#### THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

FIRST SESSION

## ORDER PAPER

## MONDAY, 4 APRIL 2016

No. 11

12 noon

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# **QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER\***

- \*1. Ms Sun Xueling: To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) what is the number of applicants applying for the digital TV assistance scheme in the last two years; and (b) whether the Ministry is fully satisfied that residents are aware of the move from analogue to digital TV and the shutdown of analogue TV channels in 2017.
- \*2. Ms Sun Xueling: To ask the Minister for Communications and Information
  (a) what are the planning parameters for the setting up of a library in a district; and (b) what steps are being taken to make accessibility to books more convenient for residents to enable them to pick up books on the go.
- \*3. Mr Darryl David: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth whether more support can be given to those sports that are not affiliated to a National Sports Association (NSA) to encourage a sporting and healthy lifestyle in our community.
- \*4. Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef: To ask the Minister for Health with recent announcements on the Home Team's counter-terrorism initiatives as well as community plans under SG Secure, whether the Ministry will be coming up with a framework for healthcare institutions pertaining to this.
- \*5. Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef: To ask the Minister for Health whether the use of Medisave for patients with confirmed terminal illnesses and end-stage diseases with significantly limited lifespan can be liberalised more for their use.
- \*6. Mr Leon Perera: To ask the Minister for Health (a) what are the names of the SGH and Ministry staff who have been disciplined in connection with the Hepatitis C hospital infection cluster in 2015; (b) what are the penalties and/or warnings that they individually received; and (c) for what reasons have these penalties and/or warnings been given in each case.

- \*7. Miss Cheng Li Hui: To ask the Minister for Health what are the measures put in place to ensure that the Hepatitis C incident does not happen again.
- \*8. Mr Leon Perera: To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how many Government and statutory board car parks as a proportion of the total number of these car parks provide free parking on Sundays; (b) how has this proportion varied from 2005 to 2010; and (c) whether the Ministry has plans to change this proportion in the years ahead.
- \*9. Assoc Prof Daniel Goh Pei Siong: To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether there are guidelines on the installation of barriers in void decks, walkways and other common spaces in terms of accessibility for the disabled, elderly and community activities; and (b) what is the Ministry's position on the installation of such barriers in common spaces in HDB estates.
- \*10. Er Dr Lee Bee Wah: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) how are officers at LTA and the vehicle inspection centres kept abreast of changes in the specifications of cars manufactured abroad; and (b) why are some car exhaust systems not allowed even though these may emit lower noise levels and are well within the decibels allowed.
- \*11. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong: To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether any Government studies have been undertaken on the feasibility of online voting for overseas Singaporeans using SingPass which can overcome security and secrecy concerns relating to postal voting; (b) if so, whether they can be made available; and (c) if such studies do not exist, whether the Government can share with Singaporeans the obstacles preventing these studies from being undertaken.
- \*12. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the Ministry will consider (i) putting a speed counter on heavy vehicles that are allowed to ferry passengers which will register each time the vehicle exceeds the speed limit for a prolonged period (ii) establishing a fine and demerit system for drivers caught speeding through these speed counters.
- \*13. Mr Gan Thiam Poh: To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry)
  (a) what is the current number of students studying in international schools in Singapore; (b) how many of them are foreigners; and (c) whether the Government is promoting the private education industry as one of the key engines of economic growth, and if so, whether there are plans to increase the number of international schools and the student numbers.

- \*14. Mr Pritam Singh: To ask the Acting Minister for Education (Schools) in view of the forthcoming merger of Bedok North Secondary School with Damai Secondary School in January 2018, whether the Ministry will consider locating the merged school at the premises of Bedok North Secondary School in view of better transportation links at the location of this school.
- \*15. Assoc Prof Daniel Goh Pei Siong: To ask the Acting Minister for Education (Schools) (a) how many ex-teachers have rejoined the education service last year; (b) how many of these teachers have resigned as employees of independent schools to rejoin the service; and (c) how are the teachers' experience and skills that are developed in the time after the teachers left service recognised when they rejoin the service.
- \*16. Ms Joan Pereira: To ask the Minister for National Development what assistance plans does HDB have in place with regard to mortgage payments by those in their late 40s or 50s who have been retrenched, particularly where the husband and wife both lose their jobs at the same time.
- \*17. Mr Pritam Singh: To ask the Minister for National Development which three Town Councils have the largest number of flats eligible for upgrading under the Home Improvement Programme.
- \*18. Ms Sylvia Lim: To ask the Minister for National Development (a) in the last 12 months, how many Singaporeans who have purchased BTO flats have requested for a deferment of collection of keys; (b) what proportion of such requests have been due to inability to sell their existing flats; and (c) how will the Government assist residents in such situations.
- \*19. Er Dr Lee Bee Wah: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what are the criteria to assess whether an electric car is eligible for tax rebates; and (b) how long does it take to process the tax rebate application.
- \*20. Er Dr Lee Bee Wah: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether he can give an update on the outcome of the trial of the Electric Vehicle Car-Sharing Programme; (b) how many private electric cars have been registered in the past two years; and (c) what is the Ministry's position on encouraging car owners to switch to electric cars.
- \*21. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong: To ask the Minister for Transport whether LTA will consider planning for two direct bus services to the Geylang Serai market in the month before Hari Raya Puasa and Hari Raya Haji from main roads around Bedok South, Bedok Central and Bedok North.

- \*22. Assoc Prof Daniel Goh Pei Siong: To ask the Minister for Health (a) how many places for home care and centre-based care services for the elderly are there currently; (b) how many referrals for each of these services have been received by the Agency for Integrated Care in 2015; and (c) how many of these referrals have been turned down and what are the main reasons for turning them down.
- \*23. Assoc Prof Fatimah Lateef: To ask the Minister for Health whether there can be exceptions made for Pioneer Generation (PG) patients who are not able to be physically present to collect medications and supplies due to mobility conditions and other factors, to still be able to utilise their PG subsidies and the Medication Assistance Fund.
- \* Members may postpone their Questions to a later sitting day if their Questions are not reached by the end of Question Time. The postponement forms are available at the Chamber entrances. To ensure timely notice of such postponements, Members should submit their notices to the Clerk by 1.30 pm. Questions will be given a written answer if no such notices are received by the Clerk.

## AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

#### Introduction of Government Bills

1. Minister for Finance:

(President's recommendation to be signified).

Supply Bill.

2. Minister for Finance:

(President's recommendation to be signified).

Final Supply (FY 2015) Bill.

3. Minister for Law:

Choice of Court Agreements Bill.

## ORDER OF THE DAY

1. BUDGET STATEMENT: Resumption of Debate on Question (24th March 2016) (Allotted Day), "That Parliament approves the financial policy of the Government for the financial year 1st April 2016 to 31st March 2017.". — (Minister for Finance).

# QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

- 1. Er Dr Lee Bee Wah: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry will consider (i) conducting a campaign or public education on giving up seats for the elderly and pregnant women on public transport systems (ii) taking enforcement action against commuters who take up priority seats; (b) how many complaints have the train operators received about such cases in the past three years; and (c) whether the train operators will make more frequent public announcements on reminding commuters to give up seats to those who need them more.
- 2. Miss Cheng Li Hui: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the current number of vehicles and stations under the car-sharing scheme; (b) what has been the utilisation rate; and (c) whether there are plans to increase the number of car-sharing vehicles and locations.
- 3. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Health whether the Ministry will consider providing higher subsidies for detection tests conducted at polyclinics and GP clinics for diabetes and cervical cancer so as to increase early detection for these diseases.
- 4. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Health (a) what is the current number of ElderShield premium payers; (b) to date, what is the number of people who have received ElderShield payouts; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider setting up a coordinating office to help elders with ElderShield matters such as that of signing up, paying premiums and getting payouts.
- 5. Assoc Prof Daniel Goh Pei Siong: To ask the Minister for Health (a) in the past year, how many caregivers who have benefitted from the Caregivers Training Grant are specialised caregivers who provide care for specific illnesses or disabilities; (b) how much do the specialised caregivers receive on average; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider increasing the grant quantum for specialised caregivers.

- 6. Mr Desmond Choo: To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry)
  (a) how many unlicensed tour guides has the Ministry taken enforcement action against from 2013 to date; and (b) what are the measures that the Ministry have and will be taking to regulate against unlicensed tour guides from diluting the quality of tour guide services in Singapore.
- 7. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) how many women and girls have been detained in the last five years under section 160 of the Women's Charter; and (b) in each of the last five years what has been the longest and mean duration of detention respectively.
- 8. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development whether the Government will consider increasing the amount of maternity leave for single mothers considering that they need more time to take care of their children.
- 9. Er Dr Lee Bee Wah: To ask the Minister for National Development whether the Ministry will be reviewing the Additional Housing Grant which was last enhanced in 2009.

## PAPERS PRESENTED

2016				
			Date Presented	
Cmd.	2	The Revenue and Expenditure Estimates for the Financial Year 2016/2017	•••••	24 March 2016
Cmd.	3	Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial Year 1st April 2015 to 31st March 2016	••••	24 March 2016
Misc.	1	Statement of the Minister for Finance [Under Article 147(4)(a) of the Constitution]	••••	24 March 2016
S.	76	Advice of the Council of Presidential Advisers on the Appointment to the Housing and Development Board (HDB)		29 March 2016

# PAPERS PRESENTED - continued

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2016					
S.	77	Advice of the Council of Presidential Advisers on the Appointment of Mr Lee	Date Presented		
		Theng Kiat to the Board of Temasek Holdings (Private) Limited (Temasek) 31 March 2016			
S.L.	95	Public Order (Prohibited Areas) (Amendment) Order 2016 31 March 2016			