FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE (SECOND SESSION)

ORDER PAPER WEDNESDAY, 5 MARCH 2025

No. 158

11.00 am

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. 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.
- *2. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in view of the two-year recidivism rate for inmates released from drug rehabilitation centres (DRCs) reaching the highest since 2015 (a) what factors have contributed to the rise in the recidivism rate; (b) whether the Ministry is reviewing the effectiveness of rehabilitation programmes within DRCs; and (c) where do drug abusers obtain their supplies from and whether the increased accessibility to drugs has contributed to the increase in recidivism rate.
- *3. Ms Joan Pereira: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in view of the number of people killed and injured in traffic accidents in 2024 at a five-year high (a) what are the profiles of speeding motorists in terms of age, gender, nationality, years of driving experience and types of vehicles driven; (b) whether public education and penalties can be adapted to target groups at higher risks of offending; (c) what are the main reasons for speeding violations; and (d) what new measures will be considered to reduce drink-driving incidents.
- *4. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) what are the Government's key considerations in deciding to tighten regulations for digital payment token service providers, including the prohibition of payments via locally issued credit cards; and (b) what is the anticipated impact on younger consumers, particularly those aged 18 to 25, who are increasingly adopting the use of cryptocurrencies.

* 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.

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AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS Introduction of Government Bill

1. Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry:

Competition (Amendment) Bill.

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: 4 March 2025) (4th *Allotted Day*).

Resumption of Debate on Question (4 March 2025)

"That the total sum to be allocated for Head T of the Estimates be reduced by \$100." – (Miss Cheryl Chan Wei Ling).

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

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

- 1. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim: To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) for owneroccupied private residential properties, where there is outstanding property tax whether in arrears or payable in instalments, how many of such cases, in percentage terms, involve owners/occupiers who are seniors or are retired; (b) whether the Ministry will consider providing additional assistance for seniors or retirees who face difficulties paying property tax; and (c) whether IRAS will consider withholding the collection of outstanding property tax for such seniors or retirees, until after the sale of the property or demise of the owner.
- 2. Ms Hazel Poa: To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what is the size and number of plots of land that will be reverting to JTC upon lease expiry before 2030; (b) what proportion of this land is located in HDB towns; (c) whether JTC works with other agencies such as HDB to reassess land uses upon lease expiry; (d) whether JTC-managed land in HDB towns can be re-zoned for residential use; and (e) if not, why not.
- 3. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) how much industrial space in JTC-managed land located in HDB towns have been vacant for one year or more; and (b) what are the plans to deal with these vacancies.
- 4. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry in view of the vacancy rate for business parks reaching the highest level in 14 years (a) whether there are any plans by JTC to reduce the vacancy rate of its business parks; (b) whether the Government has any plans to relax the business park zoning rules to reduce the vacancy rate for business parks and encourage better utilisation of land zoned for business parks; and (c) if not, why not.
- 5. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what are the lessons that can be learnt from the recent food poisoning incident involving Ready-to-Eat meals distributed during Total Defence Day; and (b) whether measures will be considered to promote food safety practices in schools, businesses and other community partners during Total Defence Day activities.

- 6. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Health whether an update can be provided on the progress of the building of hostel-like accommodation for foreign healthcare workers.
- 7. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether an update can be provided on the timeline for the publishing of the Southern Islands Biodiversity Survey report.
- 8. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for National Development whether the Ministry will consider expanding Project ADORE to allow adopters to own up to two adopted dogs per HDB unit on a case-by-case basis, subject to suitability assessments by NParks and Animal Welfare Group partners.
- **9. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether an update can be provided on the two-year pilot programme to expand the scope of the Household Services Scheme (HSS) to include basic child-minding and elder-minding services; and (b) whether there are plans to make the expansion of the scope of HSS permanent.
- **10. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether the Ministry will consider requiring that employers provide the mandatory itemised pay slips to employees covered by the Employment Act in electronic form; and (b) if not, why not.
- **11. Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether he can provide a breakdown, by sector, of foreign worker levy (FWL) amounts collected in each year of the last five years.
- 12. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Transport in respect of the new policy to bar companies from selling private-hire cars to individuals for three years after registration (a) whether the Ministry can elaborate on the key factors for determining that the three-year period is optimal for the policy; and (b) what assessments have been conducted to evaluate the impact of the new policy on the private-hire industry and individual car ownership trends.
- 13. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry has assessed if the policy on requiring private-hire car companies to keep their private-hire cars for three years will lead to increase in cost for the companies and private-hire drivers; (b) if so, whether there are measures to (i) address the impact of a potential cost increase for private-hire drivers leasing vehicles and (ii) protect drivers from the financial burdens arising from the new policy.
- 14. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) in which industries has the Ministry seen the most companies transitioning the transportation of their workers from lorries to buses; and (b) what are the factors that enable these industries to do so.