FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE

FIRST SESSION

ORDER PAPER

THURSDAY, 15 OCTOBER 2020

No. 10

12 noon

1

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS*

- *1. Dr Wan Rizal: To ask the Minister for Manpower whether the Ministry will consider normalising work-from-home arrangements in the post-pandemic period and advocate among companies for more flexibility in work arrangements beyond the current crisis.
- *2. Mr Gan Thiam Poh: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the existing immigration policy to keep the existing racial proportions remains unchanged.
- ***3. Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance in light of the current contraction of the global and Singapore's economies leading to an expected fall in Government revenue (a) whether there will be any delay or cancellation of the local major infrastructural investments that the Government has committed to date and, if so, what are the details; and (b) whether the Government anticipates increased borrowings or issuance of bonds to fund the infrastructural investments on projects that it is committed to complete.
- *4. Mr Gan Thiam Poh: To ask the Minister for Communications and Information (a) how many Singaporeans have been trained in cybersecurity to protect our security network; and (b) what is the plan to have adequate Singaporean cybersecurity specialists to meet the challenges.
- *5. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Minister for Health in view of the proposed increases in premiums and coverage of MediShield Life (MSHL), whether MediSave withdrawal limits for MSHL premium payments will be raised so that MediSave can be used to fully pay for premiums for MediShield Life Basic, Integrated Shield Plans for Class B2/C wards and the Standard Integrated Shield Plan (for public hospital Class B1 coverage), for all age groups.

- *6. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs whether the current practice of cordoning off most entrances and exits of buildings to facilitate SafeEntry and temperature screenings at a single entrance point presents a fire safety risk.
- *7. Mr Gan Thiam Poh: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what is the current number of Singaporeans who have been provided with childcare/preschool and after-school care subsidies respectively, broken down by (i) income group (ii) amount of subsidy and (iii) the after-subsidy fee they are paying; (b) whether the Ministry will extend the subsidies to non-working mothers who look after other elder children in the family; and (c) whether the Ministry will review the subsidies given by ECDA centres in providing childcare/preschool and after-school care and also consider eliminating means testing so that all parents pay a uniform fee.
- ***8. Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development what steps have been taken to ensure continual access of natural parents and children-in-care during the period whereby social distancing between households are enforced.
- ***9. Mr Murali Pillai:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what is the percentage of hawker centres and coffee shops which currently do not adhere to the ratio of female and male toilet facilities of 5:3 as required by the NEA; (b) what steps can be taken to encourage the relevant owners and operators to make the requisite changes to comply with the ratio requirement; and (c) whether incentives can be provided under NEA's Toilet Improvement Programme launched on 2 October 2020 to effect the desired changes.
- *10. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Manpower whether the Ministry will consider increasing the maximum fine for employers who illegally deploy a foreign domestic worker.
- *11. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether the Ministry has conducted any studies on the effect stacked ranking has on teachers collaborating with each other; (b) if so, what do the results of these studies show; and (c) whether the Ministry will conduct such studies if it has not done so.
- *12. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether the Ministry has explored alternative performance appraisal models instead of the current stack ranking model for teachers; and (b) if so, what appraisal models has the Ministry considered.

- *13. Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment what is being done to mitigate against the various chemical odours/fumes (besides cocoa) emanating from the factories in Pioneer constituency that adversely impact the households located within their close proximity.
- *14. Dr Wan Rizal: To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether there has been an increased uptake of online SkillsFuture courses in the pandemic period from the start of the year to date current, compared to previous years; and (b) what outreach efforts have been undertaken by the Ministry in encouraging Singaporeans to upskill or re-skill themselves during a crisis.
- *15. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the reason for the delay in the roll out of distance-based charging in the next-generation ERP system (ERP2) despite this being a key feature and cost component; (b) what is the timeline for the implementation of distancebased charging; and (c) how much of the \$556 million ERP2 contract was spent on this feature.

* 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 <u>within one hour</u> 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.

AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF PUBLIC BUSINESS

Business Motion

1. Leader of the House:

[Subject to the consent of Speaker and general assent of Members present]

PROCEEDINGS ON 15 OCTOBER 2020: That, notwithstanding the Standing Orders, the debate on the Ministerial Statement on the Overview of Government's Strategy to Emerge Stronger from the COVID-19 Pandemic be taken before the consideration of the Third Supplementary Estimates in the Committee of Supply at the sitting on 15 October 2020.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

1. Third Supplementary Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1 April 2020 to 31 March 2021 (Paper Cmd. 3 of 2020) – Committee of Supply (Allotted Day).

[For amendment to be moved in the Committee of Supply, see Supplement No. 1 dated 15 October 2020.]

- Third Supplementary Supply and Budget Adjustments (FY 2020) Bill [Bill No. 40/2020] (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance) – Second Reading.
- 3. OVERVIEW OF GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY TO EMERGE STRONGER FROM THE COVID-19 PANDEMIC: *Resumption of Debate on Question (5 October 2020)*, "That the Ministerial Statement made by the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance on the Overview of Government's Strategy to Emerge Stronger from the COVID-19 Pandemic be considered by Parliament." (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Finance).

MEMORANDUM

Matter proposed to be raised on the Motion for the Adjournment (SO 2(8)(b)).

Dr Wan Rizal : Eradicating Mental Health Stigmatisation. (Jalan Besar)

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

- 1. Mr Murali Pillai: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) in the past three years, how many Detention Orders and Police Supervision Orders have been issued under the Criminal Law (Temporary Provisions) Act; (b) what is the age profile of the persons subject to these orders; and (c) in addition to the Act, what further steps will be taken to make it more difficult for secret societies operating in Singapore to recruit young people.
- 2. Mr Leon Perera: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs how many permanent residents have been granted citizenship status each year in the last three years.
- 3. Mr Murali Pillai: To ask the Minister for Law (a) since 2013 to date, how much has been disbursed annually by the Government in the provision of direct legal aid to defendants in criminal cases through the Law Society of Singapore's Pro Bono Services Office that runs its Criminal Legal Aid Scheme; (b) for defendants who are foreigners, whether there is any difference in the provision of Government funds for legal aid as compared to Singaporean and PR defendants; and (c) if there is a difference, why such difference exists.

- 4. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Minister for Health in each of the last five years, what has been the loss ratio of MediShield Life (Basic).
- 5. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis: To ask the Minister for Health over the last five years, what has been (i) the amounts of MediShield Life payouts (ii) the number of claimants (iii) the average cost per claim and (iv) the proportion of private hospital claims annually.
- 6. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what percentage of anchor operator preschools currently have the Development Support and Learning Support (DS and LS) programmes; and (b) what are the Early Childhood Development Agency's (ECDA) plans to introduce the DS and LS programmes to more anchor operators.
- 7. **Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development (a) whether the Ministry has found links between money laundering, corruption and fraud, and the illegal wildlife trade occurring in or connected to Singapore; and (b) if so, whether the Ministry will consider implementing an independent framework or task force to further study these links.

PAPERS PRESENTED

	2020		Date Presented
S.	52	Singapore Medical Council Annual Report 2019	 14 October 2020
S.	53	Singapore Nursing Board Annual Report 2019	 14 October 2020
S.	54	Singapore Dental Council Annual Report 2019	 14 October 2020
S.	55	Singapore Pharmacy Council Annual Report 2019	 14 October 2020
S.	56	Traditional Chinese Medicine Practitioners Board Annual Report 2019	 14 October 2020