



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

ORDER PAPER

TWELFTH SITTING

FRIDAY MARCH 28, 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 National Maintenance Training and Security Company Limited for the year ended December 31, 2000.

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

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?

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\* Question No. 12 was deferred for two (2) weeks on 30.01.2008, for another two (2) weeks on 15.02.2008, for another two (2) weeks on 29.02.2008 and a further two (2) weeks on 14.03.2008.

**\*Question No. 23 to the Honourable Minister of Local Government**

*(By the Member for Princes Town North)*

Is the Minister aware that a person was injured when he fell through a dilapidated, rotten wooden bridge in the jurisdiction of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation?

Could the Minister state:-

- a) the number of wooden bridges under the jurisdiction of each Municipal Corporation;
- b) whether funds have been allocated to Municipal Corporations for the conversion of these wooden bridges into concrete bridges;
- c) the allocations for conversion of wooden bridges into concrete bridges in each Municipal Corporation, if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative; and
- d) the number of wooden bridges she expects to be converted into concrete bridges utilizing the said allocation?

**\*Question No. 24 to the Honourable Prime Minister**

*(By the Member for Princes Town North)*

Could the Honourable Prime Minister state:

- a) the allocations given to the Special Purpose Companies for carrying out infrastructure works for the years 2006 and 2007;
- b) what criteria and/or mechanisms are used in determining the type of work and the areas in which such works are to be carried out by the Special Purpose Companies;
- c) the various Ministries under which each Special Purpose Company fall;
- d) the criteria and procedures adopted by these companies in awarding contracts; and
- e) the persons and/or organizations which supervise and/or monitor the performance and the quality of work carried out by them?

**\*Question No. 43 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

*(By the Member for Naparima)*

Could the Minister indicate:

- a) why coverage of self employed persons has not been introduced under the National Insurance Board; and
- b) whether this will be done in the future, and if so when?

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\* Questions Nos. 23, 24 and 43 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 8.02.2008, for another two (2) weeks on 22.02.2008 and a further two (2) weeks on 07.03.2008.

**\*Question No. 48 to the Honourable Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs**

*(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

With regards to the Brian Lara Sporting Complex in Tarouba, could the Minister state:

- a) the projected cost;
- b) how much money has been expended on the project so far; and
- c) the expected date of completion of the entire project?

**\*Question No. 49 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the 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;
- 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 the 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 the 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?

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\* Question No. 48 was deferred for two (2) weeks on 8.02.2008, for another two (2) weeks on 29.02.2008 and a further two (2) weeks on 14.03.2008.

\* Questions Nos. 49, 50 and 51 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 15.02.2008, for another two (2) weeks on 29.02.2008 and a further two (2) weeks on 14.03.2008.

**\*Question No. 53 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport***(By the Member for Mayaro)*

Could the Minister give a status report on road paving works along the Naparima Mayaro Road to Rio Claro inclusive of the present condition of the road, scope of works still needed to be done and projected completion date?

**\*Question No. 54 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport***(By the Member for Mayaro)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) what roads within the Constituency of Mayaro are earmarked for road paving, restoration/rehabilitation; and
- b) when these works are expected to commence?

**\*Question No. 60 to the Honourable Minister of Science, Technology and Tertiary Education***(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) how much money was spend in 2007 to support needy students seeking tertiary training abroad;
- b) how these students were selected for financial support;
- c) whether there was any advertisement with respect to the availability of this fund for assistance to local students studying abroad; and
- d) if the answer to (c) is in the affirmative, could the Minister state the dates and the specific media in which these advertisements were placed?

**\*Question No. 61 to the Honourable Minister of National Security***(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister inform this House as to:

- a) how many vehicles are allocated to each of the following:
  - i. Freeport Police Station,
  - ii. Gran Couva Police Stations;
  - iii. Longdenville Police Stations; and
  - iv. the Flanagan Town and Las Lomas Police Post; and
- b) how many policemen are allocated to work in each of the station and police posts in (a)?

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**\*Questions Nos. 53 and 54 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 22.02.2008 and a further two (2) weeks on 07.03.2008.**

**\* Questions Nos. 60 and 61 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 22.02.2008 and 07.03.2008.**

**\*Question No. 62 to the Honourable Minister of Local Government***(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) what was the estimated cost of construction of the Sangre Grande Public Market;
- b) when was construction started and when was it scheduled for completion;
- c) which contractor/contracting firm was awarded the contract for the construction of the market; and
- d) is the contractor still on the project and has there been a cost overrun on the construction project?

**\*Question No. 64 to the Honourable Minister of National Security***(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)*

Could the Minister state:

- a) whether Government intends to construct a new fire station at Plum Mitan Main Road, Manzanilla; and
- b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, would the Minister give a date for the commencement of this project and the estimated cost thereof?

**\*Question No. 65 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport***(By the Member for Chaguanas West)*

- A. Is the Minister aware that the landslip on the southern end of the new Caroni bridge has caused the steel truss bridge to move resulting in damage to some of the steel members; and
- B. if the answer to (A) is yes, could the Minister briefly state the extent of the damage and the measures that are being taken to ensure public safety?

**\*Question No. 66 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport***(By the Member for Chaguanas West)*

With respect to the Caroni Bridge:

- a) could the Minister furnish details of the cost of construction;
- b) who were the designers of the local bridge works, specifically, river alignment, bridge supports and associates road works; and
- c) was the Ministry of Works Highways Division given any responsibility for the bridge?

**Question No. 67 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport***(By the Member for Tabaquite)*

Could the Minister please state what plans if any, the government has to redress the continuing hardships and anguish experienced, on a daily basis, by the travelling public at the vicinity of the

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\* Questions Nos. 62 and 64 were deferred for two (2) weeks on 22.02.2008 and 07.03.2008.

\*Question No. 65 was postponed for one (1) week on 14.03.2008.

\* Question No. 66 was deferred for two (2) weeks on 14.03.2008.

Gasparillo intersection with the Solomon Hochoy Highway from the traffic jams and congestions of motor vehicles travelling to and from Gasparillo either from North or South on the Highway?

**Question No. 68 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

*(By the Member for Tabaquite)*

Could the Minister state:

- (a) whether the Penn State University and Safety Institute began to conduct training of supervisors and trainees of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service;
- (b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the date of such commencement of training, the particulars of such training, the numbers of personnel so far trained and the total cost to the taxpayer for such training; and
- (c) how much money the Government has paid, so far, to Penn University, and if there is any balance outstanding what is the balance due to date?

**Question No. 69 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

*(By the Member for Tabaquite)*

Could the Minister state :

- (a) the sum of money it has cost the Government to date for it to hire foreign consultant Stephen Mastrofski;
- (b) whether any other foreign consultant or advisor is now employed by the Government in the Police Service, and if so, how many and at what cost in respect of each advisor and/ or consultant; and
- (c) what is the total sum spent by the Government since it took office in 2001, to present time, in hiring foreign advisors and /or consultants for the police service and/ or for the fight against crime, giving the particulars for each foreign advisor and /or consultant?

**Question No. 71 to the Honourable Minister of Social Development**

*(By the Member for Naparima)*

Could the Honourable Minister inform this House:

- (a) if the Government has received the Justice Monica Barnes Report;
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, when this Report will be laid in Parliament; and
- (c) what are the recommendations made in the report and whether these recommendations are being implemented?

**Question No. 73 to the Honourable Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs**

*(By the Member for Naparima)*

Could the Minister state:

- (a) the period/s during which the Board of Management of the Barrackpore Regional Complex was appointed and functioned for the last five (5) years;

- (b) if he is aware that there is no functional Board at present; and
- (c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, when the Board will be appointed and become functional?

**Question No. 74 to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources**

*(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister state:

- (a) how many leases for agricultural land have been given out to and executed by ex-Caroni (1975) Ltd VSEP-availed workers as at February 29, 2008; and
- (b) where the lands in (a) are located?

**Question No. 75 to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources**

*(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister state:

- (a) how many leases for residential lands have been given out to and executed by ex-Caroni (1975) Ltd VSEP-availed workers as at February 29, 2008; and
- (b) where the lands in (a) are located?

**Question No. 76 to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources**

*(By the Member for Caroni Central)*

Could the Minister state:

- (a) how many residential lots from land previously owned by Caroni (1975) Ltd will be made available by sale/lease/rental to members of the public;
- (b) the price at which the lands in (a) will be sold;
- (c) when the land in (a) will become available; and the criteria for selection of purchasers for the above lots of lands?

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

**PRIVATE BUSINESS**

**Motions:**

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House was adjourned on Friday February 22, 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)*

2. **WHEREAS** there exists no comprehensive, logical, fair, humane and equitable pension plan to ensure that persons who have worked for the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and retired are able to live a life of dignity without experiencing hardships during their retirement, a period when they are least equipped to cope with these hardships;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government take immediate steps to establish a comprehensive pension plan for all categories of persons who have worked for the Government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and who have retired; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that such a pension plan be linked to the cost of living and the wage and salary increases for government workers to ensure that government retirees are able to live out their retirement years with dignity and without being subjected to financial hardships.

*(By the Member for Naparima)*

**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 its 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)*



3. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House approve the decision of the President to acquire the lands described in Appendix II to the Order Paper for the public purposes specified.

*(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources)*

**Bills Second Reading:**

1. The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the House was adjourned on Friday March 14, 2008, will be resumed:

A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Copyright Act, 1997”.

*(By the Minister of Legal Affairs)*

2. The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the House was adjourned on Friday February 15, 2008 will be resumed:

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)*

3. A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Legal Profession Act, 1986”.

*(By the Attorney General)*

*Neil Jaggassar  
Clerk of the House (Ag.)*

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

*March 18, 2008*



**ORDER PAPER/FRIDAY MARCH 28, 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 the 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. 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. 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)****Question No. 72 to the Minister of National Security***(By the Member for Naparima)*

Could the Minister inform this House of :

- (a) the names of the fifty-five (55) police officers who were hired out of retirement and their ranks;
- (b) the duties to be performed by each rank and the remuneration and other benefits paid per rank;
- (c) whether a short fall exists in the establishment of the Police Service; and
- (d) if the answer to (c) in the affirmative, what actions are being taken to increase it to full capacity?

**(Answer due on 02.04.2008)****Question No. 80 to the Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment***(By the Member for Fyzabad)*

With regard to government housing projects, could the Minister provide the following, for the period 2006 to 2007:

- (a) a list of the persons who obtained government houses/ apartments;
- (b) the cost of the same;
- (c) the downpayments made on the same; and
- (d) a list of the persons who obtained same without downpayments?

**(Answer due on 03.04.2008)**

**Question No. 81 to the Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment*****(By the Member for Fyzabad)***

With regard to government housing projects, could the Minister state:

- (a) whether additional works were done on houses/apartments distributed between 2006 to 2007; and
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, what was the cost of works done ?

**(Answer due on 03.04.2008)****Question No. 82 to the Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment*****(By the Member for Fyzabad)***

With regard to government housing projects, could the Minister provide the following, for the period 2006 to 2007:

- (a) a list of all applicants for government houses/ apartments;
- (b) the dates of the applications; and
- (c) a list of persons who did not obtain same?

**(Answer due on 03.04.2008)****Question No. 83 to the Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment*****(By the Member for Fyzabad)***

With regard to government housing projects, could the Minister provide the following, for the period 2006 to 2007:

- (a) a list of the persons who obtained financial support for house construction;
- (b) the amount of monies obtained for same; and
- (c) a list of applicants who did not obtained financial support, and the reasons for refusal?

**(Answer due on 03.04.2008)****Question No. 84 to the Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment*****(By the Member for Fyzabad)***

With regard to government housing projects, could the Minister provide the following, for the period 2006 to 2007:

- (a) a list of citizens whose homes were destroyed by the Land Settlement Agency ;
- (b) the dollar value of the same;
- (c) the number of persons affected by same; and
- (d) the dollar value of compensation awarded to those persons who were affected?

**(Answer due on 03.04.2008)**

**Question No. 85 to the Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment**

***(By the Member for Fyzabad)***

Could the Minister provide a list of citizens who obtained security of tenure for land via the Land Settlement Agency between 2006 and 2007?

**(Answer due on 03.04.2008)**

**March 18, 2008**

<b>DESCRIPTION OF LAND</b>	<b>PUBLIC PURPOSES FOR WHICH TO BE ACQUIRED</b>
<p>1. The four parcels of land together comprising 791.8 square meters more or less, situate at St. Paul Street, in the County of St. George, in the City of Port of Spain and described in the Schedule and coloured raw sienna on a plan of survey signed by the Director of Surveys and dated 9<sup>th</sup> September, 2004 and filed in the Office of the Director of Surveys, are required for a public purpose: provision of parking facilities for the community centre at St. Paul Street.</p> <p align="center"><b><u>SCHEDULE</u></b></p> <p>Four parcels of land together comprising 791.8 square meters more or less, situate at St. Paul Street, in the County of St. George, in the City of Port of Spain and described as follows:</p> <p>(a) 375 square meters said to belong now or formerly to George Bartholomew;</p> <p>(b) 190.5 square meters said to belong now or formerly to George St. Rose;</p> <p>(c) 135.3 square meters said to belong now or formerly to Phillis Baptiste; and</p> <p>(d) 91 square meters said to belong now or formerly to Phillis Baptiste.</p> <p>These parcels are more particularly shown coloured raw sienna on a Survey Plan filed in Book 1243 as Folio 173, in the Vault of the Lands and Surveys Division, Old General Post Office Building, Wrightson Road, Port of Spain.</p> <p>2. Two parcels of land together containing 764.1 square metres land more of less, and situate at Lot No. 2, Constabulary Street, Carenage, in the Ward of Diego Martin, in the County of St. George, and described in the Schedule and coloured raw sienna on a plan of survey signed by the Director of Surveys and dated 22<sup>nd</sup> March, 2006 and filed in his office, are required for a public purpose: construction of the Carenage Heath Centre.</p>	<p>Provision of Parking Facilities for the Community Centre</p>

DESCRIPTION OF LAND	PUBLIC PURPOSES FOR WHICH TO BE ACQUIRED
<p style="text-align: center;"><b><u>SCHEDULE</u></b></p> <p>Two parcels of land together containing 764.1 square meters more or less, situate at Lot No. 2, Constabulary Street, Carenage, in the Ward of Diego Martin, in the County of St. George, and described as follows:</p> <p>(a) a parcel of land comprising approximately 499.9 square metres belonging now or formerly to Virginia Julien; and</p> <p>(b) a parcel of land comprising approximately 264.2 square metres belonging now or formerly to Fred Hillaire</p> <p>These parcels are more particularly shown coloured raw sienna on a Survey Plan filed in Book 1361 as Folio 17, Survey Order 190/2004 in the Vault of the Lands and Surveys Division, Old General Post Office Building, Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain.</p>	<p>Construction of the Carenage Health Centre</p>

**March 18, 2008**