1. PRAYERS

2. OATH OR AFFIRMATION

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

5. PETITIONS

6. PAPERS

       (By the Attorney General)

   (ii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended September 30, 2020.
        (By the Minister of Finance)

   (iii) The Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year 2020.
        (By the Minister of Finance)

        (By the Minister of Works and Transport)

        (By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

        (By the Minister of National Security)

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. 104 to the Minister of Sport and Community Development**  
(By Senator Wade Mark)  
Can the Minister indicate the reason(s) why the application of the FIFA-appointed normalisation committee to host the Guyana versus Trinidad and Tobago World Cup qualifier game was rejected?

**Question No. 105 to the Minister of Public Utilities**  
(By Senator Wade Mark)  
Can the Minister indicate whether a decision has been taken to privatise the Water and Sewerage Authority?

**Question No. 107 to the Minister of Education**  
(By Senator Wade Mark)  
Can the Minister advise as to how the decline in new student admissions and a reduction in courses at the University of the West Indies, St. Augustine Campus is expected to impact this country’s professional labour force?

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 Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control Bill, 2021.  
       (By the Attorney General)

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

15. PUBLIC BUSINESS

   **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**Motions:**

   (i) **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 5(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, Chap. 58:01 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the President may by Order declare that land is required for a public purpose;

   **AND WHEREAS** it is provided by section 5(2) of the Act that Parliament may by resolution approve an Order made under section 5(1);

   **AND WHEREAS** the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2020 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 399 dated the 15th day of December, 2020;

   **AND WHEREAS** it is expedient to approve the said Order;

   **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2020 be approved.  
   (By the Attorney General)
Bills Second Reading:

(i) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28’.
(By the Attorney General)

(ii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Special Reserve Police Act, Chap. 15:03 and the Police Complaints Authority Act, Chap. 15:05’.
(By the Attorney General)

(iii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, Chap. 11:24’.
(By the Attorney General)

(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

(By the Minister of Labour)

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Motions:

(ii) The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday April 27, 2021 will be resumed:

WHEREAS the statistics on violent crimes against women and girls have been widely reported by the TTPS from late 2020 to present;

AND WHEREAS said reports have garnered nationwide focus and given rise to several accounts of similar experiences by women, whose cases have not been followed-up and solved by Police;

AND WHEREAS the public has consistently called for the passage of legislation and improvements to the service delivery of public agencies in relation to, inter alia, non-lethal weapons, transportation and judicial process, to support the protection of women and girls against violent crimes;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to critically assess the deficiencies in the current systems to deal with the incidence of violent crimes against women and girls;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government present to the Parliament, within three (3) months, a legislative agenda and policy implementation plan to more effectively address the rising incidence of violence against women and girls.
(By Senator Paul Richards)

(iii) 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)

(iv) WHEREAS availability of foreign exchange is important for investment and competitiveness in the private sector and a shortage of foreign exchange can hamper prospects for diversification and economic recovery aspired to in the fiscal strategy outlined in Budget 2020/2021;

AND WHEREAS the revenue received from foreign energy companies has been on the decline since 2015 and is now exacerbated by the negative socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AND WHEREAS it is recognised that micro, small and medium-sized businesses and the wider population continue to experience the negative effects of decreasing levels of foreign exchange in Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to table, within three (3) months, a comprehensive strategy to address the negative socio-economic impacts being experienced by micro, small and medium-sized businesses and the wider public owing to ongoing shortages in foreign exchange in this country.
(By Senator Amrita Deonarine)

(v) WHEREAS the Senate, as a House of Parliament, ought to afford Members such freedom of debate so as to allow full, frank and meaningful discussion within the constraints of the Standing Orders and well-established parliamentary practice;

AND WHEREAS the position and authority of the President of the Senate ought not to be used in a partisan manner to prevent and or stymie criticism of the Government;

AND WHEREAS the Senate President is the servant of the Senate and not of the Government and as such ought to be impartial and unbiased at all times;

AND WHEREAS the President of the Senate by her rulings has demonstrated her bias in favor of the PNM Government and her lack of understanding of the nature and role of the Office of President of the Senate;

AND WHEREAS by her actions the Senate President has stifled the freedom of debate guaranteed by the Constitution and thus brought this Senate into disrepute;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate declare that it has lost confidence in the President of the Senate, Senator the Honourable Christine Kangaloo.
(By Senator Wade Mark)

(vi) WHEREAS on April 24, 2018 the Senate unanimously passed a resolution calling on the Government “to introduce legislation on parliamentary autonomy during the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report before the end of the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament”;

AND WHEREAS on February 12, 2019, in the Senate, the Attorney General committed to making best efforts to have legislation on Parliamentary Autonomy introduced in the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament;

AND WHEREAS to date the Government has not presented to Parliament a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate call on the Government to re-establish its commitment to introduce a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate call on the Government to table, within three (3) months, an implementation road map geared towards introducing legislation on Parliamentary Autonomy and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report.
(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

June 07, 2021
Question No. 146 to the Minister of Education  
(By Senator Wade Mark)  
Having regard to the thirteen (13) month disruption caused by the COVID-19 pandemic to traditional schooling of students at the Early Childhood Care, Primary and Secondary School levels, can the Minister advise as to the following:  
(i) the breakdown of the number of students, who have not been able to access online classes because they do not have the appropriate device or internet connectivity;  
(ii) the total breakdown of said students who are still without access to electronic devices; and  
(iii) the immediate, short, medium and long-term impacts on the psychological well-being of these students?  
(Answer due by 27.05.2021)  

Question No. 154 to the Minister of Finance  
(By Senator Wade Mark)  
Can the Minister provide the following information, per year, for the financial years 2016 – 2020:  
(i) the names of each of the financial intuitions employed in paying contractors through the factoring services method;  
(ii) the respective debt incurred by each financial institution; and  
(iii) a detailed breakdown of the amount of outstanding Government debt owed to the various contractors, consequent to payment by the factoring services method?  
(Answer due by 01.06.2021)