bhagwan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Financial Services, Good Governance and Institutional Reforms, Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation –

Whether, in regard to the Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain therefrom, information as to the (a) measures that have been taken to ensure good governance thereat, especially with regard to the day to day management of the affairs thereof (b) quantum of the (i) overdrafts it has contracted with banks and financial institutions, as at to date and (ii) fees collected from the subscribers on a monthly basis, since January 2015 to date and (c) composition of the present Board thereof, indicating the number of times it has met since January 2015 to date? B/486 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (**Mr Ameer Meea**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government -

Whether, in regard to the Eid Festival celebrations organized on 26 July and 01 August 2015 respectively, in Plaine Verte, by the Municipal Council of Port Louis in collaboration with the Ministry of Arts and Culture, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Council, a breakdown of the expenses incurred in relation thereto in respect of each item of expenditure, including the two-weeks' decorations of the garden and for the fire crackers, indicating (a) the names of the suppliers thereof and (b) mode of selection of the suppliers therefor?

B/487 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (**Mr Ameer Meea**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Health and Quality of Life –

Whether, in regard to his last visit to the Agalega Island, he will state (a) the date and duration thereof (b) the composition of the accompanying delegation (c) the outcome thereof and (d) if he has had interactive sessions with the inhabitants thereof and, if not, why not?

B/488 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (**Mr Ameer Meea**)

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

Whether, in regard to the private clinics which have supplied services to the public hospitals since 2010 to date, he will give a list thereof, indicating the quantum of the fees paid out thereto on a yearly basis therefor, indicating in each case, the services supplied, including radiological services for Computed Axial Tomography (CT) Scans and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI)?

B/489 The Honourable Second Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Jhugroo**)

To ask the Honourable Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities –

Whether, in regard to street lighting, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Central Electricity Board, information as to the (a) current electricity tariffs that are presently applied to the Municipal and District Councils therefor, indicating if consideration will be given for a reduction thereof and (b) measures that will be taken for the promotion of the use of photovoltaic solar systems by the Councils?

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B/490 The Honourable Second Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Jhugroo**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Development –

Whether, in regard to the vehicles purchased by the Municipal and District Councils, he will state if consideration will be given for the (a) provision of duty free facilities thereto and (b) waiver of registration duties and annual road taxes in respect thereof?

B/491 The Honourable Second Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East (**Mr Ameer Meea**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Industry, Commerce and Consumer Protection –

Whether, in regard to gasoline and diesel, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the State Trading Corporation, information as to the (a) actual cost price thereof in each case (i) indicating the reasons why the prices thereof have not been reviewed downwards and (ii) giving a breakdown of the different components of the price per litre thereof and (b) total amount of money collected for the Build Mauritius Fund?

B/492 The Honourable First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (Mr Bhagwan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security –

Whether, in regard to sugar cane, he will state the measures that his Ministry proposes to take to ensure that the harvest season thereof does not extend to January 2016 with its consequences on low sugar extraction which would impair the economic performance of the planters?

B/493 The Honourable Fourth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (Dr Sorefan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport –

Whether, in regard to the M1 Motorway, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to the rationale behind the setting of the (a) 80 km/h speed limit when leaving Quatre Bornes to the north and (b) 60 km/h limit when leaving Port Louis to the south?

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B/494 The Honourable Fourth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (Dr Sorefan)

To ask the Honourable Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities –

Whether, in regard to doing business in Mauritius, he will state how far his Ministry is improving access to water and electricity to potential investors with the objective of achieving the second economic miracle?

B/495 The Honourable Fourth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix (Dr Sorefan)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Financial Services, Good Governance and Institutional Reforms, Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation –

Whether, in regard to the National Insurance Company, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain therefrom, a list of the employees thereof in the grade of Managers up to Chief Executive Officer, indicating in each case, the (a) qualifications thereof (b) areas of responsibility thereof and (c) salaries and terms and conditions of employment thereof, including all the other benefits drawn?

B/496 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (**Mr Uteem**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Development –

Whether, in regard to the new Double Taxation Avoidance Convention between Mauritius and South Africa, he will state (a) in what respect it will be more beneficial to Mauritius and (b) if any study has been carried out to assess the impact thereof on the Mauritian economy?

B/497 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (**Mr Uteem**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Business, Enterprise and Co-operatives –

Whether, in regard to the Vacoas Popular Multipurpose Cooperative Society, he will state if any investigation has been carried out into the allegations of fraud thereat and, if so, indicate the outcome thereof?

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B/498 The Honourable First Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (**Mr Uteem**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Finance and Economic Development –

Whether, in regard to the period January 2015 to date, he will state the (a) unemployment rate (b) public sector debt and (c) amount of foreign direct investments?

B/499 The Honourable Second Member for Grand' Baie and Poudre d'Or (Mr Rughoobur)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Public Infrastructure and Land Transport –

Whether, in regard to the National Transport Corporation, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain therefrom, information as to the financial situation thereof in respect of the six months ending 30 June 2015, indicating the (a) cash flow (b) net return and (c) quantum of the loans secured from Government, compared to the corresponding period over the past two years and table copy thereof and, if not, why not?

B/500 The Honourable Second Member for Grand' Baie and Poudre d'Or (Mr Rughoobur)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs, Regional Integration and International Trade –

Whether, in regard to the Agenda 63 of the African Union, he will state the initiatives taken by his Ministry for the promotion of trade between Mauritius and the African continent through bilateral relations with countries of the Regional Economic Community?

B/501 The Honourable Third Member for Belle Rose and Quatre Bornes (Mr Ramano)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government –

Whether in regard to the proposed construction of a new market in Quatre Bornes, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes, information as to if a final decision has been reached in respect of the (a) site identified therefor and (b) amount of funds earmarked therefor?

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B/502 The Honourable Second Member for Rodrigues (Mr Leopold)

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

Whether, in regard to the shortage of specialists' doctors in Rodrigues, especially of gynaecologists, he will state the remedial measures being envisaged in relation thereto?

B/503 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (**Mr Osman Mahomed**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports -

Whether, in regard to the Harris Sports Complex, in Port Louis, he will state the reasons for the abrupt closure thereof on 01 September 2015, indicating if (a) prior notice was given to the users thereof (b) football teams had already effected payment to use the football ground thereof for the month of September and, if so, indicate the (i) quantum paid and (ii) if the quantum has recently been increased and, if so, by how much and why (c) any other football ground was closed on 01 September 2015 and (d) there is any issue regarding the running of football grounds generally and, if so (i) give details thereof and (ii) indicate the remedial measures being envisaged?

B/504 The Honourable Third Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central (**Mr Osman Mahomed**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Science Research –

Whether, in regard to the examination results of the Cambridge School Certificate and of the Higher School Certificate of the November 2014 series, she will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Examinations Syndicate, information as to the number thereof considered as pending, indicating the (a) reasons therefor and (b) timeframe set for the finalization thereof?

B/505 The Honourable Second Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Jhugroo**)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Local Government -

Whether, in regard to the legal advisers whose services were retained over the period October 2005 to December 2015 in the Municipal and District Councils, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from each Council, a list thereof, indicating in each case, the total amount of money paid out thereto (a) as retainer fees and (b) in respect of court cases?

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B/506 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (Mr Lesjongard)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Labour, Industrial Relations, Employment and Training –

Whether, in regard to the Cargo Handling Corporation Ltd., he will state if his Ministry has requested the Commission for Conciliation and Mediation to conduct an inquiry on (a) the state of the industrial relations prevailing thereat and (b) in relation to the alleged cases of discrimination against some of the employees thereof concerning their promotion and, if so, indicate where matters stand?

B/507 The Honourable Second Member for Savanne and Black River (Mr Lesjongard)

To ask the Honourable Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Tourism and External Communications –

Whether, in regard to the Belle Mare Tourist Village Project, he will state if (a) a feasibility study was carried out prior to the implementation thereof, indicating if it was part of the democratization process of the then Government (b) the approval of the Central Procurement Board was sought and obtained therefor and, if not, why not and (c) his Ministry proposes to put the village market thereof on sale?

B/508 The Honourable First Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Armance**)

To ask the Honourable Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Energy and Public Utilities –

Whether, in regard to the Waste Water Sewerage Network Project in the region of Pailles, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Waste Water Management Authority, information as to where matters stand as to the implementation of Phases 1 and 2 thereof respectively, indicating if there has been any delay in the carrying out of the tender procedures in relation thereto and, if so, give details thereof and, if not, indicate the timeframe set for the implementation thereof?

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B/509 The Honourable First Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Armance**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports –

Whether, in regard to the Special Olympic World Summer Games which was held from 25 July to 02 August 2015, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain information as to (a) the number of athletes who represented Mauritius thereto, indicating their respective performances and (b) if any provision has been made for a cash price for our Gold, Silver and Bronze Medals Athletes?

B/510 The Honourable Fourth Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (**Mr Quirin**)

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

Whether, in regard to the prevention, treatment and rehabilitation of substance abusers, in particular, users of synthetic drugs, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the NATReSA, information as to the (a) actions taken in relation thereto since January 2015 to date and (b) name of the present director thereof, indicating the date and terms and conditions of appointment thereof?

B/511 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Baloomoody**)

> To ask the Honourable Minister of Financial Services, Good Governance and Institutional Reforms, Minister of Technology, Communication and Innovation –

> Whether, in regard to the wastage of public funds as being continuously reported in the Reports of the Director of Audit, he will state if consideration will be given for the introduction of a Fiscal Responsibility Bill, as a matter of priority?

B/512 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Baloomoody**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Science Research –

Whether, in regard to the five hundred workers employed through subcontractors or the Parent Teachers Association as cleaners in the public schools and earning a monthly salary of Rs 1,500, she will state if Government is proposing to regularize the situation thereof and, if so, indicate where maters stand?

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B/513 The Honourable Third Member for Grand River North West and Port Louis West (**Mr Baloomoody**)

To ask the Honourable Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Housing and Lands –

Whether, in regard to the compulsory acquisition of lands situated at Reserves Road, Les Salines, in connection with the Harbour Bridge Project, he will state when the owners thereof will be compensated?

B/514 The Honourable Second Member for Rivière des Anguilles and Souillac (**Dr Joomaye**)

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

Whether, in regard to the Appollo Bramwell Hospital, he will state the number of foreign medical practitioners employed thereat, indicating in each case, the basic salary and allowances drawn?

B/515 The Honourable Third Member for Savanne and Black River (Mr Jhuboo)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development and Disaster and Beach Management –

Whether, in regard to the construction of infrastructural works in the region of the Bel Ombre Village and in Chamouny following the last floods, he will state the (a) start and completion dates thereof and (b) contract value thereof?

B/516 The Honourable Third Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Ramful**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development and Disaster and Beach Management –

Whether, in regard to the proposed hotel development by Le Chaland Resort Hotel, at La Cambuse and in the light of the various complaints being made by the inhabitants, the *forces vives* and the environmentalists of the region, he will state if a study has been carried out to assess the impact of the proposed development on the marine park of Blue Bay and on the other marine habitats in the area?

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B/517 The Honourable Third Member for Mahebourg and Plaine Magnien (**Mr Ramful**)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Science Research –

Whether, in regard to the proposed implementation of the Nine Year Continuous Basic Education Project, she will state the policy being envisaged by her Ministry concerning the abolition of private tuition at primary school level?

B/518 The Honourable Second Member for Rodrigues (Mr Leopold)

To ask the Honourable Minister of Environment, Sustainable Development and Disaster and Beach Management –

Whether, in regard to the use of plastic bags in mainland Mauritius, he will state where matters stand as to the proposed introduction of regulations for the ban thereof?

> **Bibi Safeena Lotun (Mrs)** Clerk of the National Assembly

Parliament House Port Louis 11 September 2015