



# LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SINGAPORE, 29TH JUNE, 1955

No. 6

10.00 a.m.

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## Administration of Oath.

Mr. ALFRED ARTHUR WILLIAMS, O.B.E., Chief Secretary (*Acting*).

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### QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- \*1. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Chief Minister what action has been taken up to date to secure the services of an Economic Adviser to the Government and to appoint an Economic Commission.
- \*2. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Chief Minister what consultations have taken place between himself and the Australian Government representatives on the subject of sending Australian troops to Singapore; and whether he will make a statement on the subject, as far as the interests of the people of Singapore are concerned.
- \*3. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Commerce and Industry whether he will state what plans the Government has in view for the carrying out of its declared aim of attracting private capital from both local and overseas investors for the purpose of expanding trade and industry, and of raising the standard of living of all the people of Singapore.
- \*4. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works what progress has been made up to date in regard to the construction of the proposed Post Office at Jalan Kayu.
- \*5. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether, in view of the development of the Thomson Road area between the 4th and 8th milestones, the Government have plans for building a Post Office in the area; where is the building intended to be situated; and when is it likely to be open to the public.
- \*6. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether he is aware that the people living in Thomson Road (between the 4th and 8th milestones) and Yio Chu Kang Road (between the 6th and 11th milestones) do not have public telephone facilities; and whether he will take immediate steps to see that adequate public telephone service is available in those areas.
- \*7. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works if he will state the Government's policy on Nationalisation of Singapore's Road Transport, with particular reference to the Singapore Traction Company whose Charter expires in June 1955.
- \*8. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether, in view of the declared policy of the Government, viz., the unification of Singapore and the Federation of Malaya, and of the belief of the Government in Socialism, the Government intends to bring the internal Airways system under public ownership; and whether this matter will be brought up for consideration by the Federation of Malaya Government and the Joint Co-ordination Committee at an early date.

- \*9. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether, in view of the increased convenience of the travelling public that will result from the efficient running of an Internal Island-wide Train Service, Government will consider instituting an enquiry into the desirability and practicability of such a service in Singapore, the initial step being a shuttle service between Johore Bahru and Clifford Pier.
- \*10. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Education whether, in view of the declared policy of the Government to afford equal treatment for all schools and all teachers, Government school teachers will be permitted to contest the forthcoming City and Island Council Elections; and whether women teachers in all schools will be paid the same salary and allowances as their counterpart male teachers.
- \*11. Inche MOHAMED SIDIK BIN H. A. HAMID: To ask the Minister for Health if he will state what the policy of the Government is regarding the Family Planning Association.
- \*12. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare what action has been taken on the representations made to him in regard to increased Government aid to those people who have either lost, or suffered damage to, their homes, chicken pens, pig sties and cattlesheds as a result of the hailstorm which occurred on 9th April, 1955, at Kampong Cheng San and Kampong Jalan Hwi Yoh.

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## AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

### Notices of Introduction of Bills

1. The Minister for Commerce and Industry—  
Rubber Shipping and Packing Control (Amendment) Bill.
  2. The Minister for Communications and Works—  
School Crossing Patrols Bill.
  3. The Minister for Labour and Welfare—  
Central Provident Fund (Amendment No. 2) Bill.
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## ORDERS OF THE DAY AND NOTICES OF MOTIONS

1. Labour Bill—Second Reading.
2. Interpretation and General Clauses (Amendment) Bill—Second Reading.
3. The Financial Secretary to move—  
That this Assembly, in accordance with section 343 of the Municipal Ordinance (Chapter 133) sanctions the raising of a loan of \$30 million by the City Council for the purposes stated and under the conditions specified in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 6 of 1955.
4. The Financial Secretary to move—  
*(Governor's recommendation or consent to be signified)*

That this Assembly resolves that the scales of the special tax leviable under section 16 (2) of the Customs Ordinance, 1955, on traction engines and motor cars which are equipped with engines

using heavy oil or diesel oil as fuel or fitted with producer gas attachments shall be with effect from the date of the coming into force of that Ordinance the scales set out in the Schedule hereto:—

#### SCHEDULE

(a) For every motor car constructed for the conveyance of passengers (other than a hackney carriage)—twice the amount of the computed annual licence fee prescribed for a motor vehicle of the same class or description under section 45 of the Road Traffic Ordinance, 1941.

*per annum*  
\$

(b) For every hackney carriage—  
for each passenger up to 20 for which the vehicle is licensed ... .. 36  
for each additional passenger in excess of 20 ... .. 24

(c) For every traction engine—  
weight unladen  
Not exceeding 30 cwts. ... .. 360  
Exceeding 30 cwts. but not exceeding 40 cwts. 600  
Exceeding 40 cwts. but not exceeding 50 cwts. 720  
Exceeding 50 cwts. but not exceeding 60 cwts. 960  
Exceeding 60 cwts. but not exceeding 70 cwts. 1,040  
Exceeding 70 cwts. but not exceeding 90 cwts. 1,280  
Exceeding 90 cwts. but not exceeding 100 cwts. 1,440  
Exceeding 100 cwts. but not exceeding 110 cwts. 1,580  
For each additional 10 cwts. or part of 10 cwts. in excess of 110 cwts. ... .. 240

Provided that the tax leviable on road rollers shall be one half of the above rates.

5. The Financial Secretary to move—

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

That this Assembly resolves that the sum of \$17,320,223 should be supplied to the Government under the Heads of Expenditure and for the services specified in Sessional Paper No. Cmd. 5 of 1955.

6. The Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing to move—

That this Assembly, in accordance with subsection (2) of section 30 of the Registration of Deeds Ordinance (Chapter 121), resolves that the Registration of Deeds (Amendment) Rules, 1955, made by the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing on the 28th day of May, 1955, and published as Notification No. S 157 in the *Gazette* Supplement No. 42 of 3rd June, 1955, as contained in Sessional Paper No. S.L. 15 of 1955, be approved.

7. The Chief Minister to move—

That the Standing Orders Committee do consider and report on any amendments to the Standing Orders of the Legislative Assembly which the Committee may deem necessary.

8. Mr. LIM CHOON MONG (Member for Serangoon) to move—

(a) That Standing Order 22 (3) be amended by the deletion of the words "one clear day's notice" in the third line thereof and the substitution thereof of the words "five clear days' notice".

(b) That Standing Order 44 (2) be amended by the deletion of the words "one day's" in the first line thereof and the substitution thereof of the words "five clear days".

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**NOTICE RELATING TO ORDERS OF THE DAY.****1. Labour Bill—**

The Minister for Labour and Welfare will move the following amendments to the Bill in Committee:—

Clause 37, page 14, line 37, leave out “147” and insert “145”.

Clause 42, page 15, line 26, leave out “forty-eight” and insert “forty-four”.

Clause 42, page 15, line 41, leave out “forty-eight” and insert “forty-four”.

Clause 42, page 16, line 9, leave out “forty-eight” and insert “forty-four”.

Clause 42, page 16, lines 18 and 19, leave out “three hundred and thirteen” and insert “two hundred and eighty-seven”.

Clause 44, page 17, line 1, leave out “forty-eight” and insert “forty-four”.

Clause 44, page 17, line 3, leave out “forty-eight” and insert “forty-four”.

Clause 44, page 17, line 11, leave out “forty-eight” and insert “forty-four”.

Clause 54, page 19, line 24, leave out “147” and insert “145”.

Clause 110, page 30, line 23, leave out “of subsection (1)”.

Clause 146, page 39, line 36, leave out “(2)” and insert “(1)”.

Clause 170, page 49, line 1, leave out “(1)”.

Clause 171, page 50, line 16, leave out “laid before” and insert “presented to”.

Clause 171, page 50, lines 19 and 20, leave out “meeting at which they were first laid upon the table”, and insert “date on which they were so presented”.

Schedule A, page 51, item (viii), leave out “August Bank Holiday” and insert “Wesak Day”.

**2. Interpretation and General Clauses (Amendment) Bill—**

Subject to the Bill passing its Second Reading, the Attorney-General will move the Committee stage and the Third Reading.

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**MEMORANDUM.**

Central Provident Fund (Amendment No. 2) Bill—The Minister for Labour and Welfare proposes to proceed with the Bill throughout all its stages until the Bill is read the third time on a Certificate of Urgency under Standing Order 59.

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**QUESTIONS NOT FOR ORAL ANSWER**

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1. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will consider a review of the salaries and schemes of service in operation for personnel of the Royal Malayan Navy, with a view to eliminating the present disparity in salaries and schemes of service as between the personnel of the Royal Malayan Navy and the Singapore Police Force.
2. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will consider paying Housing Allowance to married personnel of the Royal Malayan Navy for the period they remain without accommodation provided by the Royal Malayan Navy, in keeping with similar practice in other Government Departments.
3. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he is aware that dissatisfaction exists among Malayan Royal Navy personnel; and whether he will (i) approve the establishment of a civilian advisory board to assist the relevant authorities with a view to reviewing the Royal Malayan Navy regulations dealing with personnel, welfare and conditions of service; and (ii) consider the employment of a capable professional interpreter not only to interpret in cases of personnel charged with offences, but also to convey to the relevant authorities any complaints or representations the personnel might wish to make, in the interest of better relations between personnel and their superior officers.
4. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will take steps to eliminate discrimination between personnel of the Royal Malayan Navy and members of the other Armed Services in the matter of canteen facilities by providing N.A.A.F.I. canteen facilities for personnel of the Royal Malayan Navy.
5. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Chief Secretary whether he will consider the provision of transport for personnel of the Royal Malayan Navy to and from their places of duty.
6. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Chief Secretary whether consideration can be given to the granting of loans to the personnel of the Royal Malayan Navy for the purpose of building their own private houses.
7. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Chief Secretary whether the Government will take early steps to promote and operate television in the same way as broadcasting is by Radio Malaya of Singapore; or whether the Government will allow private enterprise to establish such a service.
8. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Financial Secretary whether he is aware that drinkers of toddy, who under the existing law have to consume their toddy on the premises of the Government shops, have to do so squatting on the floor or in the open in the sun; and whether he will have immediate steps taken to have seats and shade provided at such shops.
9. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Minister for Communications and Works whether he is aware of the fact that there is no through road from Henderson Road to the entrance at Moh Guan Terrace in Kampong Tiong Bahru, so that it is impossible for the Police, fire engines or ambulances to get to the scene of any emergency breaking out in this area without considerable delay; and when will he take steps to construct such a road.
10. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Health whether he is aware that substantial and rapid increase of the residents in the Changi ward, particularly in the new settlement area at the 10th milestone, has taken place; and whether he will consider establishing medical and maternity clinics in the area.

11. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Minister for Health what amount of subsidy or contribution, if any, is being granted from public funds to the Admiralty for the running of the Asian Hospital, H.M. Naval Base.
12. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Minister for Health whether he is aware that there is widespread discontent among the workers of the Naval Base over the manner in which the Asian Hospital of the Naval Base is being run; and when will the demand by the Naval Base Labour Union on the Management of the Dockyard, for the appointment of a civilian doctor, be granted.
13. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Minister for Health whether he is aware that large areas in Kampong Tiong Bahru are without anti-malarial drains; and whether he will examine the matter and consider the early construction of such drains in such areas.
14. Mr. WILLIAM TAN: To ask the Minister for Health whether he is aware that Kampong Tiong Bahru, around the area where the anti-malarial and monsoon drains meet, is always flooded during rainy seasons; and whether he will take immediate steps to prevent such flooding.
15. Mr. JOHN EDE: To ask the Minister for Labour and Welfare whether he is will supply the following information regarding the admission from China of wives of Singapore residents,
  - (a) the number of applications (i) approved and (ii) rejected during (i) 1953, (ii) 1954 and (iii) the first five months of 1955;
  - (b) the number of applications still outstanding which were first lodged during (i) July–December 1952, (ii) January–June 1953, (iii) July–December 1953 and (iv) January–June 1954;further whether he is aware of the grave mental hardship being caused to families whose applications are only approved after periods of as much as two years or more, and what steps he will take to remedy this unsatisfactory situation.
16. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether any plans are being considered for the extension of the supply of electricity at the 14½ mile, Changi; and whether he is in a position to state when supplies will become available.
17. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing when will steps be taken to secure the extension of water supply to the Chai Chee Village, Changi.
18. Mr. LIM CHER KHENG: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing what schemes have been planned for development in Pulau Tekong; whether Kampong Serabian is included in these schemes; and what effect they will have on the residents therein.
19. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing what is the exact acreage of the Crown Land in the Khatib area of the Sembawang Division at present vested or held by the Admiralty; and what acreage will be used in the near future by the Admiralty.
20. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware that eviction orders have been given to a large number of inhabitants on the Bukit Sembawang Rubber Estate in the Sembawang rural area; and whether he will consider measures to provide assistance and alternative accommodation for the persons displaced as a result of such eviction orders.

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21. Inche AHMAD BIN IBRAHIM: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware of the urgent need for Public Telephones and for increased numbers of water stand-pipes in the villages of Sembawang rural area; and what steps he proposes to take in this matter.
  22. Mr. M. P. D. NAIR: To ask the Minister for Local Government, Lands and Housing whether he is aware of the real need for a market in the Thomson Road area (between 5th and 8th milestones); and whether he will take the necessary steps to build a public market in that area.
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#### SESSIONAL PRINTED PAPERS PRESENTED

1955

- Cmd. 4. Report of the Public Services Commission for the year 1954 (16th June, 1955).
- Cmd. 5. Schedule of Applications for Supplementary Provision approved under Authority delegated by the Legislative Assembly (25th June, 1955).
- Cmd. 7. Annual Report of the Commissioner of Lands and Registrar of Deeds 1954 (25th June, 1955).
- Cmd. 6. Issue of \$30,000,000 Singapore City Council 4% Debenture Stock, 1955 (27th June, 1955).

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- L.A. 3. Certificate (Burning of Ballot Papers) under S.O. 1 (10) (1st June, 1955).
  - L.A. 4. Minutes of Proceedings of the House Committee, 6th June, 1955 (11th June, 1955).

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- S.L. 16. Immigration (Amendment) Regulations, 1954 (18th June, 1955).
  - S.L. 17. Immigration (Amendment) Regulations, 1955 (18th June, 1955).
  - S.L. 18. Road Traffic (Passengers in Goods Vehicles) (Permits and Fees) Rules, 1955 (20th June, 1955).
  - S.L. 19. Carriage of Passengers in Goods Vehicles Exemption Notification, 1955 (20th June, 1955).
  - S.L. 22. Customs (Duties) Order, 1955 (20th June, 1955).
  - S.L. 20. Liquors Licensing Regulations, 1955 (23rd June, 1955).
  - S.L. 21. Customs Regulations, 1955 (23rd June, 1955).
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