PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION B/1280

B/1280 The Honourable Second Member for Beau Bassin and Petite Rivière (**Mr Allet**)

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

Whether, in regard to the members of the Cane Growers Association, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from the Association, information as to (a) the area of their respective plantations (b) the number of labourers working for each of them, indicating (i) their terms and conditions of employment and (ii) if they are regrouped under any syndicate or other organization to defend their rights?

REPLY (on 04.12.07)

Mr Speaker, Sir,

I am informed by the Cane Growers Association that it has a membership of 34 planters owing 4,250 hectares and employing 717 workers in total.

The information regarding the exact extent of land owned by each of the planters as well as the number of workers employed by each of them is being compiled by the Association and will be tabled in due course.

With regard to the terms and conditions of employment of the workers, I am advised by the Association that most of its members are applying the provisions of the Sugar Industry (Agricultural Workers) (Remuneration Order) Regulations 1983, with the exception of a few who are applying partly the package deal.

Regarding part b(ii) of the question, I am informed that 60% of the workers are members of a recognized trade union.