No. 18

10.00 a.m.

SINGAPORE, 9TH NOVEMBER, 1955

65

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Chief Minister if and when the Singapore Legislative Assembly Elections Ordinance, 1954, (No. 26 of 1954) will be amended.
- *2. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Chief Minister if he will make a statement explaining the economic and agricultural development of Singapore proposed by Government; and the scope and extent of external aid which it has been promised or is expected to receive financially and materially through the Colombo Plan in pursuit of such developments.
- *3. Mr. John Ede: To ask the Chief Secretary whether the Government has any plans formulated to encourage the tourist industry in Singapore; and whether it is intended to set up a Travel Association or similar organisation for this purpose.
- *4. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Financial Secretary if he will state the amount of money spent out of the public funds to provide transport facilities to school children and others due to the strikes in the Singapore Traction Company for the following periods:—
 - (a) from the day the strike began to the 12th October, 1955; and
 - (b) from 13th October to 6th November, 1955.
- *5. Mr. John Ede: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether he will consider lifting the 30 m.p.h. speed restriction on the dual carriageway sections of Bukit Timah Road and imposing it on other sections.
- *6. Mr. John Ede: To ask the Minister for Education whether the Government school building programme of 23 primary schools and one secondary school due for completion in 1955 is up to schedule.
- *7. Mr. John Ede: To ask the Minister for Education (i) whether the work of construction of all six secondary schools approved in the 1955 Estimates has commenced; (ii) how many students each school will accommodate; and (iii) the approximate date for the completion of these schools.
- *8. Mr. John Ede: To ask the Minister for Education (i) how many students in Government primary schools are applying for entry into Government secondary schools in January 1956; (ii) how many students can, in fact, be selected for entry to such schools because of limited accommodation; (iii) whether he is satisfied with the present method of selection; and (iv) what plans the Government have in mind to give further education to those students unable to obtain entry.
- *9. Mr. Goh Tong Liang: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing with regard to the resettlement of displaced squatters—
 - (a) how many areas, occupied and/or available, are there now in Singapore;
 - (b) where are they situated and the acreage of each area;
 - (c) what class of squatters is entitled to allotment:

- (d) how many acres does one family get;
- (e) what is the annual rent per acre or for the lot; and
- (f) what are the terms and conditions of occupation.
- *10. Mr. Goh Tong Liang: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware that the road system in the Ama Keng Resettlement Area is not adequate; and whether he will take steps to construct more roads there.
- *11. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing how many houses built by the Singapore Improvement Trust have separate dining rooms.
- *12. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he will take steps to amend the Municipal Ordinance so as to empower the City Council to forgo assessment rates on land and buildings used for the Singapore Improvement Trust housing schemes, in order that the monthly rental of all Singapore Improvement Trust houses can be reduced and brought within the earning capacity of the middle and poorer classes of the community.
- *13. Mr. John Ede: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing how many families it is planned to move from the Queenstown area to prepared plots at (a) Jurong and (b) Tampenis; how many have already moved to these plots; and whether he is aware that any reluctance to move is largely due to the compensation being offered.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Presentation of Government Bill

The Financial Secretary—

Estate Duty (Increase of Rates) Bill.

ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

- 1. Appropriation Bill—Second Reading. (Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified).
- 2. Bankruptcy (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.
- 3. Companies (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.
- 4. The Financial Secretary to move—

(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified)

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$5,640,872 should be supplied to the Government under the Heads of Expenditure and for the services specified in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 27 of 1955.

5. The Minister for Commerce and Industry to move—

That this Assembly, in accordance with subsection (2) of section 1 of the Control of Imports and Exports Ordinance, 1950 (No. 43 of 1950) resolves that the aforesaid Ordinance shall continue in force for a further period of one year commencing on the 8th of December, 1955.

OUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER

1. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Education (a) how many students are there at present in Singapore between the ages of 6 and 12; how many children, who have reached the school age, are unable to gain

admission through lack of school accommodation next year; and (b) how many students have applied for entry into Form II; the number which can actually be accepted with the present school accommodation; and whether the Government have any plans for those not admitted into Form II.

2. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare whether he is aware of the difficulties and hardships encountered by the old and sick persons in having to call personally at the Social Welfare Department for collection of their reliefs; and whether any arrangements can be made to facilitate such collections of reliefs.

SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED

1955

Cmd. 28. The Draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, 1956 (7th November, 1955).