

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

INTEGRATED RESORTS SCHEME - PROJECTS

(No. 1B/340) Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development whether, in regard to the Integrated Resorts Scheme, 'he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Board of Investment, information, for each of the years 2005 to 2010 –

- (a) the number of projects approved by the Board and operational, indicating the –
 - (i) name of the promoter;
 - (ii) amount of Foreign Direct Investment remitted;
 - (iii) number of residence permits granted;
 - (iv) number of direct jobs created;
 - (v) amount of revenue collected by Government, and
- (b) state whether the terms and conditions of the Scheme will be altered and, if not, why not.

Reply: I am informed by the Board of Investment (BOI) that for the period 2005 to June 2010, the Board has approved (24) twenty-four projects relating to the Integrated Resort Scheme (IRS), out of which eight are operational.

Information relating to parts (a) (i), (ii) (iii) and (v) of the question concerning the name of promoters, the amount of FDI remitted, the number of residence permits granted and the amount of revenue collected by Government respectively are being tabled.

However, I wish to inform the House that as regards part (a) (ii) of the question, the total amount of foreign direct investment remitted relating to the IRS for the period 2005 to 2010 stands at around Rs 15.3 billion.

Moreover, as of date, 658 non-citizens have been granted residence permits under the IRS, of whom, 257 are persons who have acquired a residential property and 401 are their dependents.

With regards to Part a (iv) of the question concerning employment creation, I am informed that so far some 832 persons are directly employed under the different projects falling within the IRS.

As regards part (b) of the question, the Government is well aware of the pertinence of the timely implementation of approved projects under the IRS in view of the direct impact that these projects have on the economy, in particular, the inflow of FDI and job creation. However, I am informed that this Scheme in its present form makes no provision for the BOI to revoke a certificate issued on the ground that an approved project has not been completed.

As the House may be aware, cancelled or delayed IRS projects may have a negative effect on the Scheme and more importantly on the good repute of Mauritius as a destination for investment. This, in turn, may also have snowballing effect on future projects. For instance, developers with high potential projects and who are on a solid footing may have to face cancellation of reservation contracts and thus be unfairly penalized as regards project financing. This would consequently delay their projects unnecessarily.

It is in this context that the BOI proposes to include an additional condition in all its certificates. It will provide the BOI with the right to revoke a certificate issued to a company which has failed to start the construction of its project as presented to BOI within a period of eighteen (18) months as from the date of issue of the certificate.

Furthermore, the fallout from the sovereign debt crisis and its potential contagion that threatens to destabilize economic growth within and beyond the Eurozone has exposed the possible risks to the tourism industry and luxury real estate market in the short term. My Ministry is considering reviewing the existing Scheme and other similar schemes in light of the global economic situation.

In order to improve the quality of project submissions and reinforcing the criteria for proper project design and location for Integrated Resorts Scheme and Real Estate Schemes, the BOI is presently working with the Ministry of Housing and Lands for the introduction of a Planning Policy Guidance (PPG) for IRS/ RES. Once this Policy Guidance is in force, developers of IRS /RES projects would have to follow the design process and standards. The aim of the guidance is to provide a set of performance criteria which should be broadly followed as each site is different and the design solutions may be varied and unique.

In line with Government's vision to promote green buildings and eco friendly projects under the "Maurice Ile Durable", BOI is also working on some guidelines that would aim at encouraging IRS developers to incorporate eco-friendly components within their projects which include sustainable building development and use of renewable energy.

**MUNICIPALITY OF PORT LOUIS – PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOLS,
KINDERGARDENS & NURSERIES**

(No. 1B/360) Mr C. Fakeemeeah (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to pre-primary schools, kindergartens and nurseries run by the Municipal Council of Port Louis, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain, from the Council, information, in each case, as to the number of children who can be accommodated thereat, indicating the criteria for admission thereto.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipal Council of Port Louis that the number of children who can be accommodated are as follows -

- (a) twenty in the sixteen pre-primary schools and kindergartens with one class and forty in schools with two classes, and
- (b) twenty five in the six nurseries.

With regard to criteria for admission in these pre-primary schools, kindergartens and nurseries, I am informed that they are as follows –

- (i) residents of Port Louis only;
- (ii) admission on a first-come, first-served basis, and
- (iii) preference to low income earning parents.

MUNICIPALITY OF PORT LOUIS – LIBRARIES – INTERNET FACILITIES

(No.1B/361) Mr C. Fakeemeeah (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to libraries run by the Municipal Council of Port Louis, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain, from the Council, information as to the number thereof, indicating if they are equipped with internet facilities.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipal Council of Port Louis that internet facilities are available to members of the public and library subscribers against payment of a nominal fee of 0.50 cents per minute at the Audiovisual Section of the Municipal Library and at the Computer Clubs found at Camp Chapelon, Cassis, Cité Briquetterie, Idrice Goomany Centre, Plaine Verte, Roche Bois, St François Xavier, Tranquebar, Vallée des Prêtres and Vallée Pitot.

ZEP SCHOOLS – CPE EXAMINATION - PASS RATE

(No. 1B/362) Mr C. Fakeemeeah (Third Member for Port Louis Maritime & Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to the Certificate of Primary Education, he will -

- (a) for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Mauritius Examination Syndicate, information for each of the last five years as to the pass rate in the *Zone d'Education Prioritaire* (ZEP) schools found in Constituency No.3, Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East, and
- (b) state the measures, if any, being envisaged to improve the results thereof.

Reply: The Emmanuel Anquetil Government School is the only Zone d'Education Prioritaire (ZEP) primary school in Constituency No.3 and I am informed that the CPE Pass Rate of this school for the last five years have been as follows -

Year	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
CPE Pass Rate	22.4	19.7	20.1	26.7	23.3

As regards part (b) of the question, I would like to inform the House that several affirmative measures are being taken by my Ministry to improve both the pass rate of pupils at CPE level as well as the attendance of pupils in ZEP schools. These, inter alia, include -

- (a) consolidation of school leadership and capacity building;
- (b) monitoring of pedagogy in collaboration with the MIE;
- (c) inbuilt remedial work conducted by class teachers;
- (d) after school remedial work conducted by Community based organisations/private sector partners;
- (e) regular meetings with parents conducted by Head Masters/Parent Mediators;
- (f) setting up of Club des Parents for parental empowerment;
- (g) profiling of needy students;

- (h) implementation of the supplementary Feeding Programme as in all ZEP schools (Supply of bread, cheese and a fruit – apple/orange), in addition lunch is supplied to some 60 needy pupils by an NGO;
- (i) needy cases referred to appropriate agencies/Ministries for further action;
- (j) distribution of school materials by the Trust Fund for the Integration of Vulnerable Groups;
- (k) introduction of creativity classes and learning support after school hours (up to 17 00 Hrs) under the ZIIS (Zone of Inclusive and Integrated Strategy) Project, in close collaboration with the Ministry of Arts & Culture;
- (l) upgrading of infrastructures and school facilities, and
- (m) close monitoring of attendance. The absenteeism rate which was 18.2 % in 2007 has decreased to 15.0 % in 2009. Efforts are being sustained to bring it down further.

The *Zones d'Education Prioritaires* (ZEP) strategy aims at combating social inequalities by providing equitable opportunities to all primary school children of the country. Although progress has been slow in most ZEP schools in terms of pupil achievement as measured by the CPE pass rate over the last years, ZEP schools have, on the other hand, managed to produce some good practices. These encompass holistic educational approaches, school-community partnership, active parental involvement in the educational process and fund-raising models for school improvement projects. Significantly, these good practices do serve as models for non-ZEP schools with whom they are shared.

In the long term, I am confident that these innovative measures carried out in the ZEP schools will positively impact upon the very image that has been traditionally associated with them.

EXCLUSIVE ECONOMIC ZONE – FISHING VESSELS

(No. 1B/366) Mr J. C. Barbier (Second Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Minister of Fisheries and Rodrigues whether, in regard to fishing vessels registered to operate in our Exclusive Economic Zone, he will state the number thereof, indicating -

- (a) their country of origin, and
- (b) the conditions of the registration.

Reply: I am informed that local fishing vessels 24m in length and above operating in our Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) are registered by the Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping. As at to date there are 11 such vessels registered by that Ministry. Foreign Fishing Vessels are registered in principle in their country of origin.

However, local fishing boats more than 12m but less than 24m in length and operating on the banks are registered by my Ministry and the number is 36. In addition there are 1,443 registered fishing boats less than 12m involved in the artisanal fishery.

The countries of origin of foreign vessels having obtained fishing licences from my Ministry, during the period January 2010 to date are as follows: Spain, France, Seychelles, Mayotte, Korea, Taiwan Province of China, Madagascar and Comoros.

In respect of local fishing vessels of 24m or more in length operating in our EEZ, the Ministry of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping is responsible for imposing conditions for registration it deems appropriate. As regards fishing boats more than 12 m and less than 24 m the conditions for registration are as follows -

- (a) provision of evidence that the boat is chartered or owned by the applicant;
- (b) submission of a certificate of seaworthiness duly issued by an approved surveyor;
- (c) submission of the name and competency of the skipper, and
- (d) provision of documents showing delistment from previous registry if in case the boat was registered in another country.

For foreign vessels the conditions of registration are imposed by their flag states.

**APPRAVASI GHAT – PROTECTED ZONE – COMMERCIAL DEVELOPMENT
(No. 1B/367) Mr J. C. Barbier (Second Member for GRNW & Port Louis West)**

asked the Minister of Housing and Lands whether, in regard to the protected zone around Aapravasi Ghat, he will give a list of the clearances required for the promotion of industrial or commercial development thereat.

Reply:According to the prevailing Outline Planning Scheme for Port Louis and the Planning Policy Guidance – Design Guidance (PPG), a Building and Land Use Permit from the Municipality of Port Louis is required for industrial and commercial development within the protected zone. Some activities also require an Environment Impact Assessment (EIA) or a Preliminary Environmental Report (PER) approval.

May I also inform the hon. Member that a new PPG for Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property is currently being worked out for development projects within the protected zone of the Aapravasi Ghat. Under the new PPG, industrial and commercial development projects will additionally require a clearance from the Aapravasi Ghat Trust Fund and from the National Heritage Fund.

The new PPG will promote, inter alia, the following development in the buffer zones of the Aapravasi Ghat World Heritage Property -

- offices, premises for cultural activities, small private or state run educational facilities;
- home-industries, service industries, hotels, boutique hotels and guesthouses, restaurants, delicatessens, coffee shops, and
- tourist specialty shops, small convenience stores, defined small market stalls in pedestrianised areas.

As a rule, Development in the buffer zones will be restricted to 2 storey buildings on the street fronts, as a rule, in order to control views and urban form. However, in specific city blocks, subject to specified setback variations, building height will be allowed up to 6 storeys (G+5).

BEAU BASSIN – MUNICIPAL MARKET – SANITARY INSPECTION

(No. 1A/33) Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the Municipal market at Beau Bassin, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin/Rose Hill, information as to –

- (a) the date the last sanitary inspection was effected,
- (b) whether the sanitary regulations and norms are being complied with and, if in the negative, the measures that are being taken to ensure compliance herewith.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipal Council of Beau Bassin – Rose Hill that sanitary inspections at the Municipal Market at Beau Bassin are effected by both Municipal Health inspectors and Health Inspectors of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life.

With regard to part (a) of the question, I am informed that the date on which last sanitary inspection was jointly effected by Health Inspectors of the Municipal Council and the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life on Sunday 06 June 2010 at 08.00 hrs.

As far as part (b) of the question is concerned, I am informed that sanitary inspections are conducted on a daily basis by Municipal Health Inspectors and some Health Inspectors are posted on a permanent basis at the market during its opening hours to ensure that sanitary norms and regulations were being complied with.

I wish to inform the House that maintenance works are also carried out on a regular basis and the following works were undertaken recently -

- (i) table tops in fish, beef and poultry sections have been fitted with stainless sheeting and drains have been constructed;
- (ii) automatic closing devices have been fixed to doors;
- (iii) fly proofing have also been installed to all openings, and
- (iv) tiles on all stalls in vegetable section have been replaced.

RAYMOND RIVET ROAD, MONT ROCHES - RESURFACING

(No. 1A/34) **Mr K. Li Kwong Wing (Second Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière)** asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether he will state if he is aware of the deplorable state of Raymond Rivet Road in Mont Roches and, if so, will he state whether consideration will be given for the resurfacing thereof.

Reply: The Wastewater Management Authority is actually carrying out excavation works along Raymond Rivet Road in Mont Roches for house connection purposes.

The Wastewater Management Authority will have the trenches reinstated and a decision concerning resurfacing will be taken after completion of all works.

LALL BAHADOOR SHASTRI/CANDOS - DRAINS

(No. 1A/35) **Mr K. Ramano (Second Member for Belle Rose & Quatre Bornes)** asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the Lall Bahadoor Shastri/Candos region, opposite the Queen Victoria Hospital, which is a flood prone area, he will state if he is aware of the insufficient drains system thereat and, if so, will he consider the construction of covered drains thereat.

Reply: The National Development Unit was not able to undertake any infrastructural works in that region because of major ongoing sewerage works by the Wastewater Management Authority (WMA).

Following a site visit on 8 July 2010 in the presence of hon. Assirvaden

PPS, hon. Ms. K. R. Deerpalsing, representatives from the Municipal Councils of Vacoas/ Phoenix and Quatre Bornes and NDU's Engineers, the Municipal Council of Vacoas/Phoenix has agreed to conduct a survey after consultation with WMA and to come up with proposals for drains works in the region.

FOOTBALL TEAMS – FOOTBALL GROUNDS & AMENITIES

(No. 1A/36) Mr F. Quirin (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Youth and Sports whether, in regard to First and Second Division football teams, he will give a list of the football grounds and annexed amenities put at their disposal as at to-date for training.

Reply: The Football grounds and other amenities put at the disposal of First and Second Division Football teams as at to date are as follows -

First Division Football Teams

	<i>Football Teams</i>	<i>Football Grounds</i>	<i>Amenities</i>
	PAS Mates	GRNW	Lighting facilities
	ASPL 2000	Champ de Mars	Cloak Room/Toilets
	A.S Riviere Du Rempart	Rohit Boolaky	Cloak room/Toilets Lighting facilities
	A.S Vacoas Phoenix	Solferino/Clozel	Lighting facilities Cloak room/Toilets
	Bambous Etoile de L'Ouest S.C	Medine Sugar Estate	Nil
	Curepipe Starlight S.C	Les Casernes and Velodrome	Cloak room/Toilets Lighting facilities
	Entente Boulet Rouge Riche Mare Rovers	Riche Mare	Nil
	Faucon Flacq S.C	Fuel S.E	Cloak room/Toilets
	Pamplemousses S.C	Anjalay Training Ground	Nil
0	Petite Riviere Noire F.C	Petite Riviere Noire	Lighting Facilities
1	Savanne S.C	Surinam	Lighting Facilities
2	U.S.B.B.R.Hill	Camp Le Vieux	Lighting Facilities

Second Division Football Teams.

	<i>Football Teams</i>	<i>Football Grounds</i>	<i>Amenities</i>
	A.S QuatreBornes	La Source	Lighting,Cloak Room/Toilets
	Sodnac Quatre Bornes Utd	Candos Stadium	Cloak Room/Toilets
	Bolton City Y.C	Reginal Topize, Roche Bois	Cloak room/Toilets Lighting facilities
	Entente Henrietta Blackburn Glen Park Y.C	Glen Park Sports Complex	Cloak room/Toilets Lighting facilities
	Belin S.C	Mapou Leclezio	Nil
	Black Horns Y.C	Swan	Nil
	Cercle de Joachim Curepipe Club Sportif	Velodrome	Cloak room/Toilets Lighting facilities
	Case Noyale F.C	Petite Riviere Noire	Lighting facilities
	La Cure Sylvestre S.C	Port Louis North SSS	Cloak room/Toilets Lighting facilities
0	Mahebourg Quartier F.C	Grand Bel Air	Lighting Facilities
1	Poudre D'Or ATC S.C	Rohit Boolaky	Cloak room/Toilets Lighting facilities
2	U.S Highlands	Belle Terre	Lighting Facilities

NHDC, BEAU BASSIN – BUS SERVICE

(No. 1A/37) Mr F. Quirin (Third Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether he will state if he is aware of the hardship caused to the inhabitants, mainly female workers and the elderly persons due to lack of proper bus services at new NHDC Complex at Beau Bassin and, if so, will he state the remedial measures Government intends to take to address the issue.

Reply: On 15 June 2007, the inhabitants of the new NHDC Complex requested the National Transport Authority to look into the possibility of extending route 182 up to the locality and also to provide services towards Rose Hill. On 24 September 2007 a road test was carried out with a 50-seater bus in the company of the Traffic Management and Road Safety Unit where it was found that from a traffic point of view, large buses could not *manoeuvre* safely along the road leading to the complex in view of its narrowness and the absence of pavements. The extension of the route was therefore not recommended. The route infrastructure has not improved till this date.

After consultation with the Rose Hill Transport Bus Services Limited, it was finally agreed to serve the locality with 29-seater buses. On 23 July 2009 the company submitted an application to operate two 29-seater buses between Rose Hill and Chebel new NHDC Complex. The application has already been published and will be heard soon.

NICOLAY ROAD, PORT LOUIS - DRAINS

(No. 1A/38) Mr A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the construction of drains at Nicolay Road, Port Louis, in the vicinity of the mosque, he will state the name of the contractor, indicating –

- (a) the cost thereof, and;
- (b) the date construction works started, and
- (c) the expected date of completion.

Reply: The Road Development Authority is undertaking the construction of drains along Nicolay Road in Port Louis in the vicinity of the mosque. The name of the contractor is Colas and the cost of the project is Rs1 m. Works have started on 9 July 2010 and will be completed by 14 August 2010.

MAMADE ELAHEE MUNICIPAL STADIUM, CITÉ MARTIAL – UPGRADING

(No. 1A/39) Mr A. Ameer Meea (First Member for Port Louis Maritime and Port Louis East) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether he will state if he is aware of the deplorable state of the Mamade Elahee Municipal Stadium at Cité Martial, 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: The Municipal Council of Port Louis is aware of the condition of the Mamade Elahee Municipal Stadium, at Cité Martial. Due to the constant use of the playground, the Municipal Council of Port Louis has difficulties in maintaining the turfing.

I am informed that the Council has decided, as a remedial measure, to replace the existing grass by synthetic turfing and to upgrade all the existing amenities thereat and which are estimated to cost around Rs28 m. Due to unavailability of the required fund, the Council is soliciting the financial assistance of economic operators in the city for financing this project.

However, I have suggested to the Municipal Council that with the Rs28 m., it will be as well possible to identify other sites and construct more than one football ground.

I am further informed that the Council will nevertheless undertake some minor upgrading works at its own cost from 10 August to 10 September 2010 during which period the stadium will be closed to the public.

VALLÉE DES PRÊTRES GOVERNMENT SCHOOL - FOOTBALL GROUND

(No. 1A/40) Mr G. Lesjongard (Second Member for Port Louis North and Montagne Longue) asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to the football ground at Vallée des Prêtres Government School, he will state when the contract was awarded, indicating –

- (a) the value thereof, and
- (b) whether the works have been completed and, if not, why not.

Reply: The Works Order for the construction of the football ground at Vallée des Prêtres was awarded on 12 April 2008 for the value amounting to Rs4,877,328.25 and the works were completed on 19 February 2009 and handed over to the Ministry of Education & Human Resource. The football ground at Vallée des Prêtres was entrusted to Messrs Tayelamay & Sons, the District Contractor appointed for Port-Louis Region under the contract “Maintenance, Repairs & Rehabilitation of Government Buildings (2007-2008)”.

The maintenance period for these works expired on 19 August 2009.

VALLÉE PITOT - CHILDREN’S PLAYGROUND

(No. 1A/41) Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South and Port Louis Central) asked the Minister of Local Government and Outer Islands whether, in regard to the children’s playground at Vallée Pitot, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Municipal Council of Port Louis, information as to when it will be put to use by the children of the locality.

Reply: The initiative to implement the children’s playground was taken following the decision of the Municipal Council of Port Louis before the general elections.

I am informed by the Municipal Council of Port Louis that the opening ceremony of the Vallée Pitot children’s playground is scheduled to take place in August 2010, after which it will be put at the disposal of the children of the locality for their use.

NATIONAL PENSION SCHEME - FOREIGN WORKERS

(No. 1A/42) **Mr R. Uteem (Second Member for Port Louis South & Port Louis Central)** asked the Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions whether, in regard to contributions made by, and on behalf, of foreign workers to the National Pension Scheme, she will state if such contributions are refunded to the foreign workers when they leave Mauritius and, if not, why not.

Reply: As at present, contribution made to the National Pension Fund is not refunded to foreign workers on departure. The payment of benefits for contributory pension in respect of foreign workers is governed by section 20 of the National Pensions which equally apply to Mauritian citizens. Accordingly, foreign workers may claim their contributory pension to which they become eligible to, at retirement age.

The present system of payment appears to be unfair as the foreign worker needs to initiate long administrative procedures if abroad and upon attaining the retirement age, to obtain a very small amount of contributory pension in view of the limited period of contribution which in most cases do not exceed the work permit entitlement period. My Ministry proposes to look into the matter and bring the required amendments to legislation so as to enable foreign workers to be refunded their contributions upon leaving the country.

NGOs – GRANTS IN AID

(No. 1A/43) **Dr. S. Boolell (Second Member for Curepipe & Midlands)** asked the Minister of Social Security, National Solidarity and Reform Institutions whether, in regard to grants in aid to Non Governmental Organisations (NGOs), she will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Non Governmental Organisation Trust Fund, information, for each of the past six years, as to –

- (a) the list of NGOs benefitting from same
- (b) the eligibility criteria, and
- (c) the amount of yearly grants received by each NGO.

Reply: I am submitting at annexes 1 and 2 relevant information concerning Grant in Aid to Non Governmental Organisations by the NGO Trust Fund which operates under the aegis of my Ministry.

SECONDARY EDUCATION – ENROLMENT RATIO

(No. 1A/44) Mr S. Obeegadoo (Third Member for Curepipe & Midlands) asked the Minister of Education and Human Resources whether, in regard to Secondary Education, he will give, for each of the years, from 1999 to 2009, the –

- (a) net enrolment ratio for
 - (i) lower secondary education, and
 - (ii) upper secondary education
- (b) number of students enrolled in the pre-vocational stream, indicating the completion rate, and
- (c) number and names of educational institutions catering exclusively for pre-vocational students.

Reply: As regards part (a) (i) and (ii), Net Enrolment Ratio (NER) for Lower Secondary Education and Upper Secondary Education, Republic of Mauritius (1999-2009) –

(Academic and Prevocational)

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009

NER (Lower Secondary: FI to FV)(%)	61.4	61.7	62.5	63.6	65.6	66.5	69.9	71.2	72.4	71.9	72.1
NER (Upper Secondary: Lower VI to Upper VI)(%)	54.3	57.2	58.6	60.2	60.9	58.6	59.1	62.5	63.2	62.7	64.2

(Academic only)

Year	1999	2000	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
NER (Lower Secondary: FI to FV)(%)	57.0	57.3	58	57.9	58.9	58.7	60.9	61.7	63.5	63.9	64.4
NER (Upper Secondary: Lower VI to Upper VI)(%)	53.4	55.8	57.5	59.6	60.3	58.4	59.0	62.4	63.0	62.5	63.8

Note:

$$\text{NER for Lower Secondary} = \frac{\text{Enrolment in Secondary aged (11-15)}}{\text{Population aged(11-15)}} \times 100$$

$$\text{NER for Upper Secondary} = \frac{\text{Enrolment in Secondary aged (16-17)}}{\text{Population aged(16-17)}} \times 100$$

As regards part (b), Pre vocational - Enrolment and completion rate, Republic of Mauritius,
1999 – 2009 –

	Enrolment	Completion rate (%)
1999	4,489	na
2000	4,695	49.4
2001	4,919	45.4
2002	5,966	47.1
2003	7,326	63.5
2004	8,488	70.2
2005	9,845	74.6
2006	10,424	79.3
2007	9,573	77.7
2008	8,495	71.2
2009	8,033	77.6

na – not available

$$\text{Completion Rate} = \frac{\text{Enrolment in Grade III, Year t}}{\text{Enrolment in Grade I, Year t -3}} \times 100$$

As regards part (c), number and names of educational institutions catering exclusively for pre-vocational students in 2009 -

1. Goodlands SSS (V)
2. Riv. Du Rempart SSS (V)
3. Immaculée Conception SSS (V)
4. Gandhian Basic School
5. Colonel Maingard SSV
6. S. Murday SSS (V)

SAINT AVOL, BRITANNIA – LAND ALLOCATION

(No. 1A/46) **Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière)** asked the Minister of Agro-Industry and Food Security whether, in regard to land situated at Saint Avol, Britannia to be allocated by the Sugar Investment Trust, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Trust, information as to-

- (a) the names and addresses of the beneficiaries;
- (b) the criteria used for the allocation thereof;
- (c) the number of beneficiaries who have not paid their rental, indicating the action taken against them, and
- (d) whether any reallocation of plot has been effected following non-payment of rent by the first beneficiaries thereof and, if so, when, and to whom.

Reply: Let me first inform the hon. Member that the land he is referring to at Saint Avol, Britannia, has already been allocated by the Sugar Investment Trust.

With regard to part (a) of the question, the list of beneficiaries together with their addresses is being compiled and will be placed in the Library. As far as the criteria are concerned, the following were taken into consideration –

- Employment status
- Land ownership
- Proximity of residence to site being proposed for lease
- Experience in agriculture

- Willingness to work in cluster
- Willingness to cultivate strategic crops

I am informed by the Sugar Investment Trust that the latter has allocated land under three schemes since 2006, viz –

- (a) 100 Arpents scheme in 2006;
- (b) 100 Arpents Food Security in 2009, and
- (c) Potato Plantation 2010.

100Arpents Scheme 2006

Applications from prospective lessees were received, processed and evaluated by the Agricultural Research and Extension Unit, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security. It was agreed between the Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security and the Sugar Investment Trust that priority shall be given to SIT, Option Certificate (OC) holders while processing and evaluating applications. The lease has been drawn up for a period of eight years at a monthly rental of Rs500 per arpent as from June 2006.

100 Arpents under Food Security Fund

Applications from prospective lessees were received, processed and evaluated by the Agricultural Research and Extension Unit, Ministry of Agro-Industry and Food Security. Those who had scored the highest marks following the interview were offered a lease and were invited to pay their rental.

Potato Plantation 2010

The Sugar Investment Trust as a cane plantation programme. Based on this programme, the Sugar Investment Trust puts at the disposal of small planters some land for a period of four months for potato plantation. This year, some 85 arpents of land is being rented to 48 beneficiaries who have applied for leave of such land. The Sugar Investment Trust has tried its best to accommodate all applications even if the number of applications increases each year whilst the extent available for lease has decreased.

As regards parts (c) and (d) of the question, I am informed as follows –

- (a) under 100 Arpents Scheme of 2006 – eight beneficiaries did not pay their rental. Their plots were retrieved and re-allocated to eight new beneficiaries;
- (b) under 100 Arpents for the Food Security Fund – 12 beneficiaries did not pay their rental. Their plots were retrieved and re-allocated to 12 new beneficiaries;
- (c) as for potato plantation 2010, out of the 48 beneficiaries, 42 have already effected payment and the remaining six will do so by 30 July 2010, and
- (d) information regarding the new beneficiaries is being compiled and will be laid in the Library of the National Assembly.

DOMAINE LES PAILLES – CASINOS – PRIVATISATION

(No. 1A/47) Mr R. Bhagwan (First Member for Beau Bassin & Petite Rivière) asked the Vice-Prime Minister, Minister of Finance and Economic Development whether, in regard to the privatization of the casinos at Domaine Les Pailles, he will state where matters stand.

Reply: Let me at the outset clarify that the Privatisation of the Casinos is not limited to that at Domaine Les Pailles but involves all the five Casinos i.e Beach Casinos Ltd, Casino de Maurice Ltd, Le Caudan Waterfront Casino Ltd, Le Grand Casino Du Domaine Ltée, and Sun Casinos Ltd managed by SIC Management Services Ltd.

It is recalled that the House was informed in the reply to PQ B 522 in May 2009 that SIC had agreed in-principle to the offer submitted by Peermont Group of South Africa. This was however subject to further discussions and negotiations.

Matters have been put on hold pending a final decision as the philosophy of Government is to create a conducive environment and proper regulatory framework which would impose stricter control and enforcement with regards to operations. Government is also envisaging the rezoning of the casinos and gaming houses outside the residential areas and will develop a global and holistic approach that will also tackle the issue of proliferation of gaming activities.

Since taking office as Minister of Finance, I have laid emphasis on the following -

- the need for a thorough examination of the strengths and weaknesses of the Gaming Industry;
- assessing market needs, technological changes and innovation;
- review of all applicable legislation and regulatory framework;
- economic and social impact and introduction of responsible gambling;
- linkages of gaming activities with other economic spheres of activities such as tourism, leisure and entertainment;
- new challenges to be met in the gaming sector;
- coherence with fiscal regime to be implemented, and
- creation of value added by the Strategic Partnership, particularly in terms of expertise, investment and employment.

As the hon. Member is aware, my Ministry is already working on the above issues including relocation of casinos outside residential areas. Once Government is satisfied that a sound and economically sustainable framework can be devised which meets the aspirations of all key stakeholders, the appropriate decisions will be taken.

PELICAN AVENUE, QUATRE BORNES - PAVEMENTS

(No. 1A/48) Mr K. Ramano (Second Member for Belle Rose & Quatre Bornes) asked the Minister of Public Infrastructure, National Development Unit, Land Transport and Shipping whether, in regard to Pelican Avenue in Quatre Bornes, he will state if he is aware of security hazards thereat and, if so, whether consideration will be given for the construction of pavements along the said Avenue from the Sodnac State Secondary School to Hillcrest Avenue.

Reply: I am informed by the Municipal Council of Quatre Bornes that with the increasing development in the region, there is a need to provide drains with footpath on both sides of the road along Pelican Avenue from Sodnac SSS to Hillcrest Avenue.

Due to lack of funds, the Municipal Council has not yet considered the above works. However, I have asked the National Development Unit to look into.

PUBLIC OFFICERS - INTERDICTION

(No. 1A/49) Mr D. Nagalingum (Second Member for Stanley and Rose Hill) asked the Minister of Civil Service and Administrative Reforms whether, in regard to Public Officers, he will state the number thereof who, between July 2008 and December 2009, have been interdicted, giving, in each case -

- (a) the reasons therefor
- (b) their grades, and
- (c) the salaries paid to them during the period of interdiction.

Reply: The information is being laid in the Library.

HOTELS AND GUEST HOUSES - LICENCE

(No. 1A/50) Mr J. C. Barbier (Second Member for GRNW & Port Louis West) asked the Minister of Tourism and Leisure whether, in regard to hotels and guest houses, he will give the number thereof whose operating licence has as at 30 June 2010 –

- (a) not been renewed, and
- (b) been cancelled.

Reply: I am informed that as at 30 June 2010, licences of 27 Hotels and 51 Guesthouses have not been renewed by the Tourism Authority whilst licences of 5 Hotels and 9 Guesthouses have been cancelled by that Authority. The list of non-renewed licences is at Annex I and cancelled licences is at Annex 2.

The main reasons for non-renewal of licences, are non-compliance with security measures and absence of required documents whereas the cancellation of licences was mainly due to:

Non-compliance with conditions imposed by Tourism Authority

- Licence cancelled upon request of the Licensee
- Missing documents
- Non-payment of Licence fee at the expiry of the delay granted by the Tourism Authority.

