

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION NO. B/89

B/89 **The Honourable Fifth Member for La Caverne and Phoenix**
(10.04.07) **(Mr. Soodhun)**

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

Whether, in regard to the cess funded institutions and their Restructuring, he will state if a study has been carried out thereon, and if so, whether it has been completed, indicating if a copy of the report will be laid on the Table of the National Assembly.

Reply

Mr. Speaker Sir

As the House is aware, my Ministry had commissioned a study to address the issue of cess in the context of the 36% reduction in the price of sugar and to assess its impact on cess funding institutions.

2. Following a tender exercise in December 2005, KPMG has been awarded the contract for this study, for the value of Rs3,000,465, with the following terms of reference:

- (i) To examine the structure and functions of all the institutions financed by cess derived from sugar proceeds and recommend cost cutting measures and appropriate number of organisations required to promote the development of the sugar cane industry

and co-products on an efficient basis, with particular reference to the provisions of services relating to land preparation and cultivation, marketing and product diversification, quality control for sugar and sugar co-products and research and extension

- (ii) To advise on the most effective and efficient ways of providing such services bearing in mind the future price decreases in sugar, centralization of sugar factories and setting up of power plants in Mauritius

3. I am informed that KPMG will submit the report to my Ministry by the end of this month.

4. A decision will be taken in due course regarding the need to make public the report.

A.B.