

FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

FIRST SESSION

ORDER PAPER

MONDAY, 27 FEBRUARY 2023

No. 87

10.30 am

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) in each of the past three years, how much funding has been utilised for the Singapore Global Network Funding Programme; (b) which are the main countries and cities where this funding has been utilised; (c) how many applications for funding are received and what proportion of applications are approved; and (d) what measurable outcomes are attributable to this programme.
- *2. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information whether the Government will consider introducing plain language legislation to ensure clarity and accessibility of Government communications, as has been passed in the United States and New Zealand.
- *3. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what are the distinctions between social carpooling and illegal carpooling as defined by the Ministry; and (b) what action will the Ministry take to stop the use of chat groups that facilitate illegal carpooling.
- *4. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) in the last three years, how many criminal offences are reported to the Police arising from illegal carpooling, beyond the offence of offering an illegal hitch ride; (b) for these offences, what are the five common crimes; and (c) whether these crimes are under-reported given the illegal nature of unregulated carpooling.
- *5. **Mr Ang Wei Neng:** To ask the Minister for National Development as of January 2023 (a) how many HDB blocks that are above 30 years old have not been selected for the Home Improvement Programme (HIP); (b) how many HDB blocks that are below 30 years old have been selected for HIP; and (c) how is HDB prioritising older HDB blocks for HIP.

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- *6. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) what are the considerations behind the siting of a sports stadium in a given housing estate; and (b) whether stadia equipped with running tracks are regarded as a standard amenity for every town.
- *7. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for Health in each of the past five years, what is the number of CPF account holders who at the point of death have monies left in their CPF MediSave accounts to the sum of (i) less than \$1,000 (ii) between \$1,000 and \$10,000 (iii) between \$10,000 and \$20,000 (iv) between \$20,000 and \$30,000 (v) between \$30,000 and \$40,000 (vi) between \$40,000 and \$50,000 and (vii) between \$50,000 and the MediSave account limit.
- *8. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether the Government has conducted any studies to determine to what extent, when foreign worker quotas and access to Employment Pass or S Pass holders is tightened, will lead to firms hiring more Singaporeans, firms hiring Singaporeans at higher pay, firms hiring more Singaporeans at higher pay and business failures that lead to net job destruction over the following one year period; and (b) if not, whether the Government will consider studying this and make public the findings.
- *9. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance with regard to the Ministry's review on COVID-19 pandemic-related procurement and expenditure (a) what is the total value of expenditure made (i) without quotation estimates and (ii) with single quotations respectively; and (b) for each of these categories, what is the total amount made to related parties.
- *10. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Health with the introduction of charges for Antigen Rapid Tests and Polymerase Chain Reaction Tests for COVID-19 treatment (a) whether patients can opt out of these tests; and (b) whether the removal of subsidies for treatment and the imposition of charges for tests will collectively lead to a decrease in the effectiveness of our national surveillance programme for the prevalence of COVID-19 in Singapore.

* Members may postpone their Questions to a later sitting day if their Questions are not reached by the end of Question Time (QT). For such Questions, Members may email to parl_cop@parl.gov.sg in advance a postponement notice that will be effected after QT. Members must submit their notices to the Clerk within one hour after the end of QT (SO 22(3)). Questions will be given a written answer if no such notices are received by the Clerk within the stipulated time.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (Paper Cmd. 21 of 2023) – Committee of Supply (*Allotted Day*).
2. Estimates for the financial year 1 April 2023 to 31 March 2024 (Paper Cmd. 20 of 2023) – Committee of Supply (Progress: 24 February 2023) (*2nd Allotted Day*).

Resumption of Debate on Question (24 February 2023)

“That the total sum to be allocated for Head J of the Estimates be reduced by \$100.” – (Mr Vikram Nair).

[For amendments to be moved in the Committee of Supply, see Supplement No. 17 dated 24 February 2023.]

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether the Ministry will consider including the reasons for rejection in letters issued to unsuccessful applicants for (i) Long Term Visit Pass (ii) Long Term Visit Pass Plus (iii) permanent residence and (iv) Singapore citizenship so as to provide the next steps for the applicants; and (b) if the Ministry will not be doing so, why not.
2. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether the Ministry will consider installing a central fire alarm system for all HDB blocks; and (b) if not, why not.
3. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) whether he can provide an update on the proposed flying taxi service since the joint trial in 2019; (b) what is the expected initial capacity for such a service in terms of number of trips per day; and (c) what is the expected number of jobs this industry will create over the next five years.
4. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether there are plans for waste disposal after the Semakau Landfill is fully filled; and (b) what are the projected construction costs and dates of completion of new landfills.

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5. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development in each of the past five years (a) what is the number and percentage of eligible fathers who have taken the full two weeks of Government-Paid Paternity Leave (GPPL); and (b) what is the median number of days of GPPL taken by eligible fathers.
 6. **Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs whether the Ministry will make public the findings of the police investigation into an individual allegedly promulgating deviant teachings, upon its completion.
 7. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what is the current number of dentists specialising in geriatric dental services in the public healthcare system; and (b) what are the plans to improve the accessibility and availability of geriatric dental services by 2030 in light of the ageing population in Singapore.
 8. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what are the estimated cost savings to the Government from removing the reward milestones in the National Steps Challenge for clocking 7,500 and 10,000 daily cumulative steps; and (b) how do the cost savings compare against the potential cost to the individual caused by a more sedentary lifestyle due to the removal of the reward milestones.
 9. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Health whether any study has been done on the feasibility of including generic emtricitabine and tenofovir disoproxil fumarate for pre-exposure prophylaxis and post-exposure prophylaxis onto the Standard Drugs List for the prevention of HIV transmission.
 10. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Health what is the number of deaths in Singapore that are attributable to second-hand smoke in 2020, 2021 and 2022.
 11. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) for each year since 2019, how many dogs have died while licensed to (i) dog farms and (ii) pet shops; (b) what are the top three causes of death of dogs in these premises, respectively; and (c) whether the Ministry will require these premises to report the causes of death if they are not doing so.

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- 12. Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) why are Public Transport Vouchers disbursed on letters bearing the letterheads of Citizens' Consultative Committees (CCCs); (b) what other Government transfer payments such as one-time payouts, support schemes, awards or bursaries are disbursed through the CCCs or other grassroots organisations (GROs); and (c) what is the role of the grassroots adviser in the disbursement of such Government transfer payments via the CCCs or GROs.
- 13. Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Manpower in view of the vandalism of the Lunar New Year display at Nanyang Technological University, whether the Government will consider issuing guidelines on the use of official names for public holidays in public communications.
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