

FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

FIRST SESSION

ORDER PAPER

THURSDAY, 10 MARCH 2022

No. 58

10.30 am

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. **Mr Darryl David:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether he can provide an update on the number of lifts installed at pedestrian overhead bridges across Singapore in 2021; (b) how does this number compare to the number of lifts installed in 2019 and 2020; and (c) what is the projected annual number of lifts that will be installed at pedestrian overhead bridges for the next three years.
- *2. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how many cases of stray animal abuse in the community are reported in the past three years; (b) whether the numbers are rising each year; (c) what are the common types of abuse and most common types of animals affected; and (d) what is the Ministry's approach towards deterring abuse of stray animals.
- *3. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Prime Minister whether the Government will (i) study the doubling of paternity leave by several multinational companies in Singapore to examine the effect on employability, productivity, and family relationships of the employees in these companies and (ii) consider doubling the paternity leave for all fathers.
- *4. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Health given the commitment to strengthen the Singaporean core in the nursing profession, whether the Government will review the total compensation of Singaporean nurses to bring it more in line with nursing wages in developed countries.

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- *5. Dr Lim Wee Kiak:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry (a) what is the Ministry doing to ensure that increases in petrol prices is not profiteering; and (b) whether oil companies can claim a rise in crude oil prices as the basis for raising petrol prices just one day after war broke out in Ukraine on 24 February 2022.
- *6. Ms Carrie Tan:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how is the space allocation for heavy vehicle parking lots calculated and decided for each town; (b) how often is this reviewed to ensure that there are sufficient lots to meet residents' needs; and (c) whether the Ministry of Manpower and the companies in sectors that employ lorry drivers are included in the review process to shift heavy vehicle parking lots away from HDB housing estates.
- *7. Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what is the Government's modelling for the expected hospital bed occupancy rates over the next five years; (b) what is the hospital bed occupancy rate it considers a safe upper limit; and (c) how does the Government derive this figure.
- *8. Mr Darryl David:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry whether the Ministry has plans to help small and medium enterprises which may be adversely affected by significantly increased fuel and energy costs due to the conflict in Ukraine.
- *9. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development whether the Ministry will consider providing support to improve the sick bay facilities in all preschools to allow preschools to keep sick children until the end of the school day.
- *10. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) to date, whether any action has been brought under section 43 of the Environmental Public Health Act in respect of cases of secondhand smoke drifting from a person's home into a public corridor or public area; and (b) if not, why not.

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- *11. Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) in the past five years, what is the annual number of applications received under the financial schemes of the Community Development Councils; (b) what is the mean and median processing times of such assistance; (c) what is the mean and median cash amounts of such assistance; and (d) what is the success rate of such assistance.

* 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.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Estimates for the financial year 1 April 2022 to 31 March 2023 (Paper Cmd. 12 of 2022) – Committee of Supply (Progress: 9 March 2022) (7th Allotted Day).

Resumption of Debate on Question (9 March 2022)

“That the total sum to be allocated for Head I of the Estimates be reduced by \$100.” – (Mr Seah Kian Peng).

[For amendments to be moved in the Committee of Supply, see Supplement No. 11 dated 2 March 2022.]

2. Supply Bill [Bill No. 8/2022] – (Minister for Finance) – Second Reading
 3. Second Supplementary Supply (FY 2021) Bill [Bill No. 9/2022] – (Minister for Finance) – Second Reading
 4. COVID-19 (Temporary Measures) (Amendment) Bill [Bill No. 7/2022] – (Minister for Health) – Second Reading.
 5. Gambling Control Bill [Bill No. 6/2022] – (Minister for Home Affairs) – Second Reading.
 6. Gambling Regulatory Authority of Singapore Bill [Bill No. 5/2022] – (Minister for Home Affairs) – Second Reading.
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QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the Government will study the possibility of a pilot exercise to allow ex-offenders to obtain a security officer licence under strict rules that are made transparent.
2. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether the Ministry systematically tracks the time between (i) a prison inmate lodging a medical complaint and receiving medical attention and (ii) an inmate seeking emergency medical attention and receiving such attention; and (b) what procedures are in place to ensure that inmates who seek medical attention and emergency medical attention get attended to promptly.
3. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Education for each year in the past five years, how many teachers resigned in their first, second, third, fourth, fifth, sixth, seventh, eighth, ninth and tenth year of service respectively.
4. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what are the factors the Ministry considers in deciding whether a new Family Service Centre (FSC) should be set up to serve a given geographical area; and (b) what is the maximum number of equivalent dwelling units a FSC is expected to serve within a given geographical area.
5. **Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development as more children and teachers in pre-schools are infected with COVID-19 due to the Omicron variant and the emergence of Omicron sub-variant BA.2 overseas (a) whether there will be a central pool of relief for manpower under the Early Childhood Development Agency (ECDA) that can provide help to affected pre-schools to tide through; and (b) how is the mental wellness of the pre-school teachers being monitored given the increased workload to manage the rise in infection.
6. **Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development with regard to parents securing a place for their newly diagnosed special needs children in a government-funded Early Intervention Programme for Infants and Children run by charitable social service agencies (a) whether there is any change in the average waiting time of six months for enrolment; and (b) what is the difference in the average waiting time and out-of-pocket fees when these parents opt for the Enhanced Pilot for Private Intervention Providers instead.

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7. **Ms Ng Ling Ling:** To ask the Minister for Health in view of the continued surge of COVID-19 infections due to the Omicron variant and the emergence of Omicron sub-variant BA.2 overseas (a) whether the Ministry has data on the increase in daily volume of patient visits to the polyclinics and the Public Health Preparedness Clinics in the past month; (b) if so, what is the data; (c) what is the expected volume for the next three months; and (d) what relief for manpower can these clinics tap on when short-handed.
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