

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

FIRST SESSION

REVISED ORDER PAPER

TUESDAY, 1 MARCH 2016

No. 8

1.30 pm

1

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs what measures are taken by the Police during the investigation and law enforcement process to safeguard the interests of children and vulnerable young persons who are suspected of, or accused of, committing an offence.
- *2. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs if he can provide an update on the review of the procedure to allow an appropriate adult to be present when a young person is interviewed by the police and whether more protection can be accorded to young persons during investigations.
- *3. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) how does the police keep parents or guardians of minors informed regarding interviews, investigation, arrest or custody of their minors; (b) how does the police ensure that minors who are arrested or subject to police interviews are made aware of their legal rights and have adequate and timely legal representation; (c) how do the Ministry and police monitor and ensure compliance with the law, protocols and processes; and (d) whether interviews of minors are recorded on video as part of the pilot scheme to video-record police interviews of accused persons and, if not, why not and when will video recording be extended to minors.
- *4. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether the Ministry could have timeously addressed the extensive speculation on social media surrounding the case of the 14-year-old boy who was found dead after being interviewed by the police; and (b) whether there will be a thorough review of police procedures on the interview of vulnerable suspects.

-
- *5. **Ms Rahayu Mahzam:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether there are standard procedures for interviewing and investigating young persons who are suspected or accused of committing an offence and, if so, what is the age guideline and the standard procedures in place; and (b) whether there are standard procedures to keep the parents or guardians of these young persons informed of the legal process.
- *6. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs what is the reason for the delay in the Ministry's response to speculation made on social media about the police's conduct in the case of a 14-year-old boy who had died after having been questioned by the police.
- *7. **Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the coverage of the Appropriate Adult Scheme can be extended to more vulnerable groups such as the young and elderly to ensure that they are supported during police investigations.
- *8. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Acting Minister for Education (Schools) (a) how do the Ministry and schools keep parents and guardians informed of developments when students are engaged in the law enforcement process; (b) what is being done to monitor and ensure compliance to the protocols put in place to protect minors who are subject to police interviews or investigation; (c) how are these protocols reviewed, updated and improved upon; and (d) how does the Ministry ensure that these protocols are consistent with relevant laws and Singapore's obligations as a signatory to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- *9. **Mr Ang Wei Neng:** To ask the Acting Minister for Education (Schools) what are the schools' procedures when the police go to a school to interview a student in relation to a crime and later decide to bring the student to the police station for further questioning.
- *10. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what is the current process for a small business to get an alternative site from HDB or JTC to continue their business if their shop/office is destroyed by fire; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider expediting the process so that the affected businesses can make a quick recovery to resume their business.
- *11. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what are the plans for HDB commercial shops that have their 30-year lease expiring in a few years; and (b) what are the long term plans for towns with these commercial shops not partaking in the Revitalisation of Shops (ROS) scheme.

-
- *12. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources (a) how many vehicles have been booked during the past three years for leaving the engine of their stationary vehicles running; (b) what is the duration allowed before the vehicle owner can be penalised; and (c) what is the Ministry doing to raise awareness of this rule to vehicle owners.
- *13. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources (a) how many cases of high-rise littering are reported in 2015; (b) what is the number of resultant injuries and deaths; and (c) whether the current measures to deter high-rise littering are satisfactory.
- *14. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of the recent oil spills on our roads caused by at least four accidents (a) whether the profiles of the drivers involved have any similarities; and (b) what preventive measures can be implemented.
- *15. **Mr Ang Wei Neng:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the number of oil spill incidents on public roads in the last five years; (b) how many of these oil spill incidents caused traffic jams exceeding an hour; and (c) how does LTA work with the Traffic Police to minimise the frequency and impact of old spill incidents.
- *16. **Ms Sylvia Lim:** To ask the Minister for Finance (a) in each year since the inception of the Productivity and Innovation Credit (PIC) scheme, how many cases and constituting what percentage of total PIC claims has IRAS investigated, or is investigating or pursuing, clawbacks of PIC payouts; (b) what is the dollar value of the clawback investigations initiated by IRAS in each year; (c) what are the reasons for the clawbacks; and (d) what is the success rate so far in obtaining the clawbacks.
- *17. **Mr Zainal Sapari:** To ask the Minister for Finance (a) whether there are guidelines given to Ministries or statutory boards to ensure (i) clauses in Government tender specifications for service contracts are fair to service providers and (ii) liquidated damages commensurate with the non-delivery of service; (b) whether there are avenues for service providers to flag out unfair or one-sided clauses in tender specifications; (c) whether there is training given to Government procurement officers to ensure fair contracts; and (d) whether an audit can be conducted on Government tender contracts to ensure fair clauses.
- *18. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Acting Minister for Education (Schools) whether the Ministry can include the topic of tripartism, in particular the history and importance of strong tripartite relations to Singapore, in the social studies curriculum at the secondary school level.

-
- *19. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Acting Minister for Education (Schools) what measures are being taken to foster an ethics-based education system in Singapore centred on values and character development and not just academic achievements.
- *20. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth whether there are plans by the Ministry to (i) preserve our unique local food recipes and (ii) organise more food trails in the Singapore heartlands.
- *21. **Er Dr Lee Bee Wah:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) in the past three years, how many cases of molestation in MRT trains have been reported; (b) what are the plans to cut down on these cases; and (c) whether warning signs can be put up in train carriages to alert commuters.
- *22. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what are the current projections in the rate of change in doctor-to-population and nurse-to-population ratios over the next five years; (b) what targets are in place to improve the doctor-to-population and nurse-to-population ratios over the next five years; (c) how does the Ministry intend to meet these targets; and (d) what are the fallback options should the Ministry be unable to meet these targets.
- *23. **Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) of the more than 900 homeless individuals and families displaced between 2013 and 2015, what are the longest, shortest and average periods of displacement encountered by them; (b) what percentage of these homeless cases has been the outcome of unsuccessful applications for a HDB rental flat; and (c) what are some of the measures that the Ministry has with HDB to flag out potential displacement and homeless cases at the point of application for a rental flat.
- *24. **Mr Zainal Sapari:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources whether the payment of the Annual Wage Supplement and annual increment based on the National Wage Council's recommendation for outsourced cleaning workers can be made part of the licensing conditions for cleaning companies.
- *25. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources whether controls are in place to monitor performance of contractors managing maintenance works in private estates as there is no equivalent like Town Councils to ensure maintenance works are conducted.

-
- *26. **Mr Chen Show Mao:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry) what steps are taken to enforce the requirement that all supermarkets and grocery shops maintain accurately calibrated weighing machines at all times.
- *27. **Mr Chen Show Mao:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry) what are the take-up rates of the schemes aimed at encouraging SMEs to hire fresh graduates and interns such as the SME Talent Programme and SkillsFuture Earn and Learn Programme.
- *28. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether LTA will look into increasing the digital message display units at all major roads/highways to advise motorists to divert early and use alternative roads when an accident ahead is likely to cause traffic slowdown or jams.
- *29. **Mr Zainal Sapari:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the percentage of motorcycles registered under the Open Category COE in 2015; and (b) whether the Ministry can consider (i) increasing the supply of Category D or motorcycle COEs so as to reduce their COE prices; and (ii) allowing five-year renewals for motorcycle COEs.
- *30. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Prime Minister what are the measures taken by MAS to ensure that retail banks have adequate provisions of automated teller machines (ATM) in HDB precincts so that residents need not walk significant distances to find an ATM.
- *31. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Finance whether the Ministry will consider requiring environmental audits according to international best practices to be done on firms in which GIC and Temasek Holdings have a financial interest and which firms can potentially be contributing to the haze problem.
- *32. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether HDB will allow second or third-time buyers of HDB flats to take HDB loans if they cannot qualify to borrow from the banks; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider reviewing this policy to help this group.
- *33. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for National Development how does the Ministry balance the sale of land parcels to private developers around major MRT interchange stations and the management of traffic flow when all developments are ready for occupation.

-
- *34. Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Acting Minister for Education (Schools) (a) how many allied educators are currently employed in primary and secondary schools; (b) what is the average, highest and lowest number employed respectively; and (c) how many of these educators are trained in handling students with special needs.
- *35. Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether there has been any public consultations, educational sessions and/or distribution of information sheets for residents within estates selected for the Silver Zone project prior to the commencement of road works; (b) if there were, how extensive has the consultation process been and, if there wasn't, what are the reasons for not doing so; and (c) whether the Ministry has received any adverse feedback since the implementation of the Silver Zone project and, if so, how does the Ministry intend to address those issues.
- *36. Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of the increasing number of elderly living in Toa Payoh East-Novena who are less mobile and have poorer eyesight whether the Ministry will consider prohibiting the use of electric bicycles on designated pedestrian walks and traffic light crossings in Toa Payoh East-Novena for the safety of the elderly and young children.
- *37. Er Dr Lee Bee Wah:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what are the avenues of compensation for injuries caused by cyclists; and (b) whether the Ministry has plans to regulate cyclists and, if so, how does it intend to do so.
- *38. Mr Png Eng Huat:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether pensioners are paying more or less out-of-pocket expenses on the average for their medical treatments since the implementation of MediShield Life on 1 November 2015; and (b) whether all pensioners have been informed of the free MediShield Life coverage for their spouses.
- *39. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources what preventive measures are in place to ensure that essential services are not affected by flash floods.
- *40. Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether the Government plans to offer land for landed housing development in the next three years to meet the demand for such housing.

-
- *41. Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) how many cyclists have been booked for errant or dangerous cycling offences in the past two years; (b) how many complaints have been lodged against errant cyclists in the past year; and (c) how many participants have undergone the Safe Cycling Clinic for Youth since its launch in 2014.

* 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 4.00 pm. Questions will be given a written answer if no such notices are received by the Clerk.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENTS

1. Minister for Home Affairs:

Death of Student.

2. Acting Minister for Education (Schools):

Students Under Investigation.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Pioneer Generation Fund (Amendment) Bill [Bill No. 5/2016] – (Minister for Finance) – Second Reading.
 2. National Environment Agency (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill [Bill No. 7/2016] – (Minister for the Environment and Water Resources) – Second Reading.
-

MEMORANDUM

Matter proposed to be raised on the Motion for the Adjournment (Standing Order No. 2(8)(b)):

Mr Leon Perera
(Non-Constituency Member)

:

Growing New Industries that Promise
Economic and Non-Economic Benefits.

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Transport for each year from 2010 to 2015, what is the number of prosecutions for illegal use of electric bicycles.
2. **Mr Ang Hin Kee:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the information gathered from the Electric Vehicle (EV) phase 1 test-bed has provided sufficient data to review our existing policies and infrastructure plans to support greater EV adoption in Singapore; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider rolling out a series of support measures for the adoption of EV.
3. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (Industry) how many legal actions have been brought by CASE against errant vendors and/or retailers in 2005 to 2015 and what proportion resulted in the courts taking action against these vendors/retailers.
4. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how many appeals for a higher HDB loan quantum have been made from 2010 to 2015; (b) what is the median loan quantum that applicants appealed for; (c) what has been the success rate of such appeals; and (d) what is the breakdown of reasons for cases where the appeal has been rejected.
5. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether the Ministry will permit local fish farmers and scientists to experiment and sell genetically modified fish locally.

PAPER PRESENTED

2016

Date Presented

S.L.	92	Building Control (Buildability and Productivity) (Amendment) Regulations	29 February 2016
		2016		
