



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

TWENTY-EIGHTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2003/2004), EIGHTH PARLIAMENT

FRIDAY MAY 21, 2004 AT 1.30 P.M.

- (a) PRAYERS
- (b) OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW MEMBER
- (c) ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER
- (d) BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE
- (e) PETITIONS
- (f) PAPERS
- (g) PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
- (h) QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN APPENDIX I

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

- (i) REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
- (j) STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS
- (k) PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS
- (l) INTRODUCTION OF BILLS
- (m) MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
- (n) PUBLIC BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate Amendments to the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago Bill, 2004 listed in Appendix II, be now considered.

(By the Minister of Science Technology and Tertiary Education)

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Venture Capital Act, 1994”.
(By the Ministry of Trade and Industry)
2. A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Food and Drugs Act, Chap. 30:01”.
(By the Minister of Health)
3. A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Pesticides and Toxic Chemicals Act, 1979”.
(By the Minister of Health)
4. A Bill entitled “An Act to repeal and replace the Sentencing Commission Act, 2000”.
(By the Attorney General)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the House was adjourned on Friday May 07, 2004 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS Article 3 of the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination states that “*Particular efforts shall be made to prevent discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin, especially in the fields of civil rights, access to citizenship, education, religion, employment, occupation and housing*”; and

WHEREAS Article 26 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts that “*Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit*”; and

WHEREAS on November 3rd 1973, Trinidad and Tobago ratified the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination; and

WHEREAS section 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago recognises and declares that in Trinidad and Tobago there have existed and shall continue to exist, without discrimination by reason of race, origin, colour, religion or sex, certain fundamental human rights and freedoms; and

WHEREAS the National Anthem of Trinidad and Tobago resonates with the aspiration that “*Here every creed and race find an equal place*”; and

WHEREAS section 7 of the Education Act, Chap. 39:01 states, “*No person shall be refused admission to any public institution on account of religious persuasion, race, social status or language of such a person or of his parent*”; and

WHEREAS since December 24th 2001 there has been a renewal and an institutionalization of the victimization of and discrimination against employees of State Enterprises, Statutory Authorities, Government Ministries and Public Authorities by the PNM Government; and

WHEREAS, throughout our nation, through victimization and discrimination by the PNM government, citizens are denied the opportunity to access jobs, contracts and loans in the Unemployment Relief Programme (URP); the Community Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) and the National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited (NEDCO) and other public programmes; and

WHEREAS, throughout the nation, citizens are denied equality of treatment in accessing training opportunities in the Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA); On the Job Training (OJT); Helping You Prepare for Employment (HYPE); Geriatric Adolescent/Partnership Programme (GAPP) and other public programmes; and

WHEREAS the Honourable Member for Diego Martin West and Minister of Housing has publicly affirmed a policy of racial and gender discrimination as contained in the *Social and Economic Framework 2004* policy document, notwithstanding its deletion as an “Errata”:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House re-affirm its commitment to the elimination of discrimination in all its forms and the right of the individual to equality of treatment from public authorities.

(Member for St. Joseph)

*Jacqui Sampson Jacent
Clerk of the House*

*House of Representatives’ Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN*

May 17, 2004

APPENDIX**ORDER PAPER/ MAY 21, 2004****QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER****Question No. 7 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities and the Environment**

(By the Member for Caroni East)

Could the Minister provide this House with a list of all the persons employed by W.A.S.A. indicating:

- (i) the capacity in which they are employed;
- (ii) the salaries which they receive;
- (i) their starting date of employment?

Answer due by 06.12.2003

Question No. 12 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By the Member for Siparia)

- (a) Would the Minister state:
 - (i) the names, job designations and remuneration packages of each person or company hired on contract;
 - (ii) the names and job description of each person or company awarded contracts for the supply of goods and services and the cost of each such contract awarded;
 at Petrotrin since January 1st, 2002?
- (b) In the case of companies, the names of the directors of each company;
- (c) Whether the jobs/tenders were advertised and if they were, where and when were the advertisements placed;
- (d) In the case of tenders, the bid made by each tenderer;
- (e) What was the procedure and criteria used to hire each person and company and/or used to award contracts for the supply of goods and services?

(Answer due by 18.12.2003)

Question No. 18 to the Honourable Minister of Education

(By the Member for Siparia)

- (a) Would the Minister state:
 - (i) The names, job designations and remuneration packages of each person or company hired on contract;

- (ii) The names and job description of each person or company awarded contracts for the supply of goods and services and the cost of each such contract awarded;

by the Ministry of Education since January 1st, 2002 with the exception of the school feeding programme?

- (b) In the case of companies, the names of the directors of each company;
- (c) Whether the jobs/tenders were advertised and if they were, where and when were the advertisements placed;
- (d) In the case of tenders, the bid made by each tenderer;
- (e) What was the procedure and criteria used to hire each person and company and/or used to award contracts for the supply of goods and services?

Answer due by 18.12.2003

Question No. 65 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By the Member for St. Augustine)

Would the Minister state:

- (i) The reasons for the delay in settling compensation packages for relocated residents of Oropune Village Piarco;
- (ii) The names of residents of Oropune Village, Piarco who are on the list for compensation;
- (iii) The amount of monies allocated to each relocated residents of Oropune Village, Piarco;
- (iv) The date anticipated for payment to the relocated residents of Oropune Village, Piarco

Answer due by 20.03.2004

Question No. 70 to the Honourable Minister of Education

(By the Member for Siparia)

A. Would the Minister list:

- (i) the steps and the date/s of each step taken, since January 2002 to implement the law relating to the appointment of school boards in the nation's schools;
- (ii) the number of schools in which school boards have been appointed and the date of appointment of same;
- (iii) the number in which no school boards have been appointed;

B. Would the Minister state:

- (i) the reasons why there is a breach of the provisions of the law in the failure to appoint school boards to each school;

- (ii) whether school boards have been provided with terms of reference and a manual for their proper functioning and if so, the nature of same?

Answer due by 31.03.2004

Question No. 74 to the Honourable Minister of Education

(By the Member for Siparia)

Would the Minister list:

- (i) the steps and the date/s of each step taken, since January 2002 to fill teacher vacancies in the nation's schools;
- (ii) the names of the secondary and primary schools in which there are teacher vacancies, whether permanent or temporary vacancies or otherwise;
- (iii) the number of vacancies per school and the subject area together with the dates these positions became vacant;
- (iv) the steps and the date/s of each step being taken to fill the vacant positions and the expected date for the filling of each vacancy?

Answer due by 31.03.2004

Question No. 80 to the Honourable Minister of Education

(By the Member for Siparia)

Would the Minister state:

- (i) as at January 2002 what were the existing School Intervention Strategies (SIS) Committees which had been established to address school violence and indiscipline;
- (ii) the composition and role/functions of each committee as at January 2002;
- (iii) whether there are any changes in relations to (a) and (b) above since January 2002 and could she state the date/s of each change;
- (iv) the dates of and attendance record for each committee meeting since January 2002;
- (v) the specific work actually done by each committee and the record of implementation of each of their recommendations;
- (vi) the actual cost of implementation of each recommendation from January 2002 to date?

Answer due by 31.03.2004

Question No. 81 to the Honourable Minister of Education*(By the Member for Siparia)*

- A. Would the Minister state:
- (i) the estimated costs of construction, furnishing, and equipping of each of the second batch of SEMP secondary schools?
 - (ii) the names of the persons/companies contracted, the names of the directors of each company and the contracted cost of construction, furnishing and equipping of each?
 - (iii) the start up and completion dates of construction, furnishing and equipping of each school?
 - (iv) in the case of completed schools the actual cost of construction, furnishing and equipping of each?
- B. Would the Minister also state:
- (i) whether tenders were invited for the contracts awarded and if so, the bids made by each tenderer for construction, furnishing and equipping of each of the schools?
 - (ii) the procedure and criteria used to award each contract?

Answer due by 31.03.2004**Question No. 84 to the Honourable Minister of Education***(By the Member for Siparia)*

- A. Would the Minister state:
- (i) the names of the schools selected for technical upgrades and a description of the technical upgrade proposed to be carried out;
 - (ii) the estimated cost of each technical upgrade;
 - (iii) the start up construction dates and completion dates for each upgrade;
- B. Would the Minister also state:
- (i) whether tenders were invited for each upgrade and if so, the bids of each tenderer;
 - (ii) the procedure and criteria used or to be used to award contracts for each technical upgrade;

- (iii) in the cases where awards of contracts for technical upgrades have already been made, the contracted cost of each and the names of the persons and companies awarded contracts and the names of the directors of each company;
- (iv) the actual cost in the cases where the technical upgrades have been completed?

Answer due by 31.03.2004

Question No. 85 to the Honourable Minister of Education

(By the Member for Siparia)

- A. Would the Minister state:
 - (i) the names of the schools selected for expanded construction to increase student population capacity and the number of students already in those schools;
 - (ii) the procedure and criteria used to select each school;
 - (iii) the nature of the expanded construction and capacity to be created;
 - (iv) the estimated cost of each expansion;
- B. Would the Minister also state:
 - (i) whether tenders were invited for the award of contracts for such construction and if so, the bids of each tenderer;
 - (ii) the procedure and criteria used or to be used to award contracts for each school expansion;
 - (iii) the name/s of the persons, and/or companies and the names of the directors of each company awarded contracts?
 - (iv) the start up of construction and completion dates of each;
 - (v) the actual cost in the case of completed expansion construction;

Answer due by 31.03.2004

Question No. 87 to the Honourable Minister of Education

(By the Member for Siparia)

Would the Minister state:

- (i) the number of students in each primary and secondary school;

- (ii) the total number of teachers actually employed and the number of teachers on the establishment in each school;
- (iii) the schools in which there are librarians;
- (iv) the estimated date/s of construction of a library in each school?

Answer due by 31.03.2004

Question No. 94 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By the Member for Oropouche)

- (a) Could the Minister provide the House with a list of the names of all persons applying for the position of Special Reserve Police (SRP) during the period January 2003 to December 2003?
- (b) Can the Minister indicate as of the end of January 2004, the list of all those successful applicants and all those unsuccessful applicants, indicating the reasons for rejecting those unsuccessful applicants?

Answer due by 31.03.2004

Question No. 100 to the Honourable Prime Minister

(By the Member for Oropouche)

- (a) Could the Prime Minister indicate what steps were undertaken and programmes implemented or supported by his Administration to observe, highlight and promote the United Nations Observance of International Women's Day March 08, 2004?
- (b) Could the Prime Minister indicate what steps were undertaken and programmes implemented or supported by his Administration to observe, highlight and promote the United Nations Observance of International Day for the Elimination of Racial Discrimination March 21, 2004?

Answer due by 19.05.2004

Question No. 101 to the Honourable Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs

(By the Member for Oropouche)

- (a) Would the Minister provide a list of all National Commission for Self Help (NCSH) projects in the Penal/Debe region which are incomplete as at this date, for which financial resources were provided during the period January 2000 to December 2001?
- (b) Can the Minister state the reasons for the delay, postponement or cancellation of each incomplete project in the Penal/Debe area?

Answer due by 19.05.2004

Question No. 103 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Princes Town)

- (a) How many motor vehicle drivers have been charged with the offence of exceeding the Speed Limits in Trinidad and Tobago between January 01, 2002 to the present time?
- (b) Could the Minister state the date, time and place where these drivers have been charged?
- (c) What steps are being embarked upon to increase the frequency in the execution of more speed traps?

Answer due by 05.06.2004

May 17, 2004

THE ACCREDITATION COUNCIL OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO BILL, 2004

List of Amendments made in the Senate on Tuesday May 11, 2004

First Column Clause	Second Column Extent of Amendments
2	<p>A. In the definition of “course” delete the word “attitudes” and substitute the word “aptitudes”</p> <p>B. In the definition of “technical college” or “technical institute” delete the word “or” and substitute a comma and immediately after the comma insert the words “or polytechnic” “</p>
4	<p>In sub clause (1) –</p> <p>A. Delete paragraph (a) and substitute the following –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(a) two or three persons nominated by tertiary institutions or institutions involved in technical or vocational education or training, including a nominee of the association most representative of tertiary education institutions in Trinidad and Tobago;”</p> <p>B. In paragraph (c) insert immediately before the word “two” the words “one or”</p>

**First Column
Clause**

**Second Column
Extent of Amendments**

4 cont'd

C. Delete paragraph (e) and substitute the following –

“(e) one person nominated by the organizations most representative of employers and one person nominated by the organizations most representative of trade unions.

7

Delete the word “and” in the first place where it occurs and substitute the word “or”

8

A. In sub clause (1) delete the words “national” and “education” and substitute the words “local” and “post secondary and tertiary education” respectively

B. In sub clause (2) –

(i) Delete paragraphs (a), (b), (d), (e) and (j) and substitute in the appropriate alphabetical sequence the following paragraphs –

“(a) to maintain a list of accredited post secondary and tertiary institutions operating in Trinidad and Tobago and a list of accredited programmes and awards offered in Trinidad and Tobago;

(b) to accredit post secondary and tertiary institutions operating in Trinidad and Tobago and the programmes and awards of such institutions;

(d) to recognize accredited programmes and awards of foreign institutions operating in Trinidad and Tobago;

(e) to advise on the recognition of foreign programmes and awards and the recognition of post secondary and tertiary institutions operating in Trinidad and Tobago;

**First Column
Clause**

**Second Column
Extent of Amendments**

8 cont'd

(j) to seek to raise the quality of post secondary and tertiary education delivered in Trinidad and Tobago to the standards set by the Council;"

(ii) in paragraph (h) insert immediately after the word "relationships" the words "including joint accreditation exercises"

(iii) in paragraph (i) delete the words " tertiary" and "college" and substitute the words "tertiary college", "technical institute" and "polytechnic"

(iv) in paragraph (r) insert immediately after the word "the" in line one the word "standards" and a comma

C. In sub clause (3) delete the words "must be registered" and substitute the words "shall register"

9

In sub clause (2) -

(i) in paragraph (b) delete the word "and"

(ii) in paragraph (c) delete the full stop and substitute a semi colon

(iii) insert immediately after paragraph (c) the following new paragraph -

**First Column
Clause**

**Second Column
Extent of Amendments**

9 cont'd

“ (d) to enter into or co-ordinate appropriate arrangements with such other competent authorities, public or private, responsible for the accreditation of institutions or the recognition of accredited programmes and awards.”

10

- A. In sub clause (1) insert before the word “directions” the word “policy” and delete the words “of a general nature”
- B. In sub clause (2) delete the word “the” in the third place where it occurs

11

- A. Renumber clause 11 as clause 11(1)
- B. Delete the marginal note and substitute as the new marginal note the word “Appeals”
- C. Insert at the beginning of sub clause (1) the words “Subject to subsection (2)”
- D. Insert immediately after sub clause (1) the following new sub clauses -

“ (2) In any other case a person directly affected by a decision of the Council may appeal the decision to the Appeals Committee on the following grounds –

- (a) that the Council failed to comply with the procedures laid down in this Act or any regulations or rules made under this Act and that the failure amounted to a significant breach of such procedures;

**First Column
Clause**

**Second Column
Extent of Amendments**

11 cont'd

(b) that the decision of the Council is based on information that is substantially incorrect or is of insufficient weight to support the decision; or

(c) that the decision of the Council is arbitrary or unreasonable, or inconsistent with or unsupported by the policies of the Council.

(3) For the purposes of this section there is established an Appeals Committee which shall be comprised of three persons appointed by the President.

(4) Hearings before the Appeals Committee shall be conducted in such manner and in accordance with such rules as may be prescribed.

(5) The decision of the Appeals Committee shall be final.

(6) The Appeals Committee with the approval of the Minister may make rules prescribing the matters required by this section to be prescribed.”.

14

- A. In sub clauses (1) and (2), delete the words “with the approval of the Minister”
- B. In sub clause (2) immediately after the word “determine” insert a comma and the words “except that salaries in excess of one hundred and twenty thousand dollars per annum shall be subject to the approval of the Minister”
- C. Insert immediately after sub clause (2) the following new sub clause -

“(3) The Minister may by Order increase the limit stated in subsection (2).”

**First Column
Clause****Second Column
Extent of Amendments**

15	In sub clause (3) delete the words “in any case”
18	Insert before the words “deem fit” the words “with the approval of the Minister with responsibility for finance”
22	<p>Renumber clause 22 as sub clause (1) and insert immediately thereafter the following new sub clauses -</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“(2) The Council shall, within six months of the end of each financial year, submit to the Minister an annual report dealing with the activities of the Council and containing such financial statements and such other information relating to the operations and policies of the Council as the Minister may require.</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">(3) The Minister shall cause a copy of the audited accounts prepared in accordance with subsection (1) and a copy of the annual report submitted under subsection (2) to be laid before Parliament within three months of receipt by him.”</p>
23	<p>A. In sub clause (1) delete the words “subject to subsection (2)” and the comma</p> <p>B. In sub clause (2) delete all of the words immediately after the words “agent of the Council”</p>
24	<p>Delete and substitute as follows –</p> <p style="padding-left: 40px;">“24. There shall be kept in the Ministry in such manner as may be prescribed separate Registers of all post secondary and tertiary institutions registered or accredited in Trinidad and Tobago and all of their accredited programmes and awards.”</p>

**First Column
Clause****Second Column
Extent of Amendments**

25

In sub clause (1) insert between the words “body” and semi-colon at the end of paragraph (a) the words “in accordance with such regulations as may be made under this Act”

26

A. Delete sub clause (1) and substitute the following -

“(1) No institution shall carry on the business of post secondary or tertiary education or use any of the words “university”, “college”, “tertiary college”, “polytechnic” “community college”, “technical college” “technical institute”, or “technical university” in its name unless registered under this Act and any regulations or rules made under this Act.

(2) A registered institution shall not

- (a) alter its accredited programmes without prior approval of the Council; or
- (b) misrepresent to the public the recognition gained by it for its programmes or awards.”.

B. Renumber sub clauses (2) and (3) as (3) and (4) respectively

C. In sub clause (3) as renumbered delete the words “subsection (1)” and substitute the words “subsections (1) and (2)”

D. In sub clause (4) as renumbered, insert immediately after the word “Register” the words “and cause that information to be published in the *Gazette* and in at least two daily newspapers circulating in Trinidad and Tobago on at least two consecutive occasions.”

**First Column
Clause**

**Second Column
Extent of Amendments**

26 cont'd

E. Insert after sub clause (4) as renumbered the following new clause -

“ (5) An institution which fails to comply with subsection (1) or (2) is guilty of an offence and in addition to any other penalty imposed by this section is liable on summary conviction to a fine of twenty thousand dollars and to a further fine of five hundred dollars for each day that such offence is continued after written notice of the offence has been given by the Council. ”

28

In sub clause (3) insert immediately after the word “Minister” the words “and shall be laid in Parliament within three months of receipt by him”

May 12, 2004