

# FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

## SECOND SESSION

SINGAPORE, 9TH JANUARY, 1957

No. 17

10.00 a.m.

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### QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- \*1. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Chief Minister the reasons for his proposal that the Governor-General for Singapore may be appointed from the Federation of Malaya.
- \*2. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare if he will make a statement on the present-day situation on unemployment in Singapore; and what was the number of unemployed persons in Singapore as at 31st December, 1956.
- \*3. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will take steps to introduce a Bill in this session to provide for radical amendments to the Banishment Ordinance.
- \*4. Mr. LEE KUAN YEW: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he is aware that commercial advertisement of British companies has been distributed by the Information Services and to state on whose authority such distribution was made.
- \*5. Mr. DAVID MARSHALL: To ask the Financial Secretary what is the total cost to Singapore of the Royal Malayan Navy since its inception and up to the latest period for which figures are available, in respect of:
  - (a) Land and Buildings;
  - (b) Vessels and Equipment;
  - (c) Personal emoluments, including passages, and pensions;
  - (d) Other expenses.
- \*6. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing if he will make a statement on the progress in the establishment of a Housing Authority to replace the Singapore Improvement Trust.
- \*7. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing when can S.I.T. tenants expect a reduction of rentals as promised by the Minister early last year.
- \*8. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware that the Singapore Improvement Trust has built on War Department lands houses now occupied by Army personnel, and to state on whose authority, out of what funds, and the terms on which such houses were built.
- \*9. Mr. R. JUMABHOY: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing what steps, so far, have been taken to alleviate flooding in the Telok Ayer Division (Circular Road, Boat Quay, Market Street, Robinson Road) since my question on this subject in July 1955.

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- \*10. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing—
- (a) why have the agricultural roads in Ama Keng Resettlement not been made up yet;
  - (b) when will he issue titles to the settlers in Ama Keng Resettlement.
- \*11. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing—
- (a) the exact number of low-cost housing units built in the Colony in 1956;
  - (b) how many low-cost buildings are to be constructed in Singapore during 1957.
- \*12. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Education—
- (a) what does he propose to do with the nearly 9,000 children who will not get places in the English-language schools in 1957;
  - (b) how many children of school-age of both sexes are there who cannot get places in the Chinese-language schools in 1957.
- \*13. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works when will *Kuoyu* (Chinese language) be accepted for driving tests.
- \*14. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works if he will consider accepting Tamil for driving tests.
- \*15. Mr. GOH TONG LIANG: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether he has any plans for supplying electricity and telephones to the remoter parts of the rural areas; and to state in what areas and by what dates such services will be available.
- \*16. Mr. LEE CHOON ENG: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry what steps have been taken to check the increase in the prices of essential foodstuffs and other commodities, apart from warnings in the Press.
- \*17. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry—
- (a) whether he is aware of any attempt by foreign or local industrialists to start secondary industries in the Colony in the near future; and
  - (b) whether he will make a statement on the Government's invitation to local and foreign capital to establish secondary industries in the Colony.
- \*18. Mr. SEAH PENG CHUAN: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry what steps the Government has taken to save small industries from peril because of the new taxation policy of the Federation Government.
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## AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

### Presentation of Government Bills

1. The Minister for Commerce and Industry—  
Seamen's Registry Board Bill.
2. The Minister for Commerce and Industry—  
Merchant Shipping (Amendment) Bill.

3. The Minister for Commerce and Industry—  
Light Dues Bill.
4. The Chief Secretary—  
Census (Amendment) Bill.
5. The Minister for Education—  
Education Bill.
6. The Attorney-General—  
Civil Law (Amendment) Bill.
- \*\*7. The Attorney-General—  
City Councillors Indemnity and Validating Bill.
- \*\*8. The Attorney-General—  
Municipal (Amendment) Bill.

### Motion for the Introduction of Bill

Mr. DAVID S. MARSHALL ((Member for Cairnhill) to move—

That leave be granted to introduce a Bill to amend section 12 of the Civil Law Ordinance (Chapter 24 of the Revised Edition).

### ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

*(Those marked ● are Orders of the Day.)*

- 1. Final Supply (1955) Bill—Second Reading.†  
*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*
- 2. Singapore Improvement (Amendment No. 2) Bill—Second Reading.†
- 3. Singapore Industrial Promotion Board Bill—Second Reading.†  
*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*
- 4. The Financial Secretary to move—  
That this Assembly, pursuant to subsection (1) of section 106 of the Income Tax Ordinance (Chapter 166), resolves that the Government of the State of Brunei be added to the First Schedule to the said Ordinance.
- 5. The Financial Secretary to move—  
*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*  
That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$540,291 shall be supplied to the Government under the heads of expenditure and for the services specified in the Schedule contained in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 2 of 1957.
- 6. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing to move—  
That this Assembly in accordance with subsection (1) of section 25 of the Singapore Improvement Ordinance (Cap. 259) approves of the borrowing by the Singapore Improvement Trust from the Government of the sum of \$44,737,000 at an interest rate of 5½ per cent per annum repayable over a period of 60 years, the repayments to be made by half

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yearly instalments based on the annuity method and together with repayments of previous loans to be secured by a legal mortgage of all the immovable properties belonging to and to which the Trust holds legal title and by an equitable charge of all the immovable properties belonging to and to which the Trust holds equitable title for the purposes of enabling the Trust to meet the cost of constructing buildings required for carrying out the purposes of the Singapore Improvement Ordinance.

7. The Financial Secretary to move—

*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified.)*

That this Assembly approves of the loan by the Government to the Singapore Improvement Trust of the sum of \$44,737,000 at an interest rate of  $5\frac{1}{4}$  per cent per annum repayable over a period of 60 years, the repayments to be made by half yearly instalments based on the annuity method and together with repayments of previous loans to be secured by a legal mortgage of all the immovable properties belonging to and to which the Trust holds legal title and by an equitable charge of all the immovable properties belonging to and to which the Trust holds equitable title for the purposes of enabling the Trust to meet the cost of constructing buildings required for carrying out the purposes of the Singapore Improvement Ordinance.

8. Mr. R. Jumabhoy (Member for Telok Ayer) to move—

That this House is of the opinion that Government's trading in rice and/or stockpiling of rice should be abolished; and that trading in rice should be free.

9. Mr. Lee Kuan Yew (Member for Tanjong Pagar) to move—

That this House is of the opinion that legislation be introduced to protect workers whose interests may be adversely affected by the dissolution of their unions.

10. Mr. Lee Kuan Yew (Member for Tanjong Pagar) to move—

That this House supports the principle of profit-sharing between employer and employees and urges Malayan Airways Limited to share 15 per cent of their accumulated net-profits with their workers at the end of their 10-year franchise.

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### †NOTICES RELATING TO ORDERS OF THE DAY

†Subject to these Bills passing their Second Reading, the Ministers in charge will move their Committee Stage and Third Reading.

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### \*\*MEMORANDUM

\*\*The Attorney-General proposes, on a Certificate of Urgency under Standing Order 59, to proceed with these Bills throughout all their stages until the Bills have been read the third time.

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**QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER**

1. Mr. R. JUMABHOY: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will state the profit or loss made by the Government on rice trading or stockpiling for 1953, 1954, 1955, and for the period 1st January, 1956, to 31st October, 1956.
  2. Mr. R. JUMABHOY: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry—
    - (a) What is the average tonnage of rice kept by the Government as a stockpile for the years 1955 and 1956;
    - (b) What is the system of purchasing rice for the stockpile;
    - (c) To state the handling charges, godown rent, insurance and other incidental expenses per ton of rice.
  3. Mr. R. JUMABHOY: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will state—
    - (a) The monthly imports of rice from Pakistan and India into Singapore for October, November and December, 1955, and January, February and March 1956;
    - (b) The names of the importers in respect of (a) above;
    - (c) How much of such rice was bought direct and imported by the regular importers of rice in Singapore, and how much of it was bought by local Indian merchants for resale to regular importers.
  4. Mr. R. JUMABHOY: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry what is the average monthly consumption of rice in Singapore for the period January 1955 to November 1956.
  5. Mr. R. JUMABHOY: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether any rice has been re-exported or transhipped from Singapore during the period July 1955 to June 1956; and to state the quantities, destinations and countries of origin of the rice so re-exported or transhipped.
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**SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED**

1956	<i>Date presented</i>
Cmd. 67. Annual Report of the Singapore Prisons, 1955 ... ..	10th December, 1956.
Cmd. 68. Report on the Department of Chemistry and Inspectorate of Dangerous and Hazardous Materials, 1955 ...	18th December, 1956.
Cmd. 69. Report of the Administration of the Office of the Commissioner for Malaya in the United Kingdom for the year 1955 ...	22nd December, 1956.
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Cmd. 2. Schedule of Applications for Supplementary Provision for which the approval of the Legislative Assembly is sought ...	2nd January, 1957.
Cmd. 1. White Paper on Flood Prevention ...	4th January, 1957.

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- Cmd. 3. The Main Drainage of the Catchments of the Bukit Timah and Stamford Canals 4th January, 1957.
- Cmd. 4. The Drainage of the Catchments of the Singapore River and Sungei Ulu Pandan 4th January, 1957.
- Cmd. 5. Report of the Committee on Minimum Standards of Livelihood ... .. 5th January, 1957.
- Cmd. 6. White Paper on Housing Subsidy Policy ... 5th January, 1957.
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- S. 1. Report on the Singapore Post Office Savings Bank for the year 1955 ... .. 4th January, 1957.
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- S.L. 38. The Traffic Signs (Size, Colour and Type) (Amendment) Rules, 1956 ... 18th December, 1956.
- S.L. 39. The Motor Vehicles (Driving Licences) (Amendment No. 2) Rules, 1956 ... 3rd January, 1957.
- S.L. 40. The Rural Board (Amendment) Notification, 1956 ... .. 5th January, 1957.
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- S.L. 1. Arms and Explosives (Movement Control) (Amendment) Rules, 1956 ... 7th January, 1957.
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*Date Ordered to be printed*

- L.A. 15. Fifth Report from the Committee of Selection (Second Session) ... .. 13th December, 1956.
- L.A. 16. First Report from the Public Accounts Committee (Second Session) ... 21st December, 1956.
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