

**PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION**

**B/578**

The Honourable Second Member for Flacq and Bon Accueil  
**(Mr Khamajeet)**

*To ask the Honourable Attorney General:-*

**Whether, in regard to a change of name, he will state if Government proposes to reduce the statutory time period during which an interested person may lodge an objection thereto and, if not, why not?**

**REPLY**

Mr Speaker, Sir,

Section 56(3) of the Civil Status Act lays down that “(at) any time within 4 months from the last publication under subsection (2), any interested person may oppose the application by filing at the Attorney General’s Office an objection in writing, specifying his grounds of objection.”

I have, in recent months, chaired several meetings with members of my Office in order to look into ways into which applications for ‘change of name’ may be processed more expeditiously.

I am pleased to inform the House, Mr Speaker, Sir, that at its last meeting on 24 June 2011, Cabinet agreed to reduce the prescribed delay from 4 months to 1 month.

My Office is already working on the amendment to be brought to the Civil Status Act. Measures will also be taken at the administrative level to ensure that there is no undue delay in the processing of such applications.