

**FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE
(SECOND SESSION)**

**ORDER PAPER
TUESDAY, 8 APRIL 2025**

No. 162

11.30 am

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry has received appeals from Singaporeans for help and subsidies to pay medical fees for their non-Singaporean relatives or foreign spouses in the past five years and, if so, how many such cases there have been; and (b) whether the Ministry can work with ICA to consider implementing a policy requiring such foreign relatives or spouses visiting Singapore on long term visit pass to purchase medical insurance during their visit.
- *2. Ms Sylvia Lim:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the citizen-level subsidies for maternity fees accorded to foreign mothers giving birth to Singapore citizens apply to all items incurred during a typical maternity hospitalisation or only to specified items; (b) if only for specified items, what are the specific items; and (c) whether a review will be done to equalise or reduce the disparity in the total bill size for all foreign mothers giving birth to Singapore citizens.
- *3. Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how many cases of complex water seepage cases has the Housing and Development Board (HDB) received on a weekly basis in the past 12 months; and (b) what is the current staff strength and number of engineers within HDB who are responsible for assisting with rectification of complex water seepage issues.
- *4. Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what is the current expected operating timeline for Housing and Development Board (HDB) engineers to respond and conduct joint visits to residents' homes to get accurate diagnosis of complex water seepage cases; and (b) what measures or technological enhancements will HDB be adopting to enhance the capability and capacity of its engineers to work more effectively with Town Councils to resolve these cases.
- *5. Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether there has been a surge in the number of reported external water seepage incidents that occur in HDB flats during the recent March monsoon raining season; and (b) whether HDB is monitoring and rendering assistance to the Town Councils that are attending to such cases.
- *6. Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether there is an update on the implementation of the improved diagnosis methods using better scanning technology to accurately pinpoint the root causes of external wall seepages; (b) if so, what are the results of the initial trials conducted by HDB; and (c) whether implementation of the improved methods can be expedited to help Town Councils rectify external wall seepage cases.

- *7. Mr Mark Lee:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) how does MAS ensure that financial technology platforms and non-bank financial institutions offering high-yield investment products maintain sufficient liquidity and manage fund withdrawal risks; (b) whether MAS is considering additional safeguards to enhance consumer protection for retail investors engaging with such platforms, given recent liquidity challenges faced by fintech firms; and (c) what measures are in place to ensure that the public fully understands the risks of using financial services from non-bank entities, particularly fintech platforms offering investment-linked products.
- *8. Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) what steps is MAS taking to ensure financial institutions and fintech companies (FIFCs) provide clear, accurate and timely communication regarding changes to their products and services; (b) what measures are in place to encourage FIFCs to adopt responsible marketing strategies, avoid overpromising on returns or benefits and avoid offering overly attractive promotional offers to customers; and (c) how does MAS ensure that fintech companies adhere to the same standards of risk management and consumer communications as banks.
- *9. Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) how many bus passenger fatalities have there been in each year of the past 10 years; (b) what are the main causes of the fatalities; (c) whether the recent death of an 80-year-old man who lost his balance and fell on board an SBS Transit bus will expedite the planned implementation of the Bus Safety Tripartite Taskforce's recommendations; and (d) what other measures are being considered to ensure the safety of our elderly on public buses.
- *10. Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) how many instances of fire have been reported at indoor and multi-storey carparks in each of the last five years; (b) what are the common causes of these fires; and (c) what are the measures put in place to ensure such fires are tackled and contained in a timely manner.
- *11. Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance in view of the developments leading to a temporary suspension of immediate fund withdrawals in March 2025 by a financial services platform (a) whether MAS is reviewing the safeguards in place to ensure that non-licensed individuals do not provide financial advice and influence the public with opinions on licensed financial institutions; and (b) whether there has been an increase in complaints against non-licensed individuals and financial influencers given this recent incident.
- *12. Ms Yeo Wan Ling:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs what social support and assistance for seeking legal recourse is accessible to incarcerated Singaporeans to help a member of their family or dependant in need of community assistance, legal intervention or intervention from Government agencies.
- *13. Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Manpower in light of the high occupancy rates and recent closures of purpose-built dormitories, what is the Ministry's long-term strategy to ensure sufficient and resilient housing for foreign workers.
- *14. Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what are the challenges faced by (i) inmates with dementia during their incarceration and (ii) prisons in managing and accommodating such inmates; (b) how are these challenges being addressed; and (c) what measures and initiatives are available during imprisonment and after the release of such inmates to (i) support them in their reintegration into society and (ii) assist their families in the process, with the aim of reducing the risk of re-offending.

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- *15. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Manpower what are the Ministry's plans to review and enhance safety measures in the marine sector, in view of the increase in workplace fatalities in the sector in 2024.
- *16. **Mr Darryl David:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) how often are the durations of the Green Man crossing times at pedestrian crossings reviewed; and (b) what are the factors that determine if there is sufficient time for the young, the elderly and those with ambulatory issues to cross the road safely.
- *17. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Law (a) whether the Ministry can provide assistance to claimants to seek recourse from retailers who ignore and refuse to comply with the enforcement order of the Small Claims Tribunal (SCT); and (b) whether the SCT has the means to carry out enforcement actions.
- *18. **Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) whether he can clarify the rationale for excluding Singapore Real Estate Investment Trusts (S-REITs) from the new rules under the "family office option" of the Global Investor Programme, which require new applicants to allocate at least \$50 million of their assets under management to equities listed on approved Singapore exchanges; and (b) whether there are any future plans to review this exclusion.
- *19. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what proportion of SCDF's frontline firefighting force consists of full-time National Servicemen (NSFs) as opposed to regular personnel; (b) what assessments have been made regarding the long-term feasibility of transitioning frontline firefighting roles to a fully professional force; and (c) whether the Ministry has considered the risks associated with deploying NSFs in firefighting roles, given the demanding physical and operational requirements of the job.
- *20. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the Government has a target date by which legislation to revise penalties for animal cruelty and failure to fulfil duty of care will be introduced; and (b) whether the Government actively enforces the Code of Animal Welfare (for the Pet Industry) and collates data on non-compliance with the Code.
- *21. **Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether the levy for a migrant domestic worker can be reduced to \$60 for the hiring of the first migrant domestic worker for all households with at least one Singapore citizen as a measure to reduce cost for households.
- *22. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development in each year for the past five years (a) how many appeals has the Ministry received from divorced parents with shared care and control of their child for both parents to each list their child in their application for public housing; (b) how many appeals have been granted; (c) whether any of the rejected appeals have been due to the parents abusing the system to obtain subsidised public housing; and (d) if so, how many such cases are there.
- *23. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether the funding provided by the National Council of Social Service for "The Next Step" programme to help sex workers find alternative career pathways has helped the programme achieve its goals; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider providing increased and longer-term funding for the programme.

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- *24. Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what are Singapore's current regulations on power banks carried by passengers on airlines departing from and arriving at Changi Airport; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider restricting the use of power banks during flights and banning them from being stored in the overhead cabins
- *25. Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) how will the Government reimagine a "Let's Have One" campaign to promote growth in birth rate in a manner similar to the "Stop at Two" family planning campaign launched in 1972 to moderate population growth then; and (b) what lessons can be learnt from the "Stop at Two" campaign to make the "Let's Have One" campaign as successful for reversing the downward trend in total fertility rate.
- *26. Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance what is the rationale behind the cessation of the Government's share of matching support for the Tote Board's Enhanced Fund-Raising Programme in FY2027.
- *27. Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Law (a) what is the current number of Singaporeans who have registered their wills with the Singapore Academy of Law; and (b) how the Government can further encourage more Singaporeans to make their wills.
- *28. Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Manpower what are the Ministry's plans to expand surveillance and preventive efforts to address work-related musculoskeletal disorders, in view that they are the second highest type of occupational disease cases reported in each year from 2022 to 2024.
- *29. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether a status update can be provided on LTA's enhanced first and last mile connectivity plans to extend covered linkways to within an 800m radius of MRT stations including the current projected number of additional high and low covered linkways which will be built in the next five years under the expanded scope of the plans.
- *30. Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether the Ministry is considering measures, beyond the current certification schemes, to further support the use of low-formaldehyde building materials; (b) how does the Ministry plan to enhance consumer awareness and education regarding low-formaldehyde building materials; and (c) whether the Ministry is taking measures to address emissions of other harmful volatile organic compounds (VOCs) from interior building materials.
- *31. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) what is the total demand for the current Single Room Shared Facilities (SRSF) pilot; (b) whether the Government has plans to launch further SRSF sites in the next five years; and (c) what is the target number of beds to be made available under the SRSF model in the next five years.
- *32. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what long-term strategies is the Government implementing to ensure healthcare cost containment, beyond annual premium adjustments and fee controls; (b) whether Singapore has studied international best practices in medical cost control, especially where they relate to new medical technologies; and (c) how does the Government plan to balance medical innovation and patient outcomes with cost sustainability.

- *33. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry has assessed the extent to which unnecessary medical tests, procedures or prescriptions contribute to rising hospital bill sizes; (b) what measures are in place to prevent over-servicing by healthcare providers; and (c) whether patient cost-sharing mechanisms can be enhanced to deter excessive consumption of medical services.
- *34. Mr Gan Thiam Poh:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the Government has any data on HDB flat owners selling their flats to pay personal debts and thereafter proceeding to obtain a loan from HDB to buy another HDB flat or filing an application for a HDB rental flat; and (b) if so, how many of such cases are there in the last five years.
- *35. Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance what is the Government's assessment of the need to continue with the Non-Constituency Member of Parliament scheme in view of the greater availability of social media platforms and other media sources for Singaporeans to express their views either in support of or against Government policies.
- *36. Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) whether SportSG will extend the Sport-in-Precinct scheme to HDB estates managed by opposition Town Councils; and (b) what is the typical budget allocated for each project.
- *37. Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) what plans does Singapore have to deal with potential increases in defence budgets; and (b) what plans does the Government have to balance future budgets to accommodate significantly increased defence spending without increasing the contribution from our reserves or by increasing direct and indirect taxes.
- *38. Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) on what basis is the figure for the projected ultimate dwelling units in the HDB Annual Report 2019/2020 increased to 1.61 million in the HDB 2023/2024 Annual Report; (b) what is the overall population size the Government anticipates in parallel with this increase in the number of projected ultimate dwelling units; and (c) based on the current URA Masterplan, what is the maximum number of projected ultimate dwelling units that can be accommodated across Singapore.
- *39. Mr Darryl David:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether an update can be provided on the plans to install lifts at pedestrian overhead bridges (POBs) under the Land Transport Master Plan 2040; and (b) what is the approximate cost of installing lifts at POBs.
- *40. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) what specific standards of corporate governance are imposed on Family Offices (FOs) seeking tax incentives under the fund tax incentive schemes for FOs; (b) whether MAS requires such entities to implement robust fraud prevention mechanisms, third-party audits, and whistleblower protections; (c) what percentage of these FOs have been subjected to intensive supervision or compliance review in the past three years; and (d) why are these FOs not required to undertake mandatory risk assessments for fraud vulnerabilities.
- *41. Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) how is the Ministry currently evaluating school principals' performance; (b) what are the key performance indicators (KPIs) that principals are expected to meet; and (c) when was the performance evaluation framework for school principals last reviewed and how have the KPIs changed or shifted in recent years.

- *42. Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng:** To ask the Minister for Health whether there is a seamless transfer of patients and their health records from the National Healthcare Group hospitals to SingHealth Group entities such as the National Cancer Centre.
- *43. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in view of the breach of ceasefire and the resumption of military strikes in Gaza (a) whether the Government's plans to deliver humanitarian aid assistance and to deploy medical teams to provide further medical assistance to people in Gaza will be affected; and (b) what can Singapore do, whether through diplomatic channels or otherwise, to convince the relevant parties to resume ceasefire negotiations and ensure the protection of civilians.
- *44. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) in view of the destruction of hospitals in Gaza caused by Israeli strikes after the recent resumption of hostilities, how effective will Singapore's medical support teams render assistance in situ; (b) whether Singapore can step up its medical assistance in any way; and (c) whether transporting Palestinian civilians who require more complex medical procedures to Singapore's medical facilities for treatment is a viable alternative.
- *45. Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether there have been recent exchanges at the leaders', ministerial or officials' levels between Singapore and Israel on the recent resumption of hostilities in Gaza; (b) what is the Ministry's assessment of the impact of the resumption of hostilities on the previously agreed ceasefire; and (c) whether Singapore plans to bilaterally, or in concert with our partners in ASEAN, the Middle East, and beyond, engage the parties involved in the conflict towards a permanent ceasefire.
- *46. Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs whether he can provide an update on (i) recent discussions in ASEAN and the UN on the resumption of hostilities in Gaza and (ii) Singapore's efforts in multilateral fora towards a reduction or cessation of hostilities in Gaza.
- *47. Mr Mark Lee:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) what is the annual average number of doctor visits per worker under the Primary Care Plan (PCP); (b) how do the utilisation trends compare with the initial assumptions that are used to determine pricing for employers under the PCP; and (c) what feedback has the Ministry received from employers and workers regarding the affordability and effectiveness of the PCP.
- *48. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance with regard to the Nominated Member of Parliament (NMP) scheme (a) whether there are plans to further safeguard public confidence in its non-partisan nature; and (b) whether the Government will consider a cooling-off period before NMPs can run for elected office, especially on a partisan platform.
- *49. Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for National Development what are the considerations to determine the number of lifts serving a HDB residential block of flats.
- *50. Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether the Ministry will consider requiring (i) local vehicle owners to service their vehicles at selected authorised workshops in Singapore and (ii) foreign vehicles to submit proof of vehicle roadworthiness from selected authorised foreign workshops as part of their periodic vehicle inspection regime, in view of the recurring incidents of vehicle fires and other problems related to roadworthiness.

- *51. Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance in view of the escalation in credit card debt, whether the Government plans to (i) impose more responsibility on financial institutions to promote prudent borrowing and (ii) implement stricter guidelines on credit issuance by financial institutions.
- *52. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether HDB tracks how many couples applying for their first HDB flat are ineligible for both the Enhanced CPF Housing Grant and the deferred income assessment scheme because one partner has not worked continuously for 12 months and the other is not in full-time studies or National Service; and (b) what targeted assistance is provided for such couples.
- *53. Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether there is a need to lay down detailed rules and procedures that must be followed before a preschool allows a victim of suspected child abuse to be withdrawn by the child's parent or guardian; and (b) whether the existing monitoring and whistleblowing avenues are adequate to protect young children from domestic abuse.
- *54. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) in ECDA's oversight and monitoring of preschools for signs of neglect and abuse in children, what measures are in place to ensure staff report suspected child abuse directly to the authorities regardless of internal escalation protocols; and (b) what additional training and support can be provided to ensure staff can confidently identify and act on early warning signs.
- *55. Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether licensees must follow up or alert the authorities in suspected cases of child abuse under the ECDA Code of Practice on mandatory reporting of child abuse, when a child is subsequently or suddenly withdrawn from school, particularly in cases where there may have been concerns about the child's well-being; and (b) whether training requirements are updated to ensure that staff are equipped to identify signs of abuse and are aware of their legal obligations to report such cases.
- *56. Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Minister for National Development in view of the regular feedback on otter cases received by NParks each month since 2022, what are NParks' further plans for managing otters that have moved into residential areas and are destroying fishes in residential homes.
- *57. Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether he can provide an update on the number of Singaporeans who have completed their Lasting Power of Attorney (LPA) to date; and (b) how can the Ministry further encourage more Singaporeans to make their LPA.
- *58. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry has reviewed its policies on the human papillomavirus (HPV) vaccination; (b) if so, whether the Ministry will (i) raise more public awareness about HPV amongst men and (ii) promote HPV vaccination to include men; and (c) whether the subsidy for HPV vaccination under the National Childhood Immunisation Schedule (NCIS) can be extended to males given that HPV affects both sexes.
- *59. Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance given the mandatory requirement under the Employment Act for employers with at least 10 employees who have retrenched any employee to submit Mandatory Retrenchment Notification to the Ministry of Manpower, whether such data can be shared with the Inland Revenue Authority of Singapore to consider automatically granting income tax deferral for the retrenched employees.

- *60. Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether all HDB leaseholders who purchase a part-share of their flat from their ex-spouse in accordance with the terms of a divorce judgment are automatically subject to a new five-year minimum occupation period (MOP); (b) if so, what is the rationale for this policy; (c) in each of the last five years, how many requests have been made to waive such new MOP period; and (d) how many of these requests have been granted.
- *61. Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) in the last two years, how many reports have been received by the Ministry where defects in vehicles on lease or hire purchase agreements were discovered within six months but belatedly reported; (b) how many cases involved vendors buying back defective vehicles and selling them at a price significantly above the buyback amount; and (c) whether there is evidence of such practices becoming an emerging business model to extract disproportionate amounts of profits from uninformed purchasers.
- *62. Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) how many reports were received by the Ministry in 2023 and 2024 of hire purchase firms allowing buybacks of cars sold with undisclosed defects, under express or implied assurances that penalties for contractual breaches will be waived, but which then levy such penalties on hirers and their guarantors; and (b) what assistance is available for hirers of limited means in such situations.
- *63. Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry in view of the on-going ceasefire talks between Russia and Ukraine, what plans does the Government have to position Singapore-based companies to take advantage of the emerging opportunities for the redevelopment of these two countries at the end of the war.
- *64. Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether the Government will consider accepting the recommendations in the recent Report on the Transportation of Migrant Workers on Lorries by the Humanitarian Organisation for Migration Economics to (i) remove the exception under section 126(1)(a) of the Road Traffic Act with implementation timelines of 18 months for larger firms and 36 months for smaller firms (ii) provide transport subsidies for firms to adjust to the change and (iii) work with industry partners to operationalise bus transport for migrant workers.
- *65. Ms Usha Chandradas:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) whether the Ministry tracks the number of K-pop training academies operating in Singapore and, if so, what is the current number; and (b) whether the National Arts Council has any concerns about the rigour and intensity of the training curriculum at such academies and, if so, whether there are plans to monitor the well-being of their trainees.
- *66. Ms Denise Phua Lay Peng:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry whether the Anchor Operator partnership model in the pre-school sector can be considered for partners in other sectors for the purposes of moderating the cost of living and enhancing supply chain security of food and essential items.
- *67. Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether LTA has observed an increase in vehicular accidents or traffic congestion issues along the expressways travelling towards Woodgrove division during the monsoon surge that the Meteorological Service Singapore forecasted from 19 March to 21 March 2025.

- *68. Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether SkillsFuture Credits can be used to cover the costs of sitting for qualifying examinations to be a registered patent agent; (b) if so, to what extent can SkillsFuture Credits be used to cover such costs; (c) if not, whether the Ministry will consider working with The Intellectual Property Office of Singapore to see if SkillsFuture Credits can be used to cover such costs.
- *69. Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether the Government will consider using a portion of revenue collected from the foreign worker levies to seed a fund dedicated to improving the safety and wellbeing of migrant workers.
- *70. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether the Ministry will consider expanding the pilot project mandating the sterilisation and licensing of dogs on Pulau Ubin to industrial areas on mainland Singapore such as Lim Chu Kang, Neo Tiew estate and Sungei Kadut.
- *71. Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) how does the Ministry ensure that export controls extend beyond direct exports to cover third-party transshipment risks; and (b) how does the Ministry assess whether current safeguards are sufficient to prevent the diversion of restricted goods to countries targeted by export controls.
- *72. Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) how does MAS ensure that bank employees with access to clients' credit card and Card Verification Value numbers, do not abuse the clients' trust and sell such data to scammers or cause scammers to gain access to them; (b) what is the punishment for employees who commit such offences; and (c) what are MAS' requirements on banks to conduct audits to uncover potential risks and offences.
- *73. Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth in respect of the Ministry's and Singapore Tourism Board's marketing plans to promote Singapore as a culinary capital, whether the Government is also planning to have Singapore recognised as a United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation's (UNESCO's) City of Gastronomy as the country's gastronomy scenes have met most of the criteria set by UNESCO.
- *74. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what are the considerations for the police to release an accused on bail again even if the accused is alleged to have committed similar offences while on bail; and (b) what are the considerations for issuing conditional warnings to an accused who had previously breached such conditional warnings or reoffended after the lapse of such conditional warnings.
- *75. Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) has been consulted on any plan for the relocation of The Schoolhouse that is currently sited at the premises of The Grassroots' Club in Ang Mo Kio; (b) if so, whether the timelines for such relocation comply with the ECDA Code of Practice; and (c) whether ECDA has any plan to support affected children, teachers and parents.

* 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 STATEMENTS**1. Prime Minister and Minister for Finance:**

US Tariffs and Implications.

2. Minister for Home Affairs:

The Government's Position on the Presumptions under the Misuse of Drugs Act.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Social Residential Homes Bill [Bill No. 6/2025] – (Minister for Social and Family Development) – Second Reading.
 2. Anti-Money Laundering and Other Matters (Estate Agents and Developers) Bill [Bill No. 7/2025] – (Minister for National Development) – Second Reading.
 3. Competition (Amendment) Bill [Bill No. 5/2025] – (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry) – Second Reading.
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MEMORANDUM

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

Assoc Prof Razwana Begum : Understanding and Responding to Intimate Partner Violence in
Abdul Rahim Singapore.
(Nominated Member)

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance whether the Government assesses a need to introduce stricter advertising guidelines for Buy Now, Pay Later (BNPL) schemes similar to the regulations for advertisement on gambling or high-risk financial products in view that BNPL providers heavily market their services on social media and often using influencers to promote instalment payments on discretionary spending such as fashion, travel, and entertainment to young consumers who may be particularly susceptible to these psychological nudges.
2. **Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance what further policy initiatives can the Government introduce to enhance public understanding and support for immigration as a strategic imperative for Singapore's sustained economic growth and national security.
3. **Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance in the past five years (a) how many individuals have applied for a longer instalment plan to pay their income taxes; and (b) what percentage of these applications have been approved.

4. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what are the Singapore Tourism Board's (STB) efforts to support local businesses in the entertainment and nightlife sectors in rejuvenating Singapore as an attraction hub; and (b) how can STB enhance its outreach to attract high-profile concerts and cultural performers in various languages catering to Singapore's diverse communities and tourists.
5. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what is the projected cost per tonne of carbon dioxide (CO₂) abated through carbon capture and storage (CCS) in Singapore, including infrastructure, operational and transport costs; (b) how does this compare to the projected cost of transporting and storing CO₂ in Indonesia under the proposed bilateral arrangement; and (c) how do these costs compare to alternative decarbonisation strategies such as renewables and energy efficiency.
6. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry whether the Government will consider establishing a formal body or mechanism to (i) protect the interests of micro and small enterprises and (ii) mediate or provide advice to assist micro and small enterprises on any potential disputes with larger suppliers such as e-commerce platforms.
7. **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) what are the implications of the resumption of Israeli military strikes in Gaza on Singapore's provision of humanitarian aid including food and supplies to those in need in Gaza; and (b) what are the safety considerations for deployment of Singaporean medical personnel to countries near Gaza.
8. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in view of the resumption of hostilities in Gaza, how will Singapore's ongoing and planned humanitarian assistance, including the delivery of aid and deployment of medical support teams, be adapted to ensure (i) the safety of our personnel and (ii) the effective provision of aid under these volatile conditions.
9. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs in view of the resumption of hostilities in Gaza, what role can Singapore play, alongside international partners, in (i) advocating for the protection of civilians (ii) adhering to international humanitarian law and (iii) supporting post-conflict recovery efforts for affected communities in Gaza.
10. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) what assessment has ASEAN made of the current status of the civil war in Myanmar; and (b) whether there are plans to enhance assistance, including humanitarian assistance, pursuant to Article 33 of the ASEAN Human Rights Declaration to alleviate the suffering of civilians displaced by ongoing violence.
11. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) how is Singapore cooperating with ASEAN partners to combat the growing threat of labour trafficking and scam centres in Southeast Asia; and (b) whether there are plans to strengthen enforcement capabilities to better protect vulnerable groups of persons from exploitation.
12. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs since 2023, how many Singaporeans have been exploited by or caught up in labour trafficking scams in the region.

13. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in light of the increase in accidents involving motorcyclists in 2024 based on Singapore Police Force's recent Annual Road Traffic Situation report (a) how many of such accidents, in terms of percentage, involve foreign registered motorcycles; and (b) what measures can the Ministry take to raise awareness of safe riding techniques or habits among foreign motorcyclists, whether on its own or in concert with foreign counterparts.
14. **Ms Sylvia Lim:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs for the past two years, how many Singapore citizens were born in Singapore to foreign mothers who were (i) Permanent Residents (ii) holders of the Long Term Visit Pass Plus (iii) holders of the Long Term Visit Pass and (iv) of other immigration statuses, respectively.
15. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether an update can be provided on the Ministry's efforts to curb illegal e-sports betting in Singapore.
16. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in view of the low take-up rate for the installation of speed limiters on lorries, whether the Traffic Police will consider working with LTA to facilitate the concurrent installation of speed limiters when lorries are sent to workshops for the installation of the ERP 2.0 system, to improve the early installation of speed limiters on lorries.
17. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Law (a) whether the Singapore Land Authority has renewed the tenancy agreements for 26 and 31 Ridout Road in 2024; and (b) if so, what are the terms of the renewal and how do the rental rates compare with other black-and-white bungalow rental transactions in the Ridout Road estate in 2024.
18. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Law (a) since July 2023, whether any further renovation or construction work has been done at 26 and 31 Ridout Road with any part of the costs borne by the Singapore Land Authority; (b) if so, how much is the cost borne by SLA; and (c) whether any trees with more than one-metre girth have been felled.
19. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Law (a) what is the average duration between discovery of corporate misappropriation exceeding \$5 million and the securing of worldwide freezing orders; (b) whether the Government is concerned that the current civil procedure timeline allows sophisticated actors to dissipate assets; (c) what specific measures have been implemented to expedite ex-parte freezing applications involving cross-border transactions; and (d) whether the Ministry will introduce legislative amendments to lower the evidentiary threshold for proprietary injunctions in cases involving prima facie financial fraud.
20. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment whether the list of eligible products for purchase using the Climate Vouchers can be expanded to include (i) air-conditioning servicing (ii) energy efficient de-humidifiers and (iii) energy efficient clothes dryers.
21. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether the Ministry has plans to expand the list of eligible products that can be purchased utilising the Climate Vouchers; and (b) whether other energy efficient items such as clothes dryers can be included.

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22. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether private companies or eatery chains can operate multiple hawker stalls under the same name across different hawker centres managed by NEA or socially-conscious enterprise hawker centre operators; and (b) if so, whether the policy on hawker stalls being required to be operated personally by the hawkers themselves is applicable to such companies or chains.
23. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Education in view of the rising proportion of fresh university graduates who are not in full-time permanent employment (a) whether the Ministry will monitor different graduate cohorts for longer periods to track the proportion that has secured full-time permanent employment; and (b) if not, why not.
24. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Education how many teachers have sought counselling services in FY2022 and FY2023, as broken down by (i) the Ministry's in-house counselling services and (ii) the whole-of-Government's counselling hotline, respectively.
25. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) what is the current proportion of university graduates among Malays who are aged (i) 25 years and over and (ii) 25 to 34 years; (b) how do these figures compare with figures for the Chinese and Indian communities; (c) whether the Ministry can provide data on university graduation rates by ethnicity across cohorts in each of the last five years; and (d) what more can be done to increase the number of Malays graduating from universities.
26. **Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether foster parents can tap on the Child Development Account of their foster children to pay for their childcare fees; (b) if not, what is the rationale for not allowing this; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider adjusting the childcare fees for foster children to the more subsidised rate that the foster children's birth parents would have paid based on the birth parents' income tier.
27. **Mr Pritam Singh:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development for each year from 2022 to 2024, how many Comcare Short-to-Medium Term Assistance households have a per capita income of above \$800.
28. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development with regard to the death of a 4-year-old child in February 2020 from child abuse, why the staff, at the pre-school which the victim was attending in 2019, did not report the bruises they noticed on the child in accordance with the Early Childhood Development Centres Regulations, and instead alerted the child's mother and her mother's boyfriend that any abuse will referred to the Ministry of Social and Family Development, such that the child was withdrawn from pre-school.
29. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development what is the number of single-parent families in 2024, 2019, 2014, 2009 and 2004 in terms of (i) absolute number as well as (ii) percentage of all families.
30. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development how does the Ministry provide support to kindergarten children with possible developmental needs when their parents decline to allow their children to be assessed by a paediatrician to determine the level of Early Intervention support they may require.

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31. **Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs (a) whether the Ministry has data on Warees Halal Limited's yearly (i) revenue (ii) expenses and (iii) income from 2020 to 2024; and (b) whether Warees Halal Limited's yearly income is being set aside as reserves, placed into Baitulmal or other channels for community uses.
32. **Mr Muhamad Faisal Abdul Manap:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development and Minister-in-charge of Muslim Affairs (a) to date, how many applications under the Asatizah Recognition Scheme (ARS) have been withdrawn or cancelled since the scheme was established; (b) what are the reasons for such cancellations; (c) whether the Ministry has data on the number of Asatizahs under the ARS that are (i) Sunni and (ii) Shia Muslims respectively; and (d) if so, how many.
33. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry will consider lifting the age cap of the Matched MediSave Scheme for individuals aged 71 and above, as long as these individuals continue contributing part of their income from work to their MediSave accounts; and (b) if not, why not.
34. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Health in view of the recent misinformation circulating on social media regarding ElderShield and CareShield Life (a) what further steps will the Ministry take to strengthen public education and address misinformation about national insurance schemes, particularly among seniors who may be more vulnerable to such messages; and (b) whether there are plans to enhance communication channels to provide timely and accessible clarifications to counter misinformation swiftly.
35. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Health since the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Healthcare Services Act (a) how many reports of alleged breaches of the advertising controls under the Act have been received by the Ministry; (b) of these, how many have been referred to the relevant authorities for further action including prosecution; and (c) what percentage of these are for practitioners in the mental health space.
36. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) since 2022, how many complaints have been received by the Ministry about the clinical services provided by mental health professionals; (b) what are the main concerns reported; and (c) what steps will be taken to educate the public on avenues for advice and support should they have issues about services rendered by mental health professionals.
37. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information what measures are being considered to streamline the overall experience for digital Government services in Singapore, in light of the number of apps pertaining to Government digital services available today, which may be difficult for seniors and the less digitally-savvy to navigate.
38. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) what targeted strategies has the Ministry considered to mitigate the glamorisation of criminal activities online, in view of the rise of the "post-and-boast" culture on social media platforms; and (b) whether there are plans to collaborate with social media companies to address this issue.
39. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for National Development with regard to HDB carpark gantries (a) what is the frequency of repair for these gantries; (b) what are the most common problems with these gantries; and (c) what measures will HDB implement to improve on their quality and reliability.

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40. **Mr Liang Eng Hwa:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether HDB monitors the serviceability of HDB carpark gantries; and (b) whether the reliability and serviceability of gantries at HDB carparks can be further improved.
41. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the HDB has received any feedback on areas of improvement for the Joint Singles Scheme Operator-Run pilot; and (b) if so, what feedback has been received.
42. **Mr Lim Biow Chuan:** To ask the Minister for National Development whether an update can be provided on the redevelopment plans for the retained HDB flats at Dakota Crescent.
43. **Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) in each of the last five years, what is the number of HDB resale transactions that were excluded from HDB's public InfoWEB and data.gov.sg platforms; (b) why were these transactions excluded; and (c) why were 127 resale transactions of SERS replacement flats with less than five years' occupancy between April 2022 and December 2024 excluded from the HDB's public InfoWEB and data.gov.sg platforms when these same transactions were included in the Resale Price Index calculations.
44. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth whether it is the People's Association or its Grassroots Advisers that decide which community club is assigned to a constituency if no community club exists within the boundaries of that constituency.
45. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Manpower in respect of migrant workers whose contracts have been terminated prematurely because of redundancy (a) since 2021, for the food and beverage sector and other sectors, what proportion of the affected workers have been employed afresh by a different employer without a break in stay in Singapore; and (b) how does the Ministry facilitate placement as well as the provision of support services to such involuntarily unemployed migrant workers, in particular sectors with high churn of businesses.
46. **Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) in addition to existing mentorship initiatives, what further plans are in place to promote and support workplace mentorship across different industries in Singapore; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider developing a national framework for mentorship that builds upon current programmes to encourage experienced employees to guide younger employees and help bridge skills gaps in an increasingly complex job market.
47. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for Manpower following the removal of the maximum employment period and increased age limit for work permit holders, what plans does the Ministry have to meet the healthcare needs of older work permit holders in light of this new policy shift.
48. **Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan:** To ask the Minister for Manpower besides the recently announced Alliance for Action to better integrate foreign professionals into Singapore's workplaces and communities, whether the Ministry will consider developing and implementing a mandatory Settling-in Programme catered to foreign PMETs to help them better integrate locally and understand local social norms.
49. **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Manpower whether he can provide an update in addressing bus driver needs in Singapore with additional foreign worker quotas.

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50. **Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether more leave days can be mandated for technical workers in the lift and escalator industry for them to attend relevant training or work-related courses; and (b) in the past three years, how many cases has the Ministry received from lift and escalator technical workers on (i) being compelled to utilise their annual leave days to attend training or courses and (ii) attending training or courses outside normal working hours without fair compensation.
51. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether the Ministry has data on the proportion of resident and migrant workforce who perform night shift or rotating shift work since 2021; (b) if so, what proportions of such workers are impacted by Shift Work Sleep Disorder (SWSD); (c) whether the Ministry has recourse for an employer's lack of prevention measures to protect such workers from SWSD; and (d) whether the Ministry will consider tracking and intervening where poor workplace practices leading to SWSD are found.
52. **Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) what percentage of the 56,000 job seekers placed by Workforce Singapore (WSG) in 2024 secured employment through direct job-matching efforts facilitated by WSG and its partners, as opposed to finding their jobs independently; (b) what proportion of job seekers assisted by WSG or its partners secure employment within six months of receiving career-matching services; and (c) what specific key performance indicators does WSG use to evaluate the effectiveness of career coaches in helping job seekers secure job placements.
53. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA monitors the noise level of LRT track maintenance along all LRT systems; (b) if so, whether LTA will share the average noise level during maintenance operations; and (c) whether LTA will consider building noise barriers, whether permanent or temporary, to alleviate any disruptive noise levels during LRT maintenance periods.
54. **Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA monitors the noise level of LRT travelling along all LRT systems; (b) if so, whether LTA will share the average noise level for passing trains; and (c) whether LTA will consider building permanent noise barriers to alleviate disruptive noise from passing LRT trains on nearby residential blocks.
55. **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Transport what is the estimated distribution of the costs for developing Changi Airport Terminal 5 and supporting infrastructure in Changi East between (i) the Government (ii) passengers (iii) airlines and (iv) Changi Airport Group.
56. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether the Ministry will consider requiring vehicles to be fitted with mandatory speed limiters similar to the recent initiative implemented in the European Union and Northern Ireland.
57. **Ms See Jinli Jean:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry will study the state of battery degradation in electric taxis and private-hire vehicles (PHVs) and the impact on the adoption of electric vehicles in the point-to-point transport sector as part of the Singapore Green Plan 2030; (b) whether early adopters of electric taxis and PHVs since 2021 have reported significant battery degradation after three years of standard use; and (c) if so, whether additional support can be provided to them.

- 58. Ms Sylvia Lim:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) which precisely are the four pedestrian overhead bridges along Hougang Avenue 3 that the Ministry had in 2023 indicated will be given priority for the installation of passenger lifts; and (b) whether there is an update on the time frame for the installation works.
- 59. Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what collaborative efforts has the Ministry undertaken with taxi operators to ensure that street-hail taxi services remain a viable option for seniors; and (b) whether Ministry is aware of any incentives or support systems in place to encourage taxi drivers to continue offering street-hail services for seniors.
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