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No. 9 of 2019

RODRIGUES

FOURTH REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

Debate No. 9 of 2019

Sitting of Tuesday 20 August 2019

The Assembly met in the Assembly House,
Port Mathurin, at 10.30 hours

(Madam Chairperson in the Chair)

The National Anthem was played

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RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

TUESDAY 20 AUGUST 2019

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The Executive Council

(Formed by Mr. Louis Serge Clair, G.C.S.K.)

Mr. Louis Serge Clair, G.C.S.K.	Chief Commissioner, Commissioner responsible for Central Administration, Civil Aviation (Administration), Education (Administration), Legal Services, Marine Services, Registration, Statistics in respect of Rodrigues, State Lands, Town and Country Planning, Tourism
Mr. Nicolson Lisette	Deputy Chief Commissioner, Commissioner responsible for Public Infrastructure including Highways and Roads and Public Buildings and Utilities, Transport, Water Resources
Mrs. Rose Marie Franchette Gaspard Pierre Louis, C.S.K	Commissioner responsible for Child Development, Cooperatives, Family Welfare, Handicraft, Industrial Development, Information Technology and Telecommunications, Prisons and Reforms Institutions (Administration), Trade, Commerce and Licensing, Vocational Training, Women's Affairs
Mr. Simon Pierre Roussety	Commissioner responsible for Civil Status, Community Development, Customs and Excise (Administration), Fire Services, Health (Administration), Judicial (Administration), Meteorology (Administration), Postal Services (Administration)
Mr. Louis Daniel Baptiste	Commissioner responsible for Consumer Protection, Employment, Housing, Labour and Industrial Relations, Social Security (Administration)
Mr. Jean Richard Payendee	Commissioner responsible for Agriculture, Environment, Fisheries. Food Production, Forestry, Marine Parks, Plant and Animal Quarantine
Mrs. Marie Rose de Lima Edouard -Ravina	Commissioner responsible for Arts and Culture, Library Services, Museums, Archives, Historical Sites and Buildings, Youth and Sports

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PRINCIPAL OFFICERS AND OFFICIALS

Madam Chairperson	-	Spéville, Mrs. Marie Pricie Anjela
Clerk	-	Legentil, Miss Marie Lyndia Yannick
Deputy Clerk	-	Pulchérie, Miss Marie Rose Axelle
Serjeant-at-Arms	-	Constant Perrine, Mr. Stenio

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ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

ANNOUNCEMENT

7TH EDITION - RODRIGUES YOUTH PARLIAMENT

Madam Chairperson: Respected Members, I have to make an announcement. I wish to inform Respected Members that I have this year again approved the seat of the Regional Assembly to be the seat of the 7th Edition of Rodrigues Youth Parliament which will be held on Saturday 24th August 2019 from 09.00 a.m. to 04.00 p.m. In that regard, for the purposes of exposing the youth parliamentarians to the rules and procedures of this Assembly we will welcome throughout this day's sitting 70 young persons who will be engaged in that activity on this coming Saturday. I thank you for your attention.

PAPERS LAID

- A. First Interim Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Commission for Health

ORAL ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

Madam Chairperson: Yes, Minority Leader.

The Minority Leader: Thank you, Madam Chair. B/99.

TREASURE DISCOVERED AT ST. FRANCOIS

(No. B/99) Mr. L. J. Von-Mally, GOSK (Minority Leader) asked the Commissioner for Arts and Culture and Others whether, in regard to the treasure reportedly discovered at St. François, she will inform the House on where matters stand as at date, detailing on any:-

- (a) official correspondence received by the regional government in relation thereto together with corresponding dates of receipt; and
- (b) measure taken by her Commission as regards:
 - (i) any excavation works required;
 - (ii) custody of the said treasure;
 - (iii) any counter-affidavit sworn or being contemplated,

indicating any corresponding time-frame, in each case, and giving reasons?

The Commissioner for Arts and Culture and Others (Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chairperson, allow me to inform the House of the chronology of the reported case of discovery of treasure at St Francois, Rodrigues. As I mentioned in my reply to a Parliamentary Question on same at the sitting on the 25th of June 2019, my Commission took cognizance of the reported case of treasure discovery in Rodrigues in a press article by Mrs. A. S, from L'Express dated 9th of June 2019.

Consequently, on the 19th of June, a correspondence was addressed by mail to the National Heritage Fund to enlighten the Commission on the protocol for ownership/restitution of the treasure discovered on the island of Rodrigues. L'Express was also contacted and requesting details on the two persons who sworn the affidavit.

Madam Chair, the Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues officially informed the Rodrigues Regional Assembly of the reported case of 'Treasury discovery' in a letter dated 11th of June 2019 addressed to the Island Chief Executive. Enclosed with the letter was a copy of correspondence from the Jurist Consult Chambers on behalf of Mr. Spéville and an affidavit sworn by the latter which mentions that while he and Mr. Némorin were trekking in Rodrigues, they accidentally discovered a treasure. The correspondence from the Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues mentioned that Mr. De Spéville has been advised through the Jurist Consult Chambers to make the formal request to RRA for permission for the dredging and excavating of the treasure. Also, the approval to dredge the treasure, the Rodrigues Regional Assembly has also been accordingly requested to proceed with the dredging excavation under the following conditions: I quote: *"Everything should be done under strict security, supervision and all be placed on the tight security and secure place."* And secondly, proceed with the sharing of the treasure in line with the article of the Code Civile Mauricien – Article 716.

In the same respect, Madam Chair, Mr. De Spéville came to my office. He was received in the presence of my Departmental Head and the Senior Culture Officer on Wednesday 26th of June 2019 and he presented the different actions that have been initiated by him since the discovery of the signs and markings through a dry bed stream in August 2019 as stated in the affidavit.

After having studied thoroughly the file, Madam Chair, my Commission has delivered a press conference on the 12th of July 2019 stating how the RRA is dealing with the case. I also made a statement to the Mauritian press on Monday 15th of July.

Madam Chair, with regard to part (b) (i) of the question, my Commission has issued a second correspondence to the National Heritage Fund on the 28th of June 2019 regarding the protocol of excavation work in case of discovery of Treasure and UNESCO guidelines on discovery of Treasure.

A reply was obtained by the NHF (National Heritage Fund) on the 2nd of July informing that there are no procedures for dredging and excavation of treasures. There is also no guideline for discovery of treasure. My Commission has also been informed that any treasure is also an artifact and all precautionary measures will have to be taken for excavation. It is also important to document the location even before the excavation is being undertaken and recording the details of expedition, excavation and findings. The details will have to be outlined in a report and an inventory and cataloguing of the findings have to be prepared.

Madam Chair, within that time, my Commission has taken other actions as follows:

- The setting up of a restricted committee on July 11th 2019. The Committee meets as and when required to discuss issues related to the alleged discovery and to take informed decisions in a timely manner. Visits on site were also carried out by the restricted committee.

The actions of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly are being considered in three folds: -

- (1) Scientific, that is, with regard to the excavation and any other scientific research or approach that may be needed or adopted;
- (2) Historical, that is, since the treasure is considered as an artifact, all the history will have to be constructed around it; and
- (3) the legal actions, if any, and when required.

Madam Chair, no excavation works have been carried out as at date. The House will note that prior to any excavation works, there is need to confirm the existence of the treasure and its exact location. Consequently, a correspondence was addressed to the Ministry of Arts and Culture on the 17th of July requesting a technical assistance to be provided by the National Heritage Fund at the earliest possible for two main reasons, that is, to survey the site and to assess the significance of the findings.

Madam Chair, further to that, a delegation comprising of the PS (Permanent Secretary) of Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues, the PS of the Ministry for Arts and Culture, the DPS (Deputy Permanent Secretary) of Ministry of Arts and Culture, the Divisional Environment Officer of the Ministry of Environment, the Manager of the Technical Section of NHF (National Heritage Fund) and the National Heritage Technical Officer of the NHF proceeded to Rodrigues from Saturday 3rd of August to Tuesday 6th of August 2019 to discuss with the Executive Council and the authorities in Rodrigues on the way forward to assess the situation in situ.

A first meeting was held on Monday 5th of August at the Central Administration in the presence of the Chief Commissioner and some colleagues Commissioners and the restricted Committee set up to monitor the project. Visits were also carried out on the site of the treasure, the alleged treasure, and a non-intrusive survey was done by the officers of the NHF in the presence of officers of my Commission and other partners. The assistance of the Cadastral Office was also sought to carry out a cadastral survey of the site and to provide a complete map of the site as well as the ancient cadastral survey of the region to be put at the disposal of the NHF technicians.

Madam Chair, I am also pleased to inform the House that Professor Abungo, a Kenyan Archeologist who has worked on the Séga Tambour dossier and who masters the Rodriguan context really well is presently in Rodrigues to assist the Commission on that matter. The latter has recommended that the excavation be carried out. And, my Commission is finalising the steps for the works to be carried out with all the concerned parties.

Madam Chair, with regard to part (b) (ii) of the question, the site was placed under sentry by the SMF since 6th of July 2019 up to date. On the 16th of July 2019, a correspondence was sent to the Divisional Commander of Rodrigues Police to request, to reinforce security on the site and restrict access to unauthorised persons. The number of officers of the SMF was then increased from two to three including the support of the Regular Police. Procedures are being initiated to declare the site 'Restricted Area' and, arrangements are also being made to fence same.

With regard to part (b) (iii) of the question, Madam Chair, I wish to reassure the House that the case is being considered under all its aspects including the legal implications. We are going to ensure that whatever legal action needed to be taken is taken. To date, we have no confirmation apart from the affidavit sworn by the two individuals that the treasure really exists. Excavation works need to be carried out to confirm the discovery. The process has already started with the collaboration of the NHF.

Madam Chair, following the mission of the delegation from Mauritius to Rodrigues, the report on the non-intrusive survey carried out is being awaited in the days to come. Follow up actions with time frame will be determined based on the findings on the non-intrusive survey carried out.

However, Madam Chair, I wish to reassure the House as well that the matter is being treated with much seriousness and as a top priority by my Commission. While ensuring that prompt actions are being taken, it is also important that things are being done meticulously, methodically and in a scientific manner so that all important aspects are being taken into consideration.

Madam Chair, nevertheless, I am pleased to inform the House that to date, based on the observations made on the site by officers and other related persons, confirmation has been obtained that the site is of historical significance which compels us for further archeological surveys to be undertaken. Based on that, the site will be developed and treated as a historical site.

The Rodrigues Regional Assembly is working in close collaboration with all parties concerned namely; the Ministry of Defence and Rodrigues, the Ministry of Arts and Culture, the NHF amongst others on the matter. At the level of Rodrigues, the reported discovery is closely monitored by the restricted committee set up. A technical team comprising of Archaeologists, officers of the RRA, that is, the Archives Unit, Land Survey, Environment, Forestry Officers and the NHF is being set up and will work in synergy for archeological surveys that will be taken. Thank you, Madam Chair.

The Minority Leader: Madam Chair, it seems that we are having long answers, vague answers to precise questions. One first question I would like to ask the Respected Commissioner. Being given that she has said that she took cognizance of the said treasure through the press on the 25th of June this year, and paradoxically she said that on the 11th of June the Executive Council was made aware of the treasure by the Minister Mentor. How does she reconcile this fact? Does she form part of the Executive Council?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, on the date and the chronology there is no fact to reconcile. Because the fact remains, we learnt about the treasure on the 9th of June. This is a fact. And, the letter dated from the Ministry on the 11th, from the Ministry was sent to us. I have never contradicted myself and there is no paradox. This is how things were and I report it the way things are.

The Minority Leader: Therefore, can I know when was she made aware of the letter of the 11th of June?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, with regard to the letter that was sent to us on the 11th, we received the information on the 22nd of June and base on that, prior to that, action had already been initiated. But the letter was dated on the 11th. Whatever happens though, the question is, when we received the letter and when the information was sent to us by the press, we did not act as elephants *dans un magazine de porcelaine*. We preferred to act soundly and this is why today...

Madam Chairperson: Order!

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: This is why today, I am in a position to inform this House despite the demagogies that are coming up, to inform this House of the actions taken and the actions that are to come.

The Minority Leader: Madam Chair...

Madam Chairperson: Order, order. Minority Leader, it seems that the Respected Member Perrine has a question, please. Yes, Respected Member you have the floor to put your question now. Respected Member, Perrine.

The Minority Leader: No, this is my question. I would like to

Madam Chairperson: Yes, but I give the floor to Respected ...

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: He asks his question and then I will ...

Madam Chairperson: Okay.

The Minority Leader: Okay, thank you. On the 25th of June to a question put by the Respected Member, Rosaire Perrine, the Respected Commissioner said that she knew nothing about that. She learnt from the press. Now we have made to understand from the PNQ put by the Leader of the Opposition in Mauritius that on the 11th of June, the Minister Mentor, the Right Honourable Minister Mentor has informed the Chief Commissioner, once the issue was made known to him, it was on the 11th of June. This is why I am quite ... by this answer. Can we know whether the Chief Commissioner has brought this to your attention, whether you were in the Executive Council, whether you work as a team or not?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, having gone through the answer, I have examined exactly what I have said on the sitting on the 25th of June. And, I exactly reported what I said today. I reported what I said today with additional explanation showing that we are working seriously on the file. And, I

have mentioned also that, I quote, I am quoting myself: “*I requested the Archive Unit of my Commission to make an enquiry of same in view of gathering more information on the discovery to enable and inform decision by my Commission and by Rodrigues Regional Assembly.*” End of quote and I am quoting the sitting on the 25th.

The Minority Leader: So, still on the 25th she said she knew nothing. So, we are to understand that she was kept in the dark. Okay. Now, concerning the treasure, can we know, given that since more than, almost two years, the treasure has been discovered. In fact, it was discovered in January 2018. Affidavit was signed in July 2018 and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly has taken notice of this, if we are made to understand, on the 11th of June this year, more about one year after that. Can we know whether proper site visit has been made in order to guarantee that the site has not been tampered with?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chairperson, indeed proper sites visit have been made. Site visit has been made firstly by the restricted committee that has been set up to ensure that we know what we are talking about and where we are. Secondly, the delegation from Mauritius including an archeologist from the NHF, also came so that we can have sound information for informed decision as I said. Then the excavation works that will be undertaken soon will confirm hundred percent whether or not the site has been tampered. For the time being, a non-intrusive survey was carried out and it is preliminary to the excavation work that needs to be done. So, the excavation works will come and the archeologist will have to confirm whether the site has remained untouched or not. Thank you.

The Minority Leader: Prior to the excavation work, we have some information given by this so call searchers himself. Because in fact, it was a treasure search. *Ce n'est pas par hasard qu'ils ont découverts cela.* This is why we believe that we should have a counter affidavit signed. Therefore, Madam Chair, can I know from the Respected Commissioner, what have we found at the site, does he has the details of the different artefacts that have been found on the site up to now?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Yes, Madam Chair, if need be for a counter affidavit, we will go for it. Because there is the Legal Adviser working on this file and we have to go very prudently on this file. Let us be kept informed that these are the rare cases of treasure discovery within the Republic of Mauritius. And, we have to be very cautious and we have to look at all the legal parameters around it. With regard to reports and artefacts, I mentioned it in my reply, we are awaiting the final report in the days to come. And, of course, we will be glad to share it after we receive it.

The Minority Leader: So, being given, as we have been made to understand, that no artefacts are in the custody actually of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly of your Commission. And, according to the answer received from the PNQ of the Leader of the Opposition, well it has so many objects that have been found. A rusted chest damaged on the edge as if it received a knock and leaning towards the west. This is a very... the details are there. According to Mr. Roger De Spéville, the said chest might date as far back as 300 years. And, a piece of metal strip reinforcement. All these details are there. And, to the right of the inclined lining chest, you see all these, the remains of broken row, seemingly from an open pulley hoist system, symmetrically objects used by men probably to lower the chest into the hole. And, top of all, a chimerical object, *une chimère*, seemingly with a scull of goat and possibly the body of a fish make up of gold. Can we know whether all these artefacts are there? Because I have been there, I have seen nothing, I have seen no chest, nothing. So, there must have been excavation or illegal excavation.

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: *So, what happens, Madam Chair. If the Minority Leader has been on a site, he saw nothing. Why should I see something? Why should I see something? At the time I am talking to you, I am waiting to see it like you are waiting to see it.* Moi, enfin je suis croyante mais je croirai après avoir vu. Mais l'information que vous décrivez nous aussi nous avons cette information-là. C'est pour cela que les archéologues eux aussi, c'est eux qui vont pouvoir déterminer. Comme vous le dites c'est eux qui vont pouvoir dire ben le site a été *tampered* comme vous le dites ou pas. C'est eux qui vont dire. Parce que nous avec les yeux nous voyons certaines choses et parfois peut-être vous-même en allant sur le site vous y êtes aller avec la vision de voir un trésor, voilà le trésor. Mais eux ils vont pour découvrir les petits détails autour qui vont nous permettre vraiment de construire ce dossier-là. Donc, nous n'avons rien en main en ce moment mais nous travaillons possiblement pour avoir quelque chose en main.

The Minority Leader: Madam Chair, what I am saying, I am just repeating what the Commissioner, the Respected Commissioner, Payendee has said to the press. He said that the treasure has been *extirpé*...

Madam Chairperson: This is not allowed. You come with your question now.

The Minority Leader: Okay. Question straight forward. Can we know whether the treasure has been *extirpé* as certain persons have said?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, I have no treasure. If someone has *extirpé* the treasure, then it is in someone else hand. But it is not in the hands of RRA.

The Minority Leader: But therefore, Madam Chair, this is, well this is why I put the question. You have your Legal Advisers, why have you not put a case to the Police. Because you know when Lord Carnarvon and Howard Carter, when they started the treasure, search for treasure in Egypt, they asked for permission to the Egyptian Government. But here, no permission has been asked. This is tantamount to robbery of Rodriguan artefacts. This is why this is a robbery of our *patrimoine*. This is why we say there is a Police case here.

Madam Chairperson: We are still waiting for the question, Minority Leader.

The Minority Leader: The question it is clear. It is clear. Can we know whether we are going to have a Police case on this? Because we cannot allow anybody coming in Rodrigues and search and take the treasure and go away.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, thank you.

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, if... I have made a declaration to the press stating that... and I have made it clear in my reply that one of the aspects in which we are dealing with the treasure is that it is an artefact and we have to construct all the history around it. And, it can be constructed with or without the treasure. And, I mentioned that the site is of historical significance. This is confirmed. So, what happens is that I have mentioned also that our history has to be protected and we should not be deprived of things that pertain to our history. Reason why also, I have also mentioned that the Legal Adviser of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly is also looking at the file with much, meticulously so that we have a proper way forward. And, the archeologist who are well informed in this field they can also give their views, how to go about it. Because neither you nor I, nor us, nor you, we have the expertise for this. So, we have to wait for persons to give us the way forward. But for sure, as the Commissioner for Arts and Culture, I will have to fight with the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and the Chief Commissioner so that the Rodriguan history and artefacts remain to Rodrigues.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Mme. la présidente, nous avons l'impression ici que la Commissaire ne s'occupe pas du dossier.

Madam Chairperson: Please be brief, Respected Member.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Je viens avec la question... Oui. Concernant les *guidelines*, Mme. la présidente. Elle a parlé de *guidelines*. Il n'y a pas de *guidelines*. La lettre a été envoyé le 11 juin. Aujourd'hui on est le 20 août. Donc, j'aimerais demander au Commissaire si elle a établi *the guidelines* ou bien si sa Commission travaille sur ce *guidelines* en même temps avec le Legal Adviser ?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Mme. la présidente, je suis choqué d'entendre le Membre dire que je ne m'occupe pas de ce dossier. Et, surtout en ayant écouté attentivement la réponse. Mais toutes les actions sont prises. On aurait voulu peut-être, l'autre côté de la Chambre aurait voulu que j'aille sur le site avec un JCB et je vais cafouiller et retirer les grosses pierres et je dis voilà le trésor. Mais ce n'est pas comme ça. Ce n'est pas comme ça. On ne peut pas aller là-bas avec un JCB. Il faut établir la vérité autour de ce trésor. Et pour rétablir la vérité autour de ce trésor c'est des scientifiques qui peuvent le faire, c'est des personnes légales qui pourront le faire et c'est pour cela qu'on a notre comité, notre *technical team*, comprenant des archéologues, des Land Surveyors, des Environment and Forest Officers and Legal Advisers *to help us work this file. So, why are you talking about nothing being done because we know what to do and we are doing it.*

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, please. I can allow only two last questions. One from Member Volbert and one from Member Augustin. That is all. We have been ...

The Minority Leader: This is of paramount importance...

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, Minority Leader, I am on my feet. I can understand the paramount importance...

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: You will allow me to rule? Will you? I can understand the paramount importance of the said question but time is running. Other Members have put their questions on the Order Paper today. The other Members also have the ultimate right to have their answers. I can allow only two additional. One from Member Volbert and one from Member Augustin. That is all.

Yes, Respected Member, Volbert.

[Interruption]

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Merci, Madam Chairperson. Peut-on savoir en quelle capacité le Dr. Abungo est allé visiter le site et qui a fait appel au Dr. Abungo de Kenya ?

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chairperson, the Professor Abungo indeed is on mission to Rodrigues. And, it is upon our request that he is there. Because he was actually in Mauritius. And, we deemed it right that he is the one to have worked on our Séga Tambour dossier, which is now inscribed as Intangible Heritage. And, he has an archeological background...

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner, please you address the Chair.

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: No worries, Madam Chair. And, he has an archeological background as well. And, he is used to working with the National Heritage Fund, with UNESCO as well. Why should not he be here? So, the action has been taken. So, it was wrong to say that actions are not being taken because the Professor is in here, in Rodrigues and he is helping us.

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Order! Order!

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Madam Chair, ...

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Order, Respected Members, please no cross-talking.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Monsieur Roger De Spéville and Mr. Desiré Némorin sworn an affidavit on 15 May 2019. Can we know from the Commissioner, what is said in this affidavit and can she inform the House and table the said affidavit?

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Order! Order!

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, Madam Chair, Madam Chair, thank you for giving me the floor to answer to this question. Indeed, the Respected Member, Reddy Augustin, he clearly mentioned that an affidavit was sworn on the 15th of May and the persons claimed that the treasure was discovered in August 2018, apparently. The affidavit is here but saying that we knew about the... knowing that we knew... saying that we knew about the existence of the

treasure for some two years back is totally wrong and bringing the persons, misleading the Rodriguan people. This is misleading the Rodriguan people. Because we were officially made aware according to the chronology.

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner, please.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: On a point of order.

Madam Chairperson: To which Standing Order are you referring to?

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Imputing motives to this Assembly, Standing Order 19 on us. Madam Chairperson, the question was very clear. To table the affidavit. This is a public domain. Can the Commissioner... Yes, for the sake of transparency...

Madam Chairperson: For your information imputing motive... Respected Member, for your information, imputing motive is Standing Order 36.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Okay, I let you explain the case and I will rule after that.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Yes, Madam Chairperson. The question was clear. The Member Augustin put the question, was clear. Can the Commissioner inform the House with regard to the affidavit, to table a copy of the affidavit? And, she is referring to what the Minority Leader has said two years back. This is not the answer. And, you give us only one last question. So, we want answer. Please, give the answer to the House and/or table the affidavit.

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Perrine please.

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Perrine, I have been very patient with you today. I have been very patient with you today. I give you one chance to calm down. I understand, I understand emotions are flowing right now but I give you the chance to calm down. Remember where you are today. Remember the place where you are today. I am asking you to uphold the decorum of this House for the sake of this Assembly. And, Respected Member, you should not be making conversation with the Chair. The Chair is here to rule and the ruling

of the Chair is final. You should be knowing that. After all these years you have been serving this Assembly you should be well aware of that. For the Commissioner, Commissioner I would ask you to be concise in your answer, not referring to answers of other Respected Members of this House. Please, be concise in answering the question of the Respected Member, Augustin.

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, I was just establishing the fact around the dates. The affidavit states that the discovery was made on the 20th of August 2018, Madam Chair. And, allow me to enlighten the House about this. Because several dates have been mentioned and I need to make the House aware of how the situation is. And, the people of Rodrigues how the situation is especially with regard to dates and chronology. Madam Chair, if you are aware it is only some months back that we became aware of the existence of a potential treasure on this island. I have heard some people say that in 2008, there were persons looking for treasures in this island. But, Madam Chair, this government was not in power at that time. And, while going to the files I have seen no records from the former government, the previous government that were there during 2006 to 2011 with regard to a potential treasure and treasure searchers in Rodrigues. Especially with regard to the Member Rosaire Perrine...

[Interruption]

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: On a point of order. Madam, she is taking the time of the Chamber for giving long explanation with regard to one question that the Member Augustin put.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, thank you, Respected Member. I have asked you Commissioner to be concise and to be brief in your answer and be brief. Reply to the question of the Respected Member.

[Interruption]

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, I understand your ruling, Madam Chair. I also understand that it is of paramount interest and the Member himself said that there were searchers in 2008. And, also that he was the Adviser of Culture, may be he is aware and we are not.

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner, please. Be brief. Time is running.

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: With regard to the affidavit. The affidavit is clear about date and chronology on how and when the treasure was discovered and also how it was discovered. It was said here. Now it is said how

it is discovered, that is, haphazardly on a trekking and etc. So, what is... I am talking about the affidavit, Madam Chair.

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Order, please. Respected Member, Perrine. Respected Member, Perrine. Yes, Commissioner.

Mrs. M. R. L. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, also all the dates were mentioned with regard to the fact that the persons who discovered the treasure *par le pure effet du hasard*. This is in the affidavit. I was asked to describe what is in the affidavit. I am giving details of the affidavit. Also note also that, signs and marking on the site were discovered by the two persons on 17th of August 2019 as sworn in the affidavit on the 15th of May. So, this is *en gros*. This is what is written in this affidavit and the dates are from August 2018.

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Okay. Next question.

Miss M. R. Collet: Thank you very much, Mrs. Chairperson, Question B/100.

HIGH SEA FISHING COURSES

(No. B/100) Miss M. R. Collet (First Local Region Member for Maréchal) asked the Commissioner for Fisheries and Others whether, in regard to high sea fishing courses delivered by his Commission for the financial year 2018/2019, he will, for the benefit of the House, state and table the: -

- (a) number thereof and the corresponding duration of same, if any;
- (b) number of fishermen targeted;
- (c) facilities offered to fishermen to complete such courses; and
- (d) costs implications thereof?

The Commissioner for Agriculture and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Madam Chairperson, as regards to part (a) of the question, I wish to inform the House that one training course in off-lagoon fishing technique has been delivered by the Fisheries Research and Training Unit. The training started on the 13th of May 2019 and was completed on the 1st of July 2019.

The training is divided into theory and practical. The theoretical class is of 10 days' duration and has started on 13th of May and completed on the 24th May 2019. The practical sessions at sea are of five days' duration for each small group of four to five trainees within the batch. It is run on cumulative days depending on weather conditions at sea. The practical training started on the 28th of May 2019 and was completed on Monday 1st of July 2019 for the last small group.

Madam Chairperson, the answer to part (b) is as follows. I am informed by the Fisheries Protection Service that 202 Rodriguans are eligible for training. A batch of 30 has been selected, in order of date of application for the training this fiscal year. Only 28 attended the training.

Madam Chairperson, with regard to part (c), I am informed by the Fisheries and Training Unit that the following facilities are offered to each participant:

- (i) a stipend of Rs 250 per day;
- (ii) refreshment; and
- (iii) refund of training.

Madam Chairperson, Madam, the answer to part (d) of the question. My Commission invested the sum of Rs 486,500 for the training.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Mme. la présidente, je peux savoir du Commissaire. Peut-être que je n'ai pas entendue. Est-ce que ces pêcheurs-là concernent des pêcheurs qui ont des cartes ou bien ceux qui ont des cartes provisoires ou ceux qui auront des cartes après ?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chairperson, je ne sais pas de quelle carte provisoire le Membre est en train de parler. Nous on parle des gens selon... d'après ma réponse j'ai bien dit que c'est par ordre d'application. Ceux qui ont fait l'application avant, c'est en ordre de priorité.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Suivant la réponse du Commissaire, Mme. la présidente, il a dit que 202 pêcheurs ont été *targeted* et seulement 28 sont venus pour faire les cours. Mais qu'est-ce qui s'est passé ? Pourquoi est-ce que 202 ont été *targeted* et puis il y a que 28, 10% qui sont venus. Qu'est-ce qui se passe avec la Commission ? Qu'est-ce qui se passe à la Commission de la Pêche ?

Madam Chairperson: Yes, thank you. Commissioner.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chair, je crois que le Membre n'a rien compris. Parce que quand on parle de... il y a 202 personnes, à moins qu'on ouvre

une école pour faire l'école de Le Chou, un collège pour faire le training de 202 personnes. Ce n'est pas possible. Et, j'ai bien dis aussi...

Madam Chairperson: Order!

Mr. J. R. Payendee: J'ai bien dis dans ma réponse qu'il y a deux parties de formation. Il y a la théorie et la pratique. Comment est-ce qu'on peut mettre 202 personnes dans un bateau pour aller faire le training, Madame ? En pratique, quand est-ce qu'on va finir ? Et puis, on a une seule personne qui fait le training. Donc, quand une personne... nous maintenant ont fait des écoles communautaires parce qu'on sait qu'on ne peut pas mettre beaucoup de personne dans une classe mais comment est-ce qu'on peut mettre 30... on a pensé que 30 serait l'idéale pour que cette personne puisse s'en occuper. Mais le Membre veut que je prenne, on prenne 200/202 mais ça ce n'est pas possible, Madame. Donc, chacun son tour, tout le monde suivra.

The Minority Leader: Can I know from the Respected Commissioner,

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Grandcourt please.

The Minority Leader: I would like to know whether he have information concerning the number of fisherman with a fisherman's card? In order to distinguish between the different type of fisherman.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chairperson, I do not have the information. But it is... I do not know if the Member is talking about in-lagoon card or off-lagoon. I do not have... It is around 600 fishermen having cards already. But we are trying to increase the number and also we should know that there is a lot. That is why may be the thing I did not say was after the training there is something else that happen. We do a social survey. Because before people were getting fisherman card and not being fisherman. That is why we are doing social survey to make sure that the person who is doing the training is a real fisherman before we issue the fisherman card.

The Minority Leader: Matter of precision. Can I know whether you are talking of permanent card or *les cartes qui* temporary?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: On ne donne pas de carte temporaire. Ça c'est le passé. Nous on donne des cartes qui sont permanentes et qu'avec cette carte-là, la personne peut bénéficier des facilités. Et, pas de carte provisoire. Nous on ne donne pas ça.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Yes, Madam Chair. Concerning the practical training of the off-lagoon fishermen. Can we know from the Commissioner which fishing vessels was involved?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chair, on utilise les bateaux de pêche, il y en a cinq. Donc, il y a deux là-dedans qui sont utilisés pour faire le training.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Can we know what happen to Diégo Rodriguez, please?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Diégo Rodriguez, Madam Chair, c'est le bateau qui normalement est utilisé pour faire la formation. Et malheureusement, Diégo c'est un bateau qui est très vieux et qui demande beaucoup de *maintenance*. Et, pour le moment le bateau a un petit problème technique. Donc, c'est pour ça on aurait pu ne pas faire le training mais on a préféré utiliser les autres bateaux pour faire le training.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Can we know from the Commissioner the cost of the practical training?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: J'ai déjà donné... le cost de quoi ? Ah, comment on a payé le bateau ? On ne paye pas le bateau. C'est un bateau qui appartient à l'état, malheureusement. Heureusement aussi.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Madam Chair, can the Commissioner give us the name of this fishing vessel who do the training for these fishermen?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chair, il y a des questions qui ne sont pas... le nom d'un bateau... Bon, je peux donner le nom d'un bateau. Mais c'est quoi ça ? Non, je ne vais pas...

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner, Commissioner, please.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Je ne vais pas répondre à cette question, Madame.

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner either you answer or not. Yes, Respected Member, Félicité.

Mr. Z. Félicité: So, after training completed, can I know from the Commissioner how many time it takes for a fisherman to receive his professional fishing card?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chair, I said after the training we have to do a social survey. And, it is not the Commission that does it. We work in collaboration with the Commission for Social Security. So, it takes the time that will take... there is no definite time for that because it depends on different things that are not under the control of the Commission.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, Member Grandcourt.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Yes, thank you, Mrs. Chairperson. Yes, the question state and table. I have not seen the Commissioner tabling any paper. So, can he please table the requested information.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: I will table the information later, Madam, I do not have it.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, one last from Member Augustin.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Yes, Madam Chair, the Commissioner does not want to give us the amount paid to these fishing vessels and the name of these fishing vessels but there was a contract signed by the Commissioner and the Rodrigues Offshore Fishermen Cooperative Federation. For the amount of how much?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: I do not have the information, Madam Chair.

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Perrine. I am sorry there are two Members who have asked for questions. Yes, Member Félicité.

Mr. Z. Félicité: The Commissioner just mentioned there is a... they conduct a social survey. Can I know from the Commissioner who are the persons who conduct these surveys?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Yes, Madam. I said that we send the information to the Social Security Commission and there we have the Labour Office and we go through different Commissions to see whether that person is a contractor. You know we have contractors here, who already owned a fishing card, unfortunately. So, we want to make sure that the person... we go round the Commission for Tourism to see they have not got any permit with regard to Pleasure Craft. If they do not have a business, you know. If that person has a business, then he is not eligible for a card.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, I can allow two last questions. One from Member Collet and what from Member Perrine and that is all. Yes.

Miss M. R. Collet: Mrs. Chairperson for the purposes of enlightenment can the Respected Commissioner, give an indication as to when the next batch of applicants will be on training?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Yes, Madam, the next batch will be for soon, as soon as we finish the survey, which means that may be in two, three months' time.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Madam, the Commissioner mentioned that he does not have the answer pertaining to public money, public funds. May I ask the Commissioner to confirm to the House whether on the 27th of May 2019, there was a contract, an offer by the Rodrigues Offshore Fishermen Cooperation Federation to the Commission for Fisheries and Others for hiring of fishing vessels for off-lagoon training of fishermen by the Fisheries Research and Unit to the tune of Rs 300,000?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chairperson, I cannot confirm this because I do not have the information with me.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Yes, if the Commissioner do not confirm, I would like to table the document to the House and inform the House that accordingly that you... at the earliest. I am tabling this document coming from your Commission.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, next question.

Miss M.R. Collet: B/101.

RENOVATION – COMMUNITY & HEALTH CENTRES

(No. B/101) Miss M. R. Collet (First Local Region Member for Maréchal) asked the Commissioner for Community Development and Others whether, in regard to the renovation of community and health centres around the island by his Commission, he will, for the benefit of the House, state and table the:-

- (a) status of any tendering process therefor;
- (b) status of any renovation works undertaken for financial years 2017/2018 and 2018/2019; and
- (c) number and list of community and health centres targeted?

The Commissioner for Community Development and Others (Mr. S. P. Roussety): Madam Chairperson, as regards to part (a) of the question, I wish to inform the House that presently, there are two tenders which have been floated by my Commission through restricted bidding for the Upgrading of Zita Jean Louis Area Health Centre at Mont. Lubin and the renovation of Roche Bon Dieu Community Health Centre.

For the upgrading of Zita Jean Louis Area Health Centre, tender was launched on the 27th June 2019 and closed on the 18th July 2019. By the closing date, three bids were received and referred to a Bid Evaluation Committee for evaluation. Same is still under way and we hope to be able to award the contract during the forthcoming week.

For the renovation of works at Roche Bon Dieu Community Health Centre, tender was launched on the 12th August 2019 and will be closed on the 29th August 2019.

As regards to part (b), I am pleased to inform the House that in 2017, my Commission has inaugurated one Community Centre at Pavé la Bonté. For financial Year 2017/2018 and 2018/2019, we inaugurated four Community Centres namely Palissade, Accacia, Petit Gabriel and Terre Rouge.

We intend to construct new Community Centres respectively at Baie Malgache, Fond la Digue and Anse Fémie as already announced during Budget Debates for financial year 2019/2020. The sites have already been identified and consultant is working on the preliminary designs and estimated cost of the project.

Concerning Community Health Centres, my Commission has renovated the one at Petit Gabriel. The contract was awarded on the 25th June 2018 to the tune of Rs 3,737,500. orks have already been completed in December 2018.

Madam Chairperson, as regards to part (c) of the question, and with the avenue of the family doctor project, my Commission is targeting to renovate and upgrade four other Community Health Centres during financial year 2019/2020 namely Rivière-Coco, Port-Sud-Est, Cascade Jean Louis and Mangues in addition to Roche Bon Dieu. Consultant has already started to prepare tender documents which will be launched in due course.

Madam Chairperson, I am tabling the list of Community Centres and Community Health Centres we intend to renovate in the long term.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, as regards to the renovation of the Community Health Centres, concerning the tendering. The Commissioner mentioned Roche Bon Dieu and I do not remember. So, those who are on tendering process. So, can he tell the House about the estimated cost of the work to be carried out there?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, the estimated cost is purely administrative. The Commissioner has no figures for this figure. It is purely administrative, the tender is still under procedures, I do not have the information.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: I do not understand. Madam Chairperson, allow me, allow me. I do not understand. We are here to put question to the Commissioner, he is supposed to give us answer. Now he tells me that this is administrative. Which is which? Either he comes here he does the work correctly or he sits down on, I do not know what he has to do.

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Grandcourt, please.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: I insist; this is not correct.

Madam Chairperson: You cannot insist, Standing Orders are clear about that.

[Interruption]

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, if I had the figures for the estimated cost of a tenders. So, I may give some contractors the figures so that they can quote less or more but it is not our duty, it is not our duty to have the estimated cost. A Commissioner does not have the duty to have the estimated cost before a tender.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, I know why I put the question. It is already in the tendering process. He said it is being finalised. This means that the tender has already been opened. Since it has already been opened it is official, now he can give the figures. He cannot come and hide behind the fact that he does not know he says he does not know. Not come here and tell us that it is not proper to give it. Your tendering procedures has already been completed.

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Grandcourt, yes you have made your point. Next question.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Can we know from the Commissioner the state of Oyster Bay Community Health Centre, who got the contract and since when the contract was awarded and when the contract will be finished?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, the construction of the community health centres of Oyster Bay is still ongoing. The contract was awarded on the 17 November 2017 for the sum of 9,833,919 but it is long overdue and the project is now about 51% completed and with 10 to 11 months' delay.

Madam Chairperson: Next question.

Miss M. R. Collet: Mrs. Chairperson, will the respected Commissioner give information as to the steps to be taken for a village to have his Community Centre upgraded to the status of Community and Health Centre?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: As I have said, Madam Chairperson, there are 14 community centres and four community health centres to be renovated. But this will take time and we will in the work very soon.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: With regards to community centre of Oyster Bay, the Commissioner mentioned that the contract has been awarded since November 2017 and there is a delay in the completion of work. Can the Commissioner confirm to the House whether the contractor is... 14. Whether there will be penalty on this lateness or give us some details about this matter, please.

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, all will be done as per contract. Definitely, there will be a liquidated damage. There will be a penalty applied to the contractor. And, the consultant is working on the report which will be submitted to the Commission very soon.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, next question!

Miss M. R. Collet: B/102.

FACILITIES – ELECTRIFICATION OF MORCELLEMENTS/SETTLEMENTS

(No. B/102): The First Local Region Member of Maréchal (Miss M. R. Collet) asked the Deputy Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to facilities provided through his Commission for the electrification of *morcellements/settlements* around the island by the Central Electricity Board (CEB), he will, for the benefit of the House, state and table the: -

- (a) number of *morcellements* where needful has been done with the CEB for the installation of electric poles;
- (b) *morcellements* where poles have been installed; and
- (c) amounts disbursed therefor as at date?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Madam Chairperson,

- (a) Necessary arrangements have been done with the Central Electricity Board for the electrification of 14 Morcellement parceling sites namely Mourouk, Batatran 2, Batatran 3 and 4, Patate Theophile, Baladirou, Terre Rouge, Songes, Cascade Jean Louis, Baie Diamant, Anse Nicolas 1, Anse Nicolas 2, Fond La Bonté, Mt du Sable and Rivière Banane.
- (b) Works have started and completed in 10 of the sites and is on-going at Mt du Sable and Anse Nicolas 1. Works is yet to start at Batatran 2 and Rivière Banane. I am tabling a copy of progress of works done together with their cost estimates for the 14 morcellements.
- (c) The amount for the electrification of the above morcellements is about Rs.13,316,496.

The Minority Leader : Madam Chair, I would like to ask the Deputy Chief Commissioner, being given that we are talking of lighting, street lighting, can I know whether the street lighting, this will be done on a regular basis or intermittently? I explain. Just before, prior to the Jeux des Iles, like in Terre Rouge and certain areas of Port Mathurin, Anse aux Anglais, there was full lighting everywhere. After the Jeux des Iles, *propre*. Black out! Can we know why this is so?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : I cannot see the relation of the question of the Minority Leader with the question set because you are speaking about electrification of morcellement here. It is not about street lighting as he is speaking about. In fact, there will be another question relating to street lighting just afterwards. Just afterwards, yes. But, nevertheless, I do not see the relation of his question to that of electrification of morcellement.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, indeed, Deputy Chief Commissioner. You put another question, Minority Leader.

The Minority Leader : Okay. Well, when I was talking of morcellement, are we to understand that the morcellement do not need any street lighting? Because electrification, this is included in this also.

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Yes, Madam Chairperson, the question relates to electrification...

Madam Chairperson: Yes, I understand your point, Deputy Chief Commissioner. Minority Leader, please, put another question relating to morcellement as stated by the Deputy Chief Commissioner. You will have time to put question for street lighting specifically later. Thank you.

Mr. Z. Félicité: Concerning morcellement, can I know from the Commissioner whether there is a board who monitor all these projects in morcellement?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Yes, Madam Chairperson. There a technical committee at the level of my Commission comprising of the CEB and officers of my Commission and of course, whenever there is any request or there is the need for the electrification of morcellement, we do make the request to the CEB for doing so.

Madam Chairperson: Next question!

STATUS OF INFRASTRUCTURAL PROJECTS – FINANCIAL YEAR 2018/2019

(No. B/103): The First Local Region Member of Maréchal (Miss M. R. Collet) asked the Deputy Chief Commissioner whether he will, for the benefit of the House, state and table on the status of infrastructural projects being implemented by his Commission around the island for financial year 2018/2019, indicating any delay occasioned in the commissioning thereof, more specifically with regards to track roads, renovation of water reservoirs and street lightings?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Madam Chairperson, as regard to:

- **Track Roads**

Four works orders for track road were under implementation, in region no. 1, 2, 3 and 5 for fiscal year 2018/2019.

/UNREVISED/

Works in Region No.2 were practically completed in August 2018. Complex site in Rivière Coco was left for implementation during the Maintenance Period. The same site is now about 70-75% of progress.

Works in Region No. 3 were practically completed in December 2017. A few additional works were under implementation during financial year 2018-2019 and they are now completed.

Works in Region Nos. 1 and 5 were practically completed in December 2018.

Tenders for an additional 30km of track road was launched in 19 March 2019 with closing date on 3rd May 2019. Only one bid was received and found non-responsive as the tendered value was substantially higher than the estimated cost. Tenders has been re-launched on 16 July 2019 with closing date on this coming Thursday 22 August 2019.

As regard to:

- **Renovation of Water Reservoirs**

As announced in budget speech 2018/2019, tenders were launched for the construction of two reservoirs each at Mont Cabris and Hauteur Accacia. On the closing date on 22nd February 2019, only one bid was received for each reservoir and they were found to be non-responsive once again due to its substantially high quoted value. Tenders has been relaunched on 19 July 2019 with closing date on 02 September 2019.

Now, as regard to:

- **Street Lightings**

My Commission launched quotation for the purchase of 400 units of lamps for street lighting project during financial year 2018 and 2019.

All the lamps have been delivered and the installation is on-going around the island. So far, 334 lamps have been installed including those that have had to be repaired following cyclones Gelena and Joaninha.

Procedures for the purchase for some additional 400 lamps is underway for on-going financial year.

We have also made request, Madam Chairperson, for extension of street lightings at the following sites: Piment Reposoir, Montagne Malgache Road, Jardin Mamzelle Road, Malartic to Ti Réserve.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Madame la présidente, il y a un souci concernant le *street lighting*. J'ai dû intervenir au parlement. Le Commissaire, je pense, qu'il se rappelle de ça. Je lui ai dit qu'il y a un souci concernant le *street lighting*. Il nous a dit à l'époque qu'il va voir s'il peut avoir le *manpower* nécessaire pour le faire. Mais toujours est-il qu'on a ce problème. Blackout presque partout dans l'île. Donc, j'aimerais demander au Commissaire trois mois de cela, on a posé la question. Maintenant, on revient aussi avec la question. Que fait sa Commission pour palier ce problème ? C'est un réel problème le fait que si la lampe s'allume ou ne s'allume pas, le Gouvernement paye. Donc, ce n'est pas correct. Donc, que fait sa Commission pour régler ce problème ?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Yes, Madam Chairperson, you will realise that as I have stated in my answer, that just for year 2018/2019 up to now, we have had the installation of 334. 334... Yes, new! 334 new street lightings. Yes, we have had of course, the problem that has been caused specially to damage that occurred during the cyclone Genela and Joaninha. This has somehow disrupted the progress of our work but one thing that the respected Member mentioned is that there is a blackout all around the island. Where is the blackout? Yes, where is the blackout? We do receive requests, Madam Chairperson. We do receive requests from villages whenever there is a problem as regard to non operation of these lamps. And, I can say as far as possible, there is prompt intervention of the electrification team within one week. Yes.

What I have observed in fact and this is why I have given instruction to the Electrification Unit to see about the specification of the lamps, especially the bulbs that are being bought, that are being brought, bought. I noticed by myself that many of these newly installed lamps, they burn quite quickly. In fact, we were in the process of converting the neon light into economic light, economic lamp and what we are observing these days is that many of these economic lamps, they burn more quickly than those of the neon light. So, we are making a follow-up on the matter to see what best specifications we may have for... Yes, the best qualifications. The best qualifications, specifications that we must have for installation of same. When the respected Member is speaking about general blackout, I have here and I am tabling also a copy of where intervention has been made. As per my record, we have had interventions in no less than 80 villages. 80 villages and you are telling me that there is a blackout all through the island. *Non.*

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, he has been talking about 334, lamps being installed, lots of work being done.

Madam Chairperson: No statement, please!

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: I am not. I am not making a statement.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, be brief in your question.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Yes, I am being brief. This is not our problem! The problem is that there is still blackout in some villages. You can say whatever you want. This is not our problem. You have to do the job. I would like to ask him how many units being given that he is increasing the number of lamps, so, how many units are working on the maintenance and installation of these lamps, whether there is only one unit and if yes, whether he intends to increase the unit?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Yes, Madam Chairperson. What is important is the number of personnel that is attached to that unit. The question is there are some sites where there can be direct intervention by the officers of my Commission and if it is true that we have only one elevator as regard to the specific work that has to be done, this is one thing. Nevertheless, as regard to negotiations that have been made with the CEB, we have requested for additional teams from the CEB especially for places where the elevator cannot have access. This is one thing. Yes. So, as far as possible, what maybe proposed, what I am going to propose with the CEB is to provide additional manpower, especially to those sites where the elevator cannot have access.

The Minority Leader : Madam Chair, I would like to ask the respected Deputy Chief Commissioner at a time where we are talking of Rodrigues, île écologique, Rodrigues île verte, at a time where we are talking of reducing our carbon footprint, can I know where we have arrived at concerning the installation of solar lamp.

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Madam Chairperson, if the Minority Leader refers to the budget speech of 2019/2020, we are going ahead for the purchase of some 200 solar lamps and this project rests under the Commission for the Environment. As far as I have understood, these lamps, they are going to be installed at sites where there are no existing poles because we have to be very careful. We are speaking about... It is true what the Minority Leader stated but there is another aspect of matter that we have to look into. We have... We have some 600 lamps proposed to be installed for financial year 2019/2020. If we are going for the installation of... If we are going to go for installation of solar lamps, we were made to understand from the CEB that they are refusing. They are

refusing to allow us to place solar lamps on the poles and this is the case that we have seen at Rivière Cocos Ecological... Eco Village. Yes, they did object and we, also, we are agreeable with the stand of the CEB on that matter. We are not agreeable with the stand of the CEB on that matter because the thing is that if we are going to install solar lamps...

[Interruptions]

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : Yes, if we are going to install solar lamps...

Madam Chairperson: Order!

The Deputy Chief Commissioner : ...This will mean that we will have to install 600 additional poles. Is it ecological? There is a paradox on that matter. There is a paradox on the matter. Installation of solar lamps would mean installation of additional poles which we will have to find equilibrium.

Madam Chairperson: Next question. Minority Leader?

The Minority Leader : B/104, Madam.

RECENT DISMISSAL OF GENERAL WORKERS – PUBLIC SERVICE - RODRIGUES

(No. B/104): The Minority Leader (Mr. L. J. Vonmally) asked the Chief Commissioner whether he will, in regard to the recent dismissal of General Workers from the Public Service in Rodrigues, he will state: -

- (a) the exact number thereof and reasons therefor, indicating the specific clause/s of their agreed terms of employment which was breached, if any; and
- (b) if they will be reinstated in their respective posts and, if so, to give the time frame therefor?

The Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, in my reply to questions B/82 and B/90 at the seating of last August, I had given details on the irregularities with regards to the recruitment of 268 General Workers and informed the House that the matter was referred to the Police for further enquiry.

The advice of the Solicitor General was then sought on the way forward. The latter has advised that in view of the fact that the recruitment exercise is

tainted with irregularities, it is advisable that the employment of all the employees concerned be terminated in accordance with the Termination Clause of the letter of offer by giving one month's notice or paying the corresponding compensation in lieu of such notice. Furthermore, he has also advised that a fresh recruitment exercise be conducted.

On the basis of the advice from the Solicitor General, the Public Service Commission (PSC) has subsequently given its approval for the termination of the employment of the said General Workers.

The employment of the 268 General Workers was terminated on 15th July 2019 by payment of compensation in lieu of one-month notice.

Madam Chairperson, paragraph 4 of the Letter of Offer of the employment clearly spelt out the two circumstances for the termination of the employment:

- (i) the employment may be terminated by giving one-month notice on either side; or
- (ii) the employment may be terminated without notice or compensation in lieu of notice in the event of incompetence, misconduct or insubordination.

Therefore, the question of any breach of terms of employment does not arise.

Madam Chairperson, how can these workers be reinstated since the whole recruitment process is tainted with irregularities and that the Solicitor General has advised that a fresh recruitment process be carried out?

Madam Chairperson, everyone knows that the whole selection and recruitment process will have to be conducted anew. I am informed that procedures have already been initiated and my Office under delegation from the Public Service Commission is putting every possible effort to ensure that the exercise be completed within the shortest possible time.

Madame la Présidente, il est malheureux que l'exercice de recrutement des General Workers ait dû être annulé et que ceux qui méritaient d'être embauchés ont dû subir les conséquences de cette irrégularité.

Madam Chairperson, let the procedures follow the established rules and let us be guided accordingly.

The Minority Leader : Madam Chair, well the Chief Commissioner has talked of tainted irregularities and the two last questions we put to him, he talked of 265 General Workers. Now, he is talking of 268. Can we know what has happened for that number to have been increased?

The Chief Commissioner: Well, I talked just at the beginning of my answer the irregularities with regard to the recruitment of 268 General Workers. I have not talked about the 265. Let us see where we talked about the 265. The employment of 268 General Workers.

Madam Chairperson: Yes.

The Chief Commissioner: A second time, 268. I have seen. I have not seen where we have said 265. No, no, no, no.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, if I understand, you are referring to the previous sitting. Would you please quote the answer from the previous sitting? Because...

The Minority Leader : No, I have just...

[Gap in recording]

The Minority Leader :for the answers, in answers for the last question. Maybe he has been mistaken. He has been mistaken, okay. But it was... We are talking of 265. All through, we have been talking of this and secondly, we know. Well, it is good to clarify everything. Now, I would like to ask the respected Chief Commissioner being given that he has said that there has been tainted irregularity in the recruitment exercise and he have quoted the fourth paragraph, the paper sent to the workers:

“Your employment is liable to termination by one-month notice on either side. The employment may be terminated without notice or compensation in lieu of notice in the event of incompetence, misconduct or insubordination.”

Therefore, being given that these workers have done none of these, so, they are not responsible. They should not be punished or penalised, be dismissed because of this. Can I know what are the responsibilities of the ICE and of these Commissions concerning that?

The Chief Commissioner: Employment may be terminated by giving one month's notice on either side. Yes. Yes, it is in the letter sent to them. Yes. "The employment is liable to termination by one month's notice on either side." It was the letter sent to them, you know. Or, "...the employment may be terminated without notice or compensation in lieu of notice in the event of incompetence, misconduct and insubordination".

The Minority Leader : Madam Chair, I would like to ask the Chief Commissioner, he, himself, he is saying that these workers are innocent and if they are innocent, why do they... Why has your Commission thrown them out?

[Interruptions]

The Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, I said in my reply question B/82 and 90 as a sitting of last August, I had given details on the irregularities with regards to the recruitment of the 268 General Workers and informed the House that the matter was referred to the police for further enquiry and the result of enquiry, there are two. It further informed that police had subsequently arrested two public officers involved in the process in a suspected case of forgery. It is very clear, Madam.

Madam Chairperson: Yes.

The Minority Leader : Yes, Madam Chair, is that very clear that in innocents... *Innocents pe paye pou les coupables*.

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, please, no comments. You will be brief with your question.

The Minority Leader : Yes, it is right away because we are dealing with workers who have lost their "*boussé manzé*".

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, please! I would like to point out something about Standing Orders. Supplementary questions are meant for clarification. So, no statement, please. You ask only for clarification. There are other procedures if you want further statement, there are other procedures that are... already exist. The Standing Orders are there. I cannot bend the Standing Orders to accommodate the wish of any Member unfortunately. So, be brief.

The Minority Leader : Nobody wants these to be bent and neither want to ask them to be bent. What we want to know for clarification, it has been said that the recruitment exercise has been tainted by irregularities. Therefore, our question is: are the workers, they are responsible for that or the Commission, the

Chief Commissioner's Office and this is a case, why have these workers been dismissed? Where are the responsibilities? Who is responsible for that?

The Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, I did reply.... On the basis of the advice from the Solicitor General, the Public Service Commission has subsequently given its approval for the termination of employment of the said General Workers. They have been... Well, they have been employed by the PSC and the PSC takes the decision! This is government's rulings.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, Chief Commissioner, it is clear.

The Chief Commissioner: Yes, yes. And, I said...

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Thank you, Chief Commissioner. I think the matter has been cleared, yes.

The Minority Leader : Okay, can I know whether any testimonial was given to the workers, the General Workers at the time they had been laid off?

The Chief Commissioner: Yes, there has been a testimonial concerning those General Workers. That is what I said. For those General Workers. Yes, yes, yes. Yes. That is why I am looking forward, Madam Chairperson, and I say that something I have said... *Kotsa sa?* Qu'on va faire, qu'on va faire de nouvelles recrutements à travers justement... prenant des... On leur a dit il faut qu'ils s'enregistrent au bureau de l'emploi quand ils seront... sont partis, ils doivent s'enregistrer au bureau de l'emploi et qu'il va y avoir un nouveau recrutement.

The Minority Leader : Yes, for the sake of transparency, Madam Chair, can the chief Commissioner table this testimonial? And secondly, if I can the chief Commissioner...

Madam Chairperson: One question at a time, please!

The Minority Leader : No, just to table. He has nothing to answer.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: It seems that the Chief Commissioner is not willing to table the documents. So, you put other question.

The Minority Leader : Chief Commissioner. Being given that his Commissioner has asked the workers to go anew, to go to the Employment Office, what will be their rent? Will they start anew on the bottom of the ladder or will they be recruited? Well... Will it be taken care of first before taking other workers?

The Chief Commissioner: Well, I think it is a question... This question shall be put to the Commissioner for Employment.

The Minority Leader : He is the Chief Commissioner. He should know! He should know...

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, Standing Orders are clear! You cannot insist on a question.

The Minority Leader : It is for the sake of clarification.

Madam Chairperson: I understand but we must abide to Standing Orders. Yes, respected Member Perrine... Augustin.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Thank you, Madam Chair. The Chief Commissioner just said that there will be fresh recruitment in a shortest possible time. Can we know the timeframe?

The Chief Commissioner: Le plus court possible.

Madam Chairperson: Next question!

The Minority Leader : B/105, Madam.

ACQUISITION OF NEW VEHICLES – RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY

(No. B/105): The Minority Leader (Mr. L. J. Vonmally) asked the Chief Commissioner whether he will, in regard to the acquisition of new vehicles by the Rodrigues Regional Assembly since March 2019 to date, he will indicate the use to which each is being or will be made?

The Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, I have to inform the House that vehicles are being purchased as per the requirements of Commissions of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and the amount purchased depends on funds budgeted for that purpose.

From March 2019 to date, the Rodrigues Regional Assembly has acquired three new vehicles which were delivered on 16th of July 2019.

The three vehicles have been allocated as hereunder :-

- One to the pool of vehicle of Chief Commissioner's Office
- One to the pool of vehicle of the Commission of Youth and Others

[Interruptions]

The Chief Commissioner: Hein! Hein, hein!

- One to the pool of vehicle...

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Order!

The Chief Commissioner: *Aret pété.*

- One to the pool of vehicle of the Commission for Child Development and Others.

Madam Chairperson, I have to inform the House that the acquisition of the three new vehicles has allowed the reallocation of vehicles to other departments. In that respect, one vehicle has been allocated to the Meteorological Services to replace its broken down vehicle and another one to the Commission for Education to be used by the newly recruited Social Workers.

Madam Chairperson, the three vehicles are being used for official use by eligible officials of the Commissions. It is up to each Commission to make maximum use of each vehicle allocated to the fleet.

The Minority Leader : Well, thank you, Madam Chair. Being given that we know that the three vehicles are just outside the compound used by the Commissioner. Can I know why no ambulances have been bought? Because we need ambulances and they are in a pity state. Can we know why?

The Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, ambulance is under the responsibility of the Commissioner for Health! And the cost of an ambulance is very quite different from the cost of an ordinary vehicle. And, he has got money in the budget in his budget. He has got the money in his budget to buy ambulances. It is not our duty.

Mr. Z. Félicité: So, concerning the three motor vehicles that the Commissioner has purchased, can I know from the Chief Commissioner how much it has cost for the three? Each one.

The Chief Commissioner: The three vehicles have been purchased for the sum of Rs3,324,000 including VAT.

Madam Chairperson: Next question!

Mr. J. N. Volbert: B/106, Madam Chair.

**TUBERCULOSIS – NUMBER OF CASES DETECTED
– RODRIGUES**

(No. B/106): The Second Local Region Member of La Ferme (Mr. J. N. Volbert) asked the Commissioner for Health and Others whether he will inform the House of the number of cases of tuberculosis detected in Rodrigues, from January 2019 to date, indicating if there has been any death resulting therefrom during the said period?

The Commissioner for Health and Others: Madam Chairperson, I am informed that three cases of tuberculosis have been detected from January 2019 to date. No cases of death resulting from this disease have been reported so far as all the necessary treatment is available in Rodrigues.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Yes, Madam, can I know from the respected Commissioner whether accommodation is made for male and female patient to be admitted in QEH when affected with (TB) Tuberculosis.

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, there is only one existing isolation room at the Queen Elizabeth Hospital with two beds. A second isolation room will be set up for today at the Zita Jean Louis Area Health Centre to increase the bed capacity to six. And, we have two cases of tuberculosis not long ago. So, one patient, we cannot accommodate one female and one male patient at the ward. So, the male patient was transferred to the Poudre D'Or Hospital in Mauritius.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Can I know from the respected Commissioner what are the actions taken to avoid staffs dealing with TB patient to get contaminated?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, there is a protocol for staff which deal with the tuberculosis patient and this is purely technical.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Yes, Madam Chair, can I know from the respected Commissioner whether there is any specialised nurse dealing with TB patients, specialised nurse?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, the tuberculosis patient is under the care of the Physician and with nurses or Nursing Officers, Man Nursing Officers.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Yes, Madam, is there any bed available for TB patient in ICU?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: No, Madam Chairperson. This type of diseases cannot be placed in ICU.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Yes, Madam, can we know where are tests performed to ascertain whether a patient is affected by TB?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Madame la présidente, lorsqu'un patient est affecté, il vient à l'hôpital, normalement, il y a des tests qu'on fait et définitivement, ça se fait par le laboratoire. The diagnosis is being confirmed by chest x-ray. Three positive samples of sputum acid fast bacilli report this patient is admitted to isolation ward and the Physician care. The Physician contact the Chest Physician at Poudre D'Or Hospital and inform him about the case and treatment started immediately as per protocol. The intensive treatment is of two months' duration during admission and at the same time at the Sanitary Section and the Public Nursing, the.... Health Nursing are notified for contact tracing to close family members and other close contact.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Is there any Chest Physician in post in Rodrigues actually?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: No, Madam Chairperson. The respected Member has not listened to my answer because the Physician contact the Chest Physician at Poudre D'Or.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: On what basis is a Chest Physician available on a tour of duty in Rodrigues? Is there any Chest Physician who come here?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, if need be, the Chest Physician can come to Rodrigues depending on the number of cases of tuberculosis.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Est-ce que le Commissaire est au courant quand il y a un cas de tuberculose détecté, il faudra que le physicien, *Chest Physician* regarde le patient et puis, on réfère le cas à un *Medical Specialist* ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, all protocols are being observed. The Physician contact the Chest Physician at Poudre D'Or to explain the case and all the diagnosis by chest x-ray, positive samples of sputum acid fast bacilli are effected. The patient is admitted.

Mrs. M. T. Agathe: Madame la présidente, je voudrais demander au Commissaire de la santé avec la modernisation de l'hôpital, est-ce que à l'avenir, tous les patients souffrant de cette maladie seront accommodés dans les hôpitaux que nous disons « normaux » ? Oui. *Kot tou malade... Kot tou malade été la si to pou mette tou tuberculose ensam ?*

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Madame la présidente, la respectée membre de l'opposition n'a pas bien compris, n'a pas bien écouté ma réponse.

Mrs. M. T. Agathe: Madam, point of order ! I would like the Commissioner to tell me what I have not understood because I have asked him a question; he should answer my question by a positive answer or he just says I will not answer as usual.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, Commissioner. Commissioner, yes? Indeed, the respected Member is right. You should be concise in your answer and not telling that the respected Member has not understood and you have to withdraw it.

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Yes, I withdraw, Madam Chairperson, but I have already answered to the question of the respected Member.

The Minority Leader : ... precisely to the respected Commissioner. Concerning the highly infectious diseases, not only TB; other infectious diseases, is the respected Commissioner contemplating the possibility of having a special room for highly infectious diseases in Rodrigues?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, these... I do not know what type of diseases the Minority Leader is asking for, infectious disease but the question is on tuberculosis. Should he come with another question, he will have the answer.

The Minority Leader : Madam Chair, we are talking of tuberculosis. We are talking TB, Tuberculosis. This is a highly infectious disease. In case of such

diseases, I am asking the respected Commissioner whether he is contemplating the possibility of having a special room to house these patients?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Madam Chairperson, these rooms exist already.

[Interruptions]

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Yes, can I have a question, Madam? Madame la présidente, on a souvent entendu parler “*nou pou*” in a soonest time, “*ti pou*” etc.

Madam Chairperson: Come with your question !

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: My question is that can the Commissioner since the number of patient, infected patient is being increased in Rodrigues during these last years, when the Commissioner intends to set up a full-fledge place to house contaminated people instead of sending them to Mauritius as usual? When?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, this will come with the upgrading, the renovation, the new hospital at Queen Elizabeth Hospital. But for the time being, a second isolation room will be set up shortly at the Zita Jean Louis Area Health Centre to increase the bed capacity to six. This has been incorporated in the upgrading of the Zita Jean Louis Area Health Centre for which contract will be awarded shortly.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Yes... again, we understand there will be the setting up of this room at Zita Jean Louis. Can the Commissioner inform the House approximately when this will be done?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Shortly after the award of the contract, Madam Chairperson.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: *More question, Madam.* Peut-on savoir du respecté Commissaire qu'est-ce qu'on fait s'il y a quelque chose qu'on fait avec les parents des patients qui ont été infectés ? Est-ce que ces gens-là, ils sont dans la nature ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Madam Chairperson, again, I will repeat part of my question. I do not say that the Member has not “understand”. At the same time, the Sanitary Section and Public Health Nursing are notified for contact tracing of close family members and other close contact.

Madam Chairperson: Next question.

Mr. Z. Félicité: Madame la présidente, B/107.

ECO-VILLAGE PROJECT – RIVIERE COCO

(No. B/107): The Fifth Island Region Member (Mr. Zepth Félicité) asked the Commissioner for Environment and Others in regard to the eco-village project at Rivière Coco, he will, for the benefit of the House, state where matter stands as to date, indicating the number of streetlights to be installed in connection thereto and providing the: -

- (a) number thereof already installed together with the successful bidder and the amount disbursed therefor;
- (b) distance of alignment between the poles, as per contracted terms; and
- (c) the time frame for the completion of scheduled works?

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Madam Chairperson, the model Eco-Village Project at Rivière Coco forms part of our vision in making Rodrigues an ecological island; mostly regarding the use of renewable energy sources.

I would like to recall that the model Eco Village Project at Rivière Coco has the following components: setting up of a solar P.V Farm for the benefit of the whole village, setting up of a solar charging station and a procurement for an electric vehicle for demonstration purposes, installation of bio digesters for biogas production and installation of solar street lightings.

As regard to part (a) of the question, 40 street lightings have been installed.

Five bidders were invited to submit quotations for the supply and installation of 40 street lightings on a restricted procurement exercise which was launched on 19 September 2019... 18.

The bidders which were invited are:

- Sun Outsourcing
- Go solar
- Leal Energy
- Green Energy
- Sustainable Solutions Ltd

At the closing date on 28 September 2018, four bidders responded and the successful bidder - Sustainable Solutions Ltd was awarded the contract for the sum of Rs 1,037,760 inclusive of VAT.

As regard to part (b) of the question, installations of the lightings, no particular distance of alignment was mentioned as a condition in the tender document.

As per the project's contract document, a survey has been carried out by the Commission for Public Infrastructure in close collaboration with the village committee to identify the actual number of street lightings in the village and additional locations where there is a need for lighting.

13 grid-connected street lightings have been replaced by solar lamps as surveyed and 27 new additional solar lamps have been installed.

As regards to part (c), the street lightings were installed in the period mentioned in the contract, that is 40 days from the date of award.

The warranty period for the lightings is 3 years.

Furthermore, soon after installation of the lightings, it was noted that some parts of the lamps were corroded and same was reported to the contractor.

New parts, mostly regarding the brackets holding the lightings, have been replaced by the contractor.

My Commission is presently procuring 150 new solar lights, street lights which will be installed along public places and beaches in Rodrigues. This is in line with the vision of making Rodrigues an ecological island.

The Minority Leader : The respected Commissioner has been talking of the street lights and so on. Being given that we are talking of the Eco-Village Project as a whole in Rivière Cocos, can we know what will be done concerning reforestation of this area?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Mr. Chairperson, the Eco-Village Project, there is two... two different parts in this project. One is... The one I am talking about is about renewable energy and this one is funded by the European Union but the other works that is reforestation, agriculture done on a sustainable way, all this is included in the project but will be funded by my Commission.

Madam Chairperson: Next question.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: B/108, Madam Chair.

SEXUALLY TRANSMITTED DISEASE(S) (STD) – RODRIGUES

(No. B/108): The Second Local Region Member of La Ferme (Mr. J. N. Volbert) asked the Commissioner for Health and Others whether, he will state and table, for the benefit of the House, on any increase in the number of cases of sexually transmitted disease(s) (STD) detected in Rodrigues, from June 2018 to date, indicating for each STD detected, the prevalence rate thereof per age group and providing any action taken, remedial or otherwise, in regard thereto?

The Commissioner for Health and Others (Mr. S. P. Roussety): Madam Chairperson, I am tabling statistics concerning the number of new cases of sexually transmitted disease in Rodrigues from June 2018 to date.

The figures show that during this period, 24 new cases were detected from new born babies whose mothers were already infected but did not attend treatment.

During the same period, 73 cases of syphilis were detected among the youth in the age group between 16 to 30 years old.

The disease is also present in the age group of 31 to 50 years old with 33 new cases of syphilis were detected. Additionally, 13 new cases of the age group of 51 years old and above have also been traced.

Concerning HIV/AIDS, 1 to 2 cases are detected monthly from June 2018 to date. A total of 15 new cases were detected during this period as follows:

- 8 new cases in the age groups 16 to 30 years
- 5 new cases in age groups 31 to 50 years old
- 2 cases in the age group above 51 years old.

A total number of 121 new cases of Gonorrhoea have been detected...

Madam Chairperson: Order!

The Commissioner for Health and Others (Mr. S. P. Roussety): ...during the same period. The majority of these cases fall in the age group of 16 to 30 years with 65 cases and 31 to 50 years with 45 cases.

Madam Chairperson, I must inform the House that these figures are matter of concern to my Commission. This is why we have started discussion with all stakeholders including other Commissions of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and Non-Government Organisation.

A consultative workshop was organised on the 17 and 18 July 2019 with all stakeholders with funding assistance of the Ministry of Health and Quality of Life with a view to develop an appropriate strategy and action plan to address the issue of HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted disease.

The strategic plan is presently under preparation and we are expecting to have a first draft by the beginning of next month. This will pave the way forward in the fight against HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted disease.

In the meantime, Madam Chairperson, my Commission has consolidated the HIV/AIDS Unit with additional officer and necessary equipment to focus on both preventive programme through more aggressive education and sensitisation campaign as well as regular screening and detection activities targeting schools, colleges, youth clubs and the community at large.

As regards to curative, I must also inform the house that all cases detected are treated with the appropriate treatment. Contact tracing is also being done to trace the other potential patients who might have also been infected and the appropriate treatment is given.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Is there any sensitisation programme done amongst youngsters especially at school level?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Yes, Mrs. Chairperson, Madam.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Can I know what is the frequency in delivering sensitisation programme at school?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Yes, Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, sensitisation programme is being done all the year around with also the Commission for Youth and Sports also where the work is being done.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Can I know what are the school attendance so far?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: As I said, Madam, all the secondary schools are being attended.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Quels sont les points où les jeunes peuvent s'acquérir des préservatifs ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: *To my information*, préservatif, les personnes doivent avoir plus de 18 ans et ils doivent aller à l'hôpital pour s'en acquérir.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: It has been reported, Madam the Chair, that youngsters are facing difficulties to have condoms after 16:00 hours. *Est-ce que le Commissaire va faire le nécessaire pour que cette facilité soit étendue après 16h00 ?*

Mr. S. P. Roussety: *Madam Chairperson*, si les jeunes ont besoin des préservatifs, ils savent très bien qu'après 16h00, tous les bureaux sont fermés. Ils doivent aller à l'hôpital avant 16h00.

[Interruptions]

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: *Yes, can I have the floor?* Yes, Madame la présidente, ce qu'on vient d'entendre aujourd'hui est alarmant. Je ne sais pas combien de degré d'interpellation cela a mais en tout cas moi, personnellement, je suis... j'ai peur. J'ai peur de la situation. Et *the range of 16 to 35 or 30 years, 30 is becoming* alarmant. Alarmant, très alarmant. *And, the Commissioner mentioned that he is having collaboration for the youth, for the Commission for Youth to sensitise this young generation.* Madame la présidente, est-ce que le Commissaire peut nous confirmer dans cette Chambre s'il compte faire une étude plus approfondie pour savoir comment ce virus est en train de se propager à Rodrigues et quelles sont les mesures drastiques qu'ils comptent mettre en place pour justement diminuer ou carrément stopper le nombre de VIH à Rodrigues ? Parce que pour moi, ce n'est pas possible.

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Bon, je suis d'accord avec le Respecter Membre, Perrine, Madame la présidente, mais là ça devient quelque chose de la part des jeunes aussi, ils doivent prendre des précautions. Et, nous nous faisons tous, nous donnons tous les programmes, nous passons dans les écoles et autres. Les Peer Educators font leurs travaux. Mais là, c'est que j'ai toujours dit, c'est que tous les personnes doivent prendre en compte leurs santé. Alors, les jeunes doivent prendre en compte leurs santé pour ne pas être affecté par ces maladies. Je suis très concerné moi aussi par le nombre qu'il y en a des maladies sexuellement transmissibles et le cas de HIV et Sida à Rodrigues.

[Interruption]

Mrs. M. T. Agathe: Madame la présidente, c'est que le Commissaire de la Santé a dit, comme mon ami a dit, ça fait vraiment peur. Quel est l'implication des parents dans tout ce processus de dépistage ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Bon, Madame la présidente, la Commission de la Jeunesse est en train de faire un travail formidable et aussi nous comptons très bientôt aller dans les collèges, moi-même personnellement avec les techniciens responsables et appeler les parents, le PTA pour leur mettre au courant de la situation qui est très grave. Parce que 16 à 30 ans dans les collèges, ils sont sexuellement actifs et nous comptons aussi aller vers les parents, le PTA pour leurs expliquer la situation.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: So, Madam Chair, thank you. Is there any coordinating committee on HIV/AIDS, if yes, on what frequency they meet?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Yes, Madame la présidente, il y a un comité, il y a une section HIV/AIDS à l'hôpital de Crève-Cœur avec à sa tête, un Community Physician et il rencontre régulièrement les patients et aussi les autres personnes concernées.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Madam Chair, y-a-t-il des ONG comme 'Avek ou' qui donne leur coup de main dans la régularisation, sensibilisation de la VIH/SIDA ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Bien sûr, Madame, il n'y a pas seulement 'Avek ou', il y a aussi Lumière et Vie, qui s'occupe des maladies sexuellement transmissibles aussi.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Y-a-t-il des colloques à Maurice, je pense qu'il y a des colloques à Maurice chaque année, est-ce que ces ONGs prennent part dans ces colloques ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Oui, Madame la présidente, s'il y a des colloques et les ONGs aussi doivent aller dans ces colloques.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Yes, Madam Chairperson, if you allow me, how far can I ask the Commissioner, how far does the Secretariat AIDS, AIDS Secretariat is doing prevention work on the field since the different cases is increasing monthly in Rodrigues?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Yes, Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, the AIDS Secretariat is doing a very great job and doing rapid test in every village where they go. And, that is why they have found that the HIV cases have been increased.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Y-a-t-il, Madame, un budget par l'Assemblée Régionale pour ces ONGS ? Et si oui, quel est le montant ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Madame la présidente, le budget de ces ONGs, oui ils en ont. Et aussi, ça se trouve dans le budget du Commission de la Santé.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Madame la présidente, j'aimerais faire une proposition au Commissaire en question, parce que cette affaire-là m'agace. Est-ce qu'il y a la possibilité d'étendre ce réseau de distribution de préservatif dans les Centres Communautaires, dans les différents hôpitaux de Rodrigues. Peu importe. Parce que ça devient... pour moi c'est quelque chose qu'il faut prendre au sérieux. Parce que dans un premier temps, nous savons que, il y a des différentes manières de pensée. Nous avons l'Action Familiale, nous avons le Family Planning. Mais il faut qu'on arrive à accorder nos violons parce que la jeune génération souffre. Moi, je propose que les réseaux de distribution automatique soient étendus dans les Centres Communautaires puisque c'est aussi son domaine, son dada et dans tous les différents Area Health Centres, dans les dispensaires possibles à travers l'île pour dans un premier temps diminuer ou sinon ralentir, contrôler cette affaire de prolifération de VIH/SIDA.

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Madame la présidente, nous prenons ces cas très au sérieux. Et, concernant la distribution de préservatif, la Commission de la Jeunesse a établi un protocole au niveau de la Commission et aussi comme vous savez on ne doit pas distribuer des préservatifs à bric et à braque, il y a la loi. C'est à 18 ans que quelqu'un peut venir prendre des préservatifs. Mais concernant les centres communautaires, se sera impossible, ce n'est pas pour le moment de distribuer des préservatifs dans les centres communautaires. Mais la sensibilisation des jeunes doit se faire et aussi la jeunesse doit prendre conscience de leur santé.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Oui, Madame la présidente, Monsieur le Commissaire nous dit bien que la jeunesse doit prendre conscience de sa santé. Mais la jeunesse n'est pas consciente de sa santé ! En attendant, on pourrisse. Les jeunes, le nombre de cas augmentent de jour en jour. Si la jeunesse n'est pas consciente, qu'est-ce qu'il faut faire ? On s'assoit, on se *tale* ?

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Perrine, you have made your point. Yes, Member Grandcourt? Member Grandcourt?

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Yes. Madame la présidente, on a parlé de la prévention mais qu'en est-il de ceux qui ont été... des malades qui ont... ceux qui ont été infecté, par exemple, le VIH. Est-ce que le Commissaire peut nous dire comment est-ce que ces gens-là sont accompagnés ? Parce que c'est

important aussi. Ils sont des vecteurs et comment est-ce qu'ils sont accompagnés justement pour empêcher la prolifération de ce virus ou d'autres types de maladie de MST ?

Mr. S. P. Roussety: Bien sûr avec le AID Secretariat et ils viennent pour prendre leurs médicaments et aussi ils sont encadrés par le Specialised Nurse et aussi the Community Physician qui les encadrements souvent, tous les jours.

Madam Chairperson: I suspend the House for one hour for lunch.

At 12.37 p.m., the sitting was suspended for one hour.

On resuming at 1.41 p.m. with the Chairperson in the Chair.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, next question.

The Minority Leader: Thank you, Madam Chair, B/109.

TRACTORS – SINCE JANUARY 2018 TO DATE

(No. B/109) Mr. J. N. Volbert (Second Local Region Member for La Ferme) asked the Commissioner for Agriculture and Others whether he will state and table the list of all tractors available at his Commission, since January 2018 to date, providing:-

- (a) the date(s) servicing or other maintenance was done thereon indicating, in each case, the respective dates the tractors entered the mechanical workshop and left;
- (b) the odometer reading of each tractor from the most recent servicing as well as the one immediately preceding same; and
- (c) copy of their respective log book showing entries made for the last fifteen days to date, for each tractor?

The Commissioner for Agriculture and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Madam Chairperson, with regard to part (a) of the question, there are 11 tractors available at my Commission since January 2018. I am tabling the list of tractors that are available.

With regard to parts (b) and (c), the information being requested by the Member is purely of an administrative nature and will not be disclosed.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Yes, Madam Chairperson, would you please allow me...

Madam Chairperson: Proceed.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Would you please allow me to refer to part of the PQ B/71 addressed to the said Commissioner, the Respected Commissioner for Agriculture on the 25th of June 2019 as this is very pertinent to what I am going to say. I quote:

“This is not true, Madam Chairperson, there are quite a lot of tractors which is being used. We have mainly changed the system. We bought five new but we have given some to make it, you know more private because people were complaining that the government cannot do this work. So, we went to the private side of things. But unfortunately, if things are not working but the vision of the government and the... we wanted to help these people. We have seven tractors, big tractors which are really working and we have five which have been given and also, I cannot tell, this is why I have said, I cannot say that they are working but I know all of them are in good working order.” I unquote.

So, Madam Chair, if the tractors are in good working condition and I have asked a copy of log books for the past/last 15 days. I do not think it is difficult to table a copy since I have asked for copies and not compilations. Can the Commissioner still confirm whether these tractors are in good working conditions?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chairperson, since the last Assembly Meeting/Sitting, lots of things may have happened, you know. A tractor which was in good condition yesterday may not be in good condition today. You know, tractors are... People die and you think tractors stay... Are they immortal. So, no. I think, the question is, you know, I do not see any... something important in that question. What is... What I said, you know, I will not table any copy of log books. Because this is only the Internal Control or the Director of Audit that use... normally can ask for these documents. So, yes but not you. The PSC, yes. Yes, it has to be official. So, I will not table this. But I am saying that the information as I gave is true.

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner...

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: On a point order, Madam. Madam Chairperson, the Commissioner is mentioning that he cannot give a Member information relating to public funds. I do not think it is correct.

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: What I can say is that the Commissioner assumes the responsibility of what he is saying. And the Respected Member, you know that Standing Orders are clear. We cannot force a Commissioner to give answer. But still, I maintain the Commissioner assumes the responsibility of whatever he is saying.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Madam Chairperson, I have two photographs, which I am going to table. Two photographs taken on the 23rd of June 2019. These tractors, this morning when I came here, these tractors are still at the same position, at the same place. It is meant that these tractors break down. *Atan Atan, to pou trouve ban questions-là, ki to cozé.*

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, Volbert you put your question in an orderly manner, please.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Merci, Madame. Yes, Madam. Can I know whether from the Commissioner, whether these tractors are in good conditions since February 2019 as tractors from private companies were rent to plough agricultural land for your own commission prior to haricot rouge plantation?

Madam Chairperson: You please address the Chair.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Prior to haricot rouge plantation.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Can you repeat the question. I did not get it...

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Can the Commissioner confirm whether tractors from private companies has been rented by your commission to do the work, to plough land, to do the work of agricultural land of your Commission prior to the cultivation of haricot rouge in your own Commission?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Yes, Madam. This is our vision. If our tractors are not working, so what do I do? Do I stay and not plough the land to plant the beans? So, this forms part of the policy of the government. We do not hire water tanks, tankers to take water when need be. So, where is the problem of where hiring tractors to use for the government. This is normal practice.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Chair, these tractors from private companies were rented from February 2019 up to July 2019. This is meant that tractors from your Commission broke down.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: No, Madam Chairperson. That is not the case. If we need 12 tractors and we have three. So, we have to hire the rest that we do not have. So, there is not one hectare on this island to plough! We have tons and hundreds and hundreds of hectares of land. So, when we see that we need more tractors, we have to hire. That does not mean we do not have tractors at the commission. We do, I said we have 11. But out of this 11, you know, some are old, they get break down but the work must continue. Agricultural people must be able to plant beans.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Madame la présidente, ce qu'on trouve drôle ici dans cette Chambre, c'est que si les voitures des Commissaires, on change mais les tracteurs on ne trouve pas bon de changer. C'est du sérieux. Je vois l'attitude du Commissaire, Madame la présidente, n'est pas très sérieux. Puis-je, laissez-moi...

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member, you come with your question. You are not here to comment on the Commissioner's attitude.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: *I am coming, please give me some time. We still have time.* Donc, ce n'est pas sérieux. Il doit... Tout le monde sait que les tracteurs de la commission, la plupart des tracteurs sont en panne. Il faut être sérieux.

Madam Chairperson: We are still waiting for the question.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: *I am coming, I am coming.* Quand est-ce qu'il va réparer tous ces tracteurs qui sont en panne depuis longtemps ? Il y a des tracteurs... On a des informations. Il y a des tracteurs qui sont en panne depuis deux ans. Donc, quand est-ce qu'il va réparer ces tracteurs ? Et, qu'il soit un peu sérieux.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chair, le Membre a été Commissaire donc il sait. Quand la Commission - il y a des tracteurs qui appartiennent à la Commission, ça ne veut pas dire que ces tracteurs-là, on va jusqu'à preuve du contraire, c'est-à-dire, il y a des tracteurs qu'on peut mettre de côté, on ne va pas réparer ça. *As far as cost effectiveness is concerned we put it aside until they are removed completely.* Bon, on dit que les tracteurs ne marchent pas. C'est vrai. Je ne peux pas dire que tous les tracteurs de la Commission marchent. C'est des tracteurs, c'est des machines, ça se casse. Et, quand ça se casse, on répare. Et, c'est ce qu'on fait. Mais des fois, il n'y a pas. S'il y a un tracteur en panne à Rodrigues, est-ce qu'on peut aller chez, je ne sais pas moi, Ah Tincou ? Chez qui on va acheter ces pièces ? Il n'y en a pas ça ici. Il faut aller à Scotmat. Et, le

Scotmat, ça ne se trouve pas à Rodrigues. Il n'y a pas Scotmat à Rodrigues. Donc, on a même un contrat avec Scotmat pour faire réparer les tracteurs. Ils sont venus tout récemment pour faire réparer. La volonté de réparer ces tracteurs est là. Et, nous on fait notre travail. Mais n'empêche que si le tracteur est en panne, il faut absolument que le travail continue. Donc, s'il faut louer, on loue.

The Minority Leader: Madam Chair, up to now we have received a vague answer once again. Can I know straight forward question, can I know how many of these tractors, of the 11 tractors are in good running conditions?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chairperson, on a trois qui sont en *good running condition*. Les autres, on a des petits problèmes qui seront réparés bientôt.

The Minority Leader: Madam Chair, recently we have seen in the Audit Report, millions and millions of rupees have been spent to repair these tractors. Have we obtained value for money...? Have these tractors ever been used after they have been repaired?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Quand les tracteurs marchent, Madame la présidente, c'est là pour faire le travail. Donc, ça fait le travail.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: ... poser au Commissaire la question, est-ce qu'il y a des tracteurs qui ont été réparé, soi-disant réparer par le contracteur en question et qui ne sont toujours pas sur la route, qui ont déjà été payé, je parle des Massey Ferguson que quelqu'un... l'ex-Commissaire Perrine avait acheté à l'époque. Ces tracteurs ont été réparés d'après nos informations. Et, on a déjà payé le contracteur mais ça ne marche toujours pas. Donc, qu'en est-il de... ?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chair, je ne voulais pas venir dessus mais le Membre en question est venu poser cette question. Ben, puisqu'il a posé la question, je vais répondre. Ces tracteurs Massey Ferguson sont des énormes tracteurs. C'est des tracteurs qui ne sont pas adaptés pour Rodrigues. Oui, oui. C'est trop gros. C'est trop gros pour nous, pour notre terre...

Madam Chairperson: Order.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Donc, du coup quand c'est gros les dépenses aussi sont grosses. L'argent qu'on a besoin pour réparer c'est énorme. C'est pour ça nous on a acheté d'autres tracteurs. Des tracteurs qui sont adaptés pour Rodrigues. Donc, voilà ces tracteurs qui ont été acheté pour Rodrigues ne sont pas adapté pour faire ce travail qu'on fait.

The Minority Leader: The Respected Commissioner, can we know where these tractors are posted and whether they are giving timely services to the planters of Rodrigues?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Oui, Madam Chair. On a des tracteurs qui sont postés sur les postes agricole, par exemple, à La Ferme. On a, je peux donner même le numéro, la plaque d'immatriculation. La Ferme, on a 15RRA2011 et à Trèfles on a 4RRA2017, à Citronelle un *slasher* de 8RRA2017. Et, normalement les tracteurs sont en permanence... Mais j'ai dit qu'il y a trois qui marchent. J'ai bien dit il y a trois qui marchent. Je parle...

Madam Chairperson: Order !

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Je parle de ces trois tracteurs qui marchent. Après les autres qui ne marchent pas bien sûre. Automatiquement ils sont au... en train d'être réparé à Citronelle.

Madam Chairperson: Next question.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: B/110, Madam Chairperson.

ANSE AUX ANGLAIS BEACH

(No. B/110) Mr. J. R. Augustin (Fourth Island Region Member) asked the Commissioner for Environment and Others whether, in regard to Anse aux Anglais beach near to Les Cocotiers Hotel, he will, for the benefit of the House and table:-

- (a) the implied use of heavy vehicles thereat indicating if necessary clearances have been obtained therefor from the concerned authority and specifying the conditions attached;
- (b) if an environment impact assessment has been obtained; and
- (c) if part of the public beach has been allocated to a promoter for a development project, and if so, to state the area concerned?

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Madam Chairperson, complaint has been received at the Police de l'Environnement on the 27th of June that nuisance was caused to the residents of Hotel Les Cocotiers at Anse aux Anglais. The Police Officers during their inspection noted that excavation works were being carried out at Le Recif. And,

vehicles were accessing the site by a portion of beach in front of Les Cocotiers Hotel.

With regard to part (a) of the question, regarding excavation works, the construction work is carried out on the lease granted to Le Recif. The promoter holds a valid building permit. However, lorries were accessing the site by a portion of land of the beach which is in front of the hotel. And, this is why, Madam Chairperson, we have decided to stop this movement of vehicle on the beach. So, the promoter was requested to follow guidelines available thereto as set by the Ministry for Environment with regard to the Environment Protection Act. In the same context, the time of operation for the excavation work was revised from 08.00 a.m. to 04.00 p.m. instead of 07.00 a.m. to 04.00 a.m. to avoid noise nuisance to nearby residents.

As regards, to part (c) of the question, the answer is no, Madam Chairperson. The development was carried out on the lease of the promoter and action has been taken by the Police de l'Environnement to stop using the access road in front of Les Cocotiers Hotel.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Yes, Madam Chair. Concerning part (b), whether/if an Environment Impact Assessment has been obtained? Can we know from the Commissioner whether this has been obtained?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: There is no Environment Impact Assessment on this type of work. You do not need an Environment Impact Assessment for this type of the work.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Mme. la présidente, on est en train de parler de changement climatique, en train de parler de l'érosion des plages. Mais ce qui se passe actuellement sur ce petit bout de plage à Anse aux Anglais, ce n'est vraiment pas très joli à voir. Parce que ce petit bout de plage, il y a beaucoup de gens qui aiment venir là. Mais aujourd'hui l'environnement de cette plage est gâché. Des tas de terre de quatre/cinq mètres de haut sont mis en pyramide sur la plage. Quand est-ce que le Commissaire de l'Environnement va prendre des décisions pour qu'il puisse enlever tous ces terres qui sont restées sur la plage ?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chairperson, on parle de plage mais il faut définir c'est quoi une plage. Est-ce qu'on parle, le Membre parle du changement climatique, de l'érosion des plages. C'est quoi l'érosion des plages ? C'est ce qui se passe par rapport aux vagues qui viennent s'écraser sur la plage et la plage on parle de ce bout de sable. Le Membre en question, il parle de l'arrière plage. Là, il parle de l'arrière plage. Là, il n'y a pas de problème. S'il faut - nous on est un pays où de temps en temps et c'est normal, tout le monde, s'il faut aider

quelqu'un, on l'aide. La personne en question qui est en train de construire et qui a son Building Permit, il a un petit problème de place, s'est serré, c'est dangereux. Donc, on lui a donné la permission pour stocker. C'est comme tout le monde le fait. AJ Maurel, quand ils font des travaux de construction de la route. Qu'est-ce qu'on dit ? Tu ne construis pas la route parce que tu ne peux pas mettre la terre quelque part ? Donc, c'est juste il y a un accord – *a friendly, as a friendly approach we said okay. You can put your soil here but as soon as the work is finished, all this will be removed, of course. But there is no tampling with the beach. I can assure the Member.*

The Minority Leader: Madam Chair, being given that from the high water mark, about 30 metres inland, it is public domain. And, we know that this small beach at Anse aux Anglais, c'est une plage qui est très fréquenté. Avant, il y avait 20 ans, 30 ans de cela, il était trois fois, quatre fois plus grande. C'est une plage, qui était trois fois, quatre fois plus grande. Mais étant donné ça se réduit comme une peau de chagrin et étant donné qu'on est en train de faire des travaux là-bas avec les particuliers, pourquoi est-ce que la Commission, (*ben, c'est vrai c'est ce qui se passe*). C'est une des rare plage fréquentait dans le nord. Pourquoi est-ce que la commission ne saisit pas cette occasion pour réaménager cette plage en même temps que le promoteur est en train de construire je ne sais quoi, mais rétablir la plage et faire une plage récréative pour le grand publique, pourquoi pas ?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chair, c'est exactement ça ce qui se passe. On ne peut pas tous dire dans ses réponses. Mais puisque vous posez la question, je vous dis. L'accord c'est que, on lui donne la permission temporaire à stocker sa terre mais en retour, il doit nous filer un coup de main pour restaurer le site après. Donc, voilà.

The Minority Leader: Pour terminer, est-ce que pour donner un coup de main, est-ce que le Commissaire, le Respecter Commissaire envisage de faire apporter quelques camions de sable pour top up, pour refaire la plage ? Je crois que ça, c'est une très bonne chose à faire.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Non, Madame. Ce n'est pas quelque chose qu'on fait comme ça. On n'emmène pas le sable et on met sur la plage comme ça. Une plage c'est naturel. Il y a toute une étude à faire avant de mettre du sable dans un endroit. Pour le moment, la plage d'Anse aux Anglais, là où on parle n'a pas de problème, trop gros problème d'érosion. S'il parlait de la plage de Grand Baie, peut être j'aurais accepté sa proposition. Mais pour la plage d'Anse aux Anglais, il n'y a pas ce problème-là.

The Minority Leader: Je ne demande pas de mettre du sable artificiel sur la plage. C'est du sable naturel qui ont été emporté, qui ont été transporté par les vagues à d'autres endroits du lagon. On a qu'à remettre ça sur place, se sera bon pour les tortues, etc. pour tout le monde. Pourquoi pas.

Mr. J. R. Payendee: J'ai déjà répondu, Madam Chairperson, à cette question.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Since 27th June 2019 until now, can we know from the Commissioner how many site visit has been done by the officers of his commission to English Bay beach?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: How can I answer how many sites visits have been done by the officers of my Commission. What is this? I cannot answer this question, Madam, sorry.

Madam Chairperson: Next question.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: B/111, Madam Chair.

**GOVERNMENT QUARTERS – TOTAL NUMBER/REGIONS/NO.
AVAILABLE/SELLING, RENTING OF SAME**

(No. B/111) Mr. J. R. Augustin (Fourth Island Region Member) asked the Deputy Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to the Government Quarters in Rodrigues, he will, for the benefit of the House, state and table: -

- (a) the total number thereof, indicating their respective regions and their respective use;
- (b) the number actually available for use, giving details; and
- (c) if he is contemplating the possibility of selling or renting same to Rodriguan people?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, there are some 96 buildings own by the Rodrigues Regional Assembly out of which 51 have been allocated to NGO and Commissions for use as resource centres, office or stores. 37 of these quarters are occupied by Public Officers and nine are vacant and need to be repaired. I am tabling details of their respective use and locations.

As regards to part (c), it is not the policy of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly to sell or rent Quarters.

The Minority Leader: *Madam Chair, in order to make optimum use of these quarters, at a time when we are talking of Rodrigues Ile Ecologique. But we have so many eyesores. Ce sont des eyesores, ces bâtiments qu'on a laissé à l'abandon. Est-ce que le Commissaire peut dire s'il envisage de faire réparer cela et de trouver une bonne utilité à ces bâtiments ? Parce que c'est en plein Port Mathurin vous avez des eyesores comme ça ce n'est pas joli.*

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: The answer is in my question, in my answer, Mr. Chairperson. The question to his answer is already in the answer that I have given.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Yes, Madam. Can I ask the Commissioner whether it is in order to grant government building to someone which is *en d'autre mot*, Mr. J. R. in Port Mathurin? In Bachelor's flat.

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: Yes, Madam Chairperson, if the Respected Member refers to the information that has been tabled he will also notice that there is not only Mr. J. R. Roussety, who has been allocated a quarter but there is also one so called, Mrs. Pasnin, A43. I believe from a humanitarian point of view that if it is possible to allocate a quarter to someone who is homeless, I think it is wise to do it, Madam Chairperson.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Yes, I agree. I completely agree with the Deputy Chief Commissioner. But to use a public building for...*pas vagabondage, mais pour picoler*. Everyday you saw... kinds of people there. And, it is very, very, a big eyesore for Port Mathurin and then for the government also. If the building is being used for good things. Okay. But what is being happened there? I would invite the Commissioner to visit, especially in the afternoon this building that they have allocated to one J. R. in Bachelor's Flat and what is his position with regard to those Public Officers awaiting for long to have a secure rent in Rodrigues, with regard to Public Officers?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: Yes, I wanted...

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Order!

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: ...Madam Chairperson,

[Interruption]

Madam Chairperson: Order.

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: As regards, Madam Chairperson, to the persons who have been allocated a quarter in question, the House will realise that this person was a homeless one. I myself, I myself, I have even witnessed that very person sleeping at the market on Saturdays. Yes, I myself. I am asking myself, right now what is wrong in allocating a room to someone on a humanitarian ground, Madam Chairperson? If ever, there is mal utilisation of the quarter and there is complaint that is made to my Commission, we are going to act accordingly so as to ensure that there is the proper use as it should be. But what I can say so far, there has been no such complaint and if there is any, I am going to take action and call that very person for optimum use or for the best of use of the quarter.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Madam Chairperson, I am officially complaining that the use of this building there is not correct. We are talking in a time that alcohol is being increasing, *right* in Rodrigues. MST, VIH/SIDA, *maladie sexuellement transmissible* is increasing. I would invite the Commissioner, the Deputy Chief Commissioner to visit this Bachelor House, which is in my opinion, not good to see.

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: The Member is speaking about two things. There is the Bachelor Flat. Now, there is a Bachelor Flat. Yes, and there is the quarter that is being used by the J.R. As regards, to Bachelor's Flat, I did receive some complaint at my commission. This is why I have not... It was not related to the quarter that was being used by Mr. Roland. This I want it to be specific. I am speaking about the building as a whole. This is why if you go there, I myself I made a visit with my officers. And, you will see that we have secured access to the top of the floor. Because we received complaint about the illegal and immoral use of the... But it is not... but as regards to the quarters being occupied by J.R. Roussety, there has been no complaint as such, Madam Chairperson.

Madam Chairperson: 30 minutes left for questions.

The Minority Leader: Can I know officially from the Deputy Chief Commissioner whether this is the official policy of the Executive Council to give quarters to homeless people anywhere in Rodrigues?

The Deputy Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, it is the policy of the government to provide a shelter for any vulnerable person. We have so many schemes which are available at the level of the Commission for Social Security. And, of course, there has been a proposal, there has been, Madam

Chairperson, there has been a proposal or rather a request from that very person to have a social housing from the Commission for Social Security. But in the meantime, in the meantime pending the allocation of the lease and pending the allocation of the social house from the Social Security, we cannot allow that very particular person to be wandering around the street. This is why, I said it back, on a humanitarian ground pending the allocation of the social house, we have decided to shelter that very person at the Bachelor's Flat.

Madam Chairperson: Next question.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: B/112.

HOUSING PROGRAMME ‘ENE FAMI ENE BON LACAZ’

(No. B/112) Mr. J. R. Augustin (Fourth Island Region) asked the Commissioner for Housing and Others whether, in regard to the housing programme ‘Ene fami ene bon lacaz,’ implemented through his Commission, he will, for the benefit of the House, state and table on the number of houses constructed since 2017 to date, region-wise, indicating:-

- (a) If same was under any dedicated scheme set up by his Commission and/or through beneficiaries’ own contribution; and
- (b) the list of contractors involved therefor, providing the number of contract awarded to each?

The Commissioner for Employment and Others (Mr. L. D. Baptiste): Madam Chairperson, when the Chief Commissioner in his Budget Speech of 2017 announced this Regional Government’s Project ‘*ene fami ene bon lakaz*’, it was not a mere slogan. He meant what he said and today actions speak louder than words.

It is understood that ‘*ene fami ene bon lacaz*’ does not mean just a new house, but includes also necessary repairs to deteriorated houses, provision of basic sanitary facilities and at least a satisfactory level of comfort and security.

Madam Chairperson, with regard to part (a) of the question, the New Social Housing Scheme which was already launched on 20th December 2016 had to be implemented to achieve our goal of “*ene fami ene bon lakaz*”. The cost of the house was estimated at Rs 600,000 at this point in time. The cost has now been revised to Rs 700,000 as from this financial year due to increases in the prices of construction materials and labour cost in the construction sector. Under Scheme I, the eligible beneficiary contributes $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total cost of the house and $\frac{1}{3}$ under

Scheme II, either through a bank loan or from his/her personal savings. The remaining $\frac{3}{4}$ and $\frac{2}{3}$ of the costs for Scheme I and II respectively are paid by the Rodrigues Regional Assembly as grant.

Madam Chairperson, as at date 319 houses have been constructed in different villages of the island under the New Social Housing Scheme since 2017. The question addressed to me requires a breakdown region-wise. In fact, this government does not take into account the beneficiaries region as a criterion for selection. All Rodriguans, in whichever region they live, are put on equal footing. They are all treated fairly as equals without any discrimination whatsoever. Therefore, such types of information are not available at the level of my Commission.

Madam Chairperson, as regards to part (b) of the question, I wish to inform the House that my Commission does not have any role to play in the selection of contractors. The list of approved CIDB-Certified Contractors is handed over to each beneficiary along with the Pre-Selection Letter. It is up to each beneficiary to choose their contractor from the list. I am tabling the list of contractors working or who has worked on the New Social Housing Scheme and the number of contracts each has signed with their respective clients. Thank you.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Yes, can we know from the Commissioner if any complain has been received from beneficiaries to his commission relating to roof slab (*dal coul  *)? And, if so, to state the measures taken in relation thereto?

Mr. L. D. Baptiste: I am not having the information, Madam Chairperson, because the question was related to New Housing – number of houses constructed, *pardon*.

The Minority Leader: Well, I would like to ask the Respected Commissioner, whether he is aware that at Cit   Patate – I think this fall under this scheme, at Cit   Patate there are many cracks in certain houses. Can I know whether the contractors concerned has been taken to task?

Mr. L. D. Baptiste: Madam Chairperson, we have had visits by Inspectors of my Commission and the Engineers also relating to a specific housing unit and whatever has been recommended in the report has been implemented accordingly.

The Minority Leader: So, am I to understand that at Cit   Patate there has been no problem. So, this having been said, can I know, since we have put question before without having any answer. Can I know whether the Rs 35 m. obtained from Central Government following the passage of cyclones Gelena and

Joaninah, whether the Rs 35 m. has been used to help people whose houses have been damaged and so on?

Mr. L. D. Baptiste: You should come with a substantive question but just to inform the Minority Leader, Rs 35 m. were not allocated for housing only.

The Minority Leader: Madam Chair, I am not saying that it has been allocated only for housing. I think it must be used...

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, I am afraid you cannot go ...

The Minority Leader: No, it can be used for...

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, you cannot go any further with that question, it is not related to the main question. So, we move on.

Mr. J. N. Nemours: Being given that the question relates to “*ene fami ene bon lakaz*”, can I ask the Commissioner to inform the House about the total number of beneficiaries from the New Social Housing Scheme from January 2017 to date?

Mr. L. D. Baptiste: Only for New Social Housing Scheme, it is 319 but the total number of beneficiaries relating to all the different schemes, it is 1026 families.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Yes, Madam Chairperson, can I ask the Commissioner how selection is being made with regard to allocation of contract for construction of houses. I see, for example, I take an example on that paper. There is a contractor at Mangles, he has been allocated 37 houses. The same...

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member Perrine, the Commissioner has already provided this answer to the House. Yes.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: I am introducing my question. Can I have this opportunity?

Madam Chairperson: No, you cannot introduce. You are searching for clarification. You cannot introduce.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: *Non ki fer mo bizin asizé? Mone déboute pou poze mo question mo pa pose mo question ?* Can I ask the Respected Commissioner, why this is so?

Mr. L. D. Baptiste: It is because the beneficiaries have selected the contractor according to their choice.

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: Yes, another question, Madam Chairperson, if you will allow me. Can I ask the Commissioner with regard to contractor 23, number 23? Give us more details about this?

Madam Chairperson: Details about what?

Mr. J.L.R. Perrine: How he has been allocated 15 houses?

Madam Chairperson: No, this has already been answered. So, next question.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: B/113, Madam Chair.

CHILD MENTORING COMMITTEE

(No. B/113) Mr. J. R. Augustin (Fourth Island Region Member) asked the Commissioner for Child Development and Others whether, in regard to the Child Mentoring Committee set up by her Commission, she will, for the benefit of the House, state and table the objectives thereof, indicating: -

- (a) the composition thereof and the setting up date of same;
- (b) the number of meetings held, the number of families concerned and the outcome in each case;
- (c) if members of the committee are remunerated and, if so, to give details; and
- (d) if any report has been submitted thereby and any action taken in relation thereto?

The Commissioner for Child Development and Others (Mrs. M.R.F. Gaspard Pierre-Louis, CSK): Madam Chairperson, with respect to part (a) of the question, I am informed that in line with the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (Child Protection) (Mentoring Order) Regulation 2014, the Child Mentoring Committee was set up in June 2015 with the objectives to assist the children who are victims of neglect and are in distress as well as to help children who suffer from misbehavioural problems and social adaptation by assigning a child mentor to them so as to provide these children with guidance, advice and such sense of stability as may be lacking in their lives.

Madam Chairperson, the composition of the Child Mentoring Committee is as follows:

- (i) a Chairperson appointed by the Commissioner;
- (ii) a Representative of the Commission responsible for child;
- (iii) a person holding a Bachelor of Laws with Honours appointed by the Commissioner;
- (iv) a Representative of the Commissioner of Police;
- (v) a Representative of the Commission responsible for the subject of education;
- (vi) a Representative for the Commission responsible for the subject of health;
- (vii) a Psychologist appointed by the Departmental Head; and
- (viii) two Representatives by non-governmental organisations who have wide experience in issues relating to children appointed by the Commissioner.

With respect to part (b) of the question, Madam Chairperson, the Child Mentoring Committee meets monthly in average and has held a total amount of 39 meetings since it was set up in 2015.

The number of families concerned is as detailed below:

Year 2014: 5 families;
Year 2015: 1;
Year 2016: 1;
Year 2018: 1; and
Year 2019: 2

Madam Chairperson, being given that the subject of child neglect and mistreatment is of a sensitive nature which should consequently be treated with confidentiality, I consider it unethical to disclose the outcome of each case.

However, I would like to reassure the Respected Member that upon receipt of Mentoring Order issued by the Magistrate, the Child Mentoring Committee in line with its functions as spelt out in the Regulations is playing an important advisory role towards my Commission in regard to the placement of children under mentorship. The Committee also ensures that a mentor is assigned to the children who require mentorship and thereafter periodically assess and evaluate the progress of children placed under the Scheme.

/UNREVISED/

As regards to part (c), Madam Chairperson, Members of the Committee are remunerated in line with the Report of the PRB (Pay Research Bureau) with respect to fees structure of Statutory Committees as follows:

Chairperson:	Rupees one thousand nine hundred and ninety-five (Rs 1,995) + travelling,
Members:	Rupees nine hundred and ninety (Rs 990) + travelling; and
Secretary:	Rupees one thousand two hundred and twenty-five (Rs 1,225)

With regard to part (d) of the question, the Child Mentoring Committee submitted a report of activities for period July 2015 to December 2016 and thereafter Notes of Meeting to the Commission.

Following the recommendations of the Child Mentoring Committee regarding Definition of a Child, Unofficial Guardianship and Legal Assistance to children under the present custody of relatives, Age of Mentorship under the Child Mentoring Scheme, Minimum Age of Criminal Responsibility, and Establishment of a Juvenile Court in Rodrigues, the proposals were referred to the Minister for Gender Equality, Child Development and Family Welfare to be included in the Children's Bill under preparation. Madam Chairperson, I am tabling the objects of the committee.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Yes, can we know from the Commissioner what age of concerned with the Mentoring Committee? What age of people concerned?

Mrs. M.R.F. Gaspard Pierre-Louis, CSK: Madam Chairperson, for a child to be placed under mentorship, he should be aged more than 10 years and less than 18 years.

Mr. J. R. Augustin: Yes, Madam Chair, and people of less than 10 years, if they have misbehaviour, what do we do with these children?

Mrs. M.R.F. Gaspard Pierre-Louis, CSK: Normally, Madam Chairperson, for children under the age of 10, we do have counselling sessions that we have with their parents and this is why in the answer I just gave, I mention that proposals and recommendations from the Child Mentoring Committee was regarding also the age of mentorship for the Child Mentoring Scheme.

Madam Chairperson: Respected Members, the table has been advised that PQ B/119 and B/120 have been withdrawn. Next question.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Madam Chair, B/114.

INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND GAMES

(No. B/114): The Second Local Region Member of La Ferme (Mr. J. N. Volbert) asked the Commissioner for Sports and Others whether, in regard to the recent Indian Ocean Island Games held in Mauritius recently, she will, for the benefit of the House state the number of officials from Rodrigues attending the opening and closing ceremonies thereof, respectively, indicating; -

- (a) the sum disbursed by her Commission in terms of stipend, air tickets, lodging and accoutrement; and
- (b) how selection was made in respect of those attending same?

The Commissioner for Sports and Others (Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina): Madam Chairperson, I wish to inform the House that following invitation of the '*Comité d'organisations des Jeux des Iles*', 16 officials participated in the opening ceremony and 14 in the closing ceremony of the Indian Ocean Island Games 2019 in Mauritius.

Madam Chairperson, with regards to part (a) of the question, I wish to inform the House that except for the Departmental Head and the Chief Commissioner of Rodrigues, all expenses related to the mission of officials who attended the opening and closing ceremonies including air tickets and lodging were borne by COJI Mauritius. Accoutrement was provided to the 12 members of COJI, Rodrigues, Operations Manager, General Secretary, the Departmental Head and myself by COJI (Mauritius).

The sum disbursed by my Commission in terms of stipend, air tickets and lodging is Rs 14,640.

Madam Chairperson, with regards part (b), the officials who attended the ceremonies were invited by COJI. As per information obtained from COJI, the members of the delegation who have attended the ceremonies were invited as per their roles as heads of the different committees under the COJI Rodrigues and of the Regional Assembly and/or valuable contribution in the organisation of the events.

Thank you Madam Chair.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Yes, can I know from the Commissioner how the COJI Committees were set up and who have chosen those to form part of these committees?

Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina: The COJI Rodrigues was set up and it was the prerogative of the Commissioner to set up the committee as per the skills and abilities of the persons who are working. But with regards to technical committee, technical committee was included. The two different disciplines that were to be organised in Rodrigues and therefore, it was an obligation to have the different committee regional to be present on this committee and to participate fully in the organisation of the events and of the technical issues with regards to the game as a whole.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Madam the Chair, can I know from the respected Commissioner why coaches of different disciplines from your Commission were not selected to be responsible of head of committees, COJI Committees? Instead, they are given minor responsibilities.

Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, it was the prerogative of the Commissioner for Sports and of course, the coaches of the Commission have their rules as they should. There were not lessened or they were not heightened to an exaggerated point of view but they had the recognition that they should have as coaches and officers of the Commission.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Can I know, Madam Chairperson, from the respected Commissioner if all those form part of the Rodriguan delegation official were really involved in sports in Rodrigues?

Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chairperson, with regards to the organisation of the Indian Ocean Island Games, there are the sports issues that were taken by the Technical Committee and the people who were in that Committee, they are technical persons who are whether in the sports area and in the different disciplines. With regards to accommodation, to catering, to *sonorisation* and to all other aspects pertaining to the organisation of the games, other persons with these related skills were coopted and invited to be part of the Committee. So, to organise a game, there is the technicality for sports but there 'is' also all other issues around it. So, this is what was taken into consideration.

Madam Chairperson: Ten minutes left for questions. Respected Members, the table has been advised that PQ B/121, B/122, B/123, B/124, B/130, B/131 and B/132 have been withdrawn.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Est-ce que la Commissaire peut nous informer comment les supports financiers proposés aux athlètes s'entraînaient à Maurice ont été payés ?

Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chair, I would advise the Member to come with a substantive question because this question relates to the opening and closing of the Island Games.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Yes, Madam Chairperson, can I ask the Commissioner to inform the House with regard to the incident occurred for the arrival of the flame in Rodrigues? Give us details on that, please.

Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina: Madam Chairperson, even though I was not the one to bring the flame, to have the flame in my hands, I prefer that the Member comes with a substantive question. I would be glad to answer to that and to enlighten the House.

Madam Chairperson: Respected Members, I wish to draw the attention of the House that the Commissioner for Fisheries has submitted the tabled information pertaining to PQ B/100 as requested. Next question.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: B/115, Madam.

**MAINTENANCE OF VEHICLES OWNED
AND/OR RENTED – ROD CLEAN COMPANY LTD**

(No. B/115): The Second Island Region Member (Mr. J. L. R. Perrine) asked the Commissioner for Environment and Others whether, in regard to the maintenance of vehicles owned and/or rented for operational purposes by Rod Clean Company Ltd, from January 2017 to date, he will seek information from the relevant authority to state and table for the benefit of the House: -

- (a) to whom the maintenance thereof has been attributed;
- (b) the total sum disbursed therefor per servicing company or individual; and
- (c) if there has been any termination of contract in that regard by RodClean Co. Ltd, stating, in the affirmative, if same resulted from breach of contract by either contracting party, or both, and to provide all relevant documents linked thereto?

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Madam Chairperson, as we are all aware, Rodclean Ltd is an RRA owned company instituted under the Rodrigues Regional Assembly (Investment Management) Regulations 2008 with the following objectives,

- (a) To be in the interest of the general public
- (b) Aim at helping to provide merit goods in Rodrigues;
- (c) Help promote job creation and social justice;
- (d) Assist the Rodrigues Regional Assembly and its commission in better;
- (e) Attaining policy objectives as approved; or
- (f) Ensure that end –users of goods and services provided by the Companies contribute effectively towards their cost.

Rodclean Ltd is a service provider under the aegis of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly for the purpose of cleaning, embellishment and collection of refuse. The management operations of the company ‘is’ overseen by a Board of Directors.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, on a point of order. My question is direct. To whom the maintenance thereof has been attributed? The Commissioner is making statement, losing time of the House and we will not have enough time to put question to him. I would request you to rule on that and to ask the Commissioner to reply directly to the question.

Madam Chairperson: I can only request the Commissioner to please be brief as far as possible because we have limited time. Yes?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Okay. Let me look for the answer then. It may take some time to...

[Interruptions]

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Yes, but it is in a...

[Interruptions]

Mr. J. R. Payendee: To whom?

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
Yes, Madam Chairperson, a memorandum was signed with EASYGO-maintenance contract in August 2017 to look after the three lorries purchased from CFAO Motors.

The contract was canceled after six months. Normally, the contract was for six months but we... The fact that the Board of Directors of RodClean found that the EASYGO was not performing, so, the contract was cancelled. But it was cancelled a bit late, that is why they were paid a fine...paid a fine two years ago of 160000 because the contract was cancelled. And, then, the worked assigned was as follows:

- Each lorry will be expected... Let me shorten the thing again if they want short answers. It is more of the work that was being done. Let me see the question again so that I can give you short answer. The total sum. Let me give you the total sum.

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
Be zot pa dir mo p perdi letemps? Donc...

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
Total sum disbursed... It is post screening Gelena. That is not a...

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
If I read the whole thing, I would have gone through it but you wanted me to shorten. The sum, the total sum disbursed for servicing the company's vehicle is Rs 2,649,725. 2.6 but it was since the very beginning and we have 540... Just a break down, 524,705 was given to Pasnin. Garage Ti Waye – 1.3 m. And, Mr. CFAO, Representative – Rs 776,375.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Yes, Madam, I have requested in my reply that the answer is being tabled. I would humbly ask the Commissioner to table the information since we have lack of time. Can I ask the Commissioner with regards... I know... Can I ask the Commissioner whether he can inform the House how the amount of Rs 160,000 has been paid and by whom?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: 160,000? 760,000?

[Interruptions]

Mr. J. R. Payendee: The money has been paid to... two years ago! Rs 160,000 was paid two years ago from RodClean.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: A protocol to follow when paying someone. Right? Whether it is a stipend, whether it is allowance, whether it is everything with regards to payment, there is a protocol to follow. Can the Commissioner inform the House whether all the protocols have been followed with regards to payment or the Rs 160,000 to EASYGO Company?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: Madam Chairperson, RodClean was quite, you know, fair because only of 15 days that they can... they should have written the letter on the 1st but they wrote it on the 15th. 15 days of lateness, RodClean paid Rs 160,000 to... after having been dealt by the Legal Advisor. How did they pay that? How do you pay? Either by cash or by cheque, I do not know! But the money has been paid.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Was it by cash or by cheque? And, if yes, if by cheque, can I have a... because I requested a copy of these documents, can I ask the Commissioner to make these documents available to this House?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: No, Madam Chairperson. We cannot give a... the copy of a cheque that we give to someone to the House. This is... *Non*, this is not permissible, Madam.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Can I ask the Commissioner who sign these cheques for EASYGO Company Ltd? Who sign?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: You know, there is a board of directors for RodClean and there, they set protocol for that. So, I can assure the House that the protocol was respected.

Madam Chairperson: Respected Members, the table has been advised that PQ B/117 and B/118 have been removed. One last question.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Madame, ma question est simple. Le Commissaire ne veut pas donner des réponses mais j'ai demandé dans ma question de *table a copy of all these documents*. *Can the Commissioner...* est-ce qu'il peut nous confirmer que l'argent qui a été payé au EASYGO, le Rs160000 n'a pas suivi les protocoles établis par la compagnie de RodClean ? Est-ce qu'il peut confirmer ça ?

Mr. J. R. Payendee: I have been informed by RodClean that the money has been paid. That is all I can say.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Yes, my question...

Madam Chairperson: It was the last question, respected Member. Question time is over.

SOCIAL AID / ALLOWANCE – CANCER PATIENTS

(No. B/117): The Second Island Region Member (Mr. J. L. R. Perrine) asked the Commissioner for Social Security and Others whether, in regard to social aid or any other allowance payable to cancer patients, from January 2017 to date, he will state and table: -

- (a) the number of beneficiaries and the amount paid thereto for the period;
- (b) if there was discontinuance of payment in any case and, if so, to provide the reasons therefor; and
- (c) if any special consideration is given in these specific cases and if so, to give details thereon?

[Withdrawn]

OFF-LAGOON FISHING – OUTER LAGOON FISHING BOATS

(No. B/118): The Second Island Region Member (Mr. J. L. R. Perrine) asked the Commissioner for Fisheries and Others whether, in regard to off-lagoon fishing in Rodrigues, he will state and table to the House on where matters stand concerning the use of the six outer lagoon fishing boats previously owned by ex-Rodrigues General Fishing Company Ltd, indicating: -

- (a) the current operator in each case and the yearly production per boat, from 2017 to date; and
- (b) if any one thereof is currently not operational, and if so, to give details?

[Withdrawn]

REPAIR OF ROADS – RODRIGUES

(No. B/119): The First Local Region Member of La Ferme (Mr. F.A. Grandcourt) asked the Deputy Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to the repair of roads in Rodrigues, he will state, for the benefit of the House, where matter stands as at to date?

[Withdrawn]

**WATER LORRIES – FIRE OUTBREAKS
– ROCHE BON DIEU DUMPING SITE**

(No. B/120): The First Local Region Member of La Ferme (Mr. F.A. Grandcourt) asked the Commissioner for Environment and Others whether, in regard to water lorries supplying water to control the recent fire outbreaks at Roche Bon Dieu Dumping site, he will state the: -

- (a) number of lorries involved therefor per day, indicating the number of days this operation has taken place; and
- (b) amount of money to be paid per trip and the procurement method used therefor, if any?

[Withdrawn]

**PUBLIC SERVICE VEHICLE (TAXI) LICENSE
– RODRIGUES**

(No. B/121): The Fifth Island Region Member (Mr. Zepth Félicité) asked the Deputy Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to Public Service Vehicle (Taxi) License in Rodrigues, from 2012 to date, he will, for the benefit of the House, state and table the eligibility criteria to obtain same, indicating the number of: -

- (a) applications received together with the respective proposed operating area/region; and
- (b) licenses which have been approved and refused, respectively?

[Withdrawn]

**INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND GAMES EVENTS
– JULY 2019 – RODRIGUES**

(No. B/122): The Fifth Island Region Member (Mr. Zepth Félicité) asked the Commissioner for Sports and Others whether, in regard to the recent Indian Ocean Island Games events held in July 2019 in Rodrigues, she will, for the benefit of the House, state and table: -

- (a) all hotels and/or other accommodating place where athletes and officials were put;
- (b) the eligibility criteria applied for the selection of institutions, if any; and
- (c) a breakdown of the sum paid to each accommodation facility including transport facilities?

[Withdrawn]

SOCIO-ECONOMIC STUDY & ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT ASSESSMENT – AIRPORT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT

(No. B/123): The Second Local Region Member for St. Gabriel (Mr. J. R. Ramdally) asked the Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to the socio-economic study and the environmental impact assessment undertaken by the Rodrigues Regional Assembly in connection with the airport development project, he will enlighten the House on if same has been completed and, in the affirmative, to state the major findings and recommendations of both, and, in the negative, to give details about the status as at to date of the two studies?

[Withdrawn]

E-HEALTH PROJECT

(No. B/124): The Second Local Region Member for St. Gabriel (Mr. J. R. Ramdally) asked the Commissioner for Health and Others whether, in regard to the E-health project, he will enlighten the House as to where matters stand as at date, giving details about the aims and objectives of same in the short and long run?

[Withdrawn]

UPGRADING WORKS – BATATRAN GOVERNMENT SCHOOL

/UNREVISED/

(No. B/130): The Second Local Region Member of Maréchal (Mr. J.N. Nemours) asked the Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to the upgrading works at Batatran Government School, he will enlighten the House as to where matters stand as at to date?

[Withdrawn]

**“CARNET SCOLAIRE” PROJECT
– PRIMARY SCHOOLS**

(No. B/131): The Second Local Region Member of Maréchal (Mr. J.N. Nemours) asked the Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to the “Carnet Scolaire” project in primary schools, he will, for the benefit of the House, state: -

- (a) the objectives thereof;
- (b) what have been achieved up to now in the design and development thereof; and
- (c) the timeframe for the implementation thereof?

[Withdrawn]

**CONSTRUCTION – PRE-PRIMARY SCHOOL
– JARDIN MAMZELLE**

(No. B/132): The Second Local Region Member of Maréchal (Mr. J.N. Nemours) asked the Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to the construction of a pre-primary school at Jardin Mamzelle, he will enlighten the House as to where matters stand as at to date?

[Withdrawn]

STATEMENT BY COMMISSIONERS

**OUTCOME OF PARTICIPATION OF RODRIGUAN ATHLETES
IN THE INDIAN OCEAN ISLAND GAMES 2019 IN MAURITIUS**

The Commissioner for Sports and Others (Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina): Madame la présidente, permettez-moi de faire un statement pour... autour des jeux des îles qui viennent de passer.

Madame la Présidente, je vous remercie de me permettre de prendre le temps de cette Auguste Assemblée pour exprimer toute mon appréciation et ma reconnaissance et bien sûr ceux de l'Assemblée régionale de Rodrigues envers nos athlètes et officiels qui ont participé aux 10ème Jeux des Iles de l'Océan Indien tenue du 19 au 28 juillet dernier à Maurice.

En effet, tout Rodrigues était dans l'admiration face à la performance exceptionnelle de nos athlètes qui ont tenu leur promesse pour ces jeux et cela au-delà de tout pronostic.

Les membres de cette Assemblée se rappelleront que pour la première fois de notre histoire des jeux, 41 athlètes de Rodrigues à travers neuf disciplines ont vraiment... ont participé et ont brillé à ces jeux.

[Applause]

The Commissioner for Sports and Others (Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina): La récolte des médailles est comme suit : 12 médailles d'or, 18 médailles d'argent et 6 médailles de bronze, soit 36 médailles au total mais 52 médailles en général si on compte les sports collectif, Madame la présidente.

Madame la Présidente, ce résultat témoigne de la pertinence des politiques mises en place par l'Assemblée régionale de Rodrigues à travers des mesures incitatives pour la préparation des athlètes et aussi à travers la participation fréquente de nos athlètes dans des compétitions nationales et régionales pour le développement du sport à moyen et à long terme.

Madame la présidente, nous sommes ravis aussi de constater qu'il y a une volonté de plus en plus grande chez nos athlètes pour améliorer leur performance pour leur satisfaction personnelle et aussi pour mettre Rodrigues encore plus au-devant de la scène internationale.

Pour témoigner de la reconnaissance l'Assemblée régionale de Rodrigues sous la direction de notre Chef commissaire, M. Louis Serge Clair, et de tout le peuple de Rodrigues... et de tout un peuple, on a su démontrer notre reconnaissance face à la performance de nos athlètes dans le cadre de la Journée Internationale de la Jeunesse où une cérémonie de remise de récompenses a été organisée ce samedi 10 août à Malabar suivie d'une animation culturelle par des artistes Rodriguais.

Madame la Présidente, je suis heureuse d'annoncer que les *cash prize* additionnels alloués aux athlètes et entraîneurs par l'Assemblée régionale sont comme suit :-

- (i) Pour chaque des médailles d'or obtenue, Rs 30,000 a été alloué, pour chaque médaille d'argent Rs 20,000 et pour la médaille de bronze Rs 10,000. Les athlètes n'ayant pas obtenu de médailles ont obtenu chacun Rs 5000 pour leur participation. Ils n'étaient que deux.
- (ii) Madame la présidente, les entraîneurs sont officiellement reconnus par leur fédération respective et eux, ils ont obtenu chacun Rs 12,000 et ceux qui ne font pas partie de cette catégorie et ont contribué d'une façon ou d'une autre pour la préparation de nos athlètes ont chacun obtenu une somme de Rs 5,000.

Le montant total de la récompense aux athlètes et des entraîneurs des Jeux des Iles s'élève à Rs1,4 million, Madame la présidente.

Je suis heureuse aussi, Madame la Présidente, d'annoncer que suite à la participation de Brigilla Clair (Handisportif) au Championnat du Monde pour les Handicapés Intellectuels en Suisse du 30 juillet au 05 août dernier, et a brillé... et la brillante médaille d'or obtenue, l'Assemblée Régionale lui a octroyée un *cash prize* de Rs 50,000 et un *cash prize* de Rs 15,000 à son entraîneur, Fabrice Ramsamy.

[Applause]

The Commissioner for Sports and Others (Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina): Cela témoigne encore plus l'importance que ma Commission et l'Assemblée régionale en entier accordent au handisport qui est maintenant sur le même pied d'égalité que les autres disciplines sportives. Il faut surtout noter, Madame la présidente, que le déplacement de Brigila Clair et de son entraîneur a été financé par l'Assemblée Régionale de Rodrigues.

Madame la Présidente, fort de notre succès aux Jeux, je compte avec la bénédiction du Gouvernement régional entamer des consultations élargies avec tous les partenaires dans le sport pour affiner notre politique sportive dans le moyen et long terme afin d'assurer que les intérêts de nos athlètes et encadreur soient préservés et promouvoir le développement soutenable du sport à Rodrigues. Nous envisageons de prendre les actions suivantes:-

- (i) Travailler sur un plan stratégique pour le sport qui découlera sur un « *Sports Policy Paper* » for Rodrigues

- (ii) Venir de l'avant un plan d'action pour la préparation de nos athlètes et des encadrateurs pour les jeux de 2023 aux Maldives, avec la collaboration des Comités Régionaux.
- (iii) Assurer une plus grande pépinière d'athlètes pour participer aux jeux des îles et dans une plus grande variété de disciplines ;
- (iv) La dernière proposition que nous avons est très importante. Parce que les Rodriguais... le Rodriguais a un rêve, un rêve qui est partagé par tout le monde et non seulement par les athlètes. Ce rêve, c'est que Rodrigues participe un jour et bientôt, on espère, en tant qu'île au prochain Jeux des Iles et ce rêve, c'est un rêve légitime et avec le Chef commissaire et le Conseil exécutif et ce côté de la Chambre, nous prenons l'engagement de monter un dossier pour que nous y arrivons et que Rodrigues puisse participer en tant qu'île aux Jeux des Iles dans un avenir on espère pas trop lointain.

[Applause]

The Commissioner for Sports and Others (Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina): Je suis confiante parce que la lutte de l'autonomie a pris 25 ans et on est devenu autonome et je suis sûre qu'ensemble, on pourra y arriver. Madame la présidente, pour terminer, j'aimerais remercier quelques personnes et sinon la population de Rodrigues :-

Tout d'abord, permettez-moi de remercier le Chef commissaire de Rodrigues, M. Louis Serge Clair, qui démontre un intérêt et un grand respect pour nos athlètes. Un merci à mes collègues du Conseil exécutif qui m'ont soutenu corps et âme, les membres de l'Assemblée nationale qui m'ont soutenu. Je remercie tous les membres de ce côté de la Chambre ;

Je remercie aussi tous nos athlètes pour leur persévérance, leur assiduité et pour avoir cru en leur capacité tel que l'Assemblée Régionale a toujours plébiscité ;

Les parents de nos athlètes, une pensée spéciale pour vous pour avoir été à leur côté durant la préparation même si parfois ils ont dû être éloignés de vos cœurs pour aller à Maurice pour des entraînements plus intensifs.

Je remercie les entraîneurs qui travaillent fortement sur Rodrigues et ceux qui travaillent à Maurice aussi pour leur dévouement, leur professionnalisme et les soutiens indéfectibles apportés à nos athlètes.

Un remerciement aux Comites Régionaux pour avoir contribué à la préparation des athlètes et pour avoir collaboré lors de l'organisation de ces deux épreuves à Rodrigues. Il faut noter, Madame la présidente, que les deux épreuves organisées à Rodrigues « fut » un succès et cette Assemblée régionale a encore une fois marqué l'histoire d'une pierre blanche.

Madame la présidente, je remercie aussi le comité organisateur des Jeux des Iles à Rodrigues pour le travail abattu, le COJI au niveau de Maurice pour avoir donné les moyens nécessaires à l'organisation des deux disciplines à Rodrigues.

Je remercie le Ministère de la Jeunesse et des Sports pour toute la contribution apportée.

Merci également à tous les départements de... à tous les départements de l'Assemblée régionale parce que pour ces jeux, l'Assemblée régionale, toutes les Commissions étaient un... étaient une. On était unis et on voulait tous qu'on réussisse et je remercie tous les départements qui ont aidé. Et je les remercie aussi pour leur compréhension car souvent nos athlètes et les membres du COJI ont dû avoir recours à des « releases » pour la préparation des Jeux des Iles et vous avez toujours collaboré.

Un bravo et merci spécial à M. Marianne qui travaille dans cette Auguste Assemblée qui est présent aujourd'hui.

[Applause]

The Commissioner for Sports and Others (Mrs M. R. Edouard-Ravina): Je remercie l'Assemblée régionale pour ça. Il a brillé et j'espère qu'il brillera encore.

Merci beaucoup à mon staff pour leur soutien indéfectible, leur persévérance dans l'organisation des jeux à Rodrigues. Beaucoup ont fait des heures supplémentaires de façon continue afin que les objectifs fixés soient atteints.

Merci à toutes les institutions qui ont collaboré à l'organisation notamment les hôtels, le transport public et les sponsors.

Merci au public Rodriguais parce que le public Rodriguais a été formidable. Ils ont démontré que malgré la pluie, rien ne nous empêche d'être solidaire, rien ne nous empêche de vibrer autour du sport et rien ne nous empêche de montrer notre patriotisme. Ils ont joué le jeu jusqu'au bout et je les remercie

aussi pour la flamme, pour la flamme qui est arrivé parce qu'ils ont su être solidaire et témoin lors de ce qui s'est passé et je suis heureuse qu'ils ont pu comprendre, ils ont vu la vérité malgré les démagogues. Bravo Rodrigues. Merci !

[Applause]

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner for Environment.

**THE MAIN CHALLENGES IN THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR
DURING THE LAST FINANCIAL YEAR AND THE ACTIONS TAKEN**

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
Madame la présidente... Madam Chairperson, thank you.

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
Ey reste trankil do, pa ressi lir!

Madam Chairperson, thank you for giving me this opportunity to make a statement today which has as title the main challenges that the Agricultural sector faced during the last financial year and the actions taken to remedy the situation.

Madam Chairperson, it is an unfortunate fact that climate change and the vagaries of nature are having serious consequences on agriculture. We now have flash floods, extended drought periods and the weather has become more and more unpredictable in spite of technological progress. This affects the practices of farmers who sometimes do not have enough water for irrigation and at times, complain that there was too much rainfall and too much water or too much sunshine. Just by speaking to older planters, Madam Chair, we clearly understand that we are living in an era of climate change and we cannot continue to do things in the same way that we used to do but we have to adapt to constantly changing conditions.

Madam Chair, the Agricultural Sector has been severely affected by the four major calamities during the last financial year namely:

- (i) The occurrence of *Bactocera dorsalis* (which is a fruit fly);
- (ii) The Cyclone Gelena on the 11 February 2019;
- (iii) The Occurrence of Fall Army Worm in March; and
- (iv) Cyclone Joaninha on 25-26 March 2018.

Let me now elaborate a little bit on these calamities.

BACTOCERA DORSALIS FRUIT FLY

The oriental fruit fly (*Bactocera dorsalis*) was first discovered in the Northern part of Rodrigues on 27 November 2018. 61 oriental fruit flies were recorded in five traps in a radius of 1 – 2 km.

Following confirmation of the fruit fly by the Entomology Division of the Ministry of Agriculture, Agro Industry and Food Security, an action plan was drawn in view of maintaining the fly population below economic threshold. It comprised of:-

- (i) Intensification of *dorsalis* flies monitoring;
- (ii) Placement of MAT Blocks;
- (iii) Protein Baits' distribution and spraying;
- (iv) Distribution of refuse plastic bags for orchard sanitisation; and
- (v) Sensitisation campaigns.

As a whole, the oriental fruit fly population has remained low in Rodrigues due to the implementation of the following, of the strategies that have already been put in place.

In general, Madam Chairperson, it can be said that thanks to the prompt action taken by my Commission and with the collaboration of the planter community, it has been possible to control the *dorsalis* in Rodrigues. Of course, it has had an effect on our agricultural output, particularly the fruit sector. The *dorsalis* episode has shown how our agricultural sector is vulnerable and that all precautions should be taken to prevent and control it and to make it, the sector more resilient.

I now go to the:

FALL ARMYWORM

Fall Armyworm was first reported in Rodrigues on 21 March 2019. My Commission immediately contacted the Ministry of Agroindustry and Food Security for confirmation and their officers and management were on mission in Rodrigues on three occasions for establishing the way forward after it has been confirmed that the pest was really the Fall Armyworm. My Commission eventually received support from the FAO through the visit of the Dr Chiluba for setting up of a protocol to... Chiluba, to contain the pest.

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Madam Chairperson, several sensitisations have been carried out at village levels through meetings. Field officers were also sensitising planters through visits and while scouting for the pest. Radio and television programmes have also been done to sensitise planters and the public in general. Meetings have been... A lot of meetings have been organised.

Madam Chairperson, 40 traps have been placed around the island for monitoring of the pest population and they were monitored on a weekly basis by officers of the Unit. Average number of adults' moth caught by trap has decreased from 4.18 during the third week of April 2019 to 0.6 for the third week of June 2018. Traps were placed during the last week of March 2019 and monitoring started as from the first week of April.

A further 100 traps have been placed around the island for mass trapping of the pest and these are monitored on a monthly basis. The Ministry of Agroindustry and Food Security has promised to send another 100 traps for mass trapping and same are still being awaited.

The number of planters who reported attack by the pest is 119 as at June 2019. The maize plots have already been sprayed by the Pest Control Unit of my Commission.

Following complaints from planters and scouting, spraying is done free of charge by staff of my Commission for Agriculture and to date, more than 60,620 sq m have been sprayed. Spraying with suitable pesticide is performed twice within an interval of 7 to 10 days. Up to now, the spraying done was 100 % successful and lost in maize yield is insignificant, that is less than 5%. Bio, yes.

We have also put a Sprayer Scheme. It was launched recently at the end of July 2019 and 67 applications have been received and field visits are being done.

Madam Chairperson, following the Fall Armyworm episode, the Government of Mauritius decided to impose temporary restrictions, with effect from 26th March 2019 on all plants, plant parts and plant products from Rodrigues to Mauritius since they are potential pathways for movement of the suspected Fall Armyworm. In addition, no flights were allowed to depart Rodrigues after 18h30.

The restrictions had a negative effect on planters who had excess lemons and pumpkin ready for sale. Madam Chairperson, my Commission did not remain insensitive to the difficulties experienced by the planters. The Executive Council at its meeting held on 19 April 2019, took the bold decision to purchase lemons and pumpkins from planters by the RTMC for sale to the public at

subsidised prices so as to encourage consumption. Lemons were bought at the rate of Rs 20 per kg and sold at Rs15 per kg whereas pumpkin was purchased at Rs 20 per kg and sold at the same price to the customers.

Prior to that, Madam Chairperson, a Crisis Committee on the Fall Armyworm in particular and on Biosecurity issues in general, comprising all stakeholders was established under my chairmanship to hold weekly crisis meetings for proper monitoring of the situation and to take decisions quickly. As a result of the measures taken to address the problem of the Fall Armyworm, Cabinet was so impressed that it decided to its meeting held on 3rd May 2019 to lift the restrictions on the export of plant, plant parts and plant products to Mauritius and to restore flights to the normal schedule.

We come to Cyclone Gelena.

Cyclone Gelena struck Rodrigues during the night of 10 February 2019 and the highest gusts recorded were 160 km/hr. After a quick evaluation, the damages to the agricultural sector were as follows:

- (i) 65% of food crops and fruit sub sector was affected;
- (ii) 3.5% of lemon trees was uprooted;
- (iii) 3.6% of the livestock sector was affected; and
- (iv) 5% animal infrastructure was affected too.

For Cyclone Joaninha, on the 25 and 26 of March 2019, Cyclone Joaninha struck Rodrigues with gusts of between 178 to 184 km/hr were recorded on the island. Of the remaining 35% crops, after the passage of Cyclone Gelena, 80 to 90% of crop and fruit sector was also affected.

After each cyclone, seven desks were set up to register complaints from farmers:

- (i) 4 at Citronelle;
- (ii) 1 at Trèfles; and
- (iii) 2 at La Ferme.

CROPS AND FRUIT SECTOR

Crops and Fruit Sector were highly affected.

Vegetable Growers

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- (i) Vegetable seeds and organic fertilizers were distributed. These are the assistance that we gave to the farmers to remedy the situation; and
- (ii) A one- off compensation of Rs 3000 was given to vegetable growers to help them to go back through this harsh condition.

A compensation also was given to:

- Banana growers – Rs 3000;
- Lemon growers – Rs 5000; and
- Coffee growers – Rs 3000.

With regard to Livestock, compensation to farmers based on pro-rata calculation, that is, the animal that died was given:

- Rs 3,500 for cattle, one dead cattle; and
 - Rs 2000 for goat and sheep;
 - Rs 1,500 for any dead pig.
- (i) For day old chicks, a lot have been distributed to farmers who reported death of poultry after confirmation of Veterinary Services. For those who had 1 to 10 chicken died, they were given 15, 10 to 25 – 30, 25 to 50 – 75, 50 to 75 – 100 and more than 100 they were given – 125 chicks.
 - (ii) For honey production, 50 % Subsidy on sugar for feeding for a period of two months has been given to the beekeepers.

We also help people who had their animal's shed broken, their store damaged, their greenhouses and water pumps, water tanks.

Madam Chairperson, I have to stress that not all applicants are eligible for compensation unfortunately. Compensation had been made by applying to the following criteria for damages suffered in the crop production sector:

- For the mixed vegetables, it had to be 200 m² or more;
- For creepers only, 500 m²
- Bananas – more than 15 trees
- Lemon – minimum 10 trees
- Flowers – it has to be for sale
- Maize – 500 m²

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- Rodriguan chilli – 50 m² or 50 bearing plants
- For coffee, it had to be more than 1500 m²

Madam Chairperson, as at date, a sum of Rs 4,654 852.33 under the Chief Commissioner's Relief Fund has been spent to compensate 1337 farmers.

The cyclones had a significant implication on the production of vegetables, particularly during the three months thereafter. In view of ensuring a continuous availability of fresh vegetables on the local market, following a meeting with all stakeholders comprising market stallholders, the RTMC and the importers, this Regional Government took the bold decision of importing vegetables through the RTMC.

As at to date, Madam Chairperson, the RTMC has imported vegetables for an amount of Rs 1,570,260.41 and has put them on sale to customers so as to ensure a continuous supply of vegetables on the market. The arrangement was in place for a period of three months until the situation got back to the normal.

Madam Chairperson, I wish to take this opportunity to congratulate all the farmers for their resilience that they have demonstrated. The agricultural sector of Rodrigues, Madam Chairperson, was paralysed following the passage of the two successive cyclones. *Néanmoins, nos agricultures n'ont pas baissé les bras, nos agriculteurs. Les planteurs sont vite retournés dans leurs plantations et ont recommencé à cultiver les terres malgré les scènes de désolation.*

Today, the situation has returned to normal. Households are happy to go back... to go to the market to buy vegetables at affordable prices for example. Thank you, Madam Chair.

ADJOURNMENT

The Chief Commissioner: Madam Chairperson, I beg to move that the Assembly does now adjourned to Tuesday 24 September 2019 at 10.30 hours.

The Commissioner Mrs. R. M. Franchette Pierre Louis rose and seconded.

Question put and agreed to.

MATTERS RAISED

TREASURE DISCOVERY – ST FRANCOIS

The Minority Leader : Merci, Madame la présidente, je voudrais intervenir cet après-midi sur un sujet qui est d'actualité, qui soulève des passions et la seule façon, je pense, d'atténuer cela, c'est de communiquer avec la population. Donc, je voudrais demander au Chef commissaire, le voila qui est parti, lui demander de communiquer avec la population parce que cette affaire de trésor, on a entendu un son de cloche à Maurice, un autre son de cloche à Rodrigues et les gens à Rodrigues se posent pleins de questions. Ils se demandent si les recherches n'ont pas commencé en 2009, s'il n'y a pas eu un plan obtenu des étrangers. Donc, il y a eu des personnalités de l'île Maurice qui ont agi comme entremetteurs.

Donc, il y a des gens à Rodrigues qui auraient aimé savoir ce qui s'est passé réellement. C'est pourquoi je dis il faut que le Chef commissaire, il intervienne, qu'il parle à la population, qu'il dise ce qui se passe vraiment, ce qui s'est réellement passé. Est-ce qu'il y a eu des recherches ? *As far back as* 2009, il y avait des détecteurs de métaux. La population voudrait le savoir parce que c'est ce qui en fait, c'est ce qui s'est passé. Est-ce que la découverte date vraiment de 2019 ou bien de 2018 ? Est-ce que le Chef commissaire a été informé ? On aurait aimé savoir s'il pouvait communiquer cela à la population, s'il y a eu des réponses, si les chercheurs ont demandé au Chef commissaire, ont déjà fait savoir...

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, all these issues have already been addressed during the question this morning.

The Minority Leader : Not all, not all. I am addressing the Chief commissioner.

Madam Chairperson: No, you cannot address the Chief Commissioner on the matter concerning the Commissioner for Youth.

The Minority Leader : This is something... No because I would like to know whether the Chief Commissioner has received any letter concerning same. If he does not answer, nobody can answer for him. Et j'aurais aimé savoir lui en tant que Chef commissaire, s'il va signer un contre-affidavit. La population a le droit de savoir ! Mais oui !

Madam Chairperson: Yes, respected Minority Leader, Standing Orders are clear about that. Matters raised at adjournment should have at aim to attract the attention of a particular Commissioner on a problem which requires immediate action and here, you are asking questions which have already been answered this morning. So, please, redirect your intervention properly so as not to contravene the Standing Orders, please.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Minority Leader, this is final. The Standing Orders are clear. I am directing you according to the Standing Orders. I am not inventing anything. So, please!

The Minority Leader : Yes, I know but what I am saying, there is no matter of controversy that I am raising and I am... And, these, what I have... what I am talking here, have received no answer this morning and well, I would like to ask the Chief Commissioner to communicate to the public. The Rodriguan public need enlightenment. So, I would like to take this opportunity that is given to me here because I have tried in other quarters. I want everything to be done in total transparency. I would like the Chief Commissioner to come in front of the population and to explain what has happened because there are people that have been... *qui a été pris manimulitari à St François. Donc, les gens ont besoin de savoir. Si on reste dans l'opacité, mais la population Rodriguaise ont le droit de poser des questions et comme Minority Leader, je ne peux pas faire la sourde oreille aux questions de la population.*

Donc, je pense que j'ai fait mon devoir de venir ici. Je crois que at the last resort, I am doing that. I am asking the Chief Commissioner to come in front of the population and to tell the truth, to say that is happening with the treasure, whether it will be kept in Rodrigues, whether there “have” been communication between the Central Government and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly. If for the Central Government... for the Rodrigues Regional Assembly, the Executive Council, this is not important, so, be it. But I have made my point; it is either you take it or you leave it.

[Applause]

MANAGEMENT OF WASTES, RODRIGUES – ROCHE BON DIEU DUMPING SITE

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Madame la présidente, j'aimerais attirer l'attention du Commissaire de l'environnement concernant le dépotoir. A travers les *statements*, à travers les discours budgets, j'ai attiré l'attention sur tout ce qui la gestion de déchets à Rodrigues mais ces derniers temps, la situation oblige. On a besoin de parler du dépotoir. Madame la présidente, qui c'est qui n'a pas entendu parler du feu et des épaisses fumées émanant du dépotoir de Roche Bon Dieu ? Pourquoi je me permets d'intervenir, Madame la présidente ? C'est parce que je suis bien placé pour le faire. Si le Commissaire avait continué le travail qu'on avait commencé à l'époque, ça, cette situation ne serait pas empirée et

arrivée à ce point aujourd'hui, Madame la présidente. Ce dépotoir est dépassé. Le Commissaire de l'environnement est là depuis 2012. Sept ans après, il utilise le même dépotoir.

Qu'est-ce qu'on avait fait à l'époque ? On avait initié, je le répète encore une fois, le tri des déchets chez l'habitant. C'est-à-dire, on donne trois poubelles aux gens : une poubelle, ils mettent des matières en plastic, une autre poubelle les déchets mixtes et l'autre poubelle, ils mettent des papiers parce que nous pensions à cette époque-là que les déchets peuvent être valorisés. Qu'est-ce qu'il a fait ? Il est venu en 2012, il a arrêté ce projet. Le projet aurait dû être étendu partout à travers l'île. Il a arrêté le projet et maintenant, il vient nous dire qu'il va faire le tri des déchets à Roche Bon Dieu, Madame la présidente. Comment peut-on laisser les déchets mélanger ensemble, être contaminés et puis, on emmène là-bas pour faire le tri ? Quoique le tri aurait bien pu être fait chez l'habitant, Madame la présidente. Mais qu'est-ce qu'on voit aujourd'hui ? Le dépotoir a pris feu.

Je me rappelle à l'époque, quand j'étais Commissaire, ça n'existe pas parce qu'on veillait à ce que le dépotoir soit bien géré, Madame la présidente. Il y a aussi... Je ne vais pas prendre beaucoup de temps. Il y a aussi la question de *waste water*. Ce n'est pas beau, Madame la présidente, de voir dans les journaux. Dans les journaux, on voit une photo, les pompiers. Il y avait les pompiers et aussi, des cabris dans le dépotoir à Roche Bon Dieu. Je demanderais, je fais un appel aux jeunes qui sont là aujourd'hui, allez voir le dépotoir de Roche Bon Dieu. Allez voir le dépotoir de Roche Bon Dieu. Allez voir où on jette l'eau usée à Rodrigues. Dans le journal, tout le monde, je vois des parfums au senteur et puis là, on dit même « brise d'anus », Madame la présidente. C'est dans le journal. Vous croyez que c'est bien d'entendre ça ?

Madam Chairperson: Even if it is in the press article, Commissioner, you should not be using such words in this Assembly.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Je retire s'il faut retirer, Madame la présidente, mais la situation est telle qu'on a qualifié ceci de ce que je viens de dire. Madame la présidente, allez voir les jeunes. *Ene la marre*. A l'époque, qu'est-ce qu'on faisait ? On clôturait. Premièrement, on clôturait le dépotoir. Premièrement. Deuxièmement, là où on dépose les eaux usées, on a... C'était clôturé. Maintenant, ce n'est plus clôturé. Allez voir. Allez voir. Dans le journal, là, *ene la marre, ene la marre dilo. Laisse mo pa dir*. Madame la présidente, qu'est-ce qu'on avait fait pour le dépotoir ? On avait commencé un travail à Pointe au Sel. On a commencé à fouiller, à faire des carrés pour. On allait mettre des déchets et de temps en temps, on a échangé le carré pour pouvoir justement empêcher qu'il y a le feu parce que dans le dépotoir, il y a la fermentation des déchets organiques, il y a des gazes qui sont émis et bien sûr, il y a le feu. Et je trouve drôle là, le

Commissaire vient, il cache, se cache derrière : « oui, c'est des actes criminels, on va aller à la police ».

Mais il doit faire sont travail, Madame la présidente ! On a acheté un broyeur. Le broyeur, vous savez ce qu'ils ont fait du broyeur ? *Rs4 millions ti paye ene broyeur*. Pourquoi ? Pourquoi est-ce qu'on a acheté le broyeur ? Parce qu'à cet époque-là, on pensait que désintégrer, ça veut dire broyer les déchets organiques, ça aidera les planteurs à mieux avoir du composte, ainsi de suite, Madame la présidente. Qu'est-ce qu'ils ont fait du broyeur ? Le broyeur est à Baie aux Huitres, *ine mette feye lor li ine couver enba la paille*. C'est ça, je dis, Madame la présidente, c'est malheureux. C'est le fait des fois le Commissaire rigole mais s'il avait continué le travail qu'on avait commencé à l'époque, Madame la présidente, on serait bien loin. Mais allez voir, une dernière chose, allez voir à Roche Bon Dieu et Pointe au Sel.

Vous voyez le dépotoir, les fumées qui s'émanent, vous avez les éoliennes, l'énergie. Les éoliennes, soi-disant énergie, ça c'est nous, on a été à l'époque. L'énergie verte, les renouvelables et de l'autre côté *ene bassin dilo*. *Mo pa dir*. Madame la présidente, allez voir les jeunes. Il faut aller voir ! Aller voir cette image. Allez voir. Nous, on a été choqué. J'ai invité beaucoup de monde à aller voir ça. On parle de l'île écologique ? Allez voir là-bas ! Allez voir là-bas qu'est-ce qui se passe et qu'est-ce qu'il fait. Il n'est jamais trop tard. Il n'est jamais trop tard, donc, je compte sur la bonne volonté du Commissaire d'arrêter de s'asseoir et de prendre les taureaux par les cornes et de résoudre ce problème, Madame la présidente. Merci.

[Applause]

Madam Chairperson: Yes, the Commissioner would like to...

**REPLY TO INTERVENTION OF
MR. F. A. GRANDCOURT**

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
Bon, *Madam Chairperson*, je ne peux pas rester comme ça à écouter des choses pareilles. Le membre a parlé de qu'ils avaient commencé à l'époque de faire le tri de déchets à Pointe L'Herbe. Je me souviens pare que c'était chez moi dans mon village à moi, oui. Mais le problème, c'était quoi ? C'était plus précisément un truc maquillé. Je dis ça maquillé parce qu'on donnait des poubelles à des gens pour séparer les déchets mais après, on jette tout à Roche Bon Dieu.

[Applause]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
C'était... Est-ce que c'était...

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Order!

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
C'était faire semblant de quitter...

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Order! Respected Members from both sides of the House, please!

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: On a point of personal explanation. Madame la présidente, je peux?

Madam Chairperson: The Commissioner, do you give way ?

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
No, Madam.

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
No, Madam.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: No. Respected Member, you cannot say that it is unfair unless you have a point of order. Standing Orders are clear! Unless you have a point of order, you cannot interrupt. I know the Member and if you have a point of personal explanation, unless the other Member gives way, you cannot intervene. This is clear. Procedures exist. You have to abide to procedures. Yes, Commissioner.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: On a point of order, if you want me to come with a point of order but I wanted to come with a point of explanation because...

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: No, no, no. No.

[Interruptions]

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Section 36...

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member! Respected Member!

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Respected Members, please!

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Respected Members! All these interruptions only...

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: The Commissioner will intervene and after his intervention, you can explain whatever you have to explain only after his intervention.

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Madam Chair, c'est vrai que ce projet était fait. Je me souviens d'initiation de projet. Je me souviens. Mais il n'y avait pas de... Tous les déchets plastiques et autres partaient à Roche Bon Dieu. C'était la même chose. Blanc bonnet, bonnet blanc, Madam Chairperson. Donc, ce n'est pas vrai de dire que si j'avais continué la vision de tri de déchet. Mais qu'est-ce qui se passe aujourd'hui ? *Madam Chairperson*, vous partez à Rodrigues, vous voyez partout, il y a des poubelles de tri ? Il n'y en a pas ? Ça n'existe pas des poubelles de tri à Rodrigues ? Ça, c'est visible. Et en plus de ça, j'irais plus loin. Qu'est-ce qui se passe avec les déchets qu'on collecte là-bas ? Tout repart à Maurice. De l'huile de vidange repart à Maurice. Oui. Donc, ce qui se fait, le tri des déchets maintenant, c'est une réalité. Et ça se fait comme ça devait se faire. Et pour aller plus loin, je trouve dommage que à ce moment précis, le membre Grandcourt, le respecté membre vient de parler du dépotoir ou du ce qu'on appelle, le *Waste Water Treatment Plant*. Maintenant, maintenant quand on a eu assez de budget pour refaire la situation. Donc, aujourd'hui, on a le budget. Le Chef commissaire vient de dire Rs100 millions, Rs150 millions on a.

Madam Chairperson: Commissioner, please, be brief in your intervention.

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Oui. On a Rs150 millions pour faire un vrai tri de déchets et je confirme les gars des pompiers ont dit que le feu qui a pris sur le dépotoir est criminel. Il est criminel. Ça a été... On ne peut pas... Si le feu prend dans un endroit, ça va, mais le même feu ne peut pas prendre dans dix endroits en même temps. Donc.... Et je suis désolé pour les gens de Roche Bon Dieu. C'est vrai, j'admet il y a eu des problèmes mais malheureusement, bientôt, ce sera fini. 150... On a... On a...

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Je n'avais pas assez de sous.

Madam Chairperson: Order !

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Tout projet... Tout projet... C'est un gros projet. Tout projet demande de l'argent, de budget. On n'avait pas à l'époque, *Madam Chairperson*. Quel politicien n'aurait pas aimé résoudre ce problème d'un seul coup ? J'aurais été le premier. Mais malheureusement, on n'avait pas de budget. Aujourd'hui, on a le budget Rs150 millions pour résoudre le problème, que les deux problèmes, le centre de tri qui va être mis à Roche Bon Dieu et également le *Waste Water Treatment Plant*. On parlait de *Waste Water Treatment Plant*, il y a, c'est vrai, ça, c'est depuis l'époque. Depuis l'époque de tout le monde, des deux gouvernements. C'était comme ça. Mais qu'est-ce qui s'est passé ? Et là, il parlait de aller mettre le truc à Pointe au Sel. Mettre le truc à Pointe au Sel, c'est *tempered with the underwater, le groundwater*. Donc, tout ça, ce n'est pas bien. C'est pour ça. Si on n'était pas éclairé, je n'aurais pas... je ne serais pas venu avec ce projet, ces deux gros projets de centre de tri et de *Waste Water Treatment Plant*. En plus, on va récupérer l'eau pour arroser. On va refaire le reboisement dans toute la vallée de... Concernant la sécurité et ayant vu que c'était... le feu qui a été mis là-bas était criminel, on a déjà mis la sécurité privée sur le dépotoir. Ce sera chose du passé. Bientôt, on va mettre même des cameras sur le truc. On va attraper ces gens qui font ces démagogies, Madame.

Madam Chairperson: Yes, Commissioner, due to limited time...

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): Un dernier point, Madame, parce qu'il y a eu le broyeur aussi que j'aimerais bien éclaircir.

Madam Chairperson: Okay, please, be brief because we have limited time and you can give further explanation in next sittings.

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): *The next one will be about le broyeur.* C'est vrai qu'il y a un broyeur. Ils disent qu'ils ont acheté. Ils n'ont pas acheté deux broyeur. Le Gouvernement a acheté deux broyeurs. Il y a un broyeur à Baie aux Huitres et c'est utilisé pour justement. Combien de personnes partent récupérer du compost à Baie aux Huitres ? Donc, ce n'est pas bien de faire de la démagogie autour des choses qui sont... qui sont...

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee): *To ti asté ha ek to larzan toi?*

Madam Chairperson: Yes, you... Respected Member, you just give your explanation and that is it.

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: Des explications sur le tri de déchets et des poubelles. C'est ce qu'il a parlé. Donc, ce n'est pas bien de dire que les déchets sont ensuite déposés, mélangés au dépotoir. Moi expliquer. Les déchets verts étaient déposés à Montagne Plate.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Order !

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: On ramasse... Non, ça, c'est une chose. Des déchets verts, Montagne Plate. Ce qu'on avait fait avec le *Mauritius Ports Authority*, c'est à cette époque là, Madame la présidente, on avait le *Mauritius Ports Authority* avait mis à la disposition de ceux qui veulent exporter les déchets sur Maurice, deux containers. C'est-à-dire, c'est faux de dire que les déchets ont été mélangés au dépotoir. Lorsque les gens mettaient chez eux les bouteilles de plastiques non contaminées dans les poubelles, les canettes de bière et bien sûr, il y a d'autres déchets qui sont mélangés, ça, c'est vrai qu'on les envoie au dépotoir. Mais je me rappelle, Madame la présidente, il y avait quelqu'un qui habitait à Graviers. On l'appelait '*Ti Zoulou*'. Il passait dans les maisons récupérer les canettes de bières. Vous savez pourquoi ? Parce qu'une tonne de cannes de bières, de tout ce qui est canne, ça coûtait Rs40000 la tonne à l'époque.

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Maintenant, ça coute plus. C'est parce que ça aidait aussi RodClean à justement, à cheminer les déchets. Ils ont pris ça. Même les plastiques, on envoyait les plastiques.

[Interruptions]

[Applause]

Madam Chairperson: Order ! Order !

Mr. F. A. Grandcourt: On envoyait les plastics par balle à Maurice dans...

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
On a point of explanation.... Is he doing another statement?

[Interruptions]

The Commissioner for Environment and Others (Mr. J. R. Payendee):
Moi ki pou kozé la. Moi osi mo koze in pé. Alé, saken so tour nou kozé.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: I think both Members have made their point. This is adjournment time, not a personal conversation between the First Local Region Member for La Ferme and the Commissioner concerned. So, other Members also have the right to intervene, please! I make an appeal for your comprehension as wise gentlemen. Yes.

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Merci. Merci.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Order!

LACK OF BUS SHELTERS – LOCAL REGION NUMBER 1

Mr. J. N. Volbert: Merci, Madame la présidente. J'aimerais attirer l'attention de la Chambre sur le problème d'abribus dans ma région, c'est-à-dire la région électorale de La Ferme, les villages de Plaine Corail et de Cascade Jean

Louis. Mais malheureusement, l'adjoint au Chef commissaire est déjà parti. Il y a un seul et unique abribus. Je ne vais pas être long. Il y a un seul et unique abribus à Cascade Jean Louis en face du jardin d'enfant. Des écoliers, le public voyageur éprouve beaucoup de difficultés surtout en période de pluie et en ce temps hivernal, les écoliers rencontrent d'énormes problèmes, d'énormes problèmes le matin en partant pour l'école. La plupart des fois, ils sont trempés et devraient retourner à la maison et de ce fait, s'absenter de l'école. Leur cartable ainsi que leurs matériels scolaires sont abimés. Il y a trois arrêts d'autobus, notamment à Plaine Corail, tout près de la résidence de M. Calamel. Un autre tout près du centre féminin La Fleurette et un autre à Cascade Jean Louis dans les environs des résidences des Lamvohee. Ces trois arrêts d'autobus ont un très grand nombres d'écoliers et de public voyageur qui attendent le bus chaque matin. Je fais un appel pressant à l'autorité afin qu'il donne une attention particulière à ce problème. Merci, Madame.

[Applause]

Madam Chairperson: Member Agathe. Yes.

RESPITE CARE CENTRE – L'UNION

Mrs. M. T. Agathe: Merci, Madame la présidente. Je m'excuse auprès du Commissaire Payendee. Je ne vais pas parler du dépotoir parce que je connais les *Standing Orders*. Moi, je voudrais parler du *Respite Care Centre* qui aurait dû être opérationnel comme c'est mentionné dans le discours budget 17/18 depuis le mois de juin 2019... 2017. Combien de fois nous avons entendu parler de l'autre côté le respect, le respect, tout l'honneur qu'on porte à nos aînés et quand nous voyons la non ouverture du *Respite Care*, nous nous demandons quel respect, quel honneur pour nos aînés. Avec Rs32 millions pour ouvrir une maison pour accueillir seulement dix personnes, déjà, c'est un petit peu drôle, drôle. 2017, ouverture. Là, nous sommes en 2019 en août. C'est toujours fermé. Parce que peut-être, il faut parler *just for the sake of talking*, pour dire de belles paroles. Mais vraiment, les personnes qui s'occupent des personnes âgées, c'est un travail énorme peut-être parce qu'ils ne l'ont pas fait.

De l'autre côté, ils ne savent pas ce que c'est que ça. Parce que disons mêmes les *carers*, ils doivent sortir, même aller toucher la paye de ces personnes aînées. Mais si on quitte les personnes aînées même une heure de temps seules, ce n'est pas faisable. Et puis, c'est très, très, très fatigant. Donc, je demanderais à l'autorité concernée, surtout au Chef commissaire et au Commissaire qui s'occupe des personnes âgées, de revoir cette histoire de *respite care* là, que ce soit vraiment mis en opération. Parlons pour parler, pour dire vrai et non pas seulement pour faire beau. Combien de personnes âgées avaient voulu être

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accueillies là-bas même un seul jour qu'ils sont déjà sous terre ? Je vais finir par là en laissant ça à la réflexion du Commissaire concerné qui aime beaucoup les personnes âgées. Merci, Madame la présidente.

[Applause]

Madam Chairperson: Yes, Commissioner, be brief, please.

REPLY TO INTERVENTION OF MRS. M. T. AGATHE

The Commissioner for Social Security and Others (Mr. L. D. Baptiste): Merci, Madam Chairperson. Je suis heureux quand même que la membre a réalisé que vraiment, j'aime les personnes âgées et je les aime vraiment de tout mon cœur.

[Applause]

The Commissioner for Social Security and Others (Mr. L. D. Baptiste): Et justement, si nous avons décidé de mettre en place ce centre, c'est une toute première au sein de la République, c'est parce que nous voulons offrir un service de qualité qui n'existe pas ni au sein de la République ni au sein de l'Océan indien par rapport à ce que nous voulons offrir pour permettre à nos personnes... nos *informal carers*, de s'essouffler aussi, de prendre un petit peu de répit, de repos et donner une place quand même en toute sécurité avec des services vraiment de haute qualité. Donc, ce sera vraiment l'hôtel cinq étoiles. Donc, comme vous avez...

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Order, respected Members!

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Respected Members from a sitting position, please! You allow the Commissioner to complete his intervention.

[Interruptions]

Madam Chairperson: Yes, Commissioner, please.

The Commissioner for Social Security and Others (Mr. L. D. Baptiste): Standing Order. Moi aussi, je connais très bien les lois. Le seul souci, on attend toujours l'approbation du *Residential Care Board* qui va venir

pour... Comment s'appelle là ? Pour valider par rapport à ce que nous allons à faire. Mais très prochainement, je suis sûr maintenant parce que tous les recommandations faites par les membres du *board* ont été vraiment faits. Nous avons fait les réparations nécessaires et le *Respite Care Home* sera bientôt opérationnel à Rodrigues avant la fin de cette année.

Madam Chairperson: Thank you, Commissioner. Yes, respected Member Perrine.

IRREGULARITES – DISTRIBUTION D'EAU – RODRIGUES

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Merci, Madame la présidente. Merci, Madame la présidente. J'aimerais attirer l'attention de la Chambre sur un point.

[Interruptions]

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: *Mo kav koze ene ti kou?*

Madam Chairperson: Respected Member Perrine, be brief, you have only one minute. Time is already over.

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: *Be zot bisin reste trankil Madame. Ki mo pou fer moi ? Zot bisin reste trankil. Mo pou kav kozer dan tapaz ?* Yes, I am *bien konten*. I am very happy to have the floor today.

[Interruptions]

Mr. J. L. R. Perrine: Madame la présidente, j'aimerais attirer l'attention de la Chambre sur un point précis. Les irrégularités de la distribution d'eau à Rodrigues, à Rodrigues en général. Aujourd'hui, nous avons ce problème émanant de plusieurs décennies. On a essayé, nous, à notre part de résoudre en parti mais depuis un certain temps, les gens crient. Il y a un cri de plus en plus alarmant, plus fort de la part de la population, surtout après les installations des dessalements à Rodrigues. Aujourd'hui, le nombre de personnes venir remplir l'eau matin, midi et soir à Malabar a triplé, quadruplé et Lataniers, les gens de Lataniers prennent leurs seaux presque sur la tête pour venir chercher de l'eau potable à Potable. Madame la présidente, ce que je dis actuellement, c'est un cri emmenant de la part de la population en général. Il n'y a pas que.

Mais l'alarme est venue principalement dans la région six, région électorale où deux Commissaires, entre autres, il y le Chef commissaire qui a été élu là-bas et qui ne font rien actuellement pour ces personnes-là. A Rivière Banane, la même chose. On parle de une fois, de distribution d'eau d'une fois par semaine.

A Rivière Banane, ils ont retiré deux pompes. Pendant deux mois, les gens de Rivière Banane n'ont pas eu l'eau. Et maintenant, arrivé avec ce problème d'eau de dessalement, tout le monde part vers Malabar, Lataniers, pour aller récupérer de l'eau potable. Je ne dis pas que l'eau de dessalement n'est pas bon mais je dis absolument qu'il faut faire une étude approfondie, ils confirment, parce qu'il y a beaucoup de personnes.

Madam Chairperson: Thank you, respected Member. Time is over. The House stands adjourned.

At 03.37 p.m. the Assembly was, on its rising, adjourned to Tuesday 24 September at 10.30 a.m.

WRITTEN ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS

BAD WEATHER ALLOWANCE

(No. B/116): The Second Island Region Member (Mr. J. L. R. Perrine) asked the Commissioner for Fisheries and Others whether, in regard to Bad Weather Allowance payable to fishermen in Rodrigues, he will state and table to confirm to the House if the current rate applicable to the Republic of Mauritius from 2017 to date is being applied in Rodrigues, giving details, and, in the negative, to indicate since when and the reasons therefor?

Reply: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, I am informed that for 2017, the current rate applicable to payment of Bad Weather Allowance were as follows: Rate applied in March – Rs 288/day.

However, due to late/omission in issuing of circular to this office the rates of Rs 282 was paid to fishers in Rodrigues from January 2017 to December 2017.

However, upon receipt of the Ministry of Fisheries circular adjustment was made for period January to December 2017 in February 2018.

Should have drawn	Have drawn	Different
Rs 288/day	Rs 282/day	Rs 6/day

The payment was as follows:

Off-lagoon	Rs 562,761	January to December 2017
Lagoon	Rs 75,444	March to 02 August 2017
Large Net Fishers (closed season)	Rs 21,420	January, February., October to December 2017

Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, as for period 2018 the rate applicable was Rs 298/day and the rate paid was Rs 298/day and finally for January 2019 to date the rate applicable is Rs 310/day same was paid.

**RODRIGUES REGIONAL ASSEMBLY
TECHNICAL FIELD SCHOLARSHIP SCHEME**

(No. B/125): The Second Local Region Member for St. Gabriel (Mr. J. R. Ramdally) asked the Commissioner for Training and Others whether, she will enlighten the House about the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Technical Field Scholarship Scheme, giving details about the target group, the criteria that will be used for selection therefor, the fields targeted together with the facilities to be given to selected candidates?

Reply: Madam Chairperson, in line with the mission of my Commission to promote lifelong learning with a view to ensure the development of high calibre professional to contribute in the socio-economic development of Rodrigues, my Commission is leaving no stone unturned to ease access to Tertiary Education through the provision of scholarships, financial assistance and other facilities to post-secondary Rodriguan students so as to allow them to pursue higher tertiary studies.

In the same vein, Madam Chairperson, my Commission has launched in year 2015 the Rodrigues Regional Assembly Technical Field Scholarship Scheme under which two scholarships are awarded at undergraduate level in technical fields during each academic year. The scholarships are tenable either in Mauritius or overseas.

The objective of the scheme is to ensure that post-secondary students undertake their studies in specific fields as per the Indicative Priority Field of Study for Rodrigues which serves as a guide to youth as regards choice of study areas at post-secondary level as well as ensuring that the needs of the island in terms of manpower are taken on board and thus avoid a mismatch between availability of human resources and offer of jobs on the local labour market.

Madam Chairperson, the fields of study targeted under the scholarship are as follows:

- Engineering (Mechanical/Mechatronics/Civil Works);
- Architecture;
- Urban Planning;
- Quantity Surveying;
- Fashion and Design; and

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- Water Management/Hydrology (Desalination Plant).

Madam Chairperson, the scholarship scheme targets Rodriguan candidates aged not more than 25 years who study at undergraduate level and the academic qualifications required include the following:

- i) SC/GCE ‘O’ level with credits in at least five subjects including English language at one and same sitting; and
- ii) Higher School Certificate with passes in three subjects at Principal level obtained at one and the same sitting and a pass in General Paper; or
- iii) An alternative qualification acceptable and equivalent to (i) and (ii) mentioned above.

Madam Chairperson, the eligibility criteria for the award of the scholarships are as follows:

- (a) Students must have been registered for HSC Examinations at a Rodrigues-based centre;
- (b) Students must have undergone at least three years of primary schooling in aggregate in Rodrigues;
- (c) Except for proven medical reasons, students must have studied from Grade 10 (Form IV) to Grade 13 (Form VI) in Rodrigues;
- (d) Students must have secured a seat at a recognized training institution in the Republic of Mauritius or overseas;
- (e) The candidates to be assessed by evaluation exercise based on qualifications through marks given for School Certificate and Higher School Certificate.

Madam Chairperson, the following facilities are offered under the scholarships:

- (a) Payment of air-tickets at the beginning of course and after completion of course from and to Rodrigues;
- (c) Payment of monthly living allowance (accommodation and other expenses) of Rs 8,300 payable three months in advance to each awardee; and

- (c) Payment of tuition and other related charges up to Rs 75,000 annually.

Madam Chairperson, I would like to inform the House that to date eight Rodriguan students have benefitted from scholarships under the abovementioned Scheme as from academic year 2015 to 2018 to follow studies leading to a Bachelor Degree in Electrical Engineering and Automation, Chemical Engineering (Minor Environmental Engineering, Mechanical Engineering, Telecommunications Engineering with Networking and Mechatronics Engineering.

Madam Chairperson, out of the eight scholarship winners, four have already completed their studies.

In addition, Madam Chairperson, advertisement has been launched on 24 July 2019 to enlist applications from suitably qualified candidates for the Academic Year 2019/2020. The closing date has been fixed for 27 August 2019.

MEDICAL WASTES – CURRENT MEANS OF DISPOSAL

(No. B/126): The Third Island Region Member (Mrs. M. T. Agathe) asked the Commissioner for Health and Others whether, in regard to medical wastes, he will state and table, for the benefit of the House on the current means of disposal as at date, detailing on any new site of disposal and the specifics of vehicles currently being used in that process, including their registration numbers?

Reply: Madam Chairperson, medical wastes are being currently disposed of by incineration in the two incinerators now available at Queen Elizabeth Hospital.

These wastes are temporarily disposed of in separate plastics bins, sealed and then collected from the 14 Community Health Centres, the two Area Health Centres of La Ferme and Mont. Lubin by private lorry with registration no. 108 RZN 97 and conveyed to Queen Elizabeth Hospital on a daily basis for incineration in compliance with environmental norms. This vehicle possesses a waste carrier licence issued by the Commission for Environment.

TRANSPORT FACILITIES – HEALTH SECTOR

(No. B/127): The Third Island Region Member (Mrs. M. T. Agathe) asked the Commissioner for Health and Others whether, in regard to transport facilities in the health sector, he will state and table thereon, for the benefit of the

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House, indicating the number of ambulances available to service the island and specifying the current mode of operation therefor?

Reply: Madam Chairperson, I am tabling the list of vehicles normally attached to my commission and which are dedicated to the Health Services.

There are 10 ambulances which are normally available out of which seven are in good running conditions and 3 are presently at the Mechanical workshop for repair.

During the day, 5 ambulances are in operation as follows:

- 1 at Zita Jean Louis Area Health Centre;
- 1 at la Ferme Area Health Centre;
- 2 at Queen Elizabeth Hospital; and
- 1 at Plaine Corail Airport.

The remaining two ambulances are posted to either cover events organized by other stakeholders throughout Rodrigues and where medical coverage is required or to reinforce the services at the three health centres as may be required.

During the night, we reinforce the fleet of ambulance at the two area health centres to cope with the greater number of emergencies and requests from the public as follows:

- 2 ambulances at Zita Jean Louis Area Health Centre
- 2 at la Ferme Area Health Centre; and
- 2 at Queen Elizabeth Hospital

My Commission is looking forward to have at least two ambulances available on a 24-hour basis at each of the three health centres with the recruitment of additional Ambulance Drivers during the course of the present financial year for which there are 13 funded vacant posts.

Additionally, we are awaiting the delivery of one new ambulance during the forthcoming month to palliate the frequent breakdown of ambulances due to old age and their intensive use.

DESALINATION PLANT – POINTE COTON

(No. B/128): The Third Island Region Member (Mrs. M. T. Agathe) asked the Deputy Chief Commissioner whether, in regard to the coming of operation of the desalination plant at Pointe Coton, he will state and table:

- (a) the different villages benefiting from this new service as at date;
- (b) the frequency of distribution resulting therefrom together with a clear time table in relation thereto; and
- (c) if there has been any breakdown/s thereat and, in the affirmative to give clear reasons therefor?

Reply: Madam Chairperson, Pointe Coton desalination Plant is operating since June 2019 and it is designed to produce a volume of 1000m³ of potable water daily. Water from the desalination plant is pumped to Reservoirs of Mte Piquant, Grenade, Roche Bon Dieu and Coromandel and distributed to 16 villages in the eastern part of the island. I am tabling the list thereof.

Moreover, the volume of water which was formerly supplied to these villages from Petit Brulé Reservoir is now being redistributed to villages which received water from Petit Brulé and transferred to the Central Section for distribution to other villages serviced by the reservoirs of Malabar, Mte Patate and Ste Famille.

As regards to part (b) of the question it is intended to ensure a weekly water distribution in the 16 villages concerned in line with the policy of this Regional Government. However, following the dismissal of the general works lately, this has caused a lack of personnel which has disrupted the distribution frequency. Additionally, disruptions in the electricity supply also impact on the production of the desalination plant. My Commission is requesting for additional personnel to palliate for the lack of staff. Another factor that my Commission is considering in the improvement in the distribution network as some weaknesses are observed during distribution.

(c) The desalination plant at Pointe Coton is currently under the testing period and is still under the responsibility of the Contractor. Since the start of the testing period on 01 July 2019, there has been no breakdown of the plant but some minor incidents which have occurred on 19 and 29 July 2019 and have entailed the shutdown of the plant for necessary reparation. The incidents include bursting of a section of HDPE pipe connecting the outlet of the transfer pump to pipeline conveying water to Montagne Piquant reservoir due to pressure issue.

The Consultant is working on the matter and proposal for a long term solution is being awaited.

List of villages benefiting from the operation of the desalination plant at Pointe Coton:

1. Pointe Coton
2. Roche Bon Dieu
3. Rivière Banane
4. Coromandel
5. Batatran
6. Graviers
7. Anse Femie
8. Saponaire
9. Montagne Longues
10. Montagne Cabris
11. Saint Francois
12. Trois Soleils
13. Patate Theophile
14. Décidé

**BIO CULTIVATION OF COMBAVA LIME PLANTS
& PRODUCTION OF CHILLI PASTE PROJECTS
– SWITCH AFRICA GREEN PROGRAMME**

(No. B/129): The Third Island Region Member (Mrs. M. T. Agathe) asked the Commissioner of Agriculture and Others whether, in regard to the bio cultivation of Combava lime plants and the production of chilli paste projects under the Switch Africa Green Programme, he will state where matters stand as at date in relation thereto indicating: -

- (a) the amount of funds earmarked and /or disbursed therefor as at date;
- (b) the current monitoring method thereof specifying the number of initial beneficiaries who are still actively involved therewith; and
- (c) when the first products will be ready for commercialisation?

Reply: Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, the Gombava Project is being implemented by the Commission for Environment under the Switch Africa Green Programme. The project is funded jointly by the European Union and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly. The aim of the project is the increase the capacity building of a group of forty (40) fisherwomen through training in the bio-

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cultivation of combava lime and the processing of its chilli paste. This project will help in reducing pressure in the lagoon and the development of alternative livelihood activities for the beneficiaries. To date the following activities have been successfully implemented:-

- Practirical training for the beneficiaries in:
- Customer care and Eco-Entrepreneurship
- Bio-agriculture
- Food processing
- Eco-packaging
- A four-day study tour in Mauritius
- The production of two (200) grafted plants.
- The rehabilitation of an identified site at Montagne Goyaves for the establishment of a gombava organic orchard. Site preparation and digging of holes are underway. Planting activities will be done in August.

- Preparation of plan for the construction of an agro-processing unit.

- Soil profile test and the evaluation of the phyto-sanitary status of the gombava grafts and existing mother plants.

- Recruitment of a Consultant for guide book preparation.
- Finalisation of building plan for the processing unit
- Procedures for procurement of agro-processing equipment

Mrs. Chairperson, Madam,

In regard to the financial status of the project it should be noted that it is jointly funded by the European Union and the Rodrigues Regional Assembly through a Grant Support Agreement and the contributions the two parties are as follows:

BUDGET	USD	MUR
European Union	230,500	8,166,615
Rodrigues Regional Assembly	61,000	2,161,230

To date a total amount of Rs 6,343,815. have been received from UNOPS in three instalments as detailed below:

Date received	Amount Received MUR
28. 11. 2015	2,467,795
23. 08. 2017	2,290, 420

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03. 09 2018	1,585,600
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A fourth instalment is awaited from UNOPS. It should be pointed out that:

- a) The contribution of the Rodrigues Regional Assembly project is 2,133,780.
- b) As at date the amount disbursed for the project is Rs 5,204,811.

The status of the activities of the project is as follows:

SN	ITEM	REMARKS
1	Training of beneficiaries	Completed
2	Consultancy FAREI	Completed
3	Workshops	Completed
4	Trainers	
5	Study Tours	Completed
6	Business Plan	Completed
7	Guide book Consultant	Completed
8	Recruitment Land Supervisor	Not done
9	Marketing Consultant	Completed
10	Irrigation System Design	Not started
11	Equipment for Orchard	Completed
12	Procurement of agro-processing equipment	Under way
13	Rehabilitation of orchard site	Completed
14	Setting up of combava orchard	Not started
14	Construction of a processing Unit	Not started

Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, the monitoring of the project activities is carried out by a Project Coordinator assigned to the project by the Commission for Environment and out of 40 beneficiaries 29 are still actively involved.

Mrs. Chairperson, Madam, in regard to the commercialization of the products it should be noted that the combava project is an alternative livelihood project which will help the beneficiaries to establish an organic orchard and develop product derivatives from combava and other fruits. Combava lime takes almost four years to produce fruits.

However, in the meantime the beneficiaries will be able to produce other agro-processed products from other fruits.

**LICENCE OF RETAILER OF LIQUOR AND ALCOHOLIC
PRODUCTS – RODRIGUES**

(No. A/2): The Second Local Region Member for St. Gabriel (Mr. J. R. Ramdally) asked the Commissioner for Trade, Commerce and Licensing and Others whether, in regards to the licence of retailer of liquor and alcoholic products in Rodrigues, she will obtain, for the benefit of the House, information from the Mauritius Revenue Authority, as to the number of retailers holding same, a list of licensees region-wise together with their address, and the criteria that are taken into consideration for the issue thereof?

Reply: Madam Chairperson, as per information obtained from the Mauritius Revenue Authority, the number of retailers holding the licence of retailer of liquor and alcoholic product in Rodrigues is 244.

The list of licensees together with their address is at *Annex 1*.

Madam Chairperson, I am informed by the Mauritius Revenue Authority that the licence of retailer of liquor and alcoholic product in Rodrigues is issued based on the following criteria:

- (i) The premises in respect of which the application has been made is not situated within a radius of 200 metres from another outlet selling alcoholic drinks; and
- (ii) The applicant should hold a State Land Lease (Residential cum Commercial site).

LIST OF LICENSEES

SN.	BP Name	Address
1	JOSEPH JOHNSON GUILLAUME	LATANIERS RODRIGUES
2	LONG FOONG LAN HING HONG	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
3	SEW HIN ALAIN YONG KEET YAN	PETITE BUTTE RODRIGUES
4	LOUIS ANTONIO FONG HING	ACCACIA OYSTERBAY RODRIGUES
5	JEAN KISSMY LEGOFF	BAIE TOPAZE RODRIGUES
6	JEAN MARGEOT ROUSSETY	ST GABRIEL RODRIGUES
7	RANJEET DURSUN	ROCHE BON DIEU RODRIGUES
8	AH LOYE CHAN KOOP MAN	GRAND LA FOUCHE CORAIL RODRIGUES
9	FRANCISCO CASTEL	OYSTER BAY RODRIGUES
10	GEORGES KEET YAN SEW HIN YONG	GRAND LA FOUCHE CORAIL RODRIGUES
11	SYLVIO FONG TACK FONG TO	OYSTER BAY RODRIGUES
12	JOSEPH MARIE JEAN LEOPOLD	BEL AIR RODRIGUES
13	LORENZE FLORE	SOUPIR RODRIGUES
14	LAVAL MAXIME EDOUARD	PALISSADE TERNEL RODRIGUES
15	SUZANNE SAINTE-MARIE	RIVIERE COCOS NEAR PRIMARY SCHOOL RODRIGUES
16	MARIE ANNE LARCHER	ENGLISH BAY RODRIGUES
17	PARKINSON LAROSE	ROCHE BON DIEU RODRIGUES
18	MARIE ROSEMAY RAVINA	PALISSADE TERNEL RODRIGUES
19	MARJOLAINE LOUIS	MANGUES RODRIGUES
20	CHRISNEL CHOO-KO	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
21	ANSELME WONG SO	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
22	YOCK LANE HO TU NAM	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
23	PIERRE GIRAUD PLAICHE	GRANDE MONTAGNE RODRIGUES

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24	WAN HO SIOW LAROSE	RIVIERE BANANE RODRIGUES
25	JEAN MARCEL ALLAS	MONTAGNE CHARLOT RODRIGUES
26	JACQUELINE RAFFAUT	ENGLISH BAY RODRIGUES
27	CHARLES ALBERT	MONT-LUBIN RODRIGUES
28	MARIE LELIANNE MADANAMOOTOO	CAMP DU ROI RODRIGUES
29	LUCIE CARPENEN	BAIE TOPAZE RODRIGUES
30	JOSEPH ANDRE RABOUDE	POINTE COTON RODRIGUES
31	MARIE IREDA RAMDALLY	EAU VANEY RODRIGUES
32	MARIE ANTOINETTE BAPTISTE	GRANDE MONTAGNE RODRIGUES
33	MARIE ASLEY YAVE MENG GRANDCOURT	LA FERME RODRIGUES
34	JOSEPH FRANCET MILAZAR	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
35	MARIE ROSINETTE BERNARD	DAN SAMY RODRIGUES
36	LOUIS EDMENDO PATRICE VERTE	GRAVIER RODRIGUES
37	JACQUES DESIRE LAVAL SAM YOU	SONGES RODRIGUES
38	OLGA AUGUSTIN	CORAIL RODRIGUES
39	YONG SHE YAN WALLIS YONG YAN YIN	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
40	JOSEPH SIBERMAN LOUIS	ILE MICHEL RODRIGUES
41	ROSE MADELEINE GRANDCOURT	TERRE ROUGE RODRIGUES
42	MARIE YVONETTE FLORE	LE CHOU RODRIGUES
43	JOSEPH ALIAS LIMONAIRE EDOUARD	CORAIL RODRIGUES
44	IRENA MEUNIER	OYSTER BAY RODRIGUES
45	JEAN ERIC JEAN LOUIS	DEUX GOYAVES RODRIGUES
46	JEAN RICARDO FRANCOIS	ACCACIA RODRIGUES
47	CHADEXE TOLBIZE	MONT-LUBIN RODRIGUES
48	JEAN GINGER AZOR	TAMARIN RODRIGUES
49	JEAN CLAUDE LEOPOLD	MONTAGNE GOYAVES RODRIGUES
50	NOELLE PONCIADE EDOUARD	POINTE COTON RODRIGUES
51	MARTESIE ADELAIDE	MONTAGNE GOYAVES RODRIGUES
52	MARIE OLIVIA ANDRE	MONT-LUBIN RODRIGUES

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53	MARYNA AGATHE	PATATE THEOPHILLE RODRIGUES
54	MARLIN PRUDENCE	CORAIL PETITE BUTTE RODRIGUES
55	MARIE LUCETTE CARELLA LARCHER	CITE PATATE RODRIGUES
56	ANNIE MARGARETTE HENRIETTE	CREVE COEUR RODRIGUES
57	MICHELE BERNADA MEUNIER	SAINT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
58	MARIE MECTHUDE EMILIEN	TAMARIN RODRIGUES
59	MARIE GLORIEUSE PERRINE	LATANIERS RODRIGUES
60	ADONA TOLBIZE	LATANIERS RODRIGUES
61	ROSE MARY WONG KENG	POINTE MONIER RODRIGUES
62	BLAISY NEMOURS	RIVIERE COCO RODRIGUES
63	JOSEPH NICODEME AZIE	SONGS RODRIGUES
64	JEAN RICHARNO AH KENG	CORAIL RODRIGUES
65	VERONICA AUGUSTIN	MONTAGNE BOIS RODRIGUES
66	MARIE CLAIRE EMILIEN	ANSE BALEINE RODRIGUES
67	ROSELINE COLLET	BAIE TOPAZE RODRIGUES
68	JEAN LELIO LARCHE	CASCADE JEAN LOUIS RODRIGUES
69	MARIE MIRELLA LARCHE	ENGLISH BAY RODRIGUES
70	MARIE MAJETTE MOMUS	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
71	MARIE PAULE AGATHE	NASSOLA RODRIGUES
72	MARIE NOELETTE AZORE	PORT-SUD-EST RODRIGUES
73	MARIE ROSELINE AH PIAH	GRANDE MONTAGNE RODRIGUES
74	MARIE ELIANE GRANDCOURT	GRAND BAIE RODRIGUES
75	MICHEL JOSEPH ALLAS	MONTAGNE CHARLOT RODRIGUES
76	NELDA GASPARD	POMPEE RODRIGUES
77	MERICIE GUILLAUME	PAPAYES RODRIGUES
78	MARIE ROSINETTE CASTEL	CAMP DU ROI RODRIGUES
79	PIERRE ADRIEN ELYSEE	POINTE MONIER RODRIGUES
80	ANTONIA ST PIERRE	LE CHOU RODRIGUES
81	IRENA RAVINA	CYGANGUES RODRIGUES
82	JOSEPH NICODEME RAVANNE	SONGES RODRIGUES
83	FONG HEOMAN FONG KYE	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
84	LAURENZA MERCURE	SAINT FRANCOIS RODRIGUES
85	JEAN ALEX GASPARD	PORT-SUD-EST RODRIGUES

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86	GHISLAIN VUNMALLY	GRAND LA FOUCHE CORAIL RODRIGUES
87	MARIE JEAN AGATHE	CITRONELLE RODRIGUES
88	MARIE CLAIRE MODESTE	CAMP DU ROI RODRIGUES
89	HILARION LOUIS	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
90	JEAN JOCELYN HERVE ROSE	BAIE DU NORD RODRIGUES
91	JEAN FRANCOIS SEVERY	CAMP PAUL RODRIGUES
92	ANGIL SPEVILLE	CAMP PINTADES RODRIGUES
93	MARIE AGNES ANDRE	MONT-LUBIN RODRIGUES
94	MARIE ROSEMAY AH-KENG	NASSOLA RODRIGUES
95	MARIE CARMENTA PERRINE	SOUPIR RODIRGUES
96	MARIE LOUISE PIERRE LOUIS	MONT-LUBIN RODRIGUES
97	MARIE ROSE RAVINA	L'UNION RODRIGUES
98	MARKETSON CASIMIR	OYSTER BAY RODRIGUES
99	MARINA PRUDENCE	ANSE QUITOR CORAIL RODRIGUES
100	MARIE CHRISTIANNE PERRINE	LATANIERS RODRIGUES
101	MARIE ROSE LISON ROSE	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
102	JEAN NOEL RAFFIN	ROSEAUX RODRIGUES
103	VIANNIE LISETTE	MONTAGNE DU SABLE RODRIGUES
104	SYLVESTRE ING KEE SIN	CREVE CŒUR RODRIGUES
105	MARIE SIMONE FELICITE	MONT LUBIN RODRIGUES
106	MICHAEL ESPIEGLE	MT LUBIN RODRIGUES
107	MARIE EDEL MARY ANN ROSE	BAIE MALGACHE RODRIGUES
108	MARY FRANCETTE MILAZAR	LATANIERS RODRIGUES
109	JOSEPH CLAUDY LISETTE	MANGUES RODRIGUES
110	JEAN REMY AGATHE	MONTAGNE CHERIE RODRIGUES RODRIGUES
111	MARIE PAULINA AGATHE	PIMENTS RODRIGUES
112	MARIE ROSEMAY AH THIONG	PATATE THEOPHILLE RODRIGUES
113	MARIE LISE AUGUSTE	CREVE COEUR RODRIGUES
114	MARIE DOLORES NADIA BEGUE	TERRE ROUGE RODRIGUES
115	MARINA BEGUE	GRAND BAIE RODRIGUES
116	MARIE ANGE CASIMIR	PATATE THEOPHILLE RODRIGUES
117	MARIE LAURENCIE CASIMIR	ORANGES RODRIGUES
118	JOSEPH D'ARTAGNAN CASIMIR	MONTAGNES GOYAVES RODRIGUES

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119	JOYE CHAN-SON	CITRON DONIS RODRIGUES
120	SYBILLE ROSE	ILE MICHEL RODRIGUES
121	HERONIC FELICITE	MALARTIC RODRIGUES
122	MARIE ANGELIQUE CLAIR	RIVIERE BANANE RODRIGUES
123	MARIE MYRIAM FELICITE	CAMP DU ROI RODRIGUES
124	MARIE LIA CLAIR	MONT-LUBIN RODRIGUES
125	MARIE EDELINA HORTENSE	ALLEE TAMARIN RODRIGUES
126	JEAN DANIEL EDOUARD	CHAMPS RODRIGUES
127	MARIE POMILA JAMEER	PETITE BUTTE RODRIGUES
128	MARIE JEANNE JOLICOEUR	RIVIERE BANANE RODRIGUES
129	MARIE LISE JENKA LEGENTIL	GRAND LA FOUCHE MANGUES RODRIGUES
130	FRANCIS LEGENTIL	TREFLES RODRIGUES
131	JEAN MACDONALD MEUNIER	MONT-LUBIN RODRIGUES
132	MARIE MARGARET PERRINE	VANGAR RODRIGUES
133	JEAN NOEL PROSPER	UNION RODRIGUES
134	JEAN REX PRUDENCE	ST GABRIEL RODRIGUES
135	MARY JANE LAURIE RABOUE	BALADIROU RODRIGUES
136	ROSEMAY RAVINA	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
137	MARIE FLORINA ROSE	MOUROUK RODRIGUES
138	ANTOINETTE OLIVIA ROSE	MONTAGNE GOYAVES RODRIGUES
139	JEAN ALEX SPEVILLE	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES RODRIGUES
140	MARIE SUZETTE ST PIERRE	RIVIERE COCO RODRIGUES RODRIGUES
141	MARY ANNE STE MARIE	GRANDE MONTAGNE RODRIGUES
142	JOSEPH JARLIN STEPHAN	ST FAMILLE RODRIGUES
143	ELIZABETH SWEE	NASSOLA RODRIGUES RODRIGUES
144	LUC TOLBIZE	MALABAR RODRIGUES
145	MARIE LISINE VOLBERT	CITRON DONIS RODRIGUES
146	YEUNG YIT FAT YEUNG YIN SHIN	CREVE COEUR RODRIGUES
147	KWEI YUAN YONG CHEN HIN	LA FERME RODRIGUES
148	RONI LARCHER	RIVIERE BANANE RODRIGUES
149	RICHMOND LOUIS	SOUPIR RODRIGUES

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150	MARIE FATMAH PERRINE	EAU CLAIRE RODRIGUES
151	MARIE LOURDES VOLBERT	CITRON DONIS RODRIGUES
152	LOUIS JERRY COLLET	ROCHE BONDIEU RODRIGUES
153	MARIE ANNETTE SAMOISY	ROCHE BONDIEU RODRIGUES
154	JAMESON ST PIERRE	BIGARADES RODRIGUES
155	WILGUE LISETTE	CITRONELLE RODRIGUES
156	BENJAMINE COLIN	TREFLES RODRIGUES
157	JENNIFER RAVINA	MARECHAL RODRIGUES
158	WILLIAMSON JOLICOEUR	LE CHOU RODRIGUES
159	JEAN JUDEX CHUE PIVE ONG TONE	MANGUES RODRIGUES
160	JOSEPH NICHOLSON AZIE	MARECHAL RODRIGUES
161	JEAN HARLAIN BEGUE	GRAND BAY RODRIGUES
162	JOSEPH CHRISTIAN PERRINE	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES RODRIGUES
163	MARIE LEDY DAYANA FELICITE	LA FERME RODRIGUES
164	JEAN REX VOLBERT	BAIE MALGACHE RODRIGUES
165	MARIE STEPHANIE FELICITE	BAIE DU NORD RODRIGUES
166	HERMANN MILAZARE	PAPAYES RODRIGUES
167	MARIE FRANCE CLAIR	POINTE COTTON RODRIGUES
168	OXENHAM & CO LTD E C	VICTORIA STREET PORT- MATHURIN RODRIGUES
169	INNODIS LTD	CAMP DU ROI RODRIGUES
170	ROUSSETY & CO LTD	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
171	WKS WONG SUN WAI LTD	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
172	KAY TRADING LTD	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
173	YAN SEA MARKETING LTD	PORT-MATHURIN RODRIGUES
174	ASSOCIATED COLIN TRADING LTD	PORT MATHURIN RODRIGUES
175	AHCO LTD	MONT LUBIN
176	ERNEST STORE CO LTD	PORT MATHURIN
177	SIMON WHOLESALER LTD	LA FERME RODRIGUES
178	ALIMENTA COLD STORAGE LTD	FRANCOIS LEGUAT STREET PORT MATHURIN

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179	FLEMINGO MSCL DUTY FREE LTD	PASSENGER TERMINAL RODRIGUES
180	LORNA SUPERMARKET CO. LTD	MONT LUBIN RODRIGUES
181	M. G. LISETTE CORNER STORE LTD.	C/O LISETTE MAGDALEMA COROMANDEL RODRIGUES
182	BALLON ROUGE LTD	ROYAL ROAD CAMP DU ROI
183	J & N MEUNIER CO LTD	BAIE AUX HUITRES RODRIGUES
184	SYLVIO GASPARD	MOUROUK RODRIGUES
185	MARCELINE RAPHAEL	MANGUES RODRIGUES
186	YOUNG TSE CHUNG YOUNG POW FA AH SOON	TERRE ROUGE RODRIGUES
187	MARIE LOUISEBIE EVENOR	MONT PLAISIR RODRIGUES
188	JOSEPH ANTONIO AGATHE	SAINTE FAMILLE RODRIGUES
189	ANNA ANDRE	CITRONELLE RODRIGUES
190	CASIMIR CORINNE ROSE	BRULEE RODRIGUES
191	TOLBIZE RAMDY JOSEPH PRESLEY	THAMMES RODRIGUES
192	JOSEPH MARCEL PERRINE	SOLITUDE RODRIGUES
193	MARY PERRINE	GRAND MONTAGNE RODRIGUES
194	RAMDALLY MARIE THERESE	MANGUES RODRIGUES
195	MARIELINE MERVEILLE PERRINE	DEUX GOYAVES RODRIGUES
196	PIERRE MOISE JIM SPEVILLE	RIVIERE COCOAS RODRIGUES
197	MARIE HENRIETTE MARTIN	ROCHE BON DIEU RODRIGUES
198	MARIE AUYIANNE CLAIR	MOUROUK RODRIGUES
199	JOSEPH MARCEL BERNARD	L'UNION RODRIGUES
200	MICHEL STEPHAN PERRINE	PETIT GABRIEL RODRIGUES
201	PRISCILLA MEUNIER	ROYAL ROAD TREFLES RODRIGUES
202	MARIE LUICETTE NANCY	MONTAGNE TONERRE RODRIGUES
203	MARIE ANDRESE EMILIEN	COROMANDEL RODRIGUES
204	JACQUES DEDIRE LAVAL JOLICOEUR	ROSEAUX RODRIGUES
205	JEAN LEWIS ROMUALD	GRAVIERS RODRIGUES
206	MARIE CLAIRE BERNARD	QUATRE VENTS RODRIGUES

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207	ARMAND JEAN ALEX	PISTACHE RODRIGUES
208	LAW NYE KIN AGATHE	RIVIERE COCOS RODRIGUES
209	JOSEPH AH-PIN FELICITE	CAMP PINTADES RODRIGUES
210	MARYDA LABOUR	PAPAYES RODRIGUES
211	DANIELLA SHEILLA FELICITE	CASCADES JEAN LOUIS RODRIGUES
212	MARIE CLAUDE NANGAN	MONT LUBIN RODRIGUES
213	AH YOCK KAN JOHN	QUATRE VENTS RODRIGUES
214	MARIE MIRANNE FELICITE	GRAND LA FOUCHE MANGUES RODRIGUES
215	MARIE MAGDALEE ANDRE	BIGARADE RODRIGUES
216	GONZAQUE CASIMIR	BATATRAN RODRIGUES
217	MARIE MICHELE LALANNE	CREVE CŒUR RODRIGUES
218	ROSEMONDE SPEVILLE	BALADIROU RODRIGUES
219	MARIE CLAIRMENE ALLAS	CAMP PINTADE RODRIGUES
220	MARIE FABRINA FELICITE	CORAIL PETITE BUTTE RODRIGUES
221	MARIE MARJELAINE LOUIS	MALARTIC RODRIGUES
222	NADEGE LEGOFF	ILE MICHEL RODRIGUES
223	JEANNE DARC RAVINA	CHAMPS RODRIGUES
224	JEAN RICHARD GENTIL	TERRE ROUGE RODRIGUES
225	JEAN RICARDO RAMDALLY	POMPEE RODRIGUES
226	MARIE GRAZELA RAMDALLY	CITRON DONIS RODRIGUES
227	LISETTE JEAN LOUIS	POMPEE RODRIGUES
228	MIREILLE NATACHA LERACE	GRANDE LA FOUCHES MANGUES RODRIGUES
229	JOSEPH LALRY PRUDENCE	ANSE QUITOR-CORAIL RODRIGUES
230	JOSEPH BASANIO EDOUARD	POINTE COTON RODRIGUES
231	MARIE SUZANNE LEOPOLD	LES CHOU RODRIGUES
232	ANNE MARIE ANIQUE JEAN LOUIS	BATATRAN RODRIGUES
233	REX KEVIN PERRINE	VAINQUEUR RODRIGUES
234	JOSEPH RIGOBERT VIDGE JOCELET	MARECHAL RODRIGUES
235	MERGE CLAIR	MARECHAL RODRIGUES
236	MARIE ANNECIE MOMUS	BATATRAN RODRIGUES
237	MARIE MURNA PRUDENCE	GRAND LA FOUCHE CORAIL RODRIGUES
238	MARIE ANTOINETTE PARMASSE	GRAND LA FOUCHE MANGUES RODRIGUES
239	ROLINE BEGUE	POINTE L'HERBE RODRIGUES

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240	CELINE JOY RAMDALLY	CITRON DONIS RODRIGUES
241	MARIE PATRICIA SWEE	TROIS SOLEILS RODRIGUES
242	HUAN YOUNG CHEN YEN	GRAND LA FOUCHE MANGUES RODRIGUES
243	MARIE DOLORES CLAIR	ANSE RAFFIN RODRIGUES
244	MARIE CHANTALE PERRINE- CASIMIR	TERRE ROUGE RODRIGUES