PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

The Honourable Second Member for Grand’ Baie and Poudre ‘Or (Mr Rughoobur)

To ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Home Affairs, External Communications and National Development Unit, Minister of Finance and Economic Development -

Whether, in regard to the State owned enterprises, he will state if consideration is being given for a review of the list thereof which are exempt bodies for procurement purposes and, if so, give the list thereof, indicating the reasons therefore in each case?

REPLY

Madam Speaker,

The exempt organisations are listed in the First Schedule to the Public Procurement Regulations 2008. These exempt organisations are the-

1. Agricultural Marketing Board;
2. Central Electricity Board;
3. Outer Islands Development Corporation;
4. State Informatics Limited;
5. State Trading Corporation;
6. Independent Commission Against Corruption;
7. Mauritius Examination Syndicate;
8. Mauritius Broadcasting Corporation;
9. Competition Commission of Mauritius; and
10. National Assembly (in respect of catering services).

These organisations are exempted from the Public Procurement Act for specific types of contracts while the Independent Commission Against Corruption is exempted for all types of contracts.

In addition, exemptions from the Public Procurement Act is also granted to any Public Body carrying out procurement of goods, works, consultancy services or other services which are financed by a foreign State for an amount of at least 50 per cent through a grant or concessional financing, as the Minister of Finance may approve, and where that foreign State has imposed a condition for the goods, works,
consultancy services or other services to be procured from that State.

Madam Speaker,

The types of contract which are exempted, other than the National Assembly in respect of catering services relate to:

(i) goods purchased for resale;
(ii) goods purchased for the purpose of holding of examinations;
(iii) acquisition of transmission rights for broadcasting; and
(iv) procurement of forensic services for searches and seizures.

It should, however, be noted that exempt organisations have to establish their own procurement rules for such types of contracts.

Madam Speaker,
The Procurement Policy Office constantly reviews the list of exempt organisations and makes appropriate recommendations thereon.

P.K.J