

# SECOND PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

## FIRST SESSION

### ORDER PAPER

WEDNESDAY, 9TH APRIL, 1969

No. 26

2.30 p.m.

70

### QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- \*1. **Enche Abdul Aziz Karim:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Labour whether he proposes to abolish one or both Industrial Arbitration Courts.
- \*2. **Enche Rahmat bin Kenap:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Labour whether he is aware that many applications for Singapore citizenship from persons, who have more than 15 years' residence here, and who have families of their own, have been rejected; and whether the Government will reconsider such cases and assure the persons concerned, where applicable, that they will not be deprived of their jobs.
- \*3. **Mr. Low Guan Onn:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Labour, in order to alleviate the human hardships, sufferings and frustrations of persons affected on both sides of the Causeway and to bring about better understanding between the two countries, whether the Government will consider a bilateral arrangement with the Malaysian Government whereby a citizen of one country having a permanent job and at least ten years' residence in the other be granted citizenship of the country in which he now resides on a reciprocal basis and in return for a grant of citizenship to his counterpart with similar qualifications in the other country subject to such persons being willing to take up the citizenship of the respective countries.
- \*4. **Mr. Lim Soo Peng:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Labour whether he will consider introducing amending legislation for an upward revision of the scales of benefit in the Workmen's Compensation Ordinance.
- \*5. **Enche Mohd. Ariff bin Suradi:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Labour whether he is aware that a certified copy of an entry in the Adopted Children Register issued by the Registrar of Births and Deaths under the Adoption of Children Ordinance containing a record, approved by the court, specifying Singapore as the country of birth of the adopted person is not accepted by the National Registration Office in support of an application for the red (Singapore Citizen) identity card; and if he will clarify the matter.

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- \*6. **Enche Abdul Aziz Karim:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Labour if he will ascertain from the Central Provident Fund Board whether the post of General Manager of the Board will be permanently filled when the contract of employment of the present incumbent expires on 30th April, 1971.
- \*7. **Mr. N. Govindasamy:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs and Minister for Labour if he will ascertain from the Central Provident Fund Board whether the Board considers it feasible to compute interest on contributions not on a yearly but on a monthly basis as practised by the Post Office Savings Bank.
- \*8. **Mr. Ang Nam Piau:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what steps have been taken towards improving the schools transport service; and (b) whether there has been any response from schools to his suggestion on 17th December, 1968, that schools run school bus services of their own.
- \*9. **Enche Rahmat bin Kenap:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether he is aware that in certain Government primary schools some classes are still without teachers; (b) why there is a shortage of teachers; and (c) when those vacancies will be filled.
- \*10. **Mr. N. Govindasamy:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what was the number of daily-rated relief teachers employed by his Ministry during 1968; (b) what was the average period of employment of such teachers during 1968; (c) what is the number of daily-rated teachers employed from 1st January, 1969, up to the latest convenient date and their average period of employment; and (d) why is it necessary to employ the large number of daily-rated teachers for long periods.
- \*11. **Mr. Teong Eng Siong:** To ask the Minister for Education whether he is aware that there are still no text-books prescribed for the special classes of the Adult Education Board this year, and if he proposes to prescribe them.
- \*12. **Mr. P. Selvadurai:** To ask the Minister for Communications whether he will take steps to legalise the status of pirate taxi-drivers if he thinks that those drivers are performing a necessary social function.
- \*13. **Enche Abdul Aziz Karim:** To ask the Minister for Communications if he will consider introducing legislation to make it compulsory for pedestrians, who are within a reasonable distance on either side of a pedestrian overhead bridge, to use the overhead bridge to cross the road.
- \*14. **Mr. Ang Nam Piau:** To ask the Minister for Communications if he will inform the House of the measures taken and to be taken to improve the adequacy and efficiency of the public transport service and to reduce vehicular traffic congestion.

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- \*15. Mr. P. Selvadurai:** To ask the Minister for Communications if he will make a statement on the talks that he has had with the Malaysian Government on the commercial viability of the Malaysia-Singapore Airlines.
- \*16. Mr. Teong Eng Siong:** To ask the Minister for Communications whether vacancies in the Civil Aviation Department are advertised in the English language newspapers only; and if he will take steps to have such advertisements hereafter inserted also in the newspapers published in the other official languages.
- \*17. Enche Rahmat bin Kenap:** To ask the Minister for Communications if he will ascertain from the Singapore Telephone Board how many applicants for telephones were on the waiting list, as at a latest convenient date, because there are no existing spare lines; and how long those applicants are expected to wait for telephones.
- \*18. Mr. Lee Teck Him:** To ask the Minister for Communications whether he will take steps to expand the facilities for the training of seamen so as to enable more citizens to become seamen.
- \*19. Mr. Lee Teck Him:** To ask the Minister for Defence if he will consider reducing the period of national service from two years to six months for graduates who have specialist qualifications.
- \*20. Mr. Lee Teck Him:** To ask the Minister for Defence whether he has any intention of setting up a committee for the purpose of inviting the public to donate to the National Defence Fund.
- \*21. Mr. N. Govindasamy:** To ask the Minister for Defence what is the outcome of his examination into the problem of issuing Certificates of Identity to non-citizens of Malaysian origin permanently resident in the Republic for purposes of travel between Singapore and West Malaysia.
- \*22. Mr. P. Selvadurai:** To ask the Minister for Culture if he will make a statement on the proposed conversion of Radio and TV Singapura into a statutory corporation; the need for such a conversion, and if such a conversion will result in changes in the cultural policy hitherto pursued by the Government in relation to Radio and TV programmes.
- \*23. Mr. Lim Soo Peng:** To ask the Minister for Culture (a) whether he is aware that the Government Gazette, which is published on every Friday, reaches the public only on the following Monday, and what steps he proposes to take to make the Gazette available to the public earlier; and (b) whether he will consider publishing the Gazette on Mondays instead of on Fridays.
- \*24. Mr. Teong Eng Siong:** To ask the Minister for Culture whether he is aware that some books published in Singapore are printed in Hong Kong, a practice which is not conducive to the development of the printing industry in Singapore; and what steps he has taken or proposes to take in the matter.
- \*25. Mr. Tay Boon Too:** To ask the Minister for Health whether he has any plans to build a clinic in the densely populated part of the Paya Lebar constituency.
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**ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS**

*(Those marked ● are Orders of the Day.)*

● 1. Abortion Bill —

*Resumption of Debate on Question (8th April, 1969), “That the Bill be now read a second time.” — (Minister for Health).*

[The Member in charge intends to commit this Bill to a Select Committee after its Second Reading.]

● 2. Voluntary Sterilization Bill — (Minister for Health) — Second Reading.

[The Member in charge intends to commit this Bill to a Select Committee after its Second Reading.]

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**PAPERS PRESENTED****1969***Date Presented*

Cmd. 15	Report of the Director of Audit on the Accounts of the Government of the Republic of Singapore, 1967	... ..	8th April, 1969.
Cmd. 16	Financial Statements for the Year 1967	...	8th April, 1969.

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