



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
FIRST SESSION (2007/2008), NINTH PARLIAMENT

ORDER PAPER

SEVENTH SITTING

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2008 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW MEMBER

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Deposit Insurance Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2007.

*(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)*

2. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Abridged Financial Statements of the Deposit Insurance Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2007.

*(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)*

3. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Statement of Receipts and Payments of the Intellectual Property Office for the year ended December 31, 2006.

*(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)*

4. Annual Audited Financial Statements of First Citizens Holdings Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2006.

*(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)*

5. The National Insurance (Medical Expenses) (Amendment) Regulations, 2008.

*(By the Minister of Finance)*

6. The National Insurance (Prescribed Diseases) (Amendment) Regulations, 2008.  
*(By the Minister of Finance)*
7. The National Insurance (Benefits) (Amendment) Regulations, 2008.  
*(By the Minister of Finance)*
8. The National Insurance (Contribution) (Amendment) Regulations, 2008.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN APPENDIX 1**

**Questions for Oral Answer**

**\*Question No. 12 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

*(By the Member for Chaguanas West)*

With regard to the Office of Disaster Preparedness Management, can the Honourable Minister inform the House what is the recurrent cost in 2007 in relation to the operations of this office and what has the office achieved thus far?

**\*Question No. 13 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport**

*(By the Member for Chaguanas West)*

Could the Minister indicate:

- a) when will smaller buses be introduced to transport passengers from Chaguanas to Felicity, along Petersfield Road and into Pierre Road and Charlieville; and
- b) when will buses be introduced to Endeavour and Jerningham into Bridel Road and Munroe Road?

**\*Question No. 20 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

*(By the Member for Princes Town North)*

With regard to the services of Professor Mastroski and his team, could the Minister state:

- a) the amount of money paid to date to obtain his services and those of his team;
- b) how many recommendations did he propose for the solving of serious crimes;
- c) briefly, the recommendations;
- d) whether the Government implemented all of his recommendations;
- e) if the answer to (d) is in the negative, can the Minister list the recommendations which were not implemented; and
- f) the reasons why the recommendations listed in (e) were not implemented?

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\* Questions Nos. 12, 13 and 20 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 30.01.2008.

**\*Question No. 21 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

*(By the Member for Princes Town North)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) whether the Government intends to establish a Commission of Inquiry to investigate the allegations made by Superintendent of Police Chandraban Maharaj of corruption in the Southern Division of the Police Service;
- b) if the answer to the (a) is in the affirmative, will such inquiry be held in public or the findings be made public;
- c) if the answer is in the negative, what type of inquiry will government embark upon; and
- d) why no inquiry has been embarked upon to this present time?

**Question No. 34 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities**

*(By the Member for Princess Town North)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) the name of the official or officials of T&TEC, who instructed a T&TEC crew to use the Commission's truck registration number TBJ 7331-S70 on 28<sup>th</sup> July 2007 to put up PNM banners bearing the party's slogans and photographs of the Prime Minister on T&TEC light poles across the Naparima Mayaro Road, Cocoyea?
- b) who gave the official and/or officials the instructions to carry out the activities in (a) above?
- c) whether T&TEC has been paid for the services so rendered?
- d) If the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, the sum paid, by whom it was paid and the date of payment?
- e) If the answer to (c) is in the negative, has anyone been held to account for the wanton abuse of State resources?

**\*Question No. 38 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

*(By the Member for Naparima)*

Could the Minister inform this House of :

- a) the number of outstanding cases before the National Insurance Appeals Tribunal, according to the different claim categories; and
- b) what steps are being taken to have these matters resolved expeditiously?

**\*Question No. 39 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

*(By the Member for Naparima)*

Could the Minister indicate:

- a) why after thirty six (36) years of functioning the National Insurance Board continues to rely on a part time medical adviser for payment assessment and advice; and
- b) how many claims are outstanding and awaiting such assessment advice?

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\* Questions Nos. 21, 38 and 39 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 30.01.2008.

**\*Question No. 40 to the Honourable Minister of Finance***(By the Member for Naparima)*

Could the Minister indicate:

- a) why Cynthia Dillon, a former member of staff of the National Insurance Board was requested to resign suddenly; and
- b) what severance package was offered to her upon separation?

**\*Question No. 44 to the Honourable Minister of Health***(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) how much money has already been expended on the National Oncology Project; and
- b) the cost of the entire project and its expected date of completion?

**\*Question No. 45 to the Honourable Minister of Health***(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister inform this House:

- a) whether the Cancer Care International is still contracted with the Ministry of Health/government of Trinidad and Tobago;
- b) if not, did the company's contract come to an end;
- c) if the contract has expired, could the Minister state the cost of the contract; and
- d) the services performed/being performed by Cancer Care International?

**\*Question No. 46 to the Honourable Minister of Health***(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

With regard to the National Oncology Project, could the Minister state:

- a) the cost of the contract between the Ministry of Health and Ellis Don;
- b) whether there has been any cost escalation in the project; and
- c) whether Ellis Don is still working on the project, how much money has been paid so far and what work the company has done?

**Question No. 49 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and Environment***(By the Member for Mayaro)*

With respect to the Housing Development Corporation, could the Minister state:

- a) how many housing units were constructed in the Mayaro Constituency during the period 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2006 – 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2007;
- b) the geographical location of these units;

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\* Questions Nos. 40, 44, 45 and 46 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 30.01.2008.

- c) the total expenditure on construction of these units to date; and
- d) how many of these units are still unoccupied?

**Question No. 50 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and Environment**

*(By the Member for Mayaro)*

Could the Minister state what new housing units are earmarked for construction in the Mayaro Constituency?

**Question No. 51 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and Environment**

*(By the Member for Mayaro)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) whether she is aware of the plight of families in Plaisance Park, Mayaro who have been severely affected by regular flooding of their Housing Development Corporation Units (recent advertisement December, 2007); and
- b) what the Housing Development Corporation is doing to bring relief and comfort to these homeowners in the short and long term?

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE ON  
DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND  
MOVED BY A MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY

PUBLIC BUSINESS

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**Motions:**

1. **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the House was adjourned on Wednesday January 30, 2008 will be resumed:**

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House take note of the Government's efforts to combat crime.

*(By the Minister of National Security)*

2. **WHEREAS** the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has made tremendous progress in the tertiary education sector over the last six years by expanding capacity and ensuring accessibility, affordability, relevance and excellence in the sector;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House commend the Government for its far reaching and visionary initiatives in the field of tertiary education.

*(By the Minister of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education)*

**Bills Second Reading:**

1. A Bill entitled “An Act to provide for the payment of compensation in respect of members of the Teaching Service who suffer injury or die in circumstances arising out of and in the course of employment with the State”.

*(By the Minister of Education)*

2. A Bill entitled “An Act to make provision for the transmission of advance passenger information respecting persons traveling to Trinidad and Tobago and for related matters”.

*(By the Minister of National Security)*

**PRIVATE BUSINESS**

**Motions:**

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House was adjourned on Friday January 25, 2008, will be resumed:**

**WHEREAS** the price of food continues to rise and the poor and low-income earners now find it difficult to feed themselves and their families;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to take adequate measures to keep food prices at an affordable level to all citizens;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House condemn the Government for its failure in containing food prices at affordable levels for the entire population.

*(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)*

*Jacqui Sampson  
Clerk of the House*

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

*February 11, 2008*

**ORDER PAPER/FRIDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2008**

**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**

**Question No. 1 to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Land And Marine Resources**

*(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

With regards to the Caroni (1975) Ltd, could the Minister state:

- a) the assets held immediately before it was closed;
- b) whether the said assets referred to in (a) were disposed of by lease, rental, sale or other methods;
- c) the names of the individuals or companies which acquired same or acquired any interest in same or were in possession of or were permitted to have occupation of any of the assets including land of the said Caroni (1975) Ltd.; and
- d) the particulars of any such acquisition or acquisition of any such interest of delivery of possession or giving occupation of any such assets by each individual or company; giving the dates of such acquisitions and/or delivery of possession and/or occupation of any such asset, the price paid and the terms of the acquisition or delivery of occupation and/or possession.

**(Answer due on 18.01.2008)**

**Question No. 5 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities**

*(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)*

Could the Honourable Minister list the projects undertaken under the Rural Electrification Programme in 2006 and 2007 and the projects proposed under this programme for 2008?

**(Answer due on 18.01.2008)**

**Question No. 52 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport**

*(By the Member for Mayaro)*

With respect to the road works in Mayaro, could the Minister inform this House:

- a) how much money has been spent to date to repair landslips and on road restoration from Rio Claro to New Grant;
- b) the names of the contractors employed on these projects; and
- c) what is the projected completion date of these works?

**(Answer due on 20.02.2008)**

**Question No. 55 to the Honourable Minister of Local Government***(By the Member for Mayaro)*

With respect to the Rural Development Company Limited, could the Minister state:

- a) the number and type of projects undertaken in the Mayaro Constituency between January 01, 2006 and December 31, 2007;
- b) the total expenditure on these said projects;
- c) the names of all contractors employed to undertake these said projects in the Mayaro Constituency;
- d) the status of these projects; and
- e) what new projects are being proposed in the Mayaro Constituency and when are they scheduled to commence?

**(Answer due on 20.02.2008)****Question No. 56 to the Honourable Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs***(By the Member for Mayaro)*

With respect to Carnival 2008, could the Minister state:

- a) the total allocation for Carnival 2008 by her Ministry; and
- b) the total disbursement of grants to all cultural and social organizations, (especially Calypso Tents) for Carnival related activities?

**(Answer due on 20.02.2008)****Question No. 58 to the Honourable Minister of Tourism***(By the Member for Mayaro)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) what is the Ministry of Tourism and the Tourism Development Company Ltd doing to promote community based tourism initiatives; and
- b) what monies are allocated for these projects?

**(Answer due on 20.02.2008)****Question No. 59 to the Honourable Minister of Information***(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister inform this Honourable House as to how much money was spent by each Ministry on advertisement, promotion and publication to each of the media houses in 2007?

**(Answer due on 29.02.2008)****February 11, 2008**