

REPLIES TO QUESTIONS BY THE MINISTER
FOR COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY, MR. J. M.
JUMABHOY, AT THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY
MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 13, 1958.

The Minister for Commerce and Industry, Mr. J. M. Jumabhoy, gave the following replies to questions asked by Mr. John Ede (Member for Tanglin) at the Legislative Assembly meeting this morning:

TOURISM

The Director of Tourism has completed a survey of the Colony's present tourist facilities and has formulated a plan for the continuing development of tourism over an extended period.

Appropriate markets have been selected as initial targets for overseas advertising and a tourist promotion campaign is scheduled to commence in September in Australia, New Zealand and the United States.

Four descriptive folders will be printed for overseas distribution, primarily for backing up direct inquiries resulting from the above advertising, and for distribution to travel agents, airlines and shipping companies.

A series of posters is being designed for distribution to travel organisations for display purposes.

A comprehensive mailing list is being prepared to cover four thousand travel agents, shipping and airline companies, travel editors, and others actively engaged in the tourist industry overseas. A monthly News Letter has been started and copies of all issues and other productions will be sent to these outlets.

A copy of the Director's report is available to all interested parties and this report outlines in complete detail the plan evolved.

Since the details of the planned expenditure of \$300,000 voted for tourist promotion in 1958 would involve reference to detailed figures, I propose to circulate this information in the Official Report. Broadly speaking approximately two-thirds of the amount is to be spent on direct advertising.

WHOLESALE FISH MARKET

Various sites have been considered by Government for the proposed Central Wholesale Fish Market. A site in the delta between the Rochore and Kallang Rivers was first considered but when the Merdeka Bridge project was under way it was found that the bridge had to be built further seaward and the head-room under the bridge in this location was not sufficient to permit access to the delta by the larger fishing vessels. A second site at the southern end of Merdeka Bridge was then considered but it was found to be too costly to build the wholesale fish market here. A third site, at the end of the old runway at Kallang, also considered to be suitable, has, however, been earmarked for the development of a public park. Finally it has been proposed that the Central Wholesale Fish Market should be temporarily sited at the Telok Ayer Basin. This proposal has not received any support from the Singapore Port Commission and would involve the finding of alternative accommodation for the M.R.N.V.R. which would in itself be very costly. Until a suitable permanent site can be found for the central wholesale fish market, there is very little hope of this project materialising.

/ PORT COMMISSION...

PORT COMMISSION

The comments of Government Departments and public bodies which are affected have now been received, and at a meeting I held recently with all interested parties, certain points of difficulty arising out of their comments on the Report have been resolved. The labour recommendations of the Report, however, raise problems of considerable complexity, and their implications are being examined in consultations with the Ministry of Labour and Welfare. I regret, therefore, that it is not yet possible for me to make a statement on Government's intentions regarding the implementation of this Report.

Aug. 13, 1958.

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