

FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE
(SECOND SESSION)

ORDER PAPER
MONDAY, 6 NOVEMBER 2023

No. 115

10.30 am

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) what are the plans of the Government to help alleviate the humanitarian crisis faced by civilians in Gaza impacted by the recent conflict in Israel and Gaza in the Palestinian Territories; and (b) how does the conflict impact Singapore's Enhanced Technical Assistance Package (ETAP) currently rendered to support the Palestinian Authority through capacity building of Palestinian officials and scholarships for Palestinian postgraduate students.
- *2. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs how can diplomacy best work to reduce the tragic loss of civilian lives on both sides in the latest Israel-Hamas conflict.
- *3. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs how will Singapore use international platforms to help ensure that all parties in the Israel-Hamas conflict will abide by international humanitarian law.
- *4. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs how will Singapore continue to support a negotiated two-state solution consistent with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions.
- *5. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether the ongoing conflict between Israel and Hamas has any bearing on our diplomatic position in the Middle East region; (b) what more can Singapore do to help alleviate the severe humanitarian crisis in Gaza; and (c) how do we continue to safeguard and uphold our multi-racial and multi-religious peace and harmony amidst the conflict.
- *6. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs what diplomatic efforts have been or are being undertaken by the Singapore Government to persuade all parties involved in the current Israel-Hamas conflict from taking any further actions which would lead to the harming of innocent civilians or non-combatants.
- *7. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) what support has been provided or is being provided by the Singapore Government to Singaporeans living or working in Israel or Gaza since the outbreak of the current Israel-Hamas conflict; (b) how often are the consular emergency plans for Israel, Palestine and other hotspots around the world updated; and (c) when was the last time the consular emergency plans for Israel and Palestine were updated.
- *8. **Mr Sharael Taha:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in light of the humanitarian crisis in Gaza (a) how does the Government ensure that charitable organisations such as the Rahmatan Lil Alamin Foundation is able to get aid donated by Singaporeans to the intended beneficiaries; and (b) beyond financial assistance, whether there are any Government supported programmes for Singaporean donors to do more to help alleviate the humanitarian crisis in Gaza.
- *9. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether Singapore has plans for how it will scale up humanitarian aid to Israel and Palestine in the event of an escalation of hostilities; and (b) whether it has considered the delivery of such aid via nearby countries such as Lebanon and Jordan, given the practical difficulties of providing such aid directly in an active conflict zone.

- *10. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether he can provide an update on what more Singapore can undertake to actively engage within the United Nations (UN) framework to advocate for adherence to the international rule of law in the Israeli-Hamas conflict; and (b) what further actions within and outside the UN framework which the Government is contemplating to take to help alleviate the urgent humanitarian situation in the Israel-Hamas conflict such as helping civilian refugees to leave the conflict area.
- *11. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs what is Singapore's position on the definition of reprisals under Rule 145 of customary international humanitarian law.
- *12. **Mr Sharael Taha:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in light of the ongoing conflict in Gaza and Singapore's longstanding relationship with the Palestinian Authority (a) what are the steps taken to ensure the safety of Singapore's representative office in Ramallah; (b) how will Singapore continue to engage the Palestinian Authority and provide support through programmes such as the Singapore Cooperation Programme and the Enhanced Technical Assistance Package; and (c) whether such assistance should be placed on hold to focus instead on more pressing needs like humanitarian aid efforts.
- *13. **Mr Sharael Taha:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in light of the UN Secretary-General's call for immediate humanitarian ceasefire (a) what role can Singapore play on the international stage to help highlight the urgency of the humanitarian crisis that this conflict has brought about; (b) whether Singapore can play a bigger role in reiterating and reinforcing the call for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire; and (c) what else can Singapore do to help promote peace and stability in the region.
- *14. **Mr Mohd Fahmi Bin Aliman:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether he can provide an update on Singapore's involvement in providing humanitarian assistance in the ongoing Israeli-Hamas conflict; (b) what specific initiatives or aid programmes has Singapore been engaged in; and (c) how does the Government plan to contribute to the peace and stability of the affected region.
- *15. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in light of the statement by independent experts from the United Nations (UN) which suggests that indiscriminate attacks against civilians in the Israeli-Hamas conflict amount to war crime, whether he will consider (i) reiterating Singapore's principled position on the need to uphold international law and principles enshrined in the UN Charter to the Israeli Government and (ii) supporting the UN Secretary-General's call for an immediate humanitarian ceasefire in the conflict to realize humanitarian efforts and ease civilian suffering.
- *16. **Mr Xie Yao Quan:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs what are the core national interests undergirding the Singapore Government's position on the escalating violence in Gaza and Israel.
- *17. **Mr Xie Yao Quan:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether the Government will consider calling for a ceasefire in Gaza; and (b) what conditions or situations must come to pass before such a call for a ceasefire becomes imminent.
- *18. **Mr Xie Yao Quan:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs what are the Government's plans to safeguard Singapore's peace and harmony should the situation in Gaza and Israel deteriorate further and for longer.
- *19. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in light of the recent conflict escalation in the region of Gaza and the reported challenges in delivering humanitarian aid to the affected civilian population (a) what measures are being considered or undertaken by the Government to contribute towards humanitarian assistance in the region, ensuring that essential aid reaches those in need; and (b) how is the Government coordinating with international and regional entities to address the humanitarian concerns arising from the situation effectively.

- *20. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in light of the recent conflict escalation in the region of Gaza and referencing the applicable United Nations conventions (a) what is the Government's position regarding the recognition and classification of actions as war crimes; and (b) how does our nation's stance align with international standards and frameworks in ensuring accountability and justice, whilst maintaining a balanced and impartial approach towards all parties involved in the conflict.
- *21. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs how can the Government further promote durable peace proactively both in Singapore and abroad amidst overseas conflicts that have the potential to affect and divide local communities, such as the Israeli-Palestinian crisis.
- *22. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs what is being done to ensure that humanitarian aid donated by Singapore can effectively and urgently reach civilians affected by the violence in the Israeli-Palestinian crisis.
- *23. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs how can Singapore play a role in renewing diplomatic efforts to work on a negotiated two-state solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict that is consistent with relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.
- *24. **Mr Mohd Fahmi Bin Aliman:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) whether he can provide insights into how the Singapore community, in response to the ongoing conflict in Gaza, can demonstrate strong engagement and support for peace efforts; and (b) what measures and strategies does the Ministry have in place to reinforce religious harmony and encourage interfaith dialogue within Singapore, especially in light of global events that may impact Singapore's diverse religious landscape.
- *25. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs (a) what role can religious teachers and mosques play to support the local Muslim community spiritually and emotionally, in understanding the conflict and humanitarian crisis in Gaza and the rest of the Palestinian Territories; and (b) what steps can be taken to raise public awareness to verify that donations for such humanitarian causes go to legitimate sources.
- *26. **Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what steps is the Ministry taking to ensure that students in our schools and junior colleges are not unduly swayed in their views and thinking over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict due to misinformation; (b) whether there are any instances where schools, junior colleges or educators have faced conflict between students who take opposing sides over the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; and (c) if so, how will such cases be dealt with.
- *27. **Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance in view of the ongoing Israeli-Hamas conflict, how does the Government plan to safeguard the future of Singapore's (i) businesses (ii) investments and (iii) research interests in the Middle East region, especially in Israel.
- *28. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance what is the expected impact of the Gaza conflict on Singapore's (i) economic growth and (ii) energy prices.
- *29. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Minister for Defence what are the lessons that Singapore can draw from the ongoing violence in Israel.
- *30. **Mr Alex Yam Ziming:** To ask the Minister for Defence with regard to the surprise attacks and major incursions into Israeli territory by Hamas, what lessons can be drawn for Singapore's security and intelligence apparatus.

- *31. **Mr Alex Yam Ziming:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in light of the major surge in violence in the Middle East (a) whether there has been an increased rhetoric or activities by extremist groups in the Southeast Asian region in weeks since the incursions by Hamas into Israel; and (b) what are the precautions for Singaporeans to take in light of this.
- *32. **Mr Alex Yam Ziming:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs with the spread of violence in the Middle East (a) whether the Ministry has received reports of increased anti-Semitic rhetoric or inter-religious disagreements online and offline; (b) what is the Ministry doing to ensure that inflammatory language coming out of the conflict areas does not spill over into the local community; and (c) how can the local community continue to preserve the harmony in Singapore.
- *33. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in view of the evolving situation in Gaza (a) whether the authorities are stepping up their counter-terrorism monitoring measures; and (b) whether any spike in suspicious activities has been detected, including those in the online space, that could pose as a terrorist threat.
- *34. **Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) over the last three years, what is the number of applications for use of the Speakers' Corner for events; (b) how many are rejected and for what reasons; (c) whether the restriction of public assemblies and events relating to the Israel-Hamas conflict at the Speakers' Corner is due to time-sensitivity given the recency of this conflict; and (d) whether this restriction will be lifted in the future.
- *35. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) to what extent can the recent surge in prices of Certificates of Entitlement (COEs) be attributed to speculation; and (b) whether LTA will consider implementing measures to curb such speculation by (i) reducing the transfer period for open category COEs to 30 days to ensure only genuine need-based participants engage in the bidding process and (ii) raising the deposit requirement from \$10,000 to 50% or more of the COE price to further deter speculative bidding and uphold the integrity of the COE system.
- *36. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the continued rise in the prices of Certificates of Entitlement will impact business costs and those who depend on their vehicles to earn a living; and (b) whether there are any measures that can moderate further increases in prices.
- *37. **Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Minister for Transport with Certificate of Entitlement (COE) prices continuing to rise (a) which segment of the population is expected to be most impacted; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider reviewing and modifying the COE system to better meet the needs of Singaporeans.
- *38. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) in light of the increased supply of Certificates of Entitlement (COEs) in the third quarter of this year, whether there has been a further increase in the COEs used to register Private Hire Cars (PHCs); (b) if so, what proportion of the additional COEs was taken up by PHCs; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider a different policy approach on COE bidding by PHCs vis-à-vis cars used for personal purposes.
- *39. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of the high Certificate of Entitlement (COE) Category C prices, whether the Ministry can consider providing additional support to SMEs with a turnover of less than S\$100 million that need to extend the COEs of their commercial vehicles in order to continue their trade.
- *40. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) with the prices of Certificates of Entitlement showing no sign of abating, what is the anticipated impact on the current inflationary situation, especially in sectors reliant on vehicular transport; and (b) whether there are specific measures in the pipeline to mitigate such impact on sectors heavily reliant on transport for deliveries like food and groceries.

- *41. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether he can consider providing additional support to existing owners of commercial vehicles who require these vehicles to continue their trade in light of high COE Category C prices.
- *42. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the total number of cars currently available for car sharing; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider increasing the allocation of cars for car sharing and exclude these from the bidding for Certificates of Entitlement to make car sharing an attractive option for the benefit of Singaporeans.
- *43. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Government has data on the current percentage of cars in Singapore that are of shared car fleets, excluding taxis and private hire vehicles; and (b) if so, how much have such fleets grown in the past five years.
- *44. **Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) in view of the position taken for commercial vehicles' growth and the significantly smaller road footprint of motorcycles in general, whether the Ministry has conducted any studies allowing for a marginal growth in the number of motorcycles on Singapore's road space management; and (b) if not, why not.
- *45. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of the increases in private hire car population and demand for such services, whether the Ministry will consider (i) mandating the number of hours that private hire vehicles must be on the roads to serve its purpose and (ii) tightening the conditions which enable personal cars to be converted for commercial usage, such as setting a limit on Category A COEs allowed for this conversion.
- *46. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether he can provide an update on the Government's study on sodium taxes in countries where such measures have been implemented; (b) when will recommendations on potential policy changes arising from this study be put out; and (c) how does the Government intend to ensure that efforts to address sodium overconsumption do not inadvertently lead to increased business overhead costs and higher food prices.
- *47. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether the recent digital banking disruptions by large local banks on 14 October 2023 are within MAS's expectations; (b) what has been the cost to consumers and business entities reliant on such banking services due to the recent disruptions; and (c) how will MAS ensure that consumers and business entities are given early warning of such service disruptions.
- *48. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Prime Minister whether MAS will consider (i) imposing user-centric accountability measures on banks such as the requirement to publish service reliability reports of digital banking services and proactively engage customers on service recovery and alternative options during outages and (ii) requiring banks to compensate their banking customers who suffer financial losses due to outages.
- *49. **Ms Poh Li San:** To ask the Prime Minister with regard to the disruption to the digital banking services of DBS and Citibank on 14 October 2023 (a) whether MAS has any data on how many (i) customers and (ii) businesses have been affected; and (b) whether local banks are required to maintain robust levels of redundancy in critical banking infrastructure such as the data centre that is maintained by third-party service providers.

- *50. **Mr Ang Wei Neng:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) what lessons can be drawn from the recent disruptions to digital banking services of DBS and Citibank, in view that these occurred despite MAS' tightened Business Continuity Management (BCM) guidelines for financial institutions to better manage such disruptions; (b) whether MAS will consider regulating data centre service providers that serve major financial institutions in Singapore; and (c) how does MAS plan to tighten the oversight of its BCM guidelines on financial institutions in Singapore.
- *51. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether the Monetary Authority of Singapore (i) conducts regular inspections and off-site reviews of outsourced parties to handle critical IT and infrastructure systems for the domestic systemically important banks (D-SIBs) and (ii) assesses the impact of outsourcing on the resilience of D-SIBs' IT infrastructure; and (b) if not, why.
- *52. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) how does Singapore's penalty framework on digital banking disruptions committed by financial institutions compare with other large financial centers overseas; and (b) how effective have the penalties been in improving such service reliability.
- *53. **Ms Jessica Tan Soon Neo:** To ask the Prime Minister with the greater reliance on digital services for payment and other financial services and in light of the impact on consumers due to recent disruption of banking services, whether MAS will be requiring financial institutions and their service providers to take further measures to strengthen the resilience and reliability of their digital services.
- *54. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Prime Minister whether the Government has put in place minimum redundancy requirements and monitors concentration risk in the use of data centres by key local financial institutions.
- *55. **Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) how will the new on-board unit (OBU) for vehicles under the next generation Electronic Road Pricing system be effective in regulating traffic congestion on the roads if motorists are unaware of the exact costs of using certain roads; and (b) whether the payment options using the OBU will be aligned to the car park payment options for all car parks in Singapore.
- *56. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Transport in relation to the introduction of ERP 2.0 (a) whether there have been any updated considerations and measures put in place (i) to balance the usage of data, in particular geo location data and (ii) on the usage of this data to fight crime, weighed against concerns about data security and privacy; and (b) if so, what are they.
- *57. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) when does the Government intend to commence the implementation of distance-based charging under the new satellite-based Electronic Road Pricing system; (b) what are the factors under consideration to determine such a start date; and (c) whether the pricing mechanism for distance-based charging has been determined.
- *58. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the comparative cost per unit of the In-Vehicle Unit of the current ERP system relative to the on-board unit of ERP 2.0; (b) what is the anticipated lifespan of the ERP 2.0 system before it becomes obsolete; and (c) whether LTA has assessed if the crucial functions of ERP 2.0 system can be replicated to a smartphone App to offer motorists a choice between exclusively utilising the App and installing the On-Boarding Unit.
- *59. **Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth whether the Ministry is considering reviewing policies and procedures in place at the Singapore Sports School (SSP) to confirm that (i) SSP has all necessary policies and procedures to protect the safety and wellbeing of all students (ii) all staff employed by SSP have received comprehensive training on existing policies and procedures and (iii) SSP has mechanisms in place to successfully detect and respond to all breaches of policy or procedure.

- *60. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for National Development in light of the decision by NParks to put down the saltwater crocodile found near Marina East Drive (a) what is the framework in place to decide on the appropriate strategy for urban wildlife management; and (b) what factors determine the relevant approach for different species of wildlife.
- *61. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) since 2021, how many Singaporeans have successfully applied for MediFund at one healthcare institution and have at least an annual appointment at another healthcare institution (i) within the same cluster and (ii) in a different cluster respectively; (b) how many of such patients have successfully applied for MediFund across all healthcare clusters they have been to; and (c) whether the MediFund application process can be streamlined to support needy Singaporeans who cannot afford their healthcare bills across different healthcare institutions.
- *62. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether there exists a whole-of-Government plan to develop indigenous capabilities in creating and deploying artificial intelligence (AI) foundation models, including establishing a National Foundation Model Research Institute, so as to help local researchers build core AI foundation model expertise; and (b) if such an AI foundation model plan already exists, what are its core and strategic aims.
- *63. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what are the current regulatory mechanisms to compel social media platforms to expeditiously remove posts or accounts that are suspected of perpetrating scams; (b) what is the average turnaround time for such removals following requests by the authorities; (c) how many of such requests have been made in the last two years; and (d) when will the Online Criminal Harms Act be operationalised.
- *64. **Mr Keith Chua:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) whether there are plans to expand the range of institutions and organisations currently available to advise new Family Offices on their philanthropic endeavours; and (b) whether such plans will include the establishment of platforms for the social services, education, healthcare, arts, heritage and sports sectors to present grant proposals to Family Offices.
- *65. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what is the current percentage of the population that has received a fourth COVID-19 vaccine dose; and (b) whether there are plans to integrate COVID-19 vaccination into an annual vaccination regimen, akin to the influenza vaccine.
- *66. **Mr Edward Chia Bing Hui:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what is the status of the Ministry's initiatives in infusing greater industry relevance into the academic curriculum; and (b) what are the challenges encountered.
- *67. **Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether a fixed timeline can be set for the Police to complete investigations in respect of offences where the accused persons are denied bail.
- *68. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Manpower with reference to the Tripartite Guidelines on Flexible Work Arrangements (FWAs) to be launched in 2024 (a) what is the current progress of the preparatory work and training to equip companies to implement FWAs; and (b) what are the main challenges or issues that have been surfaced by small and medium enterprises that may prevent them from implementing FWAs.
- *69. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) how many firms have applied for the Job Redesign Grant and Training Grant under the Open Door Programme (ODP) in 2020, 2021 and 2022 respectively; (b) what are some specific job redesign projects that the Job Redesign Grant has supported; and (c) whether the Ministry is considering ways to incentivise more firms to utilise the ODP.

- *70. **Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what is the expected overall performance of Singapore's economy in 2023; and (b) what are some of the key areas that will determine the growth prognosis of Singapore's economy in 2024.
- *71. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) what are the plans under consideration to raise corporate governance standards for listed companies in Singapore; and (b) whether the Government is considering imposing regulatory requirements for companies to meet minimum governance standards such as attaining minimum Singapore Governance and Transparency Index scores.
- *72. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what are the step-by-step actions taken to help students who have (i) suicide ideations and (ii) attempted suicide respectively; (b) what is the process for escalating severe cases; and (c) what are the actions taken to continuously monitor such cases.
- *73. **Ms Poh Li San:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information with regard to Insanet's advanced spyware which can be installed on computers and mobile devices via advertisements, and had been legally authorised by the Israeli government for sale, what measures are put in place to protect our users, especially in relation to banking and financial transactions.
- *74. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) how serious is the issue of elderly patients affected by delirium in Singapore; (b) what is the annual number of such patients as broken down by the severity and duration of their condition; (c) what are the treatment options available; and (c) whether the progression of delirium can be slowed down or treated completely.
- *75. **Ms Yeo Wan Ling:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) in the past 5 years, how many employers have insufficient medical and accident insurance coverage for their migrant domestic workers (MDWs) to pay for their MDWs' medical and hospitalisation bills; and (b) whether there are avenues of financial support for employers who are unable to pay for their MDWs' medical and hospitalization bills.
- *76. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for National Development in view of the proposed rezoning from 'park' to 'road' at Sungei Serangoon for the construction of a bus depot (a) whether any environmental impact assessment has been carried out or whether any studies have been undertaken on the environmental impact of the construction of the road and bus depot; (b) if so, whether such assessment or studies can be disclosed to the public; and (c) what measures have been or will be taken to mitigate any negative environmental impact.
- *77. **Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the Ministry is considering reviewing the training provided to full-time National Servicemen (NSF) in the SPF and SCDF to confirm that all these NSFs understand their rights and responsibilities with respect to recognising and challenging workplace practice that may be inconsistent with existing policies, procedures, or doctrines.
- *78. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what is the likelihood of a surge in dengue cases in the coming months; and (b) whether the Ministry is working closely with the Ministry of Health to ensure sufficient hospital bed capacity for severe dengue cases.
- *79. **Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information what is the extent of Government support available for ground-up community libraries that encourage reading in Singapore.
- *80. **Mr Edward Chia Bing Hui:** To ask the Minister for Education how does the Ministry currently monitor the learning and industry relevance outcomes of Continuing Education and Training programmes.
- *81. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) how many seniors eligible to receive the Assurance Package Seniors' Bonus have not received the payout; and (b) what is being done to ensure that such seniors receive this payout.

- *82. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Health what are the actions taken by the Institute of Mental Health when a patient fails to attend appointments repeatedly.
- *83. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether HDB has made a study on the amount of heat emission from top floors of multi-storey car parks (MSCPs) that have parking lots; (b) whether gardens located atop such MSCPs emit less heat; and (c) what are the practical limitations that inhibit the conversion of MSCPs with underutilised upper decks into garden spaces.
- *84. **Mr Ang Wei Neng:** To ask the Minister for Education in light of the recent queer-themed performance at a local university which it later said should not have been held publicly, whether the Ministry will consider setting guidelines on public performances held in our autonomous universities to ensure that they reflect the widely accepted social norms and practices in Singapore.
- *85. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what are the current measures to prevent unauthorised arms sales and transfers from taking place through Singapore; and (b) what steps are being taken to review and improve such efforts.
- *86. **Ms Sylvia Lim:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether the CPF Board will give CPF members the option to take their CPF accounts offline to further safeguard themselves against loss through scams and malware fraud.
- *87. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth whether there are plans to review, rejuvenate and revitalise ActiveSG Jurong West Sports Stadium by offering a wider selection of food and beverage and retail options to further enhance the vibrancy and visitorship of the premises.
- *88. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) over the past 10 years, how many cases of feedback has LTA received annually regarding the overcharging of bus fares due to errors involving card readers on buses; and (b) what steps has the LTA taken to resolve such issues.
- *89. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information in light of the data centre outage on 14 October 2023 affecting banks, telcos, and social media platforms (a) whether there are plans to regulate big technology companies to ensure adherence to service standards given that such outages affect many people and may have a real economic impact; and (b) what are the Ministry's efforts for Singapore's overall national security to minimise a concentration of risks from the usage of a few data centres by the public and private sectors.
- *90. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) for each year from 2020 to 2022, how many wrongful dismissal complaints have been filed with the Tripartite Alliance for Dispute Management against firms with fewer than 25 employees; and (b) how many of such firms have received more than one complaint against them for this three-year period.
- *91. **Ms Sylvia Lim:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) which retail banks in Singapore have phased out hardware tokens for customers; and (b) whether the Monetary Authority of Singapore will mandate that this option be available to customers to enhance the security of online banking.
- *92. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the BCA Academy provides instalment plans for Singaporeans who wish to undertake skills upgrading courses offered by the Academy but have financial challenges in raising the course fees at one go; and (b) if it does not, whether the Academy will consider allowing such Singaporeans to pay by instalments instead of expecting them to raise the full fees before enrolling in their courses.

- *93. Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the Ministry is considering reviewing policies and procedures in place at Singapore Changi Airport to confirm that (i) the airport has all the necessary policies and procedures to identify passengers transiting through the terminal who may pose as an on-board risk and (ii) all security officers at the airport have received training on identifying and responding to members of the public who may be experiencing mental health issues.
- *94. Mr Edward Chia Bing Hui:** To ask the Minister for Education how is the Ministry addressing the creation and implementation of a new curriculum for educational institutions to keep pace with the rapidly evolving needs and transformations within industries.
- *95. Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) whether the Ministry has received information of designated social media services which allow advertisements to be used as tools for scams or to promote violence, which can be accessed from their respective platforms by Singapore-based residents; and (b) if so, what enforcement action is contemplated against these services.
- *96. Ms Poh Li San:** To ask the Minister for Health whether the Ministry can provide an update on its engagement with Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners on how they can be part of the community involved in the Healthier SG initiative.
- *97. Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether there have been any cases of suspected money laundering detected and investigated since the integrated resorts commenced their businesses; (b) if so, how many cases have been reported to the Casino Regulatory Authority; and (c) what are the additional measures taken to detect and prevent money laundering at the integrated resorts.
- *98. Ms Yeo Wan Ling:** To ask the Minister for Transport in light that passengers of private hire cars and taxis have taken to videoing in-vehicle disputes on devices such as handphones, whether LTA will consider allowing such drivers to install passenger facing video recorders with audio functions.
- *99. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment for each of the past five years, how many cases have been reported where catered food for migrant workers living in dormitories are provided without a time-stamp indicating the date and time by which the food should be consumed.
- *100. Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) what are the plans to ensure that companies with artificial intelligence (AI) driven business models such as platform companies are enrolled into IMDA's AI Verify Foundation that seeks to uphold responsible and ethical use of AI; and (b) whether the Government will consider (i) a reporting channel for consumers who are subjected to companies' irresponsible use of AI and (ii) a tripartism approach to shaping rules in using AI for work and workforce management.
- *101. Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs what avenues are available to Singaporeans who wish to report on foreigners whom they believe to have committed actions that constitute interference in Singapore's domestic politics and participating in Singapore's domestic affairs.
- *102. Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether the Ministry works with the Land Transport Authority on planning for the transport of migrant workers at dormitories; and (b) whether it regulates dormitory operators on monitoring of shuttle transport waiting times and adequacy.
- *103. Miss Rachel Ong:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether a limit can be set for the maximum number of days for demolition and hacking works to be carried out in landed housing areas with residential homes and buildings located less than 150 metres from the work site.

- *104. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA will consider implementing wayfinding floor graphics pointing towards elevators at MRT platforms which are more visible for wheelchair users and the elderly when they exit from train cabins during peak hours; and (b) if so, whether a timeline can be provided for when commuters can expect to see these enhancements implemented.
- *105. **Mr Ang Wei Neng:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry regarding the Residential Demand Response (R-DR) pilot programme which empowers households equipped with smart meters to reduce electricity consumption during demand peaks in the power system (a) when are the peak demand periods; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider lowering electricity prices during off-peak periods to better smoothen energy usage in households throughout the day.
- *106. **Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether the current anti-money laundering measures in Singapore will result in a delay in the opening of bank accounts for companies; and (b) if so, how will such delays affect Singapore's reputation as having an efficient business environment.
- *107. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) what are the lessons learnt from the recent disruptions to the various digital services; and (b) whether the Government will step up regulations to minimise risks of data centre outage and to ensure the resiliency of data centre services in Singapore.
- *108. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs what is the Ministry's approach towards the housing of transgender persons in prison settings in Singapore, having regard to the recent situation in Scotland where a transgender person, convicted of double rape of women, was initially housed in segregation in an all-female jail.
- *109. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether the Government will review and revise the workfare income supplement scheme to expand the age groups and the amount.
- *110. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for National Development having regard to the Government's announcement of the new classification of HDB flats and conditions attached to Plus and Prime housing models in August 2023, whether there will be a review of the conditions attached to owners purchasing HDB Executive Condominiums (ECs) with a view to ensure that the ECs will continue to be relatively affordable and accessible in the resale market after completion of the minimum occupation periods.
- *111. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Prime Minister whether the proposed framework for equitable sharing of losses between scam victims and financial institutions will consider (i) the better protection of some elderly scam victims through the use of physical hardware tokens for 2-Factor Authentication rather than digital tokens and (ii) the number of elderly banking customers who have limited digital literacy and are placed in a potentially invidious position when their bank phased out the use of physical hardware tokens.
- *112. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether there are plans under the National Mental Health and Well-being Strategy to introduce "calm spaces" in public venues, like those of the National Gallery Singapore's Calm Room, to cater to individuals with invisible disabilities; and (b) if so, where and when will these "calm spaces" be rolled out.
- *113. **Ms Tin Pei Ling:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) under what circumstances does the Ministry require ground floor HDB flat dwellers to remove canopies at the back of their HDB flats; and (b) whether the Ministry can work with the National Environment Agency to resolve high-rise littering problems in HDB estates before requiring the removal of such awnings.

* 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.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS**Introduction of Government Bills**

1. **Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance:**
Constitution of the Republic of Singapore (Amendment No. 3) Bill.
 2. **Minister for Law:**
Moneylenders (Amendment) Bill.
 3. **Minister for Trade and Industry:**
Significant Investments Review Bill.
 4. **Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance:**
Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill.
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ORDER OF THE DAY

1. Central Provident Fund (Amendment) Bill [Bill No. 34/2023] – (Minister for Manpower) – Second Reading.
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NOTICE OF MOTION

1. **Mr Vikram Nair (Sembawang):**
Mr Alex Yam Ziming (Marsiling-Yew Tee):
Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim (Chua Chu Kang):

SOLIDARITY, SECURITY AND PEACE – THE ISRAEL-HAMAS CONFLICT: That this House, having regard to the terrorist attacks by Hamas against Israel and the deepening humanitarian crisis arising from Israel’s military operations in the Gaza strip:

- (a) Expresses its deepest condolences to all innocent victims and civilian casualties;
- (b) Advocates the urgent delivery of humanitarian aid to the civilian population in Gaza;
- (c) Condemns those responsible for the terrorist acts and violations of international law;
- (d) Calls for all parties to ensure the safety and security of civilians, including the release of all hostages;
- (e) Reiterates Singapore’s longstanding commitment to a negotiated two-state solution consistent with the relevant UN Security Council resolutions; and
- (f) Urges all Singaporeans to safeguard and uphold our multi-racial and multi-religious peace and harmony.

MEMORANDUM

Matter proposed to be raised on the Motion for the Adjournment (SO 2(8)(b)).

Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim : Child Safety and Well-being: A Collective Responsibility.
(Nominated Member)

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Prime Minister following the European Banking Authority's latest requirement for banks to incorporate environmental risks into calculations of their core capital, whether MAS will consider revising the risk-based capital adequacy requirements for local banks to reflect such climate risks in their credit decisions.
2. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether expenses incurred by public officers for mental healthcare treatments such as therapy sessions and medications at public or private medical institutions are reimbursable under the Medisave-cum-Subsidised Outpatient medical benefits scheme; and (b) whether the Government intends to improve the medical benefits for mental healthcare for public officers, and, if not, why not.
3. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Prime Minister regarding the recent service outage by banks caused by data centre failures (a) whether MAS will have more oversight over the banks and mandate that there should be built-in redundancy systems to prevent outages at data centres; and (b) what are MAS' plans to ensure similar situations do not occur in the future.
4. **Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in view of the ongoing Israeli-Hamas conflict and Singapore's principled position to uphold international law and principles enshrined in the United Nations Charter (a) how have Singapore's diplomatic relations with Israel, Palestinian Authority and the wider Middle East been affected; and (b) what lessons in foreign diplomacy can Singapore learn from this conflict.
5. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) what is the potential impact of the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict on Singaporeans and non-Singaporean residents of various ethnicities and religions; and (b) what lessons can we draw from this conflict to further strengthen multiculturalism and religious harmony in our society.
6. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) what is the basis for determining the \$300,000 contribution amount to humanitarian aid to the Singapore Red Cross towards the Israeli-Palestinian conflict; (b) in light of the escalating humanitarian crisis arising from the conflict, whether the Government has plans to increase the level of financial and non-financial aid; and (c) if so, how and where will such efforts be directed.
7. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) what concrete actions has the Government taken to influence the creation of safe, rapid and unimpeded passage of humanitarian corridors for the urgent delivery of humanitarian aid to the civilian population in the Gaza Strip; and (b) whether the details of these actions were discussed during the recent official visit to the region by the Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

8. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) how many Singaporeans are currently in Israel; (b) whether there are plans to evacuate Singaporeans in Israel in view of the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict; and (c) whether there are any joint ASEAN efforts to coordinate evacuation of Singaporeans and other ASEAN nationals.
9. **Miss Rachel Ong:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in cases of theft or fraud, what measures are in place to ensure that (i) recovered items are duly returned to the rightful owner (ii) investigating officers have gone through due process before requesting that restitution be made to the victim and (iii) the restitution ordered has been made to the victim.
10. **Miss Rachel Ong:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether there are protocols in place for the Singapore Police Force to actively inform parties of the due process to be expected when they are required to pay or receive money in restitution; and (b) if not, whether such protocols can be put in place.
11. **Miss Rachel Ong:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether ICA has encountered and tracked incidences of seniors facing issues utilising biometric measures at immigration checkpoints due to eye disorders or physical fading of fingerprints; and (b) if so, what measures are in place to support seniors as Singapore moves towards a passport-free biometric clearance at Changi Airport next year.
12. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) over the past five years, how many cases of confrontation between motorists and cyclists have been investigated; and (b) whether there is a rising trend of such cases.
13. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether the Singapore Police Force (SPF) will be allowed to access the transaction and road traffic data collected by the next-generation ERP system for investigations under the Criminal Procedure Code 2010; and (b) if so, what are the specific types of data that the SPF will be able to access.
14. **Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the Ministry has any plans to employ the ERP 2.0 system which was announced on 23 October 2023 for enforcement purposes such as against speeding and other traffic-related offences.
15. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) for each year since 2020, what is the ratio of local population to regular SPF police officers; and (b) what is the turnover rate amongst the officers for each year in the same period.
16. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) how many applications have the (i) Singapore Police Force and (ii) National Parks Board received to hold public events and assemblies in relation to the Israel-Hamas conflict since it began on 7 October 2023; and (b) what specific checklist and guidelines are there for applicants to assess before applying to hold public events and assemblies on similar issues in the future.
17. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) why parents of stillborn babies may only apply for Commemorative Birth Certificates (BCs) on a case-by-case basis rather than having these BCs being issued as a matter of course; and (b) whether such parents are informed of the availability of such an option in the event that they have a stillborn child.
18. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what is the yearly attrition rate of (i) paramedic officers and (ii) paramedic specialists in the SCDF between 2016 and 2022; and (b) whether there are plans to increase their salaries to follow the salary increases in the public healthcare sector.
19. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs how will domestic peace continue to be achieved in Singapore notwithstanding the emotive and complex nature of the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict.

20. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry in each of the next 10 years, what is the projection on the manufacturing sector's share of (i) the GDP and (ii) the labour force.
21. **Mr Sitoh Yih Pin:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what are the reasons for the power outage or surge to Block 102 Potong Pasir Avenue 1 on 13 October 2023 which caused damage to electrical appliances in a significant number of homes; and (b) whether Singapore Power will make the necessary reparations to residents who suffered such damage.
22. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) how has Singapore improved its energy resilience over the last 10 years; (b) what are the potential disruptions to our energy resilience in the next 10 years; and (c) how does the Government plan to further strengthen our energy resilience.
23. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) whether the plans for Singapore's participation in deep sea mining activities comply with the Marine Biological Diversity of Areas Beyond National Jurisdiction (BBNJ) Treaty which Singapore intends to ratify; and (b) if so, how.
24. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether there are regular inspections to ensure that road signs are in good condition and remain clear and visible to all road users; and (b) how often are they maintained and replaced.
25. **Mr Mark Lee:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of the rising Certificate of Entitlement (COE) prices for Category E vehicles, what is the total number of Category E quota used for the registration of Category C COEs under the Vehicle Quota System over the last five years.
26. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the percentage of successful bids for each of the five categories of Certificates of Entitlement by (i) Singapore citizens (ii) permanent residents and (iii) foreigners at each open bidding exercise in the past three years; and (b) how many of such bids are registered for cars with an open market value of S\$40,000 and above.
27. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether the next generation ERP system will continue collecting the data of vehicles when the vehicles are outside of Singapore.
28. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether there are measures to safeguard the personal data and information on the driver's journey under the next generation Electronic Road Pricing system; and (b) whether the Government will have access to the data and information collected for purposes such as criminal investigations.
29. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Transport what is the expected cost to the Government for providing the installation of the ERP 2.0 on-board unit for vehicles.
30. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the latest average daily ridership on public buses and trains on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays respectively; (b) what is the average frequency of public buses and trains on weekdays, Saturdays and Sundays respectively, (c) how do the figures in (a) and (b) compare with pre-pandemic levels; (d) whether the Ministry will consider increasing bus and rail frequency on Saturdays and Sundays; and (e) if not, why.
31. **Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of LTA's announcement on the ERP 2.0 system on 23 October 2023, whether the Ministry anticipates any increase in transportation costs to public transport riders and private vehicle owners.
32. **Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of LTA's announcement on the ERP 2.0 system on 23 October 2023, how will the Ministry assuage any privacy concerns since the new on-board units that are installed in vehicles will be based on the Global Navigation Satellite System that reveals the real-time location details of drivers.

33. **Mr Derrick Goh:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether Bus Service 804 can call at the bus stop in front of Yishun MRT so that residents living in the inner parts of Nee Soon neighbourhoods, such as Nee Soon Link which now includes the six new BTOs, can have better access to public transport without the need to walk into the bus interchange.
34. **Mr Derrick Goh:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether more bus services can be considered for residents who have moved into the new BTOs at Nee Soon Link Spring to improve public transport access as the bus stops in the area generally have only one bus service catering to six new BTO precincts.
35. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA regulates operators of publicly accessible electric vehicle charging points to ensure minimum service standards such as operational downtime; (b) if so, what are these standards; and (c) what are LTA's findings when working with such operators.
36. **Mr Edward Chia Bing Hui:** To ask the Minister for Education whether the Ministry will consider expanding programmes to educate parents on the associated risks of cyber-addiction among the young and to provide guidelines for ensuring a conducive home environment to combat this growing challenge.
37. **Mr Edward Chia Bing Hui:** To ask the Minister for Education in light of the schools in Zhenghua facing challenges in securing canteen vendors, resulting in limited food options, whether the Ministry is considering alternative service models to consistently provide healthy and affordable student meals.
38. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether the Ministry will provide an update on the take-up rate for the Strategic Partnership Co-Curricular Activity (SP-CCA) programmes for secondary schools; and (b) whether there are plans to expand the SP-CCA to allow more students to benefit.
39. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) how many schools do not offer mental health services under the Response, Early Intervention and Assessment in Community Mental Health (REACH) programme; and (b) for each year in the past five years, how many students have been assisted under REACH services.
40. **Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) how many online ComCare Short-to-Medium-Term Assistance (SMTA) applications have been made since its implementation; (b) how much funds have been expensed on developing the IT infrastructure to enable such online applications; (c) whether a review will be conducted to evaluate this implementation; and (d) what actual costs and benefits are incurred and reaped thus far for the applicants and administrators.
41. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) for each year in the past five years, what is the number of Child Protection Service (CPS) cases where the family of origin has been deemed unfit for the child to return to; and (b) what are the top three reasons why the family of origin has been deemed unfit for the child to return to.
42. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) for each year from 2019, how many Singaporeans qualified for Project Silver Screen which provides functional screening of the eyes, ears and oral health for Singaporeans aged 60 and above; (b) what is the yearly participation rate; (c) how many who participated are prescribed assistive devices for decline in (i) vision (ii) hearing and (iii) oral health; (d) what proportion per each category has qualified for Government funding for assistive devices; and (e) how many have purchased the prescribed assistive devices; and (f) what proportion of these devices are funded by the Government.

43. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) how many registered day surgery centres are there in the public and private sectors; (b) from 2019 to 2022, what is the annual number of surgeries carried out in these centres; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider allowing more minimally invasive procedures to be done in these centres to cut down on the need for costly hospitalisation and lighten the demands on our healthcare system.
44. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Minister for Health in each of the last five years (a) how many cases of inappropriate claims have been made by doctors involving MediShield Life; (b) what is the monetary quantum involved; (c) how many cases of valid claims have been wrongfully denied by insurers and what is the quantum involved; and (d) what new measures are in place to ensure that the investigative teams have sufficient resources and authorisation support to conduct enforcement.
45. **Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi:** To ask the Minister for Health in view that the Academy of Medicine Singapore (AMS) has membership details and personal data of senior clinicians in the medical fraternity, many of whom also work in private and public sectors, whether the recent leak of personal data and information at the AMS in September 2023 has had any impact on the Ministry's operations and data security.
46. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether actions are being considered to address the disparities in mental health coverage among the six Integrated Shield Plan (IP) providers and, if so, what are they; and (b) whether the Ministry will develop any guidelines or standards to ensure a basic level of mental health coverage across all IP providers.
47. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether there are initiatives to bolster data collection and risk assessment concerning mental health to aid the underwriting processes of insurance companies and, if so, what are they; and (b) whether the Ministry collaborates with private insurers to foster a better understanding and objective assessment of mental health risks.
48. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what measures are being taken to enhance public awareness regarding the availability and advantages of mental health insurance coverage; and (b) whether there are plans by the Ministry to incentivise private insurance companies to broaden their mental health insurance offerings.
49. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry will be providing guidelines to the insurance industry on the classification of mental health insurance as they develop the product coverage; and (b) whether there are sufficient independent assessors in the industry for objective assessments of mental well-being to help the insurers underwrite the coverage for mental conditions.
50. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) in each of the past five years, what percentage of Community Health Assistance Scheme (CHAS) card users are persons with special needs; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider introducing special subsidies for persons with special needs under CHAS.
51. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry has data on the number of visits made on an annual basis to (i) public and (ii) private mental health providers such as psychologists in each of the last five years; and (b) whether the Ministry has data on the average consultation costs for private psychologists and counsellors.
52. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) for each year in the last five years, how many self-employed persons applied for housing loans from (i) HDB and (ii) financial institutions respectively; (b) of which, yearly, how many failed in their housing loan applications because they exceeded the (i) Mortgage Servicing Ratio for HDB and (ii) Total Debt Servicing Ratio for financial institutions; and (c) in the breakdown, how many of these self-employed persons are platform workers.

53. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the regular tree inspections carried out by trained inspectors include checks on the obstruction of road signs due to the growth of trees; and (b) if not, how does the Ministry ensure that the growth of trees do not obstruct the visibility of the signs so as to ensure safety of all road users.
54. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for National Development what is the Ministry doing to bring the launch of HDB BTO projects back on track to the usual months of February, May, August and November, in view of the delays and glitches with the newly introduced HDB Flat Eligibility letter system.
55. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether applicants who have been unsuccessful in ballots for HDB rental flats under the Parenthood Provisional Housing Scheme may be provided with additional ballot chances akin to the priority scheme for first-time buyers of BTO flats.
56. **Mr Derrick Goh:** To ask the Minister for National Development regarding the growing interest in and usage of digital real-estate tokens which fractionalise a property to lower capital outlays and investment barriers, what are the Government's plans to (i) mitigate speculative behaviour and volatility in Singapore's property market and (ii) prevent circumvention of property ownership or investment rules by these market participants.
57. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the Government will consider working with the Council for Estate Agencies to issue a set of sentencing guidelines setting out how the financial penalties for failure to perform customer due diligence measures or report suspicious transactions or activities, as provided in the Estate Agents Act and the Prevention of Money Laundering and Financing of Terrorism regulations, can be varied based on the size of the suspicious transactions or the potential commission earned; and (b) if not, why.
58. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information in view of recent outages of digital services affecting the banks and other essential platforms, what more can be done to ensure that the service providers (i) maintain minimal services during disruptions and (ii) be obligated to have business continuity plans to prevent the public and private sector from being impacted negatively.
59. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) for each year in the past five years, how many national athletes have sought psychological support; and (b) whether the Government does periodic assessments of the mental health of athletes under the Sport Excellence Scholarship (spexScholarship) programme.
60. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) what is the potential impact of the ongoing Israel-Hamas conflict on the social fabric of Singapore; and (b) what lessons and efforts can Singapore learn and undertake to ensure the bonds in the Singaporean society across race and religion, including among youths, can be strengthened.
61. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Manpower how many full-time workers earning per month (i) less than \$1,999 (ii) between \$2,000 and \$2,999 (iii) between \$3,000 and \$3,999 and (iv) \$4,000 and above, did not have any wage increase for the past 10 years.
62. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) for the manufacturing sector, what is the number and percentage of occupations in each major group as outlined by the Singapore Standard Occupational Classification 2020; and (b) in each major group, what is the breakdown by (i) age (ii) education level (iii) proportion of local and foreign workers (iv) salary range and (v) the number of vacancies of these roles in the last five years.

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63. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Manpower in each of the past five years, how many instances of feedback or requests received by Forward Assurance and Support Team officers have been about (i) illegal employment (ii) criminal kickbacks (iii) false declarations of salary (iv) failure by an employment agency to refund agency fees and (v) illegal deployment respectively.
64. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Manpower for the purposes of CPF payouts, why is the birth date rather than birth year being utilised, especially since the main milestone for participation into the economy, such as schooling and subsequently entry into the workforce, is based on the birth year.
65. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Manpower for each year from 2020 to 2022, what is the proportion of persons with disabilities in the workforce who are employed by firms with fewer than 25 employees.
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