

MAHEBOURG VILLAGE – HISTORICAL SITES (30/06/09)

(No. B/692) Mr Y. Varma (First Member for Mahebourg & Plaine Magnien) asked the Minister of Education, Culture and Human Resources whether, in regard to the Mahebourg Village, he will state if appropriate measures have been taken for the promotion thereof, in view of its historical importance and, if so, give details thereof.

The Minister of Local Government, Rodrigues and Outer Islands (Dr. J. B. David): Mr Deputy Speaker, Sir, with your permission, I shall reply to this question. In view of the fact that according to provisions of the Local Government Act, the village of Mahebourg falls under the jurisdiction of the Grand Port/Savanne District Council and also as member of the Inter-Ministerial Committee set up under the chairmanship of my colleague, the Minister of Education, Culture and Human Resources to organise the forthcoming celebration of the commemoration of the Bicentenary of the Naval Battle of Grand Port next year.

I am informed that the Culture Division of the Ministry of Education, Culture and Human Resources in collaboration with the National Heritage Fund has already identified some 20 sites and buildings in the village of Mahebourg in view of their historical importance and in the light of the forthcoming celebration to commemorate the Bicentenary of the Naval Battle of Grand Port next year. A list of these historical sites is being laid in the Library of the National Assembly.

I am also informed that the National Heritage Fund is presently undertaking research on the cultural and historical significance of these sites and buildings which will be preserved and upgraded. Furthermore, the issue of a publication and the production of a documentary film on these sites and buildings are envisaged in the context of the commemoration of the Naval Battle.