PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO B/154

B/154  The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix
(17.04.07) (Mr Soodhun)

To ask Dr the Honourable Minister of Agro Industry and Fisheries:-

Whether, in the light of the Multi-Annual Adaptation Strategy
Action Plan submitted to the European Union and in view of
the increasing conversion of agricultural land for industrial,
Integrated Resort Scheme (IRS) and hotel projects, he will
state if a national plan has been prepared for land use for
agricultural and non-sugar farming activities and, if so, will
he state if a copy thereof will be tabled?

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REPLY

Mr Speaker Sir,

I am tabling the reply.

2. In respect of land use for agricultural and non-sugar farming
activities, there is a revised outline scheme in the context of national
development strategy and national socio-economic priorities.

3. The need to optimize agricultural productivity within available land
resources and necessary urbanization has become important.
4. Land suitability maps prepared by MSIRI and the Ministry of Agro-
Industry & Fisheries provide for release of significant land classified as
marginal.

5. Five maps identifying the sites of cane land in respect of ownership
by different categories of planters and suitability are being tabled.

6. With regard to industrial, Integrated Resort Scheme and hotel
projects, I am informed by the Ministry of Housing and Lands that
provision has been made in the Four District Council Outline Planning
Schemes for a flexible and responsive development management
approach, instead of the prescriptive and rigid approach. A clustering
and sequential approach to development planning is adopted where
proposals are likely to be acceptable if they meet all performance criteria
spelt out in the various policies on industrial development and tourism.
The relevant policy documents (Policies ID1 – ID4 for industrial
development) and (Policies CDT1 – CDT3 for tourism) are also being
tabled.