SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
ORDER PAPER
FIFTEENTH SITTING, FIRST SESSION (2020/2021)
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY MARCH 02, 2021 AT 1:30 P.M.

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OR AFFIRMATION
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
   (i) The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) for the financial year ended December 31, 2019. (By the Minister of Finance)
   (ii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Port of Spain Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2011. (By the Minister of Finance)
   (iii) The Annual Administrative Report of the Trinidad and Tobago International Financial Centre Management Company Limited (TTIFCMCL) for the year ended September 30, 2019. (By the Minister of Finance)
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 66 to the Attorney General
(By Senator Wade Mark)
As regard the protests which occurred across East Port-of-Spain at the end of June 2020, can the Attorney General advise as to the following:
(i) the number of complaints, if any, filed with the Police Complaints Authority regarding criminal offences involving police officers, police corruption and serious police misconduct during the police response to said protests;

(ii) the number of investigations launched by the Authority into the complaints identified at (i);

(iii) whether the Police Complaints Authority has completed such investigation(s); and

(iv) when will the results of these investigations be made public.

**Question No. 67 to the Minister of National Security**  
(By Senator Wade Mark)  
In light of statements made by the Commissioner of Police that “a well-orchestrated plan to destabilise the country” was the cause behind the protests which occurred across East Port-of-Spain at the end of June 2020, can the Minister indicate:

(i) whether he has been made aware of evidence to support said statements;

(ii) what is the status of any investigations; and

(iii) whether the evidence referred to at (i) could be shared publicly?

**Question No. 69 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**  
(By Senator Wade Mark)  
Can the Minister indicate the status of the bid by Patriotic Energies and Technologies Company for the acquisition of the assets of both the Guaracara Refinery and Paria Fuel Trading Co. Ltd?

**Question No. 83 to the Minister of National Security**  
(By Senator Paul Richards)  
With regard to the return of individuals to this country since the closure of the Nation’s borders, can the Minister inform the Senate of the following as at February 05, 2021:

(i) the number of T&T citizens repatriated; and

(ii) the number of persons with resident status that were permitted to return?

**Question No. 84 to the Minister of National Security**  
(By Senator Paul Richards)  
With regard to travel exemptions issued to nationals since the closure of the Nation’s borders, can the Minister advise as to the following:

(i) what is the average waiting period for persons awaiting a ‘return travel exemption’;

(ii) the number of persons awaiting ‘return travel exemptions’ for more than three months, but less than six months; and

(iii) the number of persons awaiting ‘return travel exemptions’ for more than six months?

**Question No. 85 to the Minister of National Security**  
(By Senator Paul Richards)  
Given reports of the various categories of travel exemptions being granted to individuals since the closure of the Nation’s borders, can the Minister indicate:

(i) the different types of travel exemptions granted by the Ministry as at February 05, 2021;

(ii) what is the official policy for the granting of exemptions to business persons; and

(iii) what is the official policy for the granting of a 'Special Exemption' or 'Emergency Status Exemption'?
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

   (i) The Anti-Gang Bill, 2021
       (By the Attorney General)

14. MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER

15. PUBLIC BUSINESS

   **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

   **Motions:**

   (i) **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 4 of the Quarantine Act, Chap. 28:05 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the Minister of Health may make Regulations, with respect to the whole or any part of Trinidad and Tobago, including the ports and coastal waters thereof, for preventing:
       (a) danger to public health from ships or aircraft or persons or things therein, arriving at any place; and
       (b) the spread of infection by means of any ship or aircraft about to leave any place, or by means of any person or thing;
       AND **WHEREAS** it is provided by the said section 4 of the Act, that Regulations made under this section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament;
       AND **WHEREAS** the Minister has on the 4th day of February, 2021 made the Quarantine (Maritime) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 (hereinafter called “the Regulations”);
       AND **WHEREAS** the Regulations were laid in the House of Representatives on the 5th day of February, 2021;
       AND **WHEREAS** it is expedient to approve the Regulations;
       **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Quarantine (Maritime) (Amendment) Regulations, 2021 be approved.
       (By the Minister of Health)

   **Bills Second Reading:**

   (i) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Tobago House of Assembly Act, Chap. 25:03 and to make constitutional amendments to the Elections and Boundaries (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Act, Chap. 25:50’.
       (By the Attorney General)

       (By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)
(By the Minister of Labour)

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Motions:

(i) The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday February 23, 2021 will be resumed:

WHEREAS the Senate is asked to address amongst other things, complex legislation which necessitates focused deliberations;

AND WHEREAS the current global pandemic has impacted all aspects of life in Trinidad and Tobago, including the Parliament. As such, on August 29, 2020, the Senate agreed that the “time limit for Speeches in Debates be limited to 30 minutes for the mover/Member wrapping-up and the first speaker on the Opposition and Independent Benches, and 20 minutes for all other speakers”;

AND WHEREAS citizens are being encouraged to adapt to the ‘new normal’ while observing COVID-19 safety protocols;

AND WHEREAS the business of the Parliament should similarly adapt to the ‘new normal’ by allowing for the full time for Speeches in Debates;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate revert to the speaking time as set out in the Standing Orders with immediate effect.
(By Senator Wade Mark)

(ii) WHEREAS the Commissions of Enquiry Act, Chap. 19:01 provides for the establishment of commissions to manage the conduct of enquiries into public officers, departments and matters of public welfare;

AND WHEREAS Commissions of Enquiry are recognized as an important tool for social investigation in contemporary society, an effective mechanism for delivering truth, justice and social or organizational reform, and a device for inquiring into and ameliorating matters of public concern;

AND WHEREAS successive Government administrations have failed to adequately address public concerns which have arisen from time to time on whether the Commissions of Enquiry in Trinidad and Tobago have been effectively and efficiently carrying out their mandate;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to review the Commissions of Enquiry Act, Chap. 19:01 and the public inquiry process in Trinidad and Tobago.
(By Senator Anthony Vieira)

(iii) WHEREAS it is recognized that rising levels of domestic and foreign debt may negatively impact this country’s socio-economic development;

AND WHEREAS it is recognized that because of Government’s policies, the working population has been experiencing the effects of these rising debt levels;

AND WHEREAS international credit rating agencies have cautioned about Trinidad and Tobago’s future borrowings, given the economic constraints caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;
BE IT RESOLVED that the Government reconsider its borrowing policy in light of this country’s rising Debt-to-GDP ratio and the possible negative impact of same on the country’s socio-economic development;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to outline specific plans and programmes in respect of fulfilling its debt servicing obligations, in light of the economic constraints caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

Senate Secretariat
Office of the Parliament
The Parliamentary Complex
The Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN

February 25, 2021
Question No. 92 to the Attorney General
(By Senator Wade Mark)

As regard the British company known as Edmonds Marshall McMohan (EMM), can the Attorney General provide the Senate with the following information:
(i) the date on which the company was contracted by the Government and/or the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service;
(ii) the sum paid thus far to the company; and
(iii) the amount owed to the company?
(Answer due by 20.03.2021)