



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

NINTH SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2010), NINTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY, MARCH 09, 2010 AT 1:30 P.M.

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW SENATOR
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

***Question No 21 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

(By Senator Basharat Ali)

Could the Minister advise the Senate on the following:

- a) in accordance with sub-section 13(3) of the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund Act, what is the eleven-year moving average price for crude oil and natural gas used for estimating petroleum revenues in the financial year October 2009 to September 2010; and
- b) what is the estimated production and petroleum revenues for crude oil and natural gas as the aggregate of supplemental petroleum tax, petroleum profits tax and royalties for the financial year October 2009 to September 2010?

***Question No 22 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

(By Senator Basharat Ali)

Could the Minister advise the Senate on the following:

* Question No. 21 was deferred for one (1) week on 09.02.10 and for two (2) weeks on 23.02.10.

* Question No. 22 was deferred for one (1) week on 09.02.10, for one (1) week on 23.02.10 and for one (1) week on 02.03.10.

- a) what was the estimated production and petroleum revenues for oil and natural gas for the quarter October to December, 2009;
- b) with respect to (a), what was the actual production and petroleum revenues collected for that period;
- c) with reference to (b) whether the actual revenues exceed the estimates for that period by more than ten percent; and
- d) whether the excess revenue has been or will be transferred to the Heritage and Stabilized Fund(HSF)?

***Question No. 30 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister inform this Senate:

- A. Whether the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has entered into a Government to Government arrangement with the Canadian Province of Nova Scotia to computerize the records of the Licensing Division?
- B. (i) if the Answer to (A) is in the affirmative, would the Honourable Minister state the cost of such arrangement to the Government; and
(ii) when would this exercise be completed?
- C. What steps have been taken to secure the integrity of the records of the Licensing Division during this exercise?

***Question No. 31 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister inform this Senate:

- A. what steps are being taken by his Ministry to address the question of the uncontrolled influx of illegal immigrants into Trinidad and Tobago and from countries within the Caribbean Region and African States; and
- B. the number of immigrants arrested, detained and/or deported and the countries of origin during the last five years?

***Question No. 32 to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

With respect to the reconstruction of agricultural access roads, could the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (a) the number of agricultural access roads reconstructed for the years 2008 and 2009; and
- (b) the number of agricultural access roads programmed for reconstruction in 2010?

* Questions Nos. 30, 31 and 32 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 23.02.10.

***Question No. 36 to the Honourable Minister of Local Government**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister advise this Senate of the current status of the Government's Local Government Reform exercise?

Question No. 37 to the Honourable Minister of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- A. Could the Minister state whether it is Government's intention to restructure the management of the Cipriani Labour College; and
- B. if the answer to (A) is in the affirmative would the Minister please advise this Senate of the Government's plan for such restructuring?

Question No. 38 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister inform this Senate:

- (a) what is the current waiting period of appointment for persons wishing to apply for machine readable passports; and
- (b) the deadline by which all citizens of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago will be required to be in possession of machine readable passports, particularly when travelling to the USA?

Question No. 39 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister inform the Senate of the number, names and costs of projects and/or programmes funded through the Green FUND from its inception up to December 31, 2009?

9. QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMEN OF SESSIONAL AND SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEES
10. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
11. STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES
12. PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS
13. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS
14. MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
15. PUBLIC BUSINESS

* Question No. 36 was deferred for one (1) week on 02.03.10.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Civil Aviation Act, Chap. 49:03”.
(By the Minister of Works and Transport)
- (ii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Prisons Act, Chap. 13:01”.
(By the Minister of National Security)
- (iii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to restructure the pension arrangements of the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited”.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry and Minister in the Ministry of Finance)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **WHEREAS** Sir Ellis Emmanuel Innocent Clarke, TC, GCMG served this country with distinction as Solicitor-General, Deputy Colonial Secretary, Attorney General, Ambassador, as the main architect of the 1962 Independence Constitution Governor General and President;
AND WHEREAS Noor Mohammed Hassanali served this country with distinction as Magistrate, Senior Crown Counsel, Assistant Solicitor-General, Judge of the High Court and Court of Appeal and President;
AND WHEREAS Arthur Napoleon Raymond Robinson served this country with distinction as Prime Minister and defended the rights and freedoms enshrined in our democratic constitution during the 1990 attempted coup and has been internationally recognized for his efforts to establish the International Criminal Court in 2002;
AND WHEREAS George Michael Chambers served this nation with distinction as Prime Minister;
BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take immediate steps to rename:
 - (i) The Churchill-Roosevelt Highway as the Ellis Clarke Highway;
 - (ii) The Hall of Justice as the Noor Hassanali Hall of Justice;
 - (iii) The Crown Point International Airport as the Arthur N.R. Robinson International Airport; and
 - (iv) Wrightson Road as the George Chambers Avenue.as a symbolic gesture of national gratefulness for their many years of distinguished service.
(By Senator Gail Merhair)
- (ii) **WHEREAS** there is an increasing need and demand for participatory democracy;
AND WHEREAS the population is engaged in the process of constitutional reform via dialogue and consultation;

AND WHEREAS there is need to reduce corruption by holders of public office;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take steps to amend the Constitution so that all elected and appointed Members of Parliament be limited to serving three consecutive terms or three terms in a lifetime.

(By Senator Gail Merhair)

(iii) **WHEREAS** there has been recognition of the need for constitutional reform;

AND WHEREAS the population is demanding an even playing field in the conduct of elections;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take steps to amend the Constitution to introduce fixed dates for general elections except in the instance of a successful moving of a motion of no confidence in the government.

(By Senator Gail Merhair)

(iv) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the government of Trinidad and Tobago to root out all corrupt practices in the management of the public purse;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that individuals found engaging in such activities be subjected to swift and compelling justice;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Senate call on the government to take immediate steps to effect legislation dealing with public procurement practices and standards in Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

(v) **WHEREAS** it is the role of the Parliament to oversee and scrutinize the actions of the Executive arm of the State;

AND WHEREAS Parliament has established a number of mechanisms to give effect to its role;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the government to promote standards of good governance by permitting the Parliament and its Committees to function efficiently and effectively.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Neil Jaggassar
Clerk of the Senate

Senate Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN

March 03, 2010

APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER/TUESDAY MARCH 09, 2010 QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 26 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By Senator Wade Mark)

With respect to local and foreign consultants employed in each Government Department, Ministry or Agency controlled by the State or any State Enterprise, could the Minister inform the Senate of:

- (a) the total number of consultants employed;
- (b) the name of each consultant and the specific areas/projects that each consultant is advising the government on;
- (c) the exact duration of each of these contracts; and
- (d) the cost of the services of each consultant?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

Question No. 27 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (A) Could the Minister outline in detail the various assets being held in her capacity as Corporation Sole on behalf of the people of Trinidad and Tobago?
- (B) Could the Minister also state the estimated value of these assets?
- (C) Could the Minister give a further breakdown of any changes on the portfolio of assets on a year-to-year basis over the period January 2007 – March 31, 2009?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

Question No. 28 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (a) Could the Minister provide the Senate with:
 - (i) the names of all the contractors engaged by WASA for the period January 2007 to March 31, 2009;
 - (ii) the exact nature of works these contractors have been engaged to perform; and
 - (iii) the duration of these contracts and the financial value of each contract?
- (b) Could the Minister further state:
 - (i) how many contractors have been paid to date; and
 - (ii) how many contractors have not been paid and exactly when would they be paid?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

Question No. 29 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Wade Mark)

With respect to the Rapid Rail Project, could the Minister provide the Senate with:

- (i) details of the US\$67 Million Phase I contract with Trinitrain Consortium; and

(ii) a copy of the contract?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

Question No. 35 to the Honourable Minister of Public Administration

(By Senator Wade Mark)

With respect to the rental of Buildings to house Government Offices, could the minister inform the Senate:

- (a) what was government's expenditure for the years 2007-2009; and
- (b) the details of such expenditure, inclusive of the names of the landlords and the amounts paid?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

**Senate Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN**

March 03, 2010