



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 26
2015/2016

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY JUNE 10, 2016: 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statement of the Land Settlement Agency for the year ended September 30, 2008.

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

2. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statement of the Land Settlement Agency for the year ended September 30, 2009.

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

3. The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Tobago House of Assembly for the year ended September 30, 2008.

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

4. The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Diego Martin Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2003.

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

5. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Diego Martin Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2004.

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

6. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Diego Martin Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2005.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
7. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Diego Martin Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2006.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
8. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Diego Martin Regional 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)
9. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Diego Martin Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2008.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
10. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Chaguanas Borough Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2010.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
11. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of Government Human Resource Services Company Limited for the year ended September 30, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)
12. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of National Enterprises Limited for the financial year ended March 31, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)
13. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of National Enterprises Limited for the financial year ended March 31, 2014.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)
14. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of National Enterprises Limited for the financial year ended March 31, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)

15. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended March 31, 2013.

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

16. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended March 31, 2014.

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

17. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended March 31, 2015.

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

18. The Administrative Report for the National Commission for Self Help Limited for the period October 2014 to September 2015.

(By the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts)

19. The Administrative Report of the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the period October 01, 2012 to September 30, 2013.

(By the Minister of Sport)

20. The Administrative Report of the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the period October 01, 2013 to September 30, 2014.

(By the Minister of Sport)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer appear in the Appendix

***Question No. 95 to the Minister of Finance**

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Could the Minister state:

- a) the total amount expended on legal fees by the Central Bank over the past ten (10) years;
- b) the names of the attorneys paid; and
- c) the fee paid to each attorney?

*Questions Nos. 95 and 96 were deferred for two (2) weeks on Friday May 13, 2016.

Question No. 96 to the Minister of Finance

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Could the Minister state:

- a) the state enterprises (inclusive of subsidiary companies) to which Mr. Gerry Brooks was appointed as either a Chairman or Board Member from September 8, 2015 to present; and
- b) the remuneration package, inclusive of allowances for each appointment?

***Question No. 100 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services**

(By the Member for Princes Town)

Could the Minister give a status update on the Cerebral Palsy Programme under Unemployment Relief Programme, Social?

Question No. 104 to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development

(By the Member for Mayaro)

With regard to the Land Settlement Agency, could the Minister state:

- a) the number of applicants on the database for the Residential Lots Programme (Land for the Landless) by geographic region;
- b) the number of successful applicants interviewed between September 2015 to February 2016;
- c) the number of lots developed from September 2015 to January 2016;
- d) the number of lots earmarked for distribution in fiscal 2016;
- e) the sites being developed for this programme and the acreage involved; and
- f) the next random draw (lottery) date for distribution of lots under this programme?

***Question No. 115 to the Minister of Finance**

(By the Member for Caroni East)

Could the Minister state whether the budgetary allocation for the purchase of two naval vessels was covered within the debt ceiling prior to September 7, 2015?

Question No. 116 to the Minister of Finance

(By the Member for Caroni East)

Could the Minister state the credit balance owed by the Government as at September 30, 2015?

Question No. 117 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services

(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)

Could the Minister state:

- a) the criteria to access the \$15,000 grant through the Sowing Empowerment Through Entrepreneurial Development Programme;
- b) the turnaround time for processing applications;
- c) the amount of funds allocated; and
- d) the current balance of this Vote?

***Questions Nos. 100 and 104 were deferred for two (2) weeks on Friday May 20, 2016.**

*** In accordance with S.O. 29(10), Question Nos. 115 to 126 remained unanswered on May 13, 2016 and were postponed to the next sitting.**

Question No. 118 to the Minister of Public Utilities

(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)

Could the Minister indicate whether the electrification programme will be extended to the following grounds in the constituency of Cumuto/Manzanilla:

- a) the Four Road Tamana Ground, Tamana;
- b) the Sanatan Ground, Guaico, Tamana; and
- c) the Clarke Road Ground, Manzanilla?

Question No. 119 to the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs

(By the Member for Naparima)

Further to the response to House of Representatives Question No. 7 on December 11, 2015, could the Minister provide a status update on steps taken to regularize the position of International Relations Officer at the Ministry of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs?

Question No. 120 to the Minister of Tourism

(By the Member for Naparima)

Could the Minister state whether there are plans to promote internal tourism as a means of generating income and employment and if so, whether the Constituency of Naparima is included in such plans?

Question No. 121 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Naparima)

Could the Minister state:

- a) the criteria used by the Ministry to prioritize road works across the country;
- b) whether the Ministry received a priority list of road works earmarked for repair in the constituency of Naparima; and
- c) if the answer to part (b) is in the affirmative, could the Minister state the commencement dates for these road works?

Question No. 122 to the Minister of National Security

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

With respect to the murder rate in the constituency of Chaguanas East, particularly in the Enterprise area, could the Minister indicate whether a request for a Police Station will be facilitated?

Question No. 123 to the Attorney General

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

Could the Minister indicate whether the Government proposes to introduce legislation to amend the Land Tenants (Security of Tenure) Act, Chap. 59:54 (HOR Bill No. 9 of 2014)?

Question No. 124 to the Minister of Education

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

Could the Minister state the reasons the completed ECCE Centre in Dass Trace, Enterprise has not been opened?

Question No. 125 to the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

(By the Member for Princes Town)

With respect to Spiritual Baptist Liberation Day 2016 celebrations, could the Minister indicate:

- a) the organizations that applied for funding;
- b) the amounts requested; and
- c) the amounts approved and disbursed by the Ministry?

Question No. 126 to the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

(By the Member for Princes Town)

With respect to Phagwa 2016 celebrations, could the Minister indicate:

- a) the organizations that applied for funding;
- b) the amounts requested; and
- c) the amounts approved and disbursed by the Ministry?

Question No. 113 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Couva South)

Could the Minister state:

- a) the reasons for the stoppage of road rehabilitation works along the Beaucarro Main Road in McBean, since September 8, 2015?
- b) the resumption date of the works; and
- c) the expected completion date of works?

Question No. 127 to the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs

(By the Member for Princes Town)

Could the Minister give a status update of the National Academy of Sports?

Question No. 131 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Caroni East)

With regard to the feasibility study for the Rapid Rail (Mass Transit) system, could the Minister state:

- a) the total amount paid to date;
- b) the payment dates;
- c) the total amount outstanding; and
- d) the proposed timeframe to complete the final payment?

Question No. 138 to the Minister of Finance

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

Could the Minister state:

- a) what percentage of the funds allocated under the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) 2016 has been spent to date and the dollar value of such expenditure; and
- b) at this time in the financial year, the percentage of the PSIP the Government forecasts will likely be spent for fiscal 2016?

Question No. 139 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

Could the Minister state:

- a) whether the Government has commenced negotiations with Constructora OAS or any other local contractor(s) for the completion of the Point Fortin highway;
- b) the total amount owed by Constructora OAS to local contractors for the Point Fortin highway project; and
- c) the number of local contractors paid to date by OAS Constructora in part/full?

Question No. 140 to the Minister of Trade and Industry

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

Could the Minister state:

- a) the total number of foreign used vehicles imported by foreign used cars dealers to date, for fiscal year 2016;
- b) the total number of foreign used vehicles imported by foreign used car dealers for the fiscal year 2015; and
- c) the plans (if any) to change the existing import quota for foreign used vehicles in this fiscal year?

Question No. 141 to the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts

(By the Member for Couva North)

Could the Minister provide the reason(s) for the delays being experienced by the National Commission for Self-Help in processing emergency grants for fire victims who submitted applications since December 2015 in the Couva North Constituency?

Question No. 142 to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development

(By the Member for Couva North)

Could the Minister state whether the Housing Development Corporation has stopped processing applications for the Home Improvement Grant/Subsidy Programme?

Question No. 145 to the Minister of Public Administration and Communications

(By the Member for Couva South)

Could the Minister indicate:

- a) the current number of vacancies in the permanent establishment of the public service;
- b) the current number of vacant contract positions in the public service; and
- c) the plans to fill vacant positions in the public service?

Question No. 146 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs

(By the Member for Couva South)

With respect to the decision taken by the National Gas Company to terminate fifteen employees and re-deploying sixty-nine others, could the Minister state:

- a) the reasons for this decision;
- b) the criteria used to determine the employees to be sent home; and
- c) the criteria used to determine the employees to be re-deployed?

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 9 of the Privileges and Immunities (Diplomatic, Consular and International Organisations) Act, Chap. 17:01 (hereinafter called “the Act”) that the President may by Order declare that any international or regional organisation or agency named or described in such Order shall, to such extent as specified in the Order, be accorded certain privileges and immunities;

AND WHEREAS it is also provided by section 9 of the Act that every Order made under that section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 22nd day of April, 2016 made the Privileges and Immunities [CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMAPCS)] Order, 2016

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the Order now be affirmed:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Privileges and Immunities [CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS)] Order, 2016” be approved.

(By the Attorney General)

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Remedies of Creditors Act, Chap. 8:09”.

(By the Minister of Finance)

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Family and Children Division Bill, 2016.

(By the Member for San Fernando West)

2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the First Report of the Joint Select Committee on Government Assurances.

(By the Member for Laventille East/Morvant)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was adjourned on Friday January 22, 2016, will be resumed:**

WHEREAS from 2010 to 2015, the People's Partnership Government (the former government) provided core textbooks and workbooks to all students in early childhood centres, primary schools and secondary schools and learning material to special needs students, at no cost to parents;

AND WHEREAS a commitment was made by the former government to continue this arrangement for the academic year 2015 to 2016;

AND WHEREAS there was a further commitment made by the former government that for the academic year 2015 to 2016 E-books would be introduced on a phased basis in Forms 1 and 2 in selected subject areas;

AND WHEREAS the Ministry of Education has not provided new text books, workbooks, learning material or replacements for the academic year 2015 to 2016 which has resulted in financial hardship for families and loss of educational material for both students and teachers;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Government take urgent steps to ensure that all students are provided with textbooks, workbooks and/or other learning material in fulfillment of commitments given for the academic year 2015 to 2016.

(By the Member for Caroni East)

2. **WHEREAS** there has been a need for diversification in Trinidad and Tobago due to heavy dependence on oil and natural gas;

AND WHEREAS the prices of oil and natural gas are currently in decline and may continue to decline in the foreseeable future;

AND WHEREAS diversification has become an imperative which requires urgent, coordinated and concerted action;

AND WHEREAS there is little documented evidence that the current Government of Trinidad and Tobago has a plan of action for diversification in light of Trinidad and Tobago's current economic situation;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call on the Government to present a Diversification Plan to the Parliament for debate within six weeks.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

3. **WHEREAS** the United Nations established 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to be achieved within a fifteen year period;

AND WHEREAS the 2015 Paris Climate Conference (COP 21) Agreement made the commitment that countries will work together to ensure that the planet does not heat up by more than 2 degrees centigrade over the next fifteen years;

AND WHEREAS Trinidad and Tobago committed to signing the Paris Agreement and is supportive of the SDGs;

AND WHEREAS the Government has formally stated its intention to pursue a path of sustainable development;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government present to Parliament its plan of action for the next four years to advance the SDGs aligned to the goals of COP 21 as well as to advance the overall goals of COP 21 within the next six weeks.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

4. **WHEREAS** the Attorney General was aware of the \$1.2 billion Claim brought by the Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago (“PETROTRIN”) in 2013 against Mr. Malcolm Jones for a breach of his fiduciary duty as Executive Chairman in relation to the failed Gas To Liquid project;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General, gave instructions to Attorneys representing PETROTRIN to file a Notice of Discontinuance, thereby bringing the legal proceedings to an end prior to the commencement of the trial which effectively ended any independent, impartial and judicial attempt to bring accountability and transparency to a matter involving \$1.2B of taxpayers’ money lost;

AND WHEREAS information in the public domain suggests that there was no thorough assessment of the evidence prior to the decision to discontinue;

AND WHEREAS there has been a lack of due diligence and disclosure by the Attorney General concerning the discontinuance of this matter which has fueled claims of political interference in this matter;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General has in relation to this matter proffered incomplete and unsound legal advice to the Parliament and the national community;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General has, as a consequence of the foregoing, conducted himself in a manner to compromise his office:

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House express its loss of confidence in the Attorney General and call on the Prime Minister to immediately relieve him of the portfolio of Attorney General of Trinidad and Tobago.

(By the Member for Oropouche East)

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House*

*House of Representatives’ Secretariat
The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
Level 3, Tower D
1 A Wrightson Road
PORT OF SPAIN*

June 03, 2016

ORDER PAPER FRIDAY JUNE 10, 2016

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 101 to the Minister of Tourism

(By the Member for Mayaro)

With reference to tourism projects and related initiatives earmarked in fiscal 2016, for the south-east region of Rio Claro/Mayaro/Guayaguayare, could the Minister provide a list of projects inclusive of:

- a) details of activity/initiative for each project;
- b) the cost for each project;
- c) the proposed commencement and completion dates for each project; and
- d) whether consultations will be held with the relevant stakeholders for the project?

(Answer due by 24.05.2016)

Question No. 112 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

(By the Member for Mayaro)

- A. For the period September 8, 2015 to date, could the Minister please list all instances where the Government has either acquired or is negotiating to acquire by lease agreement, privately owned parcels of land in Trinidad and/or Tobago; and
- B. For each instance listed in part A, could the Minister state:
 - i. the location of the land(s);
 - ii. the name of the state enterprise that is the lessee;
 - iii. the name(s) of land owner(s);
 - iv. the market value of the property;
 - v. the value and terms of the lease; and
 - vi. the name of the attorney(s) representing the state in these matters?

(Answer due by 24.05.2016)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

No. 26
2015/ 2016

FRIDAY JUNE 10, 2016 1:30 P.M. NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 27 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Ministers concerned.

**1. To the Minister of National Security
(By the Leader of the Opposition)**

Given the reports of the firebombing of a Police Officer's home yesterday, does the Minister consider that this occurrence warrants that urgent steps be taken to safeguard members of the protective services?

**2. To the Minister of Health
(By the Leader of the Opposition)**

Is the Ministry currently embarking on efforts to assist 17 year old organ recipient Aaron Narine who is now in dire need of assistance?

**3. To the Minister of Health
(By the Leader of the Opposition)**

In light of the shortage of drugs used in the treatment of cancer, could the Minister state what urgent and specific measures are being put in place to treat with this issue?

**4. To the Minister of National Security:
(By the Member for Caroni Central)**

Could the Minister indicate whether the man carrying a bag from which a hand grenade fell, in the vicinity of Carli Bay in Central Trinidad has been arrested or questioned by police and whether the bag and its contents were retrieved?

**5. To the Minister of Finance:
(By the Member for Couva South)**

Further to a commitment given to the representatives of the Police, Fire and Prisons Services Association on April 26, 2016, that the Minister would communicate the final Cabinet decision by May 31, 2016 on the estimated sum of \$4.2 billion in back pay owed, could the Minister please indicate how and when the back pay will be paid?

**6. To the Minister of Works and Transport:
(By the Member for Naparima)**

In light of the recent rains and the impending rainy season, could the Minister please indicate when will the slope stabilisation and associated works on the landslips located at St. Croix Road, Barrackpore be completed?

7. To the Attorney General:

(By the Member for Oropouche East)

Is the injunction granted to the National Gas Company against the assets of specific companies believed to be linked to Super Industrial Services expected to be determined by a Court today?

8. To the Minister of Health:

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

Can the Minister confirm whether a student in the St. Patrick Educational District has been diagnosed with tuberculosis in the past two (2) weeks?

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House*

*House of Representatives' Secretariat
The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
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PORT OF SPAIN*

June 10, 2016