

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

SECOND SESSION

ORDER PAPER

TUESDAY, 3 MARCH 2020

No. 123

10.00 am

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QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- *1. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information what are the considerations used to decide whether and, in what way, to deploy print, TV or radio advertising to raise awareness of specific Government policies or programmes.
 - *2. **Mr Leon Perera:** To ask the Minister for Communications and Information whether the Government plays a role in determining or influencing the determination of senior management appointments in local mainstream media organisations, namely, Mediacorp and Singapore Press Holdings and, if so, what is that role.
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ORDER OF THE DAY

- 1. Estimates for the financial year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 (Paper Cmd. 24 of 2020) – Committee of Supply (Progress: 2 March 2020) (3rd Allotted Day).

Resumption of Debate on Question (2 March 2020)

“That the total sum to be allocated for Head V of the Estimates be reduced by \$100.” – (Mr Liang Eng Hwa).

[For amendments to be moved in the Committee of Supply, see Supplement No. 23 dated 28 February 2020.]

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Prime Minister whether the Ministry will consider requiring all Ministries to produce a climate compliance certificate explaining how their budgets and operations will comply with Singapore's climate commitments prior to budget approval.
2. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) in the last three years, how many (i) emergency calls and (ii) 999 calls were received by the SCDF and Police respectively that are related to suicides and mental health conditions; (b) how many of these calls were false alarms; (c) what is the average and total number of hours spent by these frontline officers supporting people with mental health difficulties; (d) how are frontline officers trained to conduct psychological or other appropriate interventions; (e) how many persons attempting suicide were (i) able to receive timely support from emergency services and (ii) not able to receive such support and died by suicide before emergency services could reach them; and (f) why it is not feasible to adopt a specialised mental health ambulance or emergency response team.
3. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for Health in each of last three years, how many students were admitted to the Institute of Mental Health or other public hospitals for (i) mental health conditions and (ii) attempted suicides.
4. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Trade and Industry what set of criteria does EMA use when assessing an electricity retailer's application to pass on additional costs, arising from the carbon tax, to consumers.
5. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development in relation to the proposed designs submitted for the future NS Square (a) whether water points and sunshades for large audiences have been incorporated into the proposed redesign; and (b) if not, whether the Ministry will ensure that these facilities are incorporated into the final redesign.
6. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources given that the official recycling rate for plastic in 2019 was 4% (a) what is the breakdown between plastic waste generated by households, as compared to plastic waste generated by commercial and industrial sectors; and (b) what percentage of plastic, by volume, remains after incineration and is left on Semakau Island.

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7. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for the Environment and Water Resources given that Singapore incinerates over 90% of its plastic waste (a) how is air quality coming out of the flue monitored; (b) whether there is a testing for a broad range of toxins and, if so, which toxins are tested for; and (c) whether the results of the air quality tests done at the end of the incineration plant flues be published in order to give comfort and shed light on the safety and health impact of this process.
 8. **Ms Anthea Ong:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether salaries have risen or fallen for work permit holders since (i) 1990 (ii) 2000 and (iii) 2019, and by how much; and (b) how much have industries that rely mostly on work permit holders seen a rise or decline in their profits since (i) 1990 (ii) 2000 and (iii) 2019.
 9. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) for each year of the past five years, how many applications have been received from current or former work permit holders to marry Singapore citizens or permanent residents; (b) of these, how many applications have been rejected; (c) what are the top three reasons for rejecting such an application; and (d) what are the considerations in determining whether an application is to be approved.
 10. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development whether the Ministry will consider allowing Government-Paid Paternity Leave (GPPL) to be taken in shorter durations such as half-days or hours.
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