



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOURTH SESSION
TENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 5
2013/2014

ORDER PAPER

MONDAY SEPTEMBER 16, 2013 AT 10.00 A.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW MEMBER

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Ministerial Response to the Tenth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Ministries, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises (Group 2) on the Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses (GATE) Programme.

(By the Minister of Tertiary Education and Skills Training)

2. The Annual Report on the Operations of the Equal Opportunity Commission for the years 2008 and 2009.

(By the Attorney General)

PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

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. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Standing Orders of the House of Representatives be referred to the Standing Orders Committee for consideration and report within the current session.

(By the Leader of the House)

2. **WHEREAS** section 122(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Chap. 1:01 (“the Act”) provides that the President shall, after consultation with the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition nominate persons, who are qualified and experienced in the disciplines of law, finance, sociology or management, to be appointed as members of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS section 122(4) of the Act provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated for appointment under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the President has nominated **Mr. Martin Anthony George** to be appointed as a member of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 4th day of September, 2013 made a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the nomination of **Mr. Martin Anthony George** be approved.

(By the Leader of the House)

3. **WHEREAS** section 122(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Chap. 1:01 (“the Act”) provides that the President shall, after consultation with the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition nominate persons, who are qualified and experienced in the disciplines of law, finance, sociology or management, to be appointed as members of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS section 122(4) of the Act provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated for appointment under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the President has nominated **Mr. Addison Masefield Khan** to be appointed as a member of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 4th day of September, 2013 made a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the nomination of **Mr. Addison Masefield Khan** be approved.

(By the Leader of the House)

4. **WHEREAS** section 122(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Chap. 1:01 (“the Act”) provides that the President shall, after consultation with the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition nominate persons, who are qualified and experienced in the disciplines of law, finance, sociology or management, to be appointed as members of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS section 122(4) of the Act provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated for appointment under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the President has nominated **Mrs. Raomar Achat-Saney** to be appointed as a member of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 4th day of September, 2013 made a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the nomination of **Mrs. Raomar Achat-Saney** be approved.

(By the Leader of the House)

5. **WHEREAS** section 122(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Chap. 1:01 (“the Act”) provides that the President shall, after consultation with the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition nominate persons, who are qualified and experienced in the disciplines of law, finance, sociology or management, to be appointed as members of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS section 122(4) of the Act provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated for appointment under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the President has nominated **Dr. James Kenneth Armstrong** to be appointed as a member of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 4th day of September, 2013 made a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the nomination of **Dr. James Kenneth Armstrong** be approved.

(By the Leader of the House)

Bills Second Reading:

1. **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday September 13, 2013 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to provide for the Service of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ending on the 30th day of September, 2014”.

(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)

2. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Motor Vehicles Insurance (Third-Party Risks) Act, Chap. 48:51”.

(By the Minister of Transport)

3. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Libel and Defamation Act, Chap. 11:16 to abolish malicious defamatory libel”.

(By the Attorney General)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** traffic congestion is a very serious and frustrating problem in Trinidad and contributes significantly to inefficiency, road rage, wastage of man hours, unnecessary costs for basic goods and services and poor productivity;

AND WHEREAS the former PNM administration sought to alleviate this problem through the design and implementation of a mass transit system and had procured a contractor to implement Phase 1 of this project, i.e. planning, preliminary design and engineering;

AND WHEREAS by May 2010 the planning, preliminary design and engineering of a light rail system for Trinidad was virtually complete;

AND WHEREAS the present government has abandoned the PNM’s light rail project and has not implemented an alternative mass transit system since assuming office;

AND WHEREAS traffic congestion is now worse than ever before and delays on the roads in Trinidad have become intolerable;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honorable House affirm its commitment to the early implementation of an appropriate mass transit system for Trinidad.

(By the Member for Diego Martin North East)

2. **WHEREAS** there have been continuing and unacceptable levels of violent crimes in Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS the mishandling of the security systems and apparatus of the State have contributed to the spiralling crime rate in Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS and the Government has been unable to effectively reduce the level of crime in Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT REESOLVED that this House call on the Government to take immediate steps to deal with the unacceptable crime level facing the citizenry of Trinidad and Tobago.

(By the Member for Port of Spain South)

3. **WHEREAS** the availability and access to swift and affordable justice is an essential requirement in the nation building effort of Trinidad and Tobago and indeed the wider Caribbean;

AND WHEREAS the CARICOM region has taken all the necessary steps towards the establishment of the Caribbean Court of Justice which is headquartered in Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS Trinidad and Tobago had initially indicated its support for and promoted the Caribbean Court of Justice as our final Court of Appeal in complete replacement of the Privy Council;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House direct the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to take all necessary steps, in the shortest reasonable time, to make the Caribbean Court of Justice in both appellate and original jurisdiction the final Court of Appeal for Trinidad and Tobago.

(By the Member for Diego Martin West)

4. **WHEREAS** the Canadian Commercial Corporation (CCC) has confirmed by way of a media release published in two Daily Newspapers in Trinidad and Tobago in June 2013 that the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (UDeCOTT,) on the recommendation of CCC, signed a contract in February 2013 with SNC-Lavalin to design a Hospital in Penal;

AND WHEREAS CCC has also confirmed that the design contract for this Hospital Project was awarded by UDeCOTT to SNC-Lavalin, on the recommendation of CCC, on a sole selective basis without any competitive tendering;

AND WHEREAS it is estimated that the construction of this Hospital Project will cost the taxpayers of Trinidad and Tobago approximately TT\$1 Billion;

AND WHEREAS SNC-Lavalin is presently embroiled in allegations and findings of irregular payments to public officials, misconduct, corruption and bribery in projects in a number of developing countries;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honorable House urge the Government to terminate all existing contracts with SNC-Lavalin for this Hospital Project and to cease and desist from entering into any future contractual relationships with SNC-Lavalin or any of its affiliates;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the procurement process for this Hospital and all such future Projects in Trinidad and Tobago be subject to open and transparent competitive tendering.

(By the Member for Diego Martin North East)

5. **WHEREAS** the economy of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago has not, for the past (3) years, enjoyed any substantial or appreciative growth, unlike many of our less endowed CARICOM neighbours;

AND WHEREAS there has been three (3) consecutive deficit budgets for the same period in spite of higher than budgeted oil and gas prices for most of the past three (3) years;

AND WHEREAS the rating agency, Standard and Poor's, has continued to rate certain aspects of economy very favourably;

AND WHEREAS these ratings place the Republic, in a strong position to borrow, both locally and externally;

AND WHEREAS the Government, through the appropriate agencies, has an obligation to ensure accurate and transparent recording and reporting of public debt and the servicing thereof;

AND WHEREAS the Government has a further obligation to facilitate a well-organised domestic capital market; and to monitor the debt portfolio and maintain a debt management strategy that is consistent with a clearly defined monetary policy and fiscal policy;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call upon the Government to provide in writing within one week of the passage of this resolution:

- a) the status of the State's Public debt;
- b) the debt profile for the short to medium-term; and
- c) the State's ability to monitor, manage and service same.

(By the Member for Port of Spain South)

*Nataki Atiba-Dilchan
Clerk of the House (Ag.)*

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