

REVISED ORDER PAPER

MONDAY, 6 APRIL 2020

No. 129

1.00 pm

1

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. **Assoc Prof Walter Theseira:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) how many students currently benefit from the School Meals Programme; (b) whether equivalent financial assistance will be provided to students in lieu of the School Meals Programme subsidy if schools are closed or students are required to stay at home during the COVID-19 outbreak; and (c) whether the Ministry will study expanding the School Meals Programme to provide financial assistance for students during school holidays to avoid "holiday hunger".
- *2. **Assoc Prof Walter Theseira:** To ask the Minister for Education what plans have been made to ensure that all students, particularly those on the Ministry's Financial Assistance Scheme and Independent School Bursary Scheme, have the computer and broadband Internet resources to access online learning from their homes in the event of school closure or stay-at-home requirements due to the COVID-19 outbreak.
- *3. **Miss Cheng Li Hui:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what are the current plans in place for crises in terms of preparing for an adequate national stockpile and whether they are sufficiently robust; (b) how can the Government and the community work hand-in-hand to assure the public of adequate stockpiles; and (c) whether there are any lessons derived from the hoarding behaviour in the aftermath of raising the DORSCON level in February 2020.

-
- *4. **Miss Cheng Li Hui:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry in view of the lockdown of countries during the current COVID-19 outbreak (a) how do the travel restrictions affect Singapore; (b) how will our economy be affected by the slowdown in movement of goods and supplies especially with the lockdown of Malaysia; and (c) what measures are in the pipeline to help affected businesses tide through this challenging period.
- *5. **Ms Tin Pei Ling:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in light of the COVID-19 related travel restrictions for foreigners entering Singapore, whether the foreign spouses of Singapore citizens will be allowed entry into Singapore.
- *6. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) how has COVID-19 affected low-income Singaporean and transnational families, low-income seniors, the differently-abled, and persons with mental health conditions; (b) how does the Ministry monitor and assess the COVID-19 impact on these Singaporeans; (c) what measures, including multi-Ministry efforts, are being put in place to support them comprehensively; and (d) how has the COVID-19 crisis illuminated opportunities to review existing social support policies for these groups in terms of food security, job security and personal resources for "rainy" days.
- *7. **Ms Tin Pei Ling:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) how many micro and small enterprises, including sole proprietors, have successfully taken up the SME working capital loan since the implementation of the Support and Stabilisation Package; and (b) how else can the Government help to enhance their cash flow.
- *8. **Ms Rahayu Mahzam:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what is the outcome of the investigation into the alleged bullying case in Mee Toh School; and (b) whether there will be a review of the standard operating procedures in place or specific training for school staff to respond to such bullying cases.
- *9. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what plans does the Ministry have to tackle the transmission of HIV, Hepatitis B and Hepatitis C in our prisons; and (b) whether the Ministry can ensure that all inmates are vaccinated for Hepatitis B.

* 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. **ADDITIONAL SUPPORT MEASURES IN RESPONSE TO COVID-19 PANDEMIC:** *Resumption of Debate on Question (26th March 2020)*, “That the Ministerial Statement made by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance on Additional Support Measures in Response to COVID-19 Pandemic be considered by Parliament.” – (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance).
-

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Prime Minister whether the Ministry will change the default arrangement of taking paternity leave so that fathers can split the two weeks of paternity leave into working days and take them in any combination within 12 months after the birth of the child without mutual agreement from the employer.
2. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Prime Minister what is the current number of transnational households consisting of at least one Singapore citizen spouse, broken down by monthly household income.
3. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Prime Minister (a) what are the factors that have led to a higher percentage of eligible fathers in the public sector taking their paternity leave as compared to the private sector; and (b) how will the Ministry help the private sector achieve a higher uptake of paternity leave.
4. **Miss Cheng Li Hui:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) how will our public transport be affected by the lockdown of Malaysia since almost all operators employ Malaysians who commute to work in Singapore daily; (b) whether there will be measures targeted for affected operators so as to minimise disruption to our public transport system; (c) whether ridership has been affected due to an increasing number of people working from home; and (d) how are operators ensuring the optimisation of resources and cost-efficiency during this challenging period.
5. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the total number of private bus operators, private buses, private bus trips and passengers, including tourists, NS men, workers, students in 2018 and 2019; (b) what is the total carbon emission contribution from these private bus trips per year; and (c) how and when will the Ministry begin supporting private buses and coaches to become cleaner to complement the goal of 100% clean energy public bus fleets as part of Land Transport Masterplan 2040 and Singapore's overall commitment to climate change.

-
6. **Ms Yip Pin Xiu:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in each of the last five years, what are the average and median waiting times between when an adult victim of rape first approaches a police station and when the first information report is filed.
 7. **Assoc Prof Walter Theseira:** To ask the Minister for Health whether the Ministry will report the number of tests for COVID-19 conducted daily since the start of the outbreak and any additional COVID-19 related national level health statistics daily, so as to enable global health researchers to assemble internationally comparable datasets on the current state of the COVID-19 pandemic.
 8. **Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for National Development how much Community Improvement Projects Committee funding was applied for and allocated to each grassroots adviser and/or Citizens' Consultative Committee from FY2016 to date.
 9. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources (a) whether the estimate of \$100 billion for coastal defences over the next 100 years is based on Singapore's Second National Climate Change Study released in 2015 by the Meteorological Service Singapore, which did not take into account the melting of Antarctica; (b) how much more will sea levels rise for Singapore given that Antarctica is melting with the latest scientific evidence; and (c) how much more will it cost Singapore to adapt to the increase in sea level rise due to this melting of Antarctica.
 10. **Ms Rahayu Mahzam:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources (a) whether NEA has observed recurring dengue clusters in specific estates/areas in Bukit Batok East over the last five years; (b) if so, where are these specific estates/areas; and (c) what are the efforts in place to contain the spread of dengue in these estates/areas.
 11. **Assoc Prof Walter Theseira:** To ask the Minister for Manpower in each of the last five years (a) how many applications have been received for a Letter of Consent to employ a LTVP/LTVP+ holder in restricted occupations such as media and religion-related occupations; (b) of these, how many applications are approved; and (c) what are the criteria for approving such applications in the areas of media and religion respectively.
 12. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) how can employers provide flexible work arrangements for frontline workers such as nurses, cleaners and security officers; and (b) when flexible work arrangements are not readily available for these frontline workers, how can employers support better work-life harmony for this group of workers.

-
13. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether the Ministry will consider introducing a Tripartite Standard on Gender-Equal Workplace Practices that requires companies to adopt practices such as regular audits of employee wages to ensure gender parity and adequate female representation in key leadership positions.

 14. **Ms Yip Pin Xiu:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development in the last three years, what is the breakdown of the number of people who have lived in crisis shelters by (i) gender (ii) age (iii) marital status (iv) citizenship status and (v) length of stay.

 15. **Ms Yip Pin Xiu:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) why gender quotas for corporate boards are not mandatory; and (b) why the voluntary quota is set at 20% when most other countries have a higher mandatory quota.

 16. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether the Council of Board Diversity's latest findings include data on how many existing board members in public-listed companies, statutory boards and IPCs hold more than two board seats across these organisations and, if not, why not; (b) what are the Ministry's plans to achieve the 20-20 vision for at least 20% female representation on boards of public-listed companies by end-2020; (c) whether there should be a higher target than 20% as a First World country; and (d) what are the Ministry's strategic plan and priorities after 2020 for achieving gender equality at home and at work.
-

PAPER PRESENTED

<i>2020</i>		<i>Date Presented</i>	
Cmd.	27	Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial Year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 26 March 2020
