FOURTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF SINGAPORE (SECOND SESSION)

ORDER PAPER WEDNESDAY, 7 AUGUST 2024

No. 139 11.00 am

OUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER*

- *1. Mr Christopher de Souza: To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs what is the impact of the escalating tensions in the Middle East arising from intensified fighting along Lebanon's southern border and Hezbollah's increasing use of reconnaissance drones over northern Israel, for Singapore.
- *2. Mr Christopher de Souza: To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs how is Singapore, together with the international community, playing its part to ensure Israel abides by international law as it wages war against Hamas in Rafah to rescue the hostages.
- *3. **Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment whether an update can be provided on the status of the clean-up work on our beaches and coastal areas which had to be carried out following the oil spill at the Pasir Panjang Terminal on 14 June 2024.
- *4. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether the Ministry can provide an update on the progress of Singapore's "30 by 30" goal that aims to produce 30% of Singapore's nutritional needs by 2030; and (b) whether the recent spate of local farm closures will result in a delay of reaching this goal by 2030.
- *5. Mr Ang Wei Neng: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) how many websites or phone applications of Government and statutory boards were affected by the recent outage on 19 July 2024 that was caused by a software update; (b) how long did the affected websites or phone applications took to restore it back to normalcy; and (c) what are the lessons learnt from the said outage.
- *6. Mr Don Wee: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) how many Government agencies were affected by the software update from cyber-security firm CrowdStrike which caused a major technological outage globally on 19 July 2024; and (b) whether the Singapore Government subscribes to CrowdStrike's services.
- *7. Mr Alex Yam Ziming: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) what is the Ministry's assessment of the impact to Singapore due to the tech outage caused by the cyber-security firm CrowdStrike's software update on 19 July 2024; (b) whether any Government agencies or critical public services have been affected by the outage; and (c) what is the Ministry's contingency plans for such global tech outages that may impact Singapore's socio-economic security.
- *8. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information with regard to the recent IT outage caused by CrowdStrike (a) whether the Cybersecurity Agency of Singapore (CSA) has updated its threat and risk assessment protocols to cover supply chain risks of this nature; (b) if so, whether these updated protocols will be implemented across all critical information infrastructure (CII); and (c) what new strategies are being considered to enhance the resilience of CIIs against systemic propagated shocks that are not directly linked to cybersecurity threats.

- *9. **Ms Hany Soh:** To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information with regard to the global IT outage that occurred on 19 July 2024 (a) whether the Ministry has conducted an overall local impact assessment; and (b) if so, what are the Ministry's findings and whether any measures have been implemented to prevent such a recurrence.
- *10. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) whether the Government will conduct an After-Action Review (AAR) to assess Singapore's preparedness and response, and identify areas for improvement, in light of the recent global technology outage; (b) what key considerations will guide such AAR; and (c) whether the Government will (i) develop a local technology ecosystem or (ii) stipulate guidelines that will implement redundancy systems to insulate our essential services from global disruptions as part of digital resilience.
- *11. Mr Ang Wei Neng: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in light of five social media platforms directed to block a network of 95 accounts (a) what were the reach of the posts containing videos on the leadership transition in Singapore; (b) whether any of the three accounts that belonged to Himalaya Singapore were operated by residents or foreigners stationed in Singapore; (c) whether there were additional posts initiated by the said 95 accounts after 10 May 2024 on Singapore's leadership transition; and (d) what were the lessons learnt from this episode.
- *12. Ms Hazel Poa: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) where does the funding for the free shuttle bus service in Marine Parade GRC, MacPherson SMC and Mountbatten SMC come from; (b) what is the cost for funding such service for a year; (c) what is the justification for limiting the service to only residents of those constituencies; and (d) whether such funding can be also made available to other constituencies, and, if so, how.
- *13. Ms Hazel Poa: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) whether the public bus services in Marine Parade GRC, MacPherson SMC and Mountbatten SMC are adequate to meet the residents' needs; and (b) whether the free shuttle bus service which began on 8 July 2024 for these constituencies have met the financial prudence criteria for provision of public transport.
- *14. Mr Pritam Singh: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) what are the specific inputs and assessment of LTA on the provision of a community-specific shuttle bus service through the South East Community Development Council and People's Association, in Marine Parade GRC, which is an additional service outside the public transport system; and (b) whether LTA assesses a potential need for similar supplementary services in other parts of Singapore to improve last-mile connectivity.
- *15. Mr Pritam Singh: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) what is the total cost of the cluster-wide community shuttle bus service covering Marine Parade GRC, MacPherson SMC and Mountbatten SMC as announced by the South East Community Development Council and the People's Association on 30 June 2024; and (b) how much of the expenditure for this one-year pilot is attributed to (i) public funds (ii) donations or (iii) other sources, respectively.
- *16. Mr Leong Mun Wai: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) whether the Ministry can provide resources to Community Development Councils to launch free shuttle bus services to other areas such as Tengah New Town and Bukit Batok West Extension; and (b) what are the considerations for doing and for not doing so.

- *17. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) since the start of the Marine Parade Cluster shuttle bus service, what has been (i) the average daily ridership and (ii) the average load factor of the service; (b) what is the total amount budgeted for the service; and (c) why is the People's Association and South East Community Development Council providing public transport services directly and only for those residents instead of working with LTA to improve public transport services for all commuters in the area.
- *18. Mr Alex Yam Ziming: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) whether there is evidence of splinter groups from the dissolution of Jemaah Islamiyah (JI) getting organised; (b) how close is the transboundary collaboration between the respective intelligence agencies in this region on sharing such intelligence; and (c) what is the security threat assessment to Singapore post-dissolution of JI.
- *19. **Mr Desmond Choo:** To ask the Minister for Transport what is the Government's assessment on whether the Point-to-Point Transport sector's current capacity is sustainable in the long term.
- *20. Ms See Jinli Jean: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Government monitors the trend in the number of drivers in the Point-to-Point (P2P) sector on the road in the past year; and (b) if so, what is its assessment on how the supply of P2P drivers compares with the demand for their services.
- *21. Ms Yeo Wan Ling: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry monitors the earnings of point-to-point (P2P) taxi and private hire car drivers; (b) if so, what is the average trip fare earned by such drivers in the second quarter of 2024; and (c) how does this compare to previous quarters in 2023.
- *22. Ms See Jinli Jean: To ask the Minister for Health (a) how may taxi and private hire vehicle drivers report vaping in their vehicles by passengers; and (b) what workplace protection will the Ministry avail to such drivers in order to alleviate worries about negative repercussion or penalty on their livelihoods.
- *23. Ms Sylvia Lim: To ask the Minister for National Development (a) in the last 12 months, how many applicants for Build-To-Order or Sale of Balance flats have received more than one HDB invitation to book flats in different projects; and (b) why does HDB disallow the applicants from selecting a flat in a project with a later booking date in such situations.
- *24. Mr Pritam Singh: To ask the Minister for National Development whether there is scope for HDB to improve its processing time for BTO applications in order to prevent a situation where, on receipt of an unfavourable ballot number, an applicant proceeds to apply for a flat in a subsequent BTO exercise and receives a favourable number, only to have the latter cancelled when HDB informs him that a flat has been belatedly allocated for selection from his earlier BTO flat application.
- *25. **Ms Yeo Wan Ling:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether the Ministry has conducted studies to determine the cost of CCTV installations in preschools; and (b) whether the Ministry can consider subsidy support to assist preschools in the mandatory installation of CCTVs.
- *26. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what are the Government's considerations in determining the quantum of Vehicular Emissions Scheme (VES) Rebates in 2025; and (b) whether the Government will consider enhancing the VES rebates for vehicles in the A1 band and reversing the reduction in VES Rebates for vehicles in the A2 band to encourage the adoption of cleaner energy vehicles.

- *27. **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether there are plans to phase out the sales of internal combustion engine (ICE) motorcycles similar to Singapore's commitment to phase out sales of ICE cars by 2030; and (b) in light of a local firm shelving its plans to launch a battery swop service for electric vehicles, whether the Government plans to step in and support the initiative for such service.
- *28. Mr Mohd Fahmi Bin Aliman: To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry has conducted any recent reviews or assessments of the pricing structure at hospital canteens, specifically those operated by third-party vendors; (b) if so, whether data on the price differences between hospital canteens and comparable dining establishments in the local market over the past year can be shared; and (c) how does the Ministry ensure that prices at hospital canteens are competitive as compared to those in the local market.
- *29. Ms See Jinli Jean: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information whether the Ministry will consider requiring (i) firms that have been awarded creative projects by Ministries and Government agencies to endeavour towards engaging Singapore-registered sub-contractors and local talents, crew, and facilities for their projects and (ii) these firms to dedicate a reasonable portion of their budget in engaging local talents and crew, so as to boost the capabilities of the Singapore creative workforce and growth of a creative economy.
- *30. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis: To ask the Minister for National Development (a) over the last five years, what is the number of infringements of the Planning Act 1998 relating to the letting out of short-term accommodation; (b) what is the total number and amount of fines that have been meted out; and (c) whether platforms where such listings are located are also fined in these cases.
- *31. Mr Alex Yam Ziming: To ask the Minister for Transport in light of the increased number of electric vehicles (EVs) registered in Singapore (a) whether the current provision of public EV charging points is sufficient; (b) what is the Ministry's ramp-up rate for the provision of charging points; and (c) whether more fast-charging points are being requested especially in HDB estates.
- *32. Mr Gan Thiam Poh: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) how many new electric vehicles (EV) that are registered from January to July 2024 are owned by HDB residents; and (b) what is the current utilisation rate of the EV chargers at HDB car parks.
- *33. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether he will consider portable subsidy vouchers to underwrite cost differentials between polyclinic and private GP clinic for the elderly and less mobile patients who face difficulty getting appointments at the local polyclinic and who have been advised by the polyclinic to visit nearby GP clinics; and (b) what is being done to improve access to polyclinic care amidst digital booking systems, for seniors with limited mobility, means or digital literacy.
- *34. Mr Neil Parekh Nimil Rajnikant: To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) what are some of the common concerns employers and workers have expressed regarding the Tripartite Guidelines on Flexible Work Arrangements Requests (TG-FWAR) following the various dialogue sessions held on this issue recently; (b) whether further steps need to be taken to allay the concerns of employers and workers; (c) if so, what are they; and (d) whether it is on track for the TG-FWAR to come into effect on 1 December 2024.
- *35. Mr Ong Hua Han: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what has been the trend of caregivers of persons with disabilities who have sought assistance to improve their mental well-being; (b) what are the barriers to access for caregivers who need assistance to improve their mental well-being; and (c) what is the Ministry's plan to increase outreach to these caregivers in terms of awareness and affordability to improve caregivers' mental well-being.

- *36. Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) what is the number of electric vehicle fire incidents in 2023; and (b) whether such fire incidents have been trending up annually in the past three years, in line with the growth in electric vehicle ownership levels.
- *37. Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development whether the Ministry will consider resourcing Student Care Centres (SCCs) registered with the Ministry to allow SCCs to offer free placements for children from low-income families.
- *38. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth for each year in the past five years (a) how many organisations whose purposes are not beneficial wholly or substantially to the community in Singapore, have applied for registration as a charity; and (b) of these applications, how many and what percentage have been approved.
- *39. Mr Leong Mun Wai: To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance whether he will tighten the investment mandates given to the Government of Singapore Investment Corporation and Temasek Holdings given that the amount of unquoted investments has exceeded the quoted investments as reported in the Statement of Assets and Liabilities as at 31 March 2023 contained in the Government Financial Statements for FY2022/2023.
- *40. Mr Saktiandi Supaat: To ask the Minister for Transport whether there are specific rules and stringent checks conducted by SMRT before allowing approved models of personal mobility devices or power-assisted bicycles to be brought onto trains, in view of the potential fire risk posed by such devices in enclosed spaces.
- *41. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song: To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance (a) whether political parties or candidates that pay digital content creators, either directly or indirectly, to post content either before or during election campaigns will be required to disclose these payments; (b) whether the said content creators are also required to declare the nature of their partnership with political parties or candidates within their posts; and (c) what are the disclosure requirements.
- *42. Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan: To ask the Minister for Education in light of the recent case where a basketball coach is being investigated for allegedly accepting improper payments to get students into secondary schools under the Direct School Admission (DSA) scheme, whether the Ministry will be reviewing the selection and decision-making processes of DSA at all school levels for the admission of students from primary schools into secondary schools and subsequently into junior colleges and polytechnics.
- *43. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Education in respect of the bribery allegations involving a basketball coach for allegedly accepting payments to get students into schools under the Direct School Admission (DSA) scheme (a) how does the Ministry ensure the integrity and fairness of the DSA process to prevent such incidents from occurring; (b) what measures are in place to detect and address any unethical practices related to school admissions and sports coaching; and (c) how is the Ministry supporting students and parents affected by this incident.
- *44. Ms Sylvia Lim: To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry whether the Ministry can provide an assessment of the status and prospects of the Lao PDR-Thailand-Malaysia-Singapore Power Integration Project to import hydropower from Laos.

- *45. Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what programmes or resources are available to help families identify and respond to early signs of financial distress; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider introducing an unconditional cash aid programme to help families which are experiencing early signs of financial distress.
- *46. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) whether the Ministry will consider (i) adopting and further expanding on the unconditional cash assistance scheme under AWWA's Family Empowerment Programme or (ii) have similar schemes mainstreamed; (b) if so, what are the considerations; and (c) how will this impact our social policy of self-reliance and personal responsibility.
- *47. Mr Lim Biow Chuan: To ask the Minister for National Development whether HDB will set aside more completed flats to be sold under the Sale of Balance Flats exercise to cater to residents who need flats urgently but cannot afford the resale prices.
- *48. Assoc Prof Razwana Begum Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Education (a) whether the Ministry collects data on any causal links between academic stress and attempted suicide by (i) children in primary and secondary school and (ii) young people at university; and (b) whether the Ministry collects data on any causal links between academic stress and death from suicide for (i) children in primary and secondary school and (ii) young people at University.
- *49. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA has assessed the road design at the Jalan Lempeng and Faber Drive unsignalised cross junction near a school in the context of the four accidents in six weeks reported on a media outlet; (b) whether LTA has sought to ascertain how many other unreported accidents and near misses have occurred at this cross junction; and (c) whether the traffic impact assessments and junction designs have kept pace with the increased residential dwellings and vehicle traffic nearby.
- *50. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong: To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether Singapore provides reports to the UN Register of Conventional Arms (UNROCA) about arms transfers for 2022 and 2023; (b) if so, why are Singapore's reports for 2022 and 2023 not listed on UNROCA's database when previous years' reports are available; (c) whether the Ministry knows when the 2022 and 2023 reports will be made available; and (d) if the 2022 and 2023 reports are not provided to UNROCA, whether the Ministry intends to do so and by when.
- *51. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information whether the Government funding to SPH Media has conditions specifying minimum consumer service standards, including the provision of hardcopy newspaper delivery to the doorstep and not just the mailbox of customers who have subscribed to daily newspapers' print editions.
- *52. Ms He Ting Ru: To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Government has data on the percentage of individuals advertising their psychological services who hold qualifications that (i) meet and (ii) do not meet the Singapore Register of Psychologists' (SRP's) registration standards; (b) if so, what are the most common types of qualifications claimed by those who fail the standards; (c) whether any assessment has been conducted on the potential public health impact in allowing unregulated use of the title "psychologist"; and (d) whether the Ministry will make SRP registration mandatory.

- *53. Ms Yeo Wan Ling: To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) what are the top reasons for the rejection of the Home Protection Scheme (HPS) Insurance applications; (b) whether there is an exclusion list of pre-existing medical conditions for such applications; and (c) if so, whether a review of the list can be considered.
- *54. Mr Edward Chia Bing Hui: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether hawkers can employ Long-Term Visit Pass Plus holders as hawker assistants to address manpower shortages; (b) if so, whether this will include Long-Term Visit Pass Plus holders who are not spouses of the registered stall holder; and (c) if not, why not.
- *55. Ms Hazel Poa: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) how many households in Singapore currently earn less than half of the median household income of the total population; and (b) what is the profile of such households.
- *56. Mr Lim Biow Chuan: To ask the Minister for National Development whether HDB will allow applicants of BTO flats to seek a review for a higher HDB loan quantum if their income situation improves during the time after completing their application for the HDB Flat Eligibility letter and before collecting the keys to their new flats.
- *57. Mr Saktiandi Supaat: To ask the Minister for Education whether the Ministry will explore the possibility of allowing the transfer of allotted SkillsFuture credits to family members for Singaporeans who are unable to utilise their credits due to very old age, illness or other reasons.
- *58. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for Transport whether he can provide an update on the review to ban the transportation of workers on the back of lorries and the timeline for such a ban.
- *59. Ms He Ting Ru: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment in view that domestic waste volumes have decreased by more than 15 per cent in the last decade (a) how has the domestic waste recycling rate evolved over the same time; (b) whether there are any updated strategies to continue increasing domestic waste recycling rates; and (c) whether there is a target domestic recycling rate target by 2030.
- *60. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim: To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development (a) what is the justification behind the need for a single, unwed mother to undergo the procedure of adopting the child in order for them to legitimise their parent-child relationship; and (b) whether there are any plans to review this position.
- *61. Mr Christopher de Souza: To ask the Minister for Transport whether there are Government regulations on the pricing of airfares to ensure that Singapore citizens continue to afford airline tickets in the midst of increasing inflation rates and mounting airline prices.
- *62. Mr Gan Thiam Poh: To ask the Minister for Health (a) to date, what is the percentage of citizens who have applied to convert into CareShield Life; (b) whether the participation incentives may be extended beyond 31 December 2024; and (c) what else can be done to reach out and make the conversion process easier for citizens.
- *63. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Minister for National Development (a) how is a disqualification order under section 43B of the Animal and Birds Act 1965 enforced; and (b) what checks are done when an individual applies for employment with an animal-related business or attempts to purchase an animal to ensure that the individual is not disqualified from doing so.

- *64. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether the Ministry has considered reclassifying the COE categories by open market value rather than engine capacity; and (b) if not, why not.
- *65. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis: To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether the Retirement Account funds used to pay for CPF LIFE continue to earn interest for the member after monthly payouts commence; (b) what are the expected assumptions imputed in deriving the CPF LIFE monthly payouts; and (c) whether this differs with (i) varying members' retirement sums accumulated, such as the Basic Retirement Sum, Full Retirement Sum and Enhanced Retirement Sum and (ii) varying members' choice of plans, such as the Basic, Standard and Escalating Plans.
- *66. Mr Gan Thiam Poh: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment whether a further review is required for a long-term and sustainable solution to replace the need for periodic ash soil transfer works at the Inland Ash Scattering facility, Garden of Peace.
- *67. **Ms He Ting Ru:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether there are any projects being planned to alleviate peak-hour crowding on the North East Line and Circle Line ahead of the Urban Redevelopment Authority's plans to develop up to 10,000 new homes in Fernvale North in Sengkang; and (b) what will be the measures be taken to ensure that public transportation needs are met ahead of the development.
- *68. Mr Saktiandi Supaat: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) what is the amount of carbon credits available globally that meets the Eligibility Criteria and Eligibility List published by the Ministry and NEA; (b) how does that amount compare to the local demand for carbon credits given the five-fold increase in carbon tax this year; and (c) what are the other concrete plans to boost the amount of eligible carbon credits for carbon tax-liable companies to purchase.
- *69. Mr Lim Biow Chuan: To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) whether the Lease Agreements for Retail Premises Act covers offices in commercial buildings which provide legal, accounting or valuation services; and (b) whether tenancy agreements for such offices are subject to the Code of Conduct for the Leasing of Retail Premises.
- *70. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim: To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA tracks the total number of Malaysian-registered cars that (i) receive LTA approval for entry using an Autopass and (ii) enter Singapore on a daily basis; (b) what is the current average duration of the stay of such vehicles in Singapore; and (c) how many additional cars does this add to the total number of vehicles plying local roads, over and above the Vehicle Quota System limit.
- *71. **Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance with regard to cross-border instant money transfer initiatives, what measures will be implemented to minimise the risks of cross-border scams and fraud, especially for vulnerable groups of users such as the elderly.

- *72. **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Transport whether all electric vehicles in Singapore can be outfitted with a special licence plate designed to identify them as electric vehicles so that first responders attending to car accidents can take note and mitigate the potential risks associated with such vehicles.
- * 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 within one hour 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.

ORDER OF THE DAY

1. Good Samaritan Food Donation Bill [Bill No. 22/2024] – (Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang, Member for Nee Soon) – Second Reading.

Resumption of Debate on Question (6 August 2024)

"That the Bill be now read a second time.". – (Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang, Member for Nee Soon).

NOTICE OF MOTION

Ms Hazel Poa (Non-Constituency Member):
Mr Leong Mun Wai (Non-Constituency Member):

ELECTORAL BOUNDARIES: That this House calls on the Government to review the process by which electoral boundaries are determined in order to increase the transparency and fairness of the electoral boundary review process for all political parties.

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MEMORANDUM

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

Ms Usha Chandradas: Art Education: Cultivating Creativity in Classrooms and Communities. (Nominated Member)

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

1. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang: To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry in each year for the past five years (a) how many companies have applied for grants under the Enterprise Sustainability Programme; and (b) of the companies that have applied for the grants, how many are (i) micro enterprises with fewer than 10 employees (ii) small enterprises with 10 to 49 employees and (iii) medium-sized enterprises with 50 to 200 employees.

- 2. **Mr Saktiandi Supaat:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry whether the Ministry is considering additional regulatory or supervisory measures over 'super apps' that may stifle competition and consumer welfare, in light of Grab's latest acquisition of Singapore-based dining reservation platform Chope.
- 3. **Dr Tan Wu Meng:** To ask the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Trade and Industry (a) whether the existing Industry Transformation Maps can be updated to consider the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the apprenticeship and on-the-job training aspects of skilled work; and (b) whether this update can include Industry Training Continuity Maps to maintain a training pipeline for deeply skilled human workers who cannot be replaced by AI, even when AI can undertake work previously done by less deeply skilled apprentices and trainees.
- 4. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs (a) whether there are plans to deliver further tranches of humanitarian aid into Gaza or the refugee camps in the surrounding areas to alleviate the humanitarian crisis there; and (b) whether the Enhanced Technical Assistance Programme (ETAP) and other capacity building and assistance schemes between Singapore and the Palestinian Authority are continuing despite the ongoing conflict.
- **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Foreign Affairs with regard to the International Court of Justice's (ICJ) Advisory Opinion issued on 19 July 2024, what is the Government's assessment of the (i) potential impact and (ii) obligations arising from the Advisory Opinion on all member states including Singapore.
- 6. Mr Yip Hon Weng: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) what measures are being taken to ensure that foreign auxiliary police officers have received the relevant training and qualifications needed for their roles in Singapore; (b) how is the Ministry ensuring that these auxiliary police officers understand the cultural norms and sensitivities in Singapore to perform their duties effectively; and (c) what will be the impact on our local workforce in security roles, specifically salaries and benefits.
- 7. **Dr Wan Rizal:** To ask the Minister for Home Affairs (a) how does the Ministry monitor and address instances of foreign interference; (b) what is the success rate of these interventions; and (c) what steps are being taken to educate the public and political entities about the risks and signs of foreign interference and how they can protect themselves against such threats.
- 8. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong: To ask the Minister for Home Affairs in the past five years (a) how many people have died alone in their homes and are not discovered for (i) up to a week and (ii) more than a week respectively; and (b) whether such data on people dying alone is being shared with agencies and social services to better understand the circumstances that lead to people dying alone and undiscovered in their homes so that more can be done to prevent lonely deaths.
- 9. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment with regard to the fatal incident during the tank cleaning works at PUB Choa Chu Kang Waterworks (a) whether there is any significant adverse impact caused by the emission of hydrogen sulphide gas during such works on the environment and the flora and fauna in the area; and (b) what are the measures that PUB and its contractors will take to ensure the safety of the workers and environment during the upgrading of the waterworks.

- 10. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether the Singapore Food Agency is studying the reasons behind the recent liquidation or scaling down of the operations of high-tech farms in Lim Chu Kang and Tuas despite the governmental grants and support provided; and (b) what is the impact on the "30 by 30" goal that aims to produce 30% of Singapore's nutritional needs by 2030 under the Singapore Green Plan.
- 11. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment in light of the decline in the overall recycling rate in Singapore in 2023 compared to 2013 (a) what are the measures to promote recycling efforts especially in relation to non-domestic recycling; and (b) whether Singapore is on track to achieve its overall recycling target rate of 70% in the Zero Waste Masterplan.
- **Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment (a) whether an update can be provided on the clean-up works arising from the oil spill at Pasir Panjang Terminal on 14 June 2024; and (b) whether the Ministry can share a timeline on when all affected beaches will be reopened for public use.
- 13. Ms He Ting Ru: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment for each year since the inception of the SG Eco Fund (SEF) in 2020,(a) how many projects have applied for grants under the SEF; (b) how many projects are awarded grants under the SEF; and (c) what are the reasons for the rejection of grants.
- 14. Mr Dennis Tan Lip Fong: To ask the Minister for Sustainability and the Environment whether the Ministry will consider mandating or incentivising the taking up of Environmental Impairment Liability (EIL) insurance coverage for agencies and businesses operating in (i) beaches and other coastal areas and (ii) nature areas and nature reserves, in order for these entities to better prepare for the financial implications of pollution incidents such as oil spills and ensure the prompt and comprehensive remediation of affected natural environments.
- 15. Mr Leong Mun Wai: To ask the Minister for Education what are the considerations behind the decision of Science Centre Singapore to organise and subsequently cancel a session scheduled for 14 June 2024 for persons aged 18 and above on the differences between sex and gender.
- **Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Education (a) in each year since 2020, what percentage of individuals who attended training programmes supported by SkillsFuture Singapore were unemployed; and (b) what percentage of these individuals managed to find a job within the next six months (i) in the industry of their previous employment and (ii) in a new industry respectively.
- 17. Mr Ong Hua Han: To ask the Minister for Education in each of the years 2009, 2014, 2019 and 2024 (a) what is the total number of students enrolled in Special Education (SPED) schools; (b) what is the breakdown in percentage of SPED school students who (i) are on the autism spectrum (ii) have intellectual disabilities (iii) have sensory disabilities (iv) have physical disabilities, and (v) have multiple disabilities, respectively; and (c) whether the Ministry will consider publishing such data at regular intervals in the future.
- **18. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Education for Special Education schools that support students with autism spectrum disorder, what is the current number of applicants waiting to be admitted to these schools and the waiting time for enrolment, with a breakdown for applicants with no intellectual impairment and those with intellectual impairment respectively.

- 19. Mr Patrick Tay Teck Guan: To ask the Minister for Education since the inception of the Direct School Admission (DSA) scheme, how many students who have been admitted via the DSA Sports and Music tracks into Integrated Programme (IP) schools (i) did not complete the entire six-year IP course (ii) were subsequently transferred out of the IP (iii) did not pass their GCE A-Level or International Baccalaureate Diploma Programme or (iv) did not qualify for any of the local autonomous universities after the IP.
- **20. Mr Ong Hua Han:** To ask the Minister for Social and Family Development based on the number of persons with disabilities (PWDs) receiving social support (a) what percentage of adults with disabilities outside of the labour force do not have caregivers and/or live independently; and (b) what is the projected number of PWDs without caregivers in 15 years' time in view of Singapore's ageing population.
- **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Health what is the median waiting time by ward class of public hospitals for (i) new specialist outpatient appointments for the medical oncology, surgical oncology, and radiotherapy specialties and (ii) cancer patients to commence chemotherapy, radiation therapy and surgery for cancer treatment respectively.
- **22. Mr Leong Mun Wai:** To ask the Minister for Health in each year since 2020 (a) what proportion of Singaporean nursing graduates are working in public hospitals; and (b) what is the median salary of Singaporean nursing graduates (i) working in public hospitals and (ii) not working in public hospitals respectively.
- 23. **Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Ministry has data on the five-year trend and current waiting times for entry into nursing homes for the provision of respite care services and night respite services respectively; (b) whether there is a difference in waiting times for respite care services for patients with general needs, psychiatric care needs and intellectual disability; and (c) if so, what are the differences in waiting times presently.
- Arrival Card system provided in terms of public health outcomes since its implementation; (b) what percentage of travellers have reported being unwell through the system; (c) of these, what percentage have been contacted for follow-up and what actions have been taken; (d) whether there are any plans to discontinue the use of the system at all checkpoints; and (e) if so, what are the criteria or conditions that will trigger such a decision.
- **25. Assoc Prof Jamus Jerome Lim:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) whether the Health Sciences Authority exercises any guidance or determination over the importation of generic medicines into Singapore; (b) if so, what are the considerations for determining whether a generic medicine can be imported into Singapore; and (c) if not, why not.
- **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for Health (a) what are the top symptoms for referral to the Menopause Centre; and (b) whether the Ministry will consider screening for perimenopausal and menopausal symptoms, such as arthralgia, osteoporosis and sleep disturbances, as part of the Healthier SG movement.
- 27. **Dr Syed Harun Alhabsyi:** To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information with regard to the recent IT outage caused by CrowdStrike (a) what has been the extent of its impact and cost to local businesses and institutions; (b) what lessons have been learnt from this outage thus far; and (c) what steps are being taken to ensure that the IT systems used by these businesses and institutions remain resilient against similar outages.

- 28. Mr Saktiandi Supaat: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) which areas of the public service sector were most severely affected by the CrowdStrike outage on 19 July 2024; (b) what are takeaways on the strengths and weaknesses of Singapore's public service systems to ensure a reliable, efficient, and accessible public service for Singaporeans; and (c) what steps have been taken to ensure that possible vulnerabilities from any of our current and future cyber security solutions are mitigated.
- **Ms** He Ting Ru: To ask the Minister for Digital Development and Information (a) what is the current accuracy rate of the Government's deepfake detection technologies for AI-generated content; (b) how will the Government differentiate between harmful deepfakes and legitimate political satire or memes using similar technologies; and (c) what happens if videos are wrongly identified as deepfakes.
- **30. Mr Louis Ng Kok Kwang:** To ask the Minister for National Development in each year since the Wildlife Act was amended in 2020 (a) how many directions have been issued under section 10 of the Wildlife Act on wildlife-related measures for development or works; and (b) how many persons have been found to have contravened such a direction.
- 31. Mr Christopher de Souza: To ask the Minister for National Development what measures are in place to combat high rental costs for both residential and commercial purposes in the current high interest-rate environment and amidst market uncertainties.
- **32. Mr Christopher de Souza:** To ask the Minister for National Development how does HDB support the greater need for maintenance of residential estates beyond the Home Improvement Programme especially among older flats that have issues with piping and cracked walls.
- **Ms Nadia Ahmad Samdin:** To ask the Minister for National Development with regard to HDB's removal of listings for resale of HDB flats from the HDB Flat Portal (a) what constitutes misinformation that can lead to the removal of a listing; and (b) whether the Ministry can clarify on the mechanism used for removal of a listing due to unrealistic pricing.
- **Mr Yip Hon Weng:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth to ensure consistency in promoting healthy lifestyles across public sports complexes, whether the Ministry will consider excluding commercial tenants that do not align with healthy lifestyle choices, such as those selling sugary drinks or fast food.
- **Ms Hazel Poa:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) what is the current estimated cost of hosting the 2025 World Aquatics Championships; (b) what was the original budgeted cost in February 2023 when Singapore replaced Kazan, Russia as the host; and (c) what portion of the costs will be met by (i) the Government (ii) private sponsors and (iii) other sources, respectively.
- **36. Ms Joan Pereira:** To ask the Minister for Culture, Community and Youth (a) what is the current estimated budget for Singapore to host the World Aquatics Championships in 2025; and (b) what are the plans in place to manage expenses based on this budgeted amount.
- 37. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis: To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) whether the Ministry considers police and immigration records when assessing work permit applications and granting of in-principle approvals for the hiring of migrant domestic workers (MDWs) and, if not, why not; and (b) whether employers remain liable for the costs of bringing MDWs into Singapore and repatriation costs when MDWs need to be repatriated for reasons beyond employers' control.

- **38. Mr Gerald Giam Yean Song:** To ask the Minister for Manpower (a) in each year of the past five years, how many complaints have been received by the CPF Board about allegedly fraudulent CPF nominations; (b) how many CPF nominations have been annulled following these complaints; and (c) what are the main reasons for such annulments.
- **39. Mr Zhulkarnain Abdul Rahim:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether LTA has recently reviewed road or traffic junctions that are more prone to fatal accidents either due to the design, speed limit or other factors; and (b) if so, whether the Ministry can increase awareness or place prominent warnings in the accident prone areas to alert motorists and users.
- **40. Mr Melvin Yong Yik Chye:** To ask the Minister for Transport (a) whether vehicles are allowed to don decals designed to have a similar look as police vehicles or any other vehicles that look like they originate from a Government agency; and (b) if this is not allowed, what are the regulations that prohibit such decals from being used on vehicles.
- 41. Mr Chua Kheng Wee Louis: To ask the Minister for Transport with the recent completion of the new HDB BTO project at Rivervale Shores, whether there will be an increase in bus services available for residents living in and within the vicinity of the project to meet higher bus ridership and provide better transport connectivity.