

STATEMENT BY SPEAKER IN THE CHAMBER

SITTING OF 8 MARCH 2022, TUESDAY

Honourable Members,

I wish to confirm in this House that the Guillotine Time for the debate on the Ministry of Manpower was Monday, 7 March 2022 at 12.40 pm, as all of you are aware.

2 The GTs were made pursuant to Standing Order 92(7)(a) which states that:

“The Speaker shall fix the time on any allotted day at which the consideration of any head of expenditure shall, if not previously disposed of, be concluded. If the time so fixed is reached before the head concerned is disposed of, the Chairman shall **forthwith** put every question necessary to dispose of that head.”

3 Members were all informed before the commencement of COS of the total time allocated to the debate for each Ministry, and the start and end times of the debates. Members were also informed that if the discussion of a head of expenditure is concluded before the GT stated, the head next following will be entered into straightaway.

4 Members were informed of the GTs for MOM last week, on Thursday 3 March 2022, through Notice Paper No. B003 of 2022 and this information was published in the Daily Working Paper for Monday, 7 March 2022. 30.5 minutes were allocated for clarifications, but I allowed the clarifications to continue for 48 minutes till the Guillotine Time of 12.40 pm. There were no time savings for the debate on MOM based on the Guillotine Times.

5 10 MPs made clarifications, including 4 Opposition Members, Mr Louis Chua, Mr Gerald Giam, Assoc Prof Jamus Lim and Mr Pritam Singh and 1 NMP, Mr Abdul Samad. So, 5 Government MPs and 5 Non-government MPs.

6 Mr Leong was not the only MP who could not ask a clarification at the end of MOM’s debate. There were other MPs who raised their hands to speak including Mr Edward Chia, Mr Louis Ng, Ms Janet Ang, Mr Melvin Yong, Mr Leon Perera, Ms Yeo Wan Ling.

7 I wish to emphasise that under Standing Order 92(7)(a), the Chair is under the duty to end the debate when the Guillotine Time for that Ministry is reached. As the Chair of the Committee of Supply, I will continue to ensure that the proceedings in the COS is undertaken in a fair and orderly manner.
