

FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE
(SECOND SESSION)

ORDER PAPER
TUESDAY, 5 MARCH 2024

No. 130

10.30 am

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in light of the rise in accidents involving motorcyclists, whether the Ministry will consider (i) partnering with NTUC's National Delivery Champions Association that represents freelance delivery riders to introduce a structured safe riding programme for freelancers using motorcycles for delivery work and (ii) working closely with motor insurers to enhance safety awareness among motorcyclists and motorists.
- *2. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for National Development in view of the challenges faced by wheelchair-bound residents in HDB blocks where the Lift Upgrading Programme remains unfeasible and who are unwilling or unable to relocate using the Lift Access Housing Grant (a) whether the Ministry will further explore and provide details of alternative accessibility solutions; and (b) how is the Ministry engaging with the affected residents to understand their specific needs beyond relocation.
- *3. **Mr Xie Yao Quan:** To ask the Minister for Health regarding the long-term retention scheme for nurses in the public healthcare system as announced on 20 February 2024, whether the Ministry will consider creating a savings scheme to pool undisbursed payouts to protect the value of these future payouts against inflation.
- *4. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) to what extent is there a requirement and provisioning for mobile phone reception coverage in the lifts of new HDB developments; (b) whether there can be clear requirements specified to ensure that persons can call for help in emergency situations where they cannot exit the lift and cannot physically reach the lift alarm button or if the lift alarm button has malfunctioned.
- *5. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry what considerations do the Singapore Tourism Board give when deciding which artiste or event to disburse grants to.
- *6. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) when did the Government start supporting marquee performance or sports events through grants; (b) for events taking place in 2024, what are the total grants agreed upon and how many tourists are these events expected to attract; and (c) what are the estimated benefits to the Singapore economy from all these events.
- *7. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of the rise in fires caused by active mobility devices (AMD) in 2023 (a) what are the Ministry's plans to carry out enforcement against the retailers and distributors of non-original AMD batteries; and (b) whether the Ministry intends to increase the penalties for individuals who are found to have tampered with or modified their AMD batteries.
- *8. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether the Ministry requires all secondary school educators to be familiarised with the academic and practice pathways to benchmark and emerging careers under the future economic clusters; and (b) if not, whether the Ministry will consider doing so.

- *9. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether an update can be provided on the Ministry's community engagements with businesses and individuals to encourage more sustainable practices and reduce carbon footprint; (b) how does the Ministry address the issue of significant packaging waste arising from more purchases done online in international marketplaces; and (c) what is the progress towards the key milestones for a more sustainable economy under the Singapore Green Plan 2030.

* 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.

ORDER OF THE DAY

1. Estimates for the financial year 1 April 2024 to 31 March 2025 (Paper Cmd. 27 of 2024) – Committee of Supply (Progress: 4 March 2024) (*5th Allotted Day*).

[For amendments to be moved in the Committee of Supply, see Supplement No. 19 dated 28 February 2024.]

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs when vice workers are arrested (a) what processes do the Police have in place to systematically detect indicators of potential (i) physical, sexual and financial abuse and (ii) trafficking; and (b) if there are no such processes in place, whether the Police will consider implementing such processes.
2. **Mr Shawn Huang Wei Zhong:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry with the new International Energy Agency (IEA) regional office in Singapore (a) how will the Ministry facilitate engagements between the IEA, local businesses and research institutions to foster public-private partnerships in the energy sector; (b) whether there are plans to attract or foster innovation in clean and renewable energy technologies; and (c) what impact does the Ministry foresee the regional office have on the local and regional energy markets, particularly in terms of sustainability and energy transition.
3. **Mr Shawn Huang Wei Zhong:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) whether there are potential collaborations between Singapore and the International Energy Agency (IEA) facilitated by its new regional office in Singapore, particularly in areas of renewable energy, energy efficiency and technology innovation; and (b) what capacity-building or knowledge-sharing programmes are planned in collaboration with the IEA to enhance Singapore's expertise in energy management and sustainability practices.
4. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) over the last five years, what is the annual number of students placed in the Time Out Programme; (b) what is the main reason for their disengagement from schools; (c) whether the programme is effective in addressing students' disengagement; and (d) what are the adjustments to the programme to provide customised support to the students and their families.
5. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Education in each year of the last 10 years (a) how many full-time students in diploma or undergraduate courses in the Institutes of Higher Learning have taken up study loans under the MOE Tuition Grant Scheme; (b) what is the average interest rate these students are being charged to service their loans; (c) how many students are in arrears; and (d) what assistance has been rendered to those in arrears.

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6. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development whether an update can be provided on the Early Childhood Development Agency's study on extending the Development Support and Learning Support Programme to children who are differently abled at the nursery levels.
 7. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development for each year from 2022, how many single unwed parents were at the time of the birth of their child (i) below 35 years old (ii) between 35 and 36 years old and (iii) 36 years old and above, respectively.
 8. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) in 2023, what is the proportion of preschools and kindergartens that breached the minimum qualified staff-child ratios during programme hours for (i) three months (ii) six months and (iii) more than six months; (b) what measures are taken to ensure the ratio is adhered to even when staff are on leave; and (c) what efforts are being taken to increase the ratio of staff to students.
 9. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Health for FY2022 and FY2023, what is the annual number and percentage of doctors who resigned from public hospitals who are (i) 29 years old (ii) 30 years old (iii) 31 years old (iv) from 31 to 35 years old and (v) from 35 to 40 years old.
 10. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Health whether nurses who have resigned and rejoined the public nursing profession will have their previous years of service taken into consideration for the benefits under the new long-term retention scheme for nurses, regardless of their reason for leaving.
 11. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether he can provide an update on the measures that LTA has taken in consultation with nature groups to mitigate any potential environmental impact at the revised A1W1 worksite for the Cross Island MRT Line; (b) whether LTA is continuing to monitor any impact on the environment and wildlife at the revised A1W1 worksite; and (c) if so, whether the worksite has caused any impact on the environment and wildlife.
 12. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether the sustainable aviation fuel levy will be charged for private jet flights departing from Singapore.
 13. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Transport with flights departing from Singapore requiring to use sustainable aviation fuel from 2026 (a) what is the potential impact on Singapore's competitiveness as an aviation and travel hub; (b) what is the likely percentage increase in the prices of air tickets from the levy and how will this affect travel demand; (c) whether this policy will drive airlines to use alternative airports in the region; and (d) whether other airports charge a similar levy.
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