LE MORNE CULTURAL LANDSCAPE WORLD HERITAGE SITE – TRAIL (20/12/16)

(No. B/1202) Mr E. Jhuboo (Third Member for Savanne & Black River) asked the Minister of Arts & Culture whether, in regard to Le Morne Hiking Trail, he will, for the benefit of the House, obtain from Le Morne Heritage Trust Fund, information as to the number of visitors having attended thereat since the opening thereof to the public, indicating the measures taken to ensure the safety of the visitors.

The Minister of Education and Human Resources, Tertiary Education and Scientific Research (Mrs L. D. Dookun-Luchoomun): Madam Speaker, I will answer to this Parliamentary Question with your permission.

Madam Speaker, Le Morne Cultural Landscape World Heritage Site was inscribed on the World Heritage list in July 2008 and there was no access to Le Morne Brabant Mountain until the official opening on 24 July 2016.

Madam Speaker, I am informed that since the opening of the Trail on 18 December 2016 the Mountain has been visited by some 37,000 visitors, both foreign and local. For safety measures the following have been undertaken –

• around 45 signage and directional panels, including panels indicating dangerous areas for climbing and where children are not allowed have been placed;

• trained guides by the *GIPM* are provided to visitors and security ropes used for climbing the mountain cliff up to the cross are regularly checked by the *GIPM*;

• Police are on regular patrols at that site and control of visitors is carried out at the entrance of the site.

I am informed that some additional maintenance works are currently being carried out at the site to reinforce the security aspect.