

## **Private Notice Question**

To ask the Honourable Minister of Youth and Sports -

***Whether, in regard to the forthcoming Indian Ocean Island Games, he will state the estimated total cost -***

***(a) of the -***

***(i) Cote D'Or Stadium, inclusive of all amenities;***

***(ii) upgrading and renovation of other sports amenities under Plan B, Indicating the expected completion and delivery dates thereof; and***

***(b) for the preparation of athletes, hospitality and organisation during the games?***

### **DRAFT REPLY**

Madam Speaker,

I would like to inform the House that the Indian Ocean Islands Games 2019 will comprise the following fourteen disciplines namely :

1. Athletics
2. Badminton
3. Basketball
4. Boxing
5. Cycling
6. Football
7. Judo
8. Rugby

9. Swimming
10. Table Tennis
11. Volley Ball
12. Weightlifting
13. Yatching
14. Beach Volley

In addition there would be sports events for Aurally, Mentally, Physically and Visually handicapped persons.

I would like to inform the House that the Games would be held in Mauritius as well as in Rodrigues, where the “ Semi Marathon “ of 21 kms would be held and the Judo Team Competition at Malabar.

Madam Speaker

In reply to the Private Notice Question of 22 June 2018, my colleague the substantive Minister of Youth and Sports, informed the House that in the normal course of things Mauritius would have been entrusted the organisation of the 11<sup>th</sup> edition of the Indian Ocean Islands Games. However, once the Comite International des Jeux (CIJ) decided to withdraw the organisation of the 10<sup>th</sup> edition from the Federal Republic of Comoros and entrust it to Mauritius, we were faced with an uphill battle in terms construction and renovation of our sport infrastructure. Time being of the essence in the organisation of multisport games of such a magnitude, Government decided, in line with its vision to develop Mauritius as a sports destination -

1. to set up a state-of-the-art sports complex in Cote D’or, St Pierre; and
2. To upgrade and renovate existing sites.

Consequently, Government took the opportunity of the Bilateral Joint Commission between China and Mauritius in November 2016 to obtain financial assistance from the Chinese authorities amounting to RMB 350 m.,

that is, Rs1.9 billion, through a mix of grant and interest free loan for the financing of the construction of the complex.

The complex at Cote D'or would comprise the following facilities :

- (i) an aquatic centre;
- (ii) a multi-purpose gym;
- (iii) a football stadium ; and
- (iv) an athletic track.

All the facilities are of international standards and comply with the requirements of their respective international federations. The facilities will be homologated and will allow the country to host sports events of international standing.

As regards the total costs of the project, it has been capped at Rs 4.692 billion, broken down as follows :

- (i) an aquatic centre – Rs 1057.8 M
- (ii) a multi-purpose gym – Rs 738.3 M
- (iii) a football stadium and an athletic track – Rs 1973.8 M
- (iv) Amenities, including Offsite works and Consultancy fees – Rs 922.1 M

The completion dates for the different packages to be used for the IOIG are as follows :

1. Completion, testing and commission of swimming pool and timing system and LED screens for Multipurpose Gymnasium 30 June 2019
2. Gymnasium completed to host the Judo Competition 30 June 2019

Insofar as other facilities are concerned, the delivery and handing over dates would be as per contract.

In the reply to PNQ of 22 June 2018, my colleague the substantive Minister, informed the House that the total Project Value was estimated at Rs

3.9 Billion based on values at which contracts were awarded. However, following the recommendations from the Geotechnical investigation report, increase in costs amounting to Rs 765 M are due to changes in design, substantiated by additional piling works, changes in roof structure for all three main facilities and Mechanical, Electrical and Plumbing works. The changes in roof structure for the three facilities have been approved by the Chinese Authorities

Madam Speaker,

I need to stress that the Cote D'or Complex should not be viewed in isolation and aggregated to the Indian Ocean Islands Games only. It is a major component of the grand vision and strategy which the Government has in respect of the sports landscape in Mauritius. However, using its facilities during 10th edition of the Games is the cherry on the cake.

As regards Part (a) (ii) of the question, I would like to inform the House that there was never any Plan B. Being given that there are 14 sports disciplines enlisted for the IOIG 2019, it was imperative to make use of other existing facilities. Most of the facilities had to be upgraded and renovated anew. The number of sites being renovated is 18 and the total estimated cost is Rs 732 m, inclusive of VAT and Consultancy fees. The list is being tabled and include the completion date for each site.

Madam Speaker,

As regards Part (b) of the question, I would like to inform the House that the preparation of athletes for the Games include the following :

1. Training camps / competitions locally and abroad
2. Medical / paramedical support (physio/masseur, nutritionist and psychologist), vitamins/food supplements
3. Physical fitness tests (6 sessions including Handisports/Rodrigues in Sep/Oct 2018)
4. Equipment

5. Gym facilities at Private Fitness Centres
6. Transport
7. Meal; and
8. Cameras for recording of training sessions.

Funds allocated are as follows:

-	2016/2017	-	Rs	3,2 M
-	2017/2018	-	Rs	18 M
-	2018/2019	-	Rs	60 M
-	2019/2020	-	Rs	15 M

Over and above funds allocated for preparation of athletes for the Indian Ocean Islands Games the budget allocated for financial year 2018/2019 to Elite athletes of the Federations involved in the games is Rs 19,5 M. It is the first time ever that athletes have been provided with an allocation amounting to around Rs 115 M for their preparation and training prior to the Games.

Insofar as hospitality and organisation during the Games are concerned the cost is estimated at Rs 417.5 M. This include among others, accommodation, transportation, protocol and hospitality.

