



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST SESSION
TENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 28
2010 /2011

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY FEBRUARY 04, 2011: 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW MEMBER

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Report of the Statutory Authorities' Service Commission for the period October 2009 to September 2010.

(By the Leader of the House)

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 39 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By the Member for Diego Martin West)

- a) Is the Minister of Finance, in his capacity of Corporation Sole, aware that Caribbean Airlines Limited (CAL) through its Air Jamaica operations is proposing or taking steps to initiate a jet-prop service using ATR equipment between Kingston and Montego Bay in Jamaica?
- b) If the answer is in the affirmative, could the Honourable Minister state the date of the Board Minutes wherein such a decision was taken?
- c) Could the Minister further state whether any subsidy of any kind will be associated with the Kingston to Montego Bay Service, and if there is none, could the Minister indicate the projected annual profit from the service?

Question No. 40 to the Honourable Minister of Food Production, Land and Marine Affairs

(By the Member for Diego Martin West)

- a) Is the Honourable Minister aware that the European Union has made a significant monetary grant available to the Government of Trinidad and Tobago as financial support to the country in response to the closure of the state owned sugar industry, CARONI (1975) Limited?
- b) Could the Minister indicate:
 - i. The total value of the funding facility available to the Trinidad and Tobago Treasury under the European Union facility?
 - ii. How much of the grant has been received as at January 1, 2011?
 - iii. What is the value and the nature of the outstanding payment tranches?
 - iv. How much of this European Union's grant funding is available, earmarked or intended for cash payment to the former cane farmers of Caroni (1975) Limited?

Question No. 41 to the Honourable Minister of Community Development

(By the Member for Diego Martin West)

- a) Is the Honourable Minister aware that there is an incomplete Community Centre project called the Bagatelle Community Centre located at Bagatelle, Diego Martin?
- b) If the answer is in the affirmative, could the Minister state:
 - i. When will work on the incomplete project be re-started?
 - ii. What is the projected completion date of the new facility?

Question No. 43 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Diego Martin North/East)

- a) When did the project to widen and improve the Diego Martin Highway, between Powder Magazine in Cocorite and Acton Court in Petit Valley, commence?
- b) What was the original date for completion of the project?
- c) What is the revised completion date for the project?
- d) What is the reason for the delay in completion of this project?

Question No. 44 to the Honourable Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs

(By the Member for Diego Martin North/East)

- a) Is the Minister aware that a contract to grade and re-grass the Northern Recreation Ground in Diego Martin, so that it could be used for cricket, football and other sporting activities, was awarded by the Sport Company or his Ministry in or around January 2010, and that work on the this re-grassing project was well advanced by May 24, 2010?
- b) Is the Minister aware that this re-grassing contract was terminated or suspended at or around the end of May 2010, after the General Election, and that all work on the project stopped shortly thereafter?
- c) When will work on this project resume?
- d) When will the Northern Recreation Ground be restored to a condition that it can be used for sporting activities?

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

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled, “An Act to provide for the protection of personal privacy and information.”
(By the Prime Minister)
2. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend certain enactments to provide for the vesting of functions and powers in the Minister of Justice”.
(By the Minister of Justice)
3. A Bill entitled, “An Act to give legal effect to electronic documents, electronic records, electronic signatures and electronic transactions”.
(By the Minister of Public Administration)
4. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to make special provisions with respect to capital offences.”
(By the Attorney General)
5. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Evidence Act, Chap. 7:02.”
(By the Minister of National Security)
6. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Customs Act, Chap. 78:01 to enhance border control by providing for advance passenger and cargo information to be submitted electronically to the Comptroller of Customs and Excise and for related matters”.
(By the Minister of Finance)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

The debate on the following Motion which was adjourned on Friday January 28, 2011 will be resumed:

1. **WHEREAS** Parliament was advised that a component of the national security system (SIA) has for years been operating without the requisite legal authorization and may have violated the constitutional rights of citizens as it collected information of an unspecified nature;
AND WHEREAS Parliament has acted swiftly to rectify the situation in the interest of national security and the recognition of citizen's rights to unwarranted intrusion into their private affairs;
AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to treat responsibly with the body of information accumulated by the SIA;
BE IT RESOLVED that this Honorable House condemn the action of the Government;
AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government report immediately to Parliament on how it has handled, and is handling the SIA files/data so as to give citizens the assurance that the SIA's actions no longer pose a threat to their interest or that of national security.
(By the Member for Diego Martin West)

2. **WHEREAS** Pension funds are critical to the long term saving rate of a country and for the safety and security of each individual citizen's future;
AND WHEREAS the savings of individuals are a critical component in the growth and stability of the economy and the related financial system;
AND WHEREAS a critical part of an individual savings for his later years is his contribution to a long term pension fund;
AND WHEREAS the average length of time spent by any individual in any one organization has shortened considerably;
AND WHEREAS pension plans are currently designed to reward employees who remain with one organization for a considerable period of time;
AND WHEREAS there is no system for pension portability either in the public or private sector in Trinidad and Tobago;
AND WHEREAS the lack of pension portability is a constraint on the free movement of labour resources and the ability of the working citizen to pursue alternative employment opportunity without a substantial loss of pension benefits;
BE IT RESOLVED that the government moves expeditiously to enact legislation to effect the portability of vested pension entitlements for both private and public sector employees.
(By the Member for Port of Spain South)

3. **WHEREAS** Dr. Eric Eustace Williams, renowned academic, scholar, author, intellectual, politician, visionary, regional integrationist, humanitarian and longest serving Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago, is widely regarded as the "Father of the Nation";
AND WHEREAS September 2011 will mark 100 years since his birth in Trinidad and Tobago on September 24, 1911;
BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago in collaboration with the widest national and regional participation take tangible steps to mark the centenary of the birth of

Dr. Eric Eustace Williams, in recognition of his outstanding contribution to all the people of Trinidad and Tobago and the region;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honorable House direct the Minister of Education to declare 2011 “Dr. Eric Williams’ Year” and take all the necessary steps to ensure that the work and life history of Dr. Eric Eustace Williams feature prominently as part of the National School Curriculum at all levels of the education system during 2011 and beyond.

(By the Member for Diego Martin West)

4. **WHEREAS** Trinidad and Tobago being a British colony prior to 1962 made use of and retained the Privy Council as our highest Court of Appeal;

AND WHEREAS upon attainment of Independence in 1962, and Republican status in 1976 the people of Trinidad and Tobago continued to make use of the Privy Council as our final appellate Court;

AND WHEREAS in association with the CARICOM States the UNC Government of Trinidad and Tobago with the support of the PNM Opposition advocated, signed on to and funded the coming into existence of the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) as the country’s highest and final Court of Appeal for all matters of judicial determination;

AND WHEREAS after successful lobbying by the people of Trinidad and Tobago, the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) is now headquartered in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago.

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honorable House condemn the procrastination of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago on the matter;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honorable House direct the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to ratify the necessary protocols so as to establish the Caribbean Court of justice (CCJ) as Trinidad and Tobago’s final Court of Appeal.

(By the Member for Diego Martin West)

Jacqui Sampson Meiguel
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives’ Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN

January 31, 2011