

FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE
(SECOND SESSION)

ORDER PAPER
TUESDAY, 9 JANUARY 2024

No. 118

11.00 am

1

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. **Ms Poh Li San:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment in light of the latest charges against the National Environment Agency (NEA) for the Tuas Incineration Plant explosion on 23 September 2021, how has NEA strengthened its workplace safety practices and culture.
- *2. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment pertaining to the Tuas Incineration Plant explosion in September 2021, what measures have been put in place at all incineration plants to ensure that such an incident does not recur.
- *3. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what other programmes beyond the Artificial Intelligence (AI)-enabled tools on Singapore Student Learning Space will be put in place to develop baseline AI literacy of students; (b) whether there are plans to launch AI coding programmes in the curriculum; (c) if so, when will such programmes be targeted to be launched; and (d) whether such programmes will be run by teachers or third party service providers.
- *4. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) how many students have applied to join the Artificial Intelligence Student Outreach Programme; (b) what is the respective percentage of applicants who are from (i) secondary schools (ii) polytechnics (iii) Integrated Programme schools and (iv) junior colleges; and (c) whether there are plans to increase the take-up rate of the programme.
- *5. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what steps will be taken to ensure that construction on the "Long Island" reclaimed site will not significantly impact sensitive marine habitats like coral reefs; (b) whether a public consultation will be carried out; and (c) whether the nature groups have been or will be consulted from an early stage on this process.
- *6. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what is the projected environmental impact, specifically concerning marine life and habitats, from the "Long Island" reclamation project; and (b) whether the Government will involve environmental groups and nature researchers in stakeholder consultations to assess and mitigate potential ecological consequences before commencing the project.
- *7. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for National Development in relation to the "Long Island" project (a) what have been the considerations for population and developmental planning along East Coast Parkway; (b) what is the longer-term impact on property prices in the area; and (c) whether significant traffic infrastructures will be required to facilitate smooth traffic flow adjoining the areas.
- *8. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether fines meted out to agencies under the Ministry's charge are sufficient deterrence to ensure that unsafe activities are not carried out by the agencies' officers.
- *9. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Minister for Defence (a) whether the Houthis' attacks on shipping in the Red Sea impacts Singapore's maritime security; and (b) noting that the US and other nations have announced the creation of a multinational maritime security initiative to secure the Red Sea, whether the SAF will be contributing to this effort.

- *10. **Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether there is any correlation or increase in neighbour disputes with regard to the number of occupants living in a HDB unit over the past five years; (b) whether the Ministry foresees that the increased rental occupancy cap for HDB units from January 2024 will result in more of such disputes; and (c) if so, how will HDB intervene to manage it.
- *11. **Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for National Development with regard to the increased rental occupancy cap for HDB units from January 2024 (a) whether the Ministry foresees a rise in neighbour disputes and community disamenity, given the rationale for a reduced occupancy cap in HDB flats from nine to six as previously announced in 2018; and (b) whether HDB is sufficiently equipped to resolve any rise in complaints from such disamenity.
- *12. **Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the Ministry can provide details on why the number of unrelated occupiers in a residential unit is increased from six to eight; and (b) what mitigation measures are taken to address the concerns of neighbours as a result of this increase.
- *13. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for National Development in each of the last five years (a) what is the number of cases of infringements of the occupancy cap on the number of persons allowed in (i) HDB flats and (ii) private residential properties respectively; and (b) what is the number of cases of unauthorised renting out of HDB flats.
- *14. **Ms Foo Mee Har:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether HDB will limit the number of flats in each HDB block that will be allowed to house up to eight unrelated people under the new occupancy guidelines in order to ensure the existing infrastructure such as lift operations and bicycle parking space can cope with increased density of occupants in the block.
- *15. **Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Health whether the Ministry will consider (i) increasing the frequency of its biennial routine inspection and (ii) enhancing the monitoring and reporting requirements of all licensed cord blood banking service providers.
- *16. **Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Health in view of the incident involving damaged cord blood units by a commercial cord blood banking service provider (a) whether the Ministry has received any reports or requests for assistance from affected parties; (b) whether the Ministry has been directly supporting the affected clients; and (c) if so, how.
- *17. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) how often are checks undertaken on the storage facilities and operational processes of commercial cord blood banking service providers; (b) whether the Ministry conducts unannounced checks on a regular basis; and (c) whether there are expectations of such service providers to pay compensation or restitution in the event that the claims or performance of their service are found to be lacking or untrue.
- *18. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in light of the recent phishing scams involving at least 237 victims since November 2023 with total losses amounting to at least \$606,000 as stated in the Police advisory of 13 November 2023, what specific measures are being taken to enhance cybersecurity awareness among the public, especially regarding the use of popular messaging platforms.
- *19. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in view of the recent numbers of phishing scams as stated in the police advisory of 13 November 2023 and the amount of losses involved, whether there are any stepped up measures by the Ministry and the relevant agencies to combat the related crimes and to enhance cybersecurity of individuals.

- *20. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what safeguards are in place to ensure the suitability of adults who express interest in adopting children, especially children who have endured traumatic pasts; and (b) what measures exist to prevent incidents of abuse by such adults.
- *21. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development whether the Ministry will (i) enhance existing training schemes of social workers and professionals handling cases of vulnerable underaged persons to detect sexual and other forms of abuse and (ii) strengthen its due diligence and surveillance over the youth development firms the Ministry works with that have exposure to vulnerable underaged persons.
- *22. **Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what is the current take-up rate of the SkillsFuture Credit (SFC) for lifelong learning and training in the workforce; (b) how responsive have senior citizens and back-to-work women been in utilising their SFC for training and retraining; and (c) whether there are any problems that workers have highlighted in accessing their SFC.
- *23. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) as of 2023, how many eligible Singaporeans have fully utilised their SkillsFuture credits; (b) whether the SkillsFuture credits can be replenished for those who have used up their credits; and (c) what are the reasons why 70% of eligible individuals have not been utilising their SkillsFuture credits since 2015.
- *24. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) as of 2023, what is the utilisation of the SkillsFuture Credit (SFC) by Singapore citizens; (b) whether the SFC scheme has achieved its intended policy outcomes; and (c) whether there are any plans to further enhance the scheme.
- *25. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development what enforcement measures are in place to ensure that children in infant and childcare centres are protected from unauthorised access by strangers or non-teaching personnel.
- *26. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information whether the Government has plans to develop in-house artificial intelligence capabilities to ensure that input prompts for large language models need not be processed by private firms not under the purview of the Government, or by cloud computing units located in foreign territories or under foreign jurisdiction or control.
- *27. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) when using large language models owned by private or foreign companies, how does the Government ensure that confidential data is not disclosed in the input prompts; (b) whether the Government has signed any non-disclosure agreements (NDAs) with these companies; (c) what are the companies that the Government has signed NDAs with; and (d) how does the Government monitor compliance with such NDAs by these companies.
- *28. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Health in light of the pneumonia outbreak in China and considering the expected rise in overseas travel amongst Singaporeans during the winter season (a) what precautions and alerts regarding the outbreak are in place; (b) how are these communicated to travellers; (c) what measures are there to minimise the risk of travellers importing pneumonia-related illnesses into Singapore; and (d) whether the Ministry is stepping up on the monitoring of such illnesses locally.
- *29. **Ms Foo Mee Har:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment to what extent has the mandatory charge for plastic bags at supermarket chains resulted in (i) a reduction in the amount of supermarket plastic bags being used and (ii) the promotion of wider recycling efforts, as evidenced by increased participation in recycling initiatives.

- *30. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry what assessment has been made of the effects of (i) the end of the global inflationary surge over the past few years and (ii) a turn in the electronics cycle, on Singapore's economic recovery prospects and consumer confidence.
- *31. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Health whether the Ministry will consider a channel for appeal by individuals who missed out on the COVID-19 Resilience Medal.
- *32. **Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the Ministry will set up a separate confinement facility and programme for adults with special needs such as intellectual challenges or autism who are incarcerated to ensure their safety and better outcomes upon their return to the community.
- *33. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Transport in view of the Government's plans for the "Long Island" off East Coast Park (a) whether operations at any of the anchorages under the Maritime and Port Authority of Singapore's Eastern Sector will be affected and, if so, what are the Government's plans for the relocation of affected anchorages; and (b) whether (i) operations of the Traffic Separation Scheme in the Straits of Singapore and (ii) vessel traffic transiting between the Straits of Singapore and Port of Singapore will be affected.
- *34. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for National Development since 2010 (a) how many HDB projects have required a change of main contractor midway through construction; (b) how many such changes have been due to (i) unsatisfactory progress or (ii) the contractor's financial difficulties; (c) what is done to ensure work quality is maintained in such situations; and (d) what lessons have been learned regarding tender specifications and the selection of main contractors.
- *35. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) how many complaints has MAS received in the past year about MAS-licensed remittance companies not fulfilling their commitments to remit funds; (b) whether such remittance companies have a legal responsibility to ensure that funds reach their intended recipients and, if not, why not; and (c) what recourse do consumers have if the funds they placed with remittance companies are not remitted through no fault of their own.
- *36. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether there remains shortages of hospital beds and available nursing staff in public hospitals, relative to a year ago; (b) what is the progress of ongoing plans to increase hospital capacity; and (c) whether public hospitals are currently facing capacity constraints, even in non-crisis environments, and, if so, why.
- *37. **Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) of the past 132 Cultural Medallion recipients, how many have fully utilised their entitlements to access cash grants from the Cultural Medallion Fund; (b) what percentage of such grant entitlements remain unutilised; (c) what is the number of recipients who have not utilised the grant at all; (d) whether there is a time limit for the utilisation of grants; and (e) how is the entitlement dealt with if a recipient is unable to or does not utilise their entitlement within their lifetime.
- *38. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) of the four in 1,000 pregnant teenagers in the last five years, what is their average age; and (b) what assistance and counselling are provided to (i) teenagers who undergo abortions and (ii) those who proceed with childbirth.
- *39. **Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Minister for Law (a) in each of the past three years, how many applications for mediation of disputes between neighbours have been made to the Community Mediation Centre; (b) how many of such applications have led to actual mediations being conducted; and (c) what percentage of the mediations conducted led to amicable resolutions between the neighbours.

- *40. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) over the last two years, what has been the take-up rate of Career Conversion Programmes (CCP) amongst full-time platform workers; (b) considering the irregular work schedule of platform workers, whether more flexible arrangements, such as timetabling and mode of learning, can be catered for those enrolled in the CCP; and (c) whether more places in the Place and Train programmes may be availed to platform workers.
- *41. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) whether the Ministry is able to provide statistics on Singapore's Gross Domestic Product produced by Singaporeans and companies which are owned by Singaporeans for 2022; and (b) how much is the total taxable income attributable to these Singaporeans and companies which are owned by Singaporeans.
- *42. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) in each of the last five years, what is the number of illegal subletting of HDB flats and private residential properties respectively; and (b) what measures are in place to strengthen enforcement of such offences.
- *43. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry can consider imposing a limit on the number of hours that a private hire car driver or a taxi driver can drive consecutively; and (b) with the current maturity of driver assistance technology, whether the Ministry will work with taxi fleet operators and private hire car platforms to install technologies to monitor and be alerted if a driver is too tired to drive.
- *44. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development whether the Ministry will consider increasing the number of (i) day activity centres and (ii) residential homes, for adult persons with autism.
- *45. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what is the projected timeline for the studies conducted by the Institute of Mental Health to understand the risk factors for suicide and self-harm, as well as the mitigating factors for the prevention and reduction of self-harm; and (b) whether these studies will consider age, socio-economic status, ethnicity and gender to obtain a more comprehensive overview of potential links between these factors for a more targeted approach in national mental health strategies.
- *46. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs what arrangements are in place for immigration procedures in the event of a power outage at any checkpoint.
- *47. **Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether HDB plans to cap the number of occupants in HDB rental flats over the longer term.
- *48. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) in cases where a custom or unlisted implant is necessary for treatment and the only alternatives are invasive procedures or no treatment, what additional financial support options exist beyond (i) MediShield Life (ii) MediSave and (iii) Integrated Shield Plans; and (b) whether financially challenged patients who are unable to cover the implant costs even with existing schemes can access MediFund for assistance in such circumstances.
- *49. **Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what is the Ministry's assessment of the public sector's achievements of the targets to go green following the launch of the GreenGov.SG initiative; (b) what yardsticks does the Ministry intend to use to assess the greening efforts of the private sector; and (c) what are some of the immediate areas that the private sector, in particular small and medium enterprises, can address in their efforts to go green.

- *50. **Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Prime Minister whether MAS is investigating possible breaches of disclosure requirements by a listed cord blood banking company for not making any relevant disclosures or announcements on issues related to storage temperatures of its cord blood unit storage tanks or audits by the Ministry of Health prior to 30 November 2023.
- *51. **Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Health whether the Government will consider regulating providers of educational and behavioural therapy services under the Allied Health Professions Act 2011 to ensure that they are suitably trained and qualified to practice.
- *52. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) what are the reasons for the ongoing restriction of dialects on free-to-air (FTA) radio and television; and (b) considering the elderly's potentially limited access to pay TV and internet for entertainment, whether the Ministry will consider fully lifting the dialect usage restrictions for FTA services.
- *53. **Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for National Development with a new subsidy recovery threshold of 8% established for Prime Location Public Housing (PLH) flats at the December 2023 HDB BTO exercise, whether the HDB has done any study to ascertain the inflationary and behavioural impact of the subsidy recovery regime on (i) prices of non-PLH flats near PLH flats and (ii) the prospect of the subsidy priced into the selling price of PLH flats upon resale.
- *54. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry will consider extending the lung cancer screening recommendation guidelines to cover non-smokers and those with a family history of lung cancer; (b) whether lung cancer screening will be subsidised; and (c) whether there are plans to raise public awareness on the importance of lung cancer screening.
- *55. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) how many Singaporeans aged above 21 years old are currently not on the electoral register; and (b) of which, what is the respective number of these Singaporeans who are (i) former convicts and (ii) Singaporeans with an overseas address registered on their NRIC.
- *56. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) currently, how many and what proportion of lifts in HDB flats are fitted with lift monitoring devices that are using 3G modems; (b) what will be the impact on lift monitoring when the 3G network is retired on 31 July 2024 if such lifts are not retrofitted with 4G or 5G modems; and (c) how is the Ministry assisting town councils, management corporation strata titles and companies that provide lift monitoring services to prevent any negative impact on lift monitoring after 31 July 2024.
- *57. **Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Health how does the Tripartite Framework for the Prevention of Abuse and Harassment in Healthcare protect workers who complain about abuse or harassment from adverse consequences such as reprisals.
- *58. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) in each of the past three years, how many successful applicants for the Startup SG Founder programme have been persons with disabilities; and (b) whether Enterprise Singapore will consider working together with its Accredited Mentor Partners to increase this number.
- *59. **Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment whether NEA is able to deploy advanced technologies to enforce against excessive vehicular noise on the roads.

- *60. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry will consider expanding the family cord blood banking service of the Singapore Cord Blood Bank to those in private hospitals; and (b) whether arrangements can be made to transfer cord blood samples to the Public Donation inventory for families who have registered under the family cord blood banking service but have not kept up with the required payments.
- *61. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) how many cases of abuse committed against persons with special needs have been reported and investigated over each of the last five years; and (b) whether the Ministry is looking into enhancing measures to identify abuse committed against persons with special needs, in particular, those who are low-functioning.
- *62. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) what is the mean and median utilisation rate of school fields under the Dual-Use Scheme run by ActiveSG; (b) which school fields have the lowest utilisation rates; and (c) what are the reasons for the low utilisation rates.
- *63. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for National Development in the last five years (a) what is the average amount of time from the time HDB notifies flat buyers of their key collection appointment to the appointment date itself; (b) what is the number and percentage of key collection deferral requests beyond one month from the date of the original appointment and the average penalty interest charged; and (c) what is the number and percentage of flat applications cancelled as a result of non-collection of keys.
- *64. **Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Health whether the Government will consider extending the coverage of the Tripartite Framework for the Prevention of Abuse and Harassment in Healthcare to include security professionals working in healthcare settings.
- *65. **Mr Derrick Goh:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information regarding the closure of SingPost's only branch in Nee Soon (a) how does the Infocomm Media Development Authority assess the appropriateness of a SingPost branch closure; (b) what is the Government's expectation of the postal physical footprint of SingPost branches across Singapore; and (c) how can SingPost better balance business viability with the basic needs of residents who still require access to physical postal services.
- *66. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether the current criterion for applicants under the Parenthood Provisional Housing Scheme (PPHS) to satisfy the monthly household income requirement of \$7,000 or below based on the income declared in the sales application to buy a flat can be modified to require that applicants satisfy the income requirement at the point of application for a PPHS flat.
- *67. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Prime Minister whether he can provide an update on the CPIB investigation of the Minister for Transport.
- *68. **Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) how are feedback and requests from the public, medical professionals, and members of Parliament weighted when considering whether a condition should be included in the Chronic Disease Management Programme (CDMP) to be eligible for treatment subsidies; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider creating an additional category to subsidise treatment costs of non-CDMP conditions such as glaucoma which if left untreated can impair the Instrumental Activities of Daily Living of senior persons.
- *69. **Mr Alex Yam Ziming:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) how often are checks conducted to ensure that diplomatic bags are utilised for their intended purposes; (b) how many instances of egregious use have been detected in the past five years; and (c) what measures, if required, will be introduced to ensure that diplomatic privileges are not abused.

- *70. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Education whether he can confirm that incidents of disinvitations of speakers and cancellations of events at the autonomous universities are not due to advisory or instructions transmitted by the Ministry.
- *71. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether the investigation into the tragic death of a police officer and the concerns raised regarding racial discrimination will involve external experts and reviewers beyond the Singapore Police Force (SPF); (b) whether a process invoking the Inquiries Act (2007) will facilitate such external review and help retain confidence in the SPF; and (c) what mechanisms exist for SPF officers to highlight racial discrimination whether against themselves or fellow officers.
- *72. **Mr Darryl David:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) for each year in the past five years, how many internal allegations and complaints of prejudice, discrimination or unfair treatment are handled in the Singapore Police Force; and (b) what is the respective percentage of such allegations and complaints against the total number of police officers.
- *73. **Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether the Ministry will consider incentivising families to use public transport, including taxi and private hire cars, so that it will be a more attractive alternative to car ownership.
- *74. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Defence what is the current total number of male Permanent Residents (PRs) who renounced or lost their PR status without serving full-time National Service when required to and have subsequently been granted the right to work or live in Singapore.
- *75. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Health in light of the launch of the framework for protection of healthcare workers from abuse and harassment, what is being done to provide healthcare workers with training on managing difficult situations.
- *76. **Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether an update can be provided on the upgrade to the Green Link Determining (GLIDE) system to adjust traffic signal timings dynamically to balance traffic demands between motorists and pedestrians.
- *77. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what assistance is provided to parents following the return of a child to his or her family after being placed in a place of safety or foster home; and (b) for each year in the past five years, what is the median number of months such assistance is provided to these families.
- *78. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Transport for the companies that LTA is engaging with in its study on transporting workers, what are the factors that contribute to these companies being able and open to shift from transporting workers on lorries to buses or other modes of transportation.
- *79. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what criteria does the Building and Construction Authority (BCA) use when approving the proposed maintenance fee put forward by a condominium developer; (b) whether the advertised maintenance fee during a condominium sales launch has to be approved by BCA; and (c) what safeguards are available for consumers when the eventual maintenance fee is significantly higher than what was earlier marketed.
- *80. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether the targeted review of political appointment holders' salaries in 2023 was carried out; (b) if so, who are the members of the Committee conducting the review; (c) what are the terms of reference given to the Committee; and (d) when will the Committee's report be released.

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- *81. Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether current measures to attract more Singaporeans to join the healthcare industry, especially in the public sector, have been effective; and (b) what is the breakdown on manpower growth in the industry for (i) clinical and (ii) non-clinical roles.
- *82. Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) in each year in the past five years, how many dispute cases arising from overuse of air-conditioning in HDB flats causing condensation and mould disamenities to neighbours does HDB receive; (b) beyond referring the disputing parties to the Community Mediation Centre, whether HDB is looking to enhance regulations to prevent or enforce against indiscriminate use of air-conditioning in HDB flats that causes disamenity to others; and (c) if not, why not.
- *83. Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether there is any feasibility study on a new MRT line to serve residents in the Fernvale, Seletar and Jalan Kayu estates.

* 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.

MINISTERIAL STATEMENT

1. Minister for Sustainability and the Environment:

Charges against NEA in Relation to the Incident at Tuas Incineration Plant.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Introduction of Government Bills

1. Minister for Social and Family Development and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs:

Administration of Muslim Law (Amendment) Bill.

2. Minister for Defence:

Enlistment and Other Matters (Amendment) Bill.

3. Minister for Law:

Prevention of Proliferation Financing and Other Matters Bill.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Significant Investments Review Bill [Bill No. 38/2023] – (Minister for Trade and Industry) – Second Reading.
[For amendments on the Bill, see Supplement No. 18 dated 9 January 2024.]
 2. Statutes (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill [Bill No. 36/2023] – (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance) – Second Reading.
[For amendments on the Bill, see Supplement No. 18 dated 9 January 2024.]
 3. Stillbirths and Births (Miscellaneous Amendments) Bill [Bill No. 39/2023] – (Minister for Home Affairs) – Second Reading.
[For amendments on the Bill, see Supplement No. 18 dated 9 January 2024.]
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NOTICE OF MOTION

1. **Ms Tin Pei Ling (MacPherson):**
Mr Sharael Taha (Pasir Ris-Punggol):
Ms Hany Soh (Marsiling-Yew Tee):
Ms Jessica Tan Soon Neo (East Coast):
Mr Alex Yam Ziming (Marsiling-Yew Tee):

BUILDING AN INCLUSIVE AND SAFE DIGITAL SOCIETY: That this House reaffirms our commitment to adopt a whole-of-nation approach to sustain trust by building an inclusive and safe digital society.

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MEMORANDUM

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

Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi : Social Cohesion through Common Spaces in Residential Estates.
(Nominated Member)

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Don Wee:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether MAS can regulate the amount of bank charges levied on cashier's orders made to the account holders' own names for withdrawal of money from their bank accounts; (b) if so, what is the ceiling limit for these charges; and (c) what assistance will be provided to the lower-income elderly, including the illiterate and digitally illiterate, who may have to pay such charges to withdraw their own savings in the form of cashier's orders.
2. **Mr Alex Yam Ziming:** To ask the Prime Minister whether he will be proceeding to review political salaries.
3. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Prime Minister whether the Monetary Authority of Singapore will consider taking steps to ensure that the current base interest rate for bank savings accounts standing at 0.05% per annum for all three local banks is fair, competitive and in tandem with the prevailing high interest rate environment.

4. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether the persistently high interest rates after early 2022 necessitate a revision of the metrics that the MAS is using to ensure an appropriate level of indebtedness for Singaporean households; and (b) whether the Government plans to collect more stratified data points on debts and debtors, including the types of non-performing loans and the debtors' income levels and ethnicity, so as to develop a holistic preventive and rehabilitative strategy to help those struggling with debt.
5. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) whether the Electoral Boundaries Review Committee (EBRC) has allowed the size of each constituency to deviate by up to 30%, instead of 20% previously, from the mean size of constituencies since 1980 and, if so, why; (b) whether the terms of reference to the EBRC should include an instruction to 'ensure more equal representation'; and (c) if not, will such an instruction be re-inserted into the terms of reference for subsequent EBRCs.
6. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in light of the recent phishing scams involving at least 237 victims since November 2023 with total losses amounting to at least \$606,000 as stated in the Police advisory of 13 November 2023 (a) whether the Ministry can provide insights on the collaboration with messaging service providers to ensure better security features and user education to prevent such scams; and (b) how is the Ministry planning to enhance international cooperation in tracking and apprehending scammers operating from overseas.
7. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the import and sale of vapes and associated products can be categorised as a "serious offence" under the Organised Crime Act 2015 to enable Government authorities to target organised criminal groups involved in such activities.
8. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs what is the outcome of the Ministry's consideration of how criminal records of those previously convicted under section 377A of the Penal Code for consensual, private, homosexual acts between adults can be rendered spent now that section 377A has been repealed.
9. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs for each year since 2018, what is the number of persons in Singapore on (i) Long-Term Visit Pass who are not spouses or children of Singapore citizens and (ii) Dependent's Pass, respectively.
10. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) since 2022, how many of the reported internet banking scams are caused by compromises to smartphones by malware; and (b) what is the percentage breakdown of the operating systems used in the compromised smartphones.
11. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) how does the law enforcement agencies (Home Team) balance between efficiency and efficacy in its screenings at airport checkpoints; and (b) what has been the detection rate of offences arising from such screenings in the last three years.
12. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what regulatory supervision is being exercised over the Singapore Palestine Film Festival scheduled to take place from 12 to 21 January 2024; (b) what are the permissible limits for holding events that touch on the presently hostile conflict; and (c) how is the balance struck between allowing Singaporeans to gain an increased understanding of the situation and preserving the racial and religious harmony that is enjoyed in Singapore.
13. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what is the frequency that Singapore's anti-scam campaigns appear in (i) local daily newspapers (ii) local television during prime time (iii) local television outside of prime time (iv) social media and (v) other media platforms; and (b) whether the Government will consider increasing the frequency of short television advertisements explaining the latest scam tactics in a manner that is easy to understand and, if not, why not.

14. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Law (a) for the past three years, what is the percentage of applicants who have filed court applications via the Integrated Family Application Management System and are non-native English speakers; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider simplifying the application process or render assistance to such applicants whose English is not their first language.
15. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what is the number of tourist arrivals and the amount of tourism receipts from China in 2023; (b) what are the reasons for how those figures compare to the 3.63 million tourist arrivals and \$4.12 billion of tourism receipts from China in 2019; and (c) whether any studies have been conducted on the potential impact of the 30-day mutual visa exemption arrangement on Chinese tourist arrivals and spending in Singapore.
16. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what enforcement measures are in place to prevent vehicle owners from installing illegal vehicle licence plates; and (b) how will the Ministry address cases where owners can switch between compliant and non-compliant vehicle licence plates with ease.
17. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry has conducted an estimate of the cost for new buses to be fitted with (i) ramps that can be automatically lowered for commuters in wheelchairs instead of ramps that need to be manually operated by the bus driver and (ii) kneeling mechanisms that allow the body or entrance door of buses to be lowered to facilitate boarding by the elderly or people with disabilities; and (b) if so, what is the estimate of these costs.
18. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Transport in each of the last five years (a) how many requests have been received by the Land Transport Authority from residential Management Corporation Strata Titles to construct covered linkways to the boundary of their development; (b) how many such requests resulted in the installation of the linkways; and (c) for instances where linkways are constructed, what is the mean time between the initial request and the commencement of work.
19. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry has data on the (i) mean and (ii) median time between trips for private hire drivers and taxi drivers respectively; and (b) whether the data shows an increasing trend in the time between trips for both classes of drivers over the last three years.
20. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment in view of concerns that Semakau Landfill is nearing its capacity limits, what measures is the Government taking to enhance waste reduction and recycling efforts, particularly in terms of repurposing incineration ash for construction or land reclamation as studied by local universities.
21. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment in view of the global resurgence of bedbug infestations, what measures are in place to detect and prevent travellers from transmitting such infestations upon their arrivals in Singapore.
22. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment whether the Ministry can consider introducing an innovative tracking and reward system that will grant credits on the household electricity bill to residents who are recorded by the system as being consistent and active in responsible recycling.
23. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment having regard to recent international studies released alongside the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) suggesting that gas flaring leads to toxic pollutants being released in the air which in turn endanger the health of people living near and far, whether gas flaring activities in Singapore should be reviewed.

24. **Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) in each of the past five years, how many boy pupils have been meted corporal punishment in schools with caning on the palms of their hands or on their buttocks over the clothing under regulation 88 of the Education (Schools) Regulations; and (b) whether there is a need to retain such punishment in schools.
25. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what is the median annual salary of Flexi-Adjunct Teachers in the past five years; and (b) how does this compare with the median annual salary of regular full-time teachers.
26. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what new sports are being planned to be added in 2024 and 2025 under the Strategic Partnership CCA Programme; (b) whether football specifically can be added; and (c) whether international schools can be included in the programme.
27. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development for each year since 2019 (a) what is the number of self-employed persons who applied for and received financial support from social assistance schemes; (b) what is the monetary quantum disbursed (i) on average and (ii) as a proportion of the applicant's yearly net trade income; and (c) what are the three most common types of schemes that rendered such support.
28. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development in each of the past five years (a) how many complaints or reports have been made against (i) day activity centres and (ii) long-term care facilities; (b) how many of such complaints or reports have been investigated by the Ministry; and (c) how many of the investigated cases have been referred to the Police for further investigation.
29. **Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether advertisements for aesthetic treatments are regulated; (b) whether any safeguards have been or will be put in place to ensure that the public is protected from misleading advertising of aesthetic treatments by non-medical professionals, such as social media influencers; and (c) whether remedies are available for members of the public who receive aesthetic treatments from registered and unregistered service providers due to misleading advertising, and who suffer loss or injury as a result.
30. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Health with regard to the health risks of high caffeine consumption on young people, whether the Ministry will consider introducing measures to restrict the sales of energy drinks with high caffeine content such as those that may have 200 mg of caffeine per can in comparison to a cup of coffee that has around 80 mg to 100 mg of caffeine to young persons.
31. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) how many incidents involving the transportation and escorting of elderly patients have been reported in the past three years; (b) in those incidents involving gig-platform services for transporting these elderly, who bears the responsibility; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider tightening regulations to enforce service quality and training standards for companies offering such services.
32. **Mr Alex Yam Ziming:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) how is the cord blood banking industry regulated and supervised; and (b) what guarantees or recourse are there for consumers who make use of these services should there be service lapses.
33. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Health whether the Ministry has data on the number of women and men who have undergone fertility screening at (i) public hospitals and (ii) private hospitals respectively in each of the past five years.

34. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Health since September 2022 (a) how many restructured hospital patients have had their subsidy levels reduced due to the introduction of the use of residential property Annual Value for means testing; (b) of these, how many have made appeals for a restoration of their previous subsidy levels; (c) how many have been granted higher subsidies upon appeal; and (d) what are the reasons for granting these appeals.
35. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether all doctors, nurses, and other frontliners, especially those who served in the pandemic wards, received the COVID-19 Resilience Medal; and (b) if not, how many did not receive the COVID-19 Resilience Medal and for what reasons.
36. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what are the considerations that the Ministry takes into account when deciding the treatments to be included in the Cancer Drug List; and (b) what factors typically lead to the inclusion or removal of a particular drug from the List.
37. **Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how does the Ministry determine whether protective construction hoardings in public areas are eligible to be turned into public artworks such as murals; (b) what are the criteria for determining the selection of artists to create these artworks; (c) what are the criteria for determining the kinds of artwork that can be displayed on these hoardings; and (d) whether there are plans to include artworks on more construction hoardings in public locations around Singapore.
38. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for National Development in relation to the Joint Singles Scheme Operator-Run (JSS-OR) pilot under HDB's Public Rental Scheme (PRS) for flats, what is the Ministry's assessment of the current effectiveness of the JSS-OR in mitigating conflicts among co-tenants which conflicts have been identified as the primary impediment discouraging homeless individuals from accepting PRS offers.
39. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for National Development in relation to the Joint Singles Scheme Operator-Run pilot under HDB's Public Rental Scheme for flats (a) what is the adoption rate of public rental flats by the homeless demographic (i) before the pilot's implementation and (ii) after its expansion in September 2023; and (b) over the next two years, what are the key performance indicators set for the expanded pilot.
40. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for National Development in relation to the Joint Singles Scheme Operator-Run pilot under HDB's Public Rental Scheme for flats where a significant proportion of tenants are low-wage workers or self-employed persons earning less than \$1,500, what are the Ministry's plans to prepare this demographic for eventual home ownership.
41. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether HDB can provide an update on whether it is extending the Lift Upgrading Programme to HDB blocks that have undergone the Main Upgrading Programme but still do not have direct lift access to flats; (b) if not, what factors impede this and how will the Ministry address them; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider subsidising stair lifts for wheelchair-bound residents living in such HDB blocks.
42. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for National Development in light of the announced retirement of the 3G network (a) whether the Government has considered the implications on existing town infrastructure such as lift management devices in elevators that are using the 3G network; and (b) whether the Government will consider an extension of the retirement date if town councils are found to be behind in the upgrading of said infrastructure to 4G or 5G compatible devices.

43. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for National Development in each of the last five years including the latest available data in 2023, what is the number of HDB flats that are rented out by flat type, as further broken down into (i) rental of whole flats (ii) rental of bedrooms and (iii) the average number of registered occupants.
44. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how many (i) HDB flats and (ii) private residential units are presently tenanted to six unrelated people who are not from the same family unit; (b) what is the profile mix of the tenants of such units by (i) citizenship (ii) age group and (iii) occupation; and (c) whether the temporary easing of the rental occupancy cap until end-2026 will significantly affect rental prices inadvertently.
45. **Mr Sitoh Yih Pin:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information in view of the recent Optus network outage in Australia (a) what is the assessment of the resiliency of Singapore's key telecommunication networks and services; and (b) what measures have been implemented to prevent such massive network outages in Singapore.
46. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information for each year since the Code for Fun enrichment programme was launched in 2019 (a) what proportion of each cohort of primary school and secondary school students respectively have undergone the programme; (b) for students who did not undergo the programme, how does the Ministry ensure that they can attain the foundational digital quotient; and (c) what are the Ministry's plans to update the programme and its delivery to contribute to developing an artificial intelligence-ready workforce.
47. **Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information with regard to the National Artificial Intelligence (AI) Strategy 2.0 (a) how does the Government plan to balance the increased computing power necessary for AI developments with Singapore's energy sustainability goals; and (b) what initiatives or strategies are in place to ensure that the infrastructure and computing power needed for AI growth remain environmentally sustainable.
48. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) which categories of workers has the Ministry assessed to face the highest risk of displacement as a result of artificial intelligence (AI); (b) what are the projected numbers for each such category; and (c) what expanded programmes are being instituted to scale up reskilling and encourage workers to switch careers before they face job displacement due to AI.
49. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) whether there have been any security breaches of Singpass in the last five years; and (b) how can the security of Singpass be continually strengthened to remain trusted yet easily accessible.
50. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) in each of the past five years, how many complaints relating to unsolicited marketing communications have been received; (b) of these, how many have been successfully taken to task under the Spam Control Act; and (c) whether there is a need to review the Act to ensure its effectiveness.
51. **Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) how many artworks, artefacts and antiques from the National Collection are presently on loan for display to entities which are not museums; (b) what are the criteria for determining the kinds of entities that are entitled to such loans; (c) whether accompanying wall text or explanatory statements of all such loans are required to be displayed at all times; and (d) if not, what are the criteria for determining whether wall text and explanatory statements should accompany the display of such loans.

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52. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) whether SportSG prioritises groups over individuals for the booking of its sports facilities; (b) how can the booking system be improved to facilitate easier booking by individuals; and (c) how does SportSG prevent the profiteering and monopolisation of group bookings.
53. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Manpower for each year from 2019, what is the breakdown of own account workers by occupational categories and the prevalence of each category, for the following gross monthly income tiers of (i) below \$2,000 (ii) \$2,000 to \$3,000 and (iii) \$4,000 to \$5,999.
54. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether there are persons with disabilities who are covered under the Home Protection Scheme (HPS) currently; and (b) whether the Central Provident Fund Board will consider extending HPS to cover all persons with disabilities holding employment at the time of application to ensure that their homes are protected in the event of future total permanent loss of physical functions.
55. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) what is the current number of rejected applications for Home Protection Scheme (HPS) coverage due to applicants not meeting the good health requirement; and (b) what pre-existing medical conditions have been deemed serious such that HPS coverage will not be offered.
56. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) why does the Matched Retirement Savings Scheme not cover seniors aged above 70; and (b) whether there are any plans to extend the scheme to cover seniors above 70, especially those who are still working.
57. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Manpower in each of the last five years for Work Permit applications under the Sponsorship Scheme for a migrant domestic worker (a) how many seniors aged above 65 have tried applying for a Work Permit but have no qualified family members to sponsor their application; (b) how many are rejected; and (c) how many have had to move to a nursing home due to the rejection.
58. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for Manpower for each of Employment Pass, S Pass and Work Permit Pass holders excluding migrant domestic workers, what is the current breakdown in accommodation type by (i) private residential properties (ii) HDB flats (iii) purpose-built dormitories and (iv) others.
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