FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE (SECOND SESSION)

ORDER PAPER TUESDAY, 4 MARCH 2025

No. 157 11.00 am

OUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what are the causes of the reported food poisoning symptoms in students at the School of the Arts who consumed ready-to-eat meals distributed as part of Total Defence activities; and (b) what microbiological and shelf-life studies are required by the Singapore Food Agency and conducted as part of Food Resilience Preparedness Programme product testing.
- *2. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment in view of the suspension of the Total Defence food resilience programme after the School of the Arts food poisoning incident (a) what processes are currently in place to vet suppliers of ready-to-eat meals for all Government programmes; and (b) whether there are plans to introduce more stringent checks or audits to ensure compliance with food safety regulations.
- *3. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment with regard to the gastroenteritis outbreak among students at the School of the Arts after consuming ready-to-eat meals prepared by SATS at a Food Resilience Preparedness Programme on 18 February 2025 (a) how many meals were contaminated and whether the contamination extended to meals for other organisations such as active ageing centres; (b) what are the causes for the contamination; and (c) whether any penalties will be imposed against SATS.
- *4. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what is the total amount of Government subsidies, grants and other financial support provided to Ubisoft Singapore from 2008 to 2024; (b) what specific key performance indicators and conditions are attached to the support provided in terms of local talent development, leadership roles for Singaporeans, and knowledge transfer; and (c) what mechanisms exist to claw back subsidies if companies fail to meet these conditions.
- *5. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether the Ministry is studying how effective subject-based banding, where secondary school students learn each subject at the level that best caters to their strengths, interests and learning needs, has been on social mixing in schools; (b) if so, what are the Ministry's findings so far; and (c) if not, whether the Ministry will start studying this.
- *6. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Transport in light of the new rule which requires businesses that acquire private-hire cars meant for ride-hailing services to keep them for three years before they can be converted or transferred to individuals to ensure a steady supply of ride hailing vehicles, whether a study has been done on the impact of the new rule on private-hire cars on the COE market and COE prices.

- *7. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what percentage of pedestrian crossings have bollards of crash test standards such as the International Workshop Agreement (IWA) 14-1 or American Society for Testing and Materials (ASTM) F2656; (b) of these, what percentage withstands the equivalent of (i) ASTM F2656 K4 (6,800 kg at 48 km/h) (ii) K8 (6,800 kg at 64 km/h) and (iii) K12 (6,800 kg at 80 km/h) respectively; and (c) what other specific quantitative standards are applied.
- *8. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether he can provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations by the National Wellness Committee for Junior Doctors, including the (i) appointment of Chief Wellness Officers (ii) Hospital Clinician Scheme and (iii) Clusters pilot; and (b) what specific improvements have been seen in the work hours of juniors doctors as a result of these recommendations.
- *9. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Health whether the Ministry will consider providing direct subsidies to patients participating in the pilot for Pre-Implantation Genetic Screening (PGS) instead of only providing funding to support the manpower and operations of the PGS laboratory, and half of the PGS consumables costs.
- *10. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Health following the introduction of subsidies for shingles vaccination from September 2025 (a) how does the Ministry plan to ensure accessibility and affordability for those who may not qualify for subsidies; and (b) whether there are alternative preventive measures or treatments beyond vaccination to reduce the risk or severity of shingles among seniors.
- *11. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim: To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance whether the Ministry considers there is utility in holding cryptocurrency such as Bitcoin in Singapore sovereign wealth funds' holdings.
- *12. Mr Pritam Singh: To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what percentage of Plus and Prime BTO developments comprise rental units, on average; and (b) how does HDB determine the number of rental units for each Plus or Prime development.
- *13. Mr Xie Yao Quan: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether there is any police investigation into the meeting of drivers of premium cabs at Changi Airport on 13 February 2025.
- *14. Mr Leong Mun Wai: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA plays a role in regulating the Ground Transport Concierge (GTC) operations at the Changi Airport, in particular, in ensuring that there is a level playing field for taxi drivers in the provision of transportation services at Changi Airport; and (b) if so, what is being done by LTA to investigate the allegations made by the taxi drivers and promote fair practices in the provision of transportation services at Changi Airport.
- *15. Mr Xie Yao Quan: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the detailed sequence of events leading up to the meeting of drivers of premium cabs at Changi Airport on 13 February 2025; and (b) what lessons can be drawn to prevent a similar situation from arising in future.
- *16. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim: To ask the Minister for National Development in respect of the sterilisation programme for monkey population in the vicinity of Punggol (a) whether the sterilisation is performed only at specific sites with confirmed overpopulation of monkeys as supported by a population study and a projected estimated increase in population; (b) how many macaques have been trapped by NParks in 2024; and (c) how many of the trapped macaques have been sterilised and euthanised, respectively.

- *17. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether more measures can be put in place to detect non-compliant active mobility devices (AMDs) considering the increased incidence of AMD-related fires in 2024; (b) whether enforcement officers are adequately trained to identify modifications on non-compliant AMDs during spot-checks; (c) whether the frequency of spot checks on shops that repair or sell AMDs can be increased; and (d) whether more stringent penalties can be imposed to deter illegal modifications, especially for repeat offenders.
- * 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 2025 to 31 March 2026 (Paper Cmd. 32 of 2025) – Committee of Supply (Progress: 3 March 2025) (3rd *Allotted Day*).

Resumption of Debate on Question (3 March 2025)

"That the total sum to be allocated for Head P of the Estimates be reduced by \$100." – (Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim).

[For amendments to be moved in the Committee of Supply, see Supplement No. 26 dated 28 February 2025.]

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

- 1. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what is the estimated number of disposable carrier bags that have been saved since the mandatory disposable carrier bag charge was introduced in larger supermarkets on 3 July 2023; and (b) whether there are any plans to expand the scheme to all retailers.
- 2. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what steps are being taken to restore public confidence in the safety of ready-to-eat meals used in resilience programmes; and (b) whether there are plans to conduct public demonstrations or education initiatives on the rigorous food safety measures in place.
- 3. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Education for 2022 and 2023 respectively, whether the time that teachers spend teaching and preparing to teach is more than or less than 50% of their work hours.
- **Mr Chong Kee Hiong:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development in each year of the last three years, how many cases where one spouse makes an allegation of child abuse against the other spouse in attempting to prevent the other spouse from having access to their children in divorce and child custody cases have been (i) proven true or (ii) subsequently withdrawn, respectively.
- 5. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) since 2020, which medical specialties have seen the highest attrition rates of specialists at public hospitals; and (b) what steps are being taken to reduce attrition rates and ensure a healthy ratio of specialists to patients.

- 6. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) whether the Ministry can provide insights into the impact of prolonged exposure caused by delayed removal of harmful contents by social media platforms on the well-being of children; and (b) what targeted measures are being considered to ensure social media platforms prioritise the timely removal of contents that pose significant risks to vulnerable users.
- 7. **Ms Mariam Jaafar:** To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information what steps are taken to ensure that broadband service providers do not leave pockets of poor broadband connectivity in fully connected areas.
- **8. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Transport in each year of the past five years, how many private hire cars registered by businesses for ride hailing services were sold to individuals or otherwise converted out of the chauffeured Private Hire Car scheme, less than three years after they were first acquired by such businesses.