



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 28
2015/2016

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY JUNE 24, 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 Consolidated Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Unit Trust Corporation for the year ended December 31, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
2. The Annual Report and Annual Audited Statement of Accounts of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended September 30, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
3. The Report of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (CBTT) with respect to the Progress of the Proposals to Restructure CLICO, BAT and CIB for the quarter ended March 31, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
4. The Annual Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of Petroleum Company of Trinidad and Tobago 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)
5. The Annual Administrative Report of the Tobago House of Assembly for the year 2015.
(By the Prime Minister)
6. The Defence (Rates of Pay and Allowances) (Amendment) Regulations, 2016.
(By the Minister of National Security)

7. The Defence (Rates of Pay and Allowances) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations, 2016.

(By the Minister of National Security)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

***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. 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;

*** In accordance with S.O. 29(10), Question Nos. 124 to 126 remained unanswered on May 13, June 10 and June 17, 2016 and were postponed to the next sitting.**

***Questions Nos. 101, 120, 121, 113, 131 and 145 were deferred for one (1) week on Friday June 17, 2016.**

- 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. 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. 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. 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. 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. 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?

* In accordance with S.O. 29(10), Question 127, 138, 139, 140, 141, 142, 146, 128, 129, 130, 134, 136, 147, 148, 149 and 150 remained unanswered on June 17, 2016 and were postponed to the next sitting.

***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. 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?

***Question No. 128 to the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs**

(By the Member for Princes Town)

Could the Minister advise whether the position of the Chief Executive Officer at the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago has been filled?

***Question No. 129 to the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs**

(By the Member for Princes Town)

With respect to the Brian Lara Stadium, can the Minister please indicate:

- a) the proposed completion date for works; and
- b) the amount spent since September 8, 2015?

***Question No. 130 to the Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister**

(By the Member for Princes Town)

Could the Minister indicate:

- a) the current number of vacancies in the Children's Authority; and
- b) whether a shortage of personnel exists at the Children's Authority?

***Question No. 134 to the Minister of Finance**

(By the Member for Caroni East)

With regard to the construction of the National Academy for Performing Arts (NAPA), could the Minister state:

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

***Question No. 136 to the Minister of Public Administration and Communications**

(By the Member for Naparima)

With regard to the recommendations in "Toward Dynamic Public Service Media: Proposal on the way forward for CNMG and GISL" submitted by the Caribbean New Media Group Limited/Government Information Services Limited Board on December 18, 2015, could the Minister state whether:

- a) the Government's plans to implement the recommendations; and if so
- b) the proposed timeline to implement the recommendations?

***Question No. 147 to the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs**

(By the Member for Couva South)

Could the Minister provide a status report on the National Cycling Velodrome and the National Aquatic Centre at Balmain, Couva including the projected date that local athletes and citizens can access these facilities?

***Question No. 148 to the Minister of Health**

(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)

Could the Minister provide the status of the Aides to Nursing Programme?

***Question No. 149 to the Minister of Health**

(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)

Could the Minister provide the status of the Nurses Interns Programme?

***Question No. 150 to the Minister of Health**

(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)

Could the Minister state:

- a) the names of the health centres opened after 4:00 p.m. and on weekends; and
- b) whether there are doctors available at all health centres which are opened after 4:00 p.m. and on weekends?

Question No. 135 to the Minister of Finance

(By the Member for Caroni East)

With regard to the construction of the National Academy for Performing Arts (South), could the Minister state:

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

Question No. 151 to the Minister of Health

(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)

Could the Minister provide a status update of the Regulations for nurses and midwives, with respect to the requirements for the Advanced Practice Nurses under the Nursing Personnel Act, Chap. 29:53?

Question No. 152 to the Minister of Health

(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)

Could the Minister provide a status update on the National Oncology Centre to be built at the Eric Williams Medical Sciences Complex, Mt. Hope?

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

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **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)

2. **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)

3. **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)

4. **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)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

1. **The debate on the following Bill which was adjourned on Friday June 17, 2016, will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, An Act to amend the Bail (Amendment) Act, 2008, the Miscellaneous Provisions (Bail and Kidnapping) Act, 2011, the Anti-Gang Act, 2011, the Bail (Amendment) Act, 2011, the Bail (Amendment) Act, 2014 and the Bail (Amendment) Act, 2015.

(By the Attorney General)

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House*

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PORT OF SPAIN*

June 21, 2016

ORDER PAPER FRIDAY JUNE 24, 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)

Question No. 137 to the Minister of National Security

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

Could the Minister provide the number of Ministers who currently have Special Branch Police Officers assigned to them as part of their personal security detail and the number of hours per day such officers are so assigned?

(Answer due by 11.06.2016)

Question No. 143 to the Minister of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries

(By the Member for Mayaro)

Could the Minister provide:

- a) a breakdown of the disbursements from the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) for fiscal 2016, by Division as at March 30, 2016;
- b) the purpose of each release in relation to the development of the sector; and
- c) a reason for each PSIP project that has not commenced for fiscal 2016.

(Answer due by 11.06.2016)

Question No. 144 to the Minister of National Security

(By the Member for Couva South)

Could the Minister provide the number of Strategic Services Agency employees terminated with effect from September 2015 to date, including the job title and reason(s) for dismissal?

(Answer due by 11.06.2016)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST SESSION

No. 28

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

2015/ 2016

FRIDAY JUNE 24, 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 Finance

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Given the recent submission of the eagerly anticipated report of the Commission of Enquiry into the collapse of CLICO, could the Minister indicate when will the report be laid in Parliament?

2. To the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By the Member for Chaguanas West)

Can the Minister state whether the Government has recently taken a decision to re-start the Alutech aluminium downstream project?

3. To the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Chaguanas West)

Following recent flooding in Port of Spain as a result of heavy rains, can the Minister provide details of the status of the IDB-assisted Flood Alleviation and Drainage Programme for the City of Port of Spain?

4. To the Minister of Public Utilities

(By the Member for Chaguanas West)

Can the Minister state the reason for the decision to stop delivery of mail to the communities of Beetham, Morvant and Laventille?

5. To the Attorney General

(By the Member for Chaguanas West)

What measures are being put in place to remedy the lack of accommodation for members of the public at the recently opened Chaguanas Magistrates Court?

6. To the Minister Of Finance

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

In light of Sir Anthony Colman's statement that the "the powers of regulatory control of the Insurance industry by the Central Bank are found to be fundamentally deficient," could the Minister advise what immediate measures are being pursued to remedy or rectify this untenable situation?

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
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June 24, 2016