

Deb. No. 22 of 27.06.2006

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

CHEBEL – SPORTS COMPLEX

(No. B/862) Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Environment and National Development Unit whether, in regard to the embellishment works being carried out at the Cité Chebel volleyball ground and its surroundings, he will state when –

- (a) the contract was awarded, and
- (b) works are scheduled to be completed.

Reply: The contract for the embellishment works at Chebel sports complex was awarded to the Development Works Corporation on 17 June 2004. The works started on 09 August 2004 and were scheduled for completion on 08 December 2004.

However, only 70 percent of the works have been completed so far. In view of the closure of the DWC, a list of the remaining works under the contract is being prepared by the Consultant and a decision will be taken shortly regarding the completion of the outstanding works.

The proposed changes in the scope of works required the project to be redesigned and the contract to be renegotiated with the DWC. However, in the absence of a consultant at that time, the project was put on hold and has not been implemented.

The NDU will consider implementing the project at a later stage.

MAINGARD, BEAU BASSIN – FOOTBALL GROUND

(No. B/863) Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Environment and National Development Unit whether, in regard to the construction of a football ground at Maingard, Beau Bassin, he will state where matters stand.

Reply: In reply to PQ No. IB/214 on the same subject matter, I indicated that cleaning and levelling works have already been completed on the site and that consideration was being given to the inclusion of the project in the 5-year plan of the NDU.

The project has been included in the 5-year plan and will be implemented on a priority basis in due course.

ALBION - FOOTBALL GROUND - UPGRADING

(No. B/864) Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Environment and National Development Unit whether, in regard to the upgrading of a football ground at Albion, he will state where matters stand.

Reply: A contract for upgrading works at Albion football ground was awarded to the DWC on 15 March 2005 for a sum of Rs6,291,751.20 inclusive of VAT.

On 27 April 2005, following a site visit, it was decided that the cloakroom should be relocated close to the main gate and the existing football ground be upgraded in accordance with international standards.

APPASAMY, MR T. – WARRANT OF ARREST

(No. B/865) Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Attorney-General, Minister of Justice and Human Rights whether, in regard to Mr T. Appasamy, he will state –

- (a) the date on which the warrant of arrest was served on him;
- (b) the date and time he lodged a case to contest the legality of the warrant and before which Court, and
- (c) where matters stand.

(Withdrawn)

CEMENT – AUTOMATIC PRICING MECHANISM

(No. B/866) Mr S. Naidu (Third Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Industry, Small & Medium Enterprises, Commerce and Co-operatives whether, in regard to cement, he will state if it is proposed to put in place an automatic pricing mechanism and, if not, why not.

Reply: The strategic importance of cement for a developing nation like Mauritius needs not be emphasised. Government would like to have some control over the price of this product. This is why the State Trading Corporation (STC) is one among the importers so as to get reliable information on the ruling price and this information is used for determining the retail price of the product. For the time being, it is not envisaged to place it under the Automatic Price Mechanism, the more so because the price is fixed for the yearly supply and the question of exchange rate, which fluctuates from time to time, is taken care of in the price structure.

I wish to inform the House that in December 2003, the then Government reduced the share of import of cement by STC from 50% of the country requirement to 25%.

However, this Government has taken measures in November 2005 to increase the share of import of cement by STC from 25% to 33% whereby the country has benefited from a decrease of USD 2.10 per metric ton at CIF value.