

PORTS, EXPANSION

35. Hon J.A. SCOTT to the Leader of the House representing the Minister for Planning and Infrastructure:

- (1) Where does the Labor Government plan to carry out port expansion or develop new ports in the metropolitan area and regional Western Australia?
- (2) Does the Government support the current expansion of sheep loading at port facilities at James Point?
- (3) Does the Government support the future expansion of the Fremantle Port Authority facilities in Cockburn Sound?

Hon KIM CHANCE replied:

I thank the member for some notice of this question.

- (1) The Government supports the current port expansions in progress in Albany and Esperance. Port development proposals have been put forward in Bunbury, Broome, Fremantle, Geraldton, Dampier and Port Hedland. A private company was given the contractual rights to develop port facilities at James Point, which is currently in the Fremantle port area.
- (2) We are assessing our obligations under the contract entered into by the previous Government.
- (3) The Labor Government is committed to ensuring that the Fremantle Port Authority facilities in the outer harbour can cope with the demand for port services. At the same time we are committed to decentralising as many activities to regional ports as is commercially feasible.