



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOURTH SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 34
2018/2019

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY JUNE 07, 2019: 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Errata to the Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended September 30, 2018.

(By the Minister of Finance)

2. The Report of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago with respect to the Progress of the Proposals to Restructure CLICO, BAT and CIB for the quarter ended March 31, 2019.

(By the Minister of Finance)

3. The Annual Report of the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago for the period October 2017 to September 2018.

(By the Minister of Public Administration)

4. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries to the Twenty-Third Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation for the financial years 2008 to 2011.

(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

5. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services to the Seventh Report of the Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration on an Inquiry into the Management of the Targeted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme.

(By the Minister of Social Development and Family Services)

6. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Health to the Sixth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Land and Physical Infrastructure on an Inquiry into the Establishment of Systems for the Maintenance of Drainage and Roadways.

(By the Minister of Health)

7. The Tobacco Control (Amendment) Regulations, 2019.

(By the Minister of Health)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

1. The Seventh Report of the Joint Select Committee on Land and Physical Infrastructure on an Inquiry into the Public Transportation Service Corporation with specific focus on the Public Bus Service and Maintenance of Buses.

(By the Member for Mayaro)

2. The Seventeenth Report of the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee into the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Export Centres Company Limited for the financial years 2008 to 2011.

(By the Member for Caroni East)

3. The Nineteenth Report of the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of Cocoa Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial years 2014 to 2016.

(By the Member for Caroni East)

4. The Twenty-First Report of the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee into the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Free Zones Company Limited for the financial years 2012 to 2017.

(By the Member for Caroni East)

5. The Second Interim Report on the Joint Select Committee to consider and report on the National Statistical Institute of Trinidad and Tobago Bill, 2018.

(By the Member for Arouca/Maloney)

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer will appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

***Question No. 179 to the Minister of Public Administration:**

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

* Question No. 179 was deferred for two (2) weeks on Friday May 10, 2019 and Friday May 24, 2019. Question Nos. 208 and were deferred for two (2) weeks on Friday May 17, 2019.

Further to the response to House of Representatives Question No. 145 on July 1, 2017, could the Minister provide:

- a) the number of vacancies in the permanent establishment in each Ministry from March 1, 2016 to March 31, 2019; and
- b) the number of vacant contract positions in each Ministry from September 2015 to March 31, 2019?

***Question No. 208 to the Minister of Health:**

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

With regard to a report on March 21, 2019 indicating that a seventy-two year old woman died at the Port of Spain General Hospital due to the closure of the blood bank during Carnival Weekend, could the Minister state the reasons for the closure of the blood bank?

***Question No. 209 to the Minister of National Security:**

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

With regard to a social media video posted on March 21, 2019 that depicted an inmate claiming an infringement of basic human rights due to lack of medical services, could the Minister provide the reasons why medical services are not available in a timely manner?

Question No. 189 to the Minister of Education:

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

Could the Minister state the measures being taken to record and provide accurate statistics on:

- a) the annual number of students enrolled at all tertiary education institutions; and
- b) the annual number of graduates from the programmes offered within Trinidad and Tobago?

Question No. 213 to the Minister of Works and Transport:

(By the Member for Mayaro)

Could the Minister provide the list of completed works to reduce and manage flooding in the district of Mayaro in anticipation of the upcoming rainy season?

Question No. 214 to the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts:

(By the Member for Mayaro)

Could the Minister provide an update on the proposed La Savanne Community Centre, New Lands Guayaguayare inclusive of the expected construction commencement date?

Question No. 215 to the Minister of Communications:

(By the Member for Mayaro)

Could the Minister provide an update on the status of the construction of the Mayaro Public Library?

Question No. 224 to the Minister of National Security:

(By the Member for Naparima)

Given complaints by Second Division Officers of the Trinidad and Tobago Fire Services regarding dilapidated office space and the non-functioning and short supply of equipment, could the Minister state the measures being taken to address these complaints?

Question No. 225 to the Minister of National Security:**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Given that 23 women were murdered from January to April 2019 in comparison to 17 murders for the same period in 2018, could the Minister state the measures being taken to address the issue of gender-based violence?

Question No. 226 to the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs:**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Could the Minister provide the reasons for the recall of staff at the Trinidad and Tobago Embassy in Caracas, Venezuela in early 2019?

Question No. 227 to the Minister of Public Utilities:**(By the Member for Couva South)**

Given that United Nations General Assembly Resolution 64/292 recognizes the human right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation, could the Minister indicate the criteria used by the Water and Sewerage Authority to distribute water on an equitable basis throughout this country?

Question No. 228 to the Minister of National Security:**(By the Member for Couva South)**

Could the Minister provide the current status of the Organised Crime and Intelligence Unit of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service?

Question No. 229 to the Minister of National Security:**(By the Member for Couva South)**

Given recent reports that the Venezuelan gang Evande had infiltrated our borders, could the Minister state:

- a) the current number of gang members in Trinidad and Tobago; and
- b) the measures being taken to address this problem?

Question No. 232 to the Minister of Tourism:**(By the Member for Couva North)**

With regard to the Tobago Jazz Festival 2019, could the Minister state:

- a) the cost to the THA to host free concerts during the Festival;
- b) the cost to the THA to secure Toni Braxton and Michael Bolton to perform;
- c) the visitor arrivals for the Festival;
- d) the cost to wet lease an additional aircraft to service the Tobago air bridge; and
- e) the revenue derived?

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

1. The Miscellaneous Provisions (Law Enforcement Officers) Bill, 2019.
(By the Minister of National Security)

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 subsection (3) of section 4 of the Elections and Boundaries Commission (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Act (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”), that as soon as may be after the Elections and Boundaries Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) has submitted a report under paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 4 of the Act, the Minister shall lay before the House of Representatives for its approval the draft of an Order by the President for giving effect, whether with or without modifications, to the recommendations contained in the report;

AND WHEREAS the Commission has submitted a report to the Minister in accordance with the provisions of paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 4;

AND WHEREAS the draft of an Order entitled the “Elections and Boundaries Commission (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Order, 2019” giving effect to the recommendations of the Commission was laid before the House of Representatives on the 5th day of April, 2019:

BE IT RESOLVED that the draft of the “Elections and Boundaries Commission (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Order, 2019” be approved.

(By the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government)

2. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 5(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, Chap. 58:01 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the President may by Order, declare that land is required for a public purpose;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 5(2) of the Act that Parliament may by resolution approve an Order made under section 5(1);

AND WHEREAS the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2018 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 190 dated the 19th day of December, 2018;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Order:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2018 be approved.

(By the Attorney General)

3. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 5(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, Chap. 58:01 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the President may by Order, declare that land is required for a public purpose;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 5(2) of the Act that Parliament may by resolution approve an Order made under section 5(1);

AND WHEREAS the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2019 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 34 dated the 18th day of February, 2019;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Order:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2019 be approved.

(By the Attorney General)

4. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 38(1) of the Tobacco Control Act, Chap. 30:04 (hereinafter called “the Act”) that the Minister may make Regulations prescribing requirements and standards for tobacco product constituents, including emissions of smoked products, additives and product design and specifying methods for testing and measuring compliance with the performance prescribed and generally for carrying out the purpose of this Act;

AND WHEREAS it is also provided by section 38(1) of the Act that Regulations made under that section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the Minister has on the 29th day of May, 2019 made the Tobacco Control (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter called “the Regulations”);

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

BE IT RESOLVED that the Tobacco Control (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 be approved.

(By the Minister of Health)

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled, “An Act to establish the Private Security Service Authority and to regulate the private security industry and for other related matters”.

(By the Minister in the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs)

2. **The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday May 24, 2019 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Petroleum Act, Chap. 62:01, the Petroleum Production Levy and Subsidy Act, Chap. 62:02 and the Income Tax Act, Chap. 75:01”.

(By the Minister of Finance)

3. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Registrar General Act, Chap. 19:03, the Registration of Deeds Act, Chap. 19:06, the Conveyancing and Law of Property Act, Chap. 56:01, the Real

Property Act, Chap. 56:02 , the Stamp Duty Act, Chap. 76:01 and the Registration of Title to Land Act, 2000”.

(By the Attorney General)

4. A Bill entitled, “An Act to establish a Council for Urban and Regional Planners and to provide for the regulation of the urban and regional planning profession and other matters incidental thereto”.

(By the Minister of Planning and Development)

5. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Supplemental Police Act, Chap. 15:02”.

(By the Minister in the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs)

6. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the National Emblems of Trinidad and Tobago (Regulation) Act, Chap. 19:04”.

(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

7. A Bill entitled, “An Act to validate the constitution of licensing committees established under section 5 of the Liquor Licences Act, Chap. 84:10 as well as the grant, transfer and renewal of licences and all other acts and omissions by licensing committees and for related matters”.

(By the Attorney General)

8. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Municipal Corporations Act, Chap. 25:04, the Burial Grounds Act, Chap. 30:50, the Cremation Act, Chap 30:51, the Advertisements Regulation Act, Chap. 30:53, the Recreation Grounds and Pastures Act, Chap. 41:01, the Highways Act, Chap. 48:01, the Dogs Act, Chap. 67:54 and the Property Taxes Act, Chap. 76:04”.

(By the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government)

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday November 09, 2018 will be resumed:**

BE IT RESOLVED that this House adopt the Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee on National Security on the Final Report of the Police Manpower Audit Committee.

(By the Member for Laventille West)

2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Trinidad and Tobago Revenue Authority Bill, 2018.

(By the Member for Diego Martin North/East)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was adjourned on Friday May 24, 2019 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS there has been a decline in the educational performance, standards and academic achievements during the current Government's administration;

AND WHEREAS the previous Computer Laptop Programme was abandoned, homework centres closed, provision of textbooks significantly decreased, and Student Support Services, IT, Special Needs, School Social professionals, School Feeding Programme and Scholarships have all been reduced;

AND WHEREAS many schools were routinely closed during several education terms because of disrepair, maintenance issues and gross incompetence of the Ministry of Education, depriving thousands of students of their education;

AND WHEREAS the Primary School Curriculum and the Continuous Assessment Component have been seriously compromised;

AND WHEREAS there has been an inadequate response to school disciplinary and security issues;

AND WHEREAS the construction of new schools has ceased and an estimated seventy schools at various levels of completion were abandoned with resultant disastrous educational environments;

AND WHEREAS the School Transport, School Feeding Programme, personnel and other vital service providers are failing to receive timely payments;

AND WHEREAS there has been a serious reduction in the GATE Programme, tertiary education participation, facilities and training in the various Tech-Voc programmes among others;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn this Government for its gross failure in the Education Sector and the resultant detrimental effect on generations of students.

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

2. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday May 10, 2019 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS the World Economic Outlook published by the International Monetary Fund projected that the Trinidad and Tobago economy is stagnant;

AND WHEREAS this is at variance with the assertions of the Minister of Finance, the Prime Minister and other Government spokesmen on the subjects of growth and economic performance over the past two years;

AND WHEREAS the economic experience of the majority of citizens is one of distress and concern, the psychological state of workers is one of anxiety and fear and many among the middle class are challenged to meet their mortgage payments;

AND WHEREAS oil production is at its lowest level of production in decades;

AND WHEREAS the renegotiation of natural gas prices with producing companies has created new problems for the National Gas Company and the downstream sector and may affect national policy choices in the immediate future;

AND WHEREAS the local private sector is hesitant to invest in the local economy and small and medium business are struggling to stave off closure;

AND WHEREAS the depletion of foreign reserves is occurring at the net rate of 1.6 billion annually;

AND WHEREAS after three and a half years in office, the Government seems unable to manage the economy effectively, citizens of all dimensions are under stress and live with daily uncertainty and the country as a whole seems rudderless and directionless;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn the Government for its recklessness and mismanagement of the finances and economy of Trinidad and Tobago.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

3. **The debate on the following Motion which was adjourned on Friday March 22, 2019 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS the United Nations established seventeen (17) Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) to transform the world by 2030;

AND WHEREAS the second target under SDG number five (5) states, “the elimination all forms of violence against all women and girls in the public and private spheres, including trafficking and sexual and other types of exploitation”;

AND WHEREAS women are increasingly becoming victims of domestic abuse, violent crime and human trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take urgent steps to ensure the protection of our nation’s women.

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

4. **WHEREAS** over the recent past there have been a number of media articles alleging acts of serious misbehaviour and abuse of office by the Chief Justice, the most serious of which remain unanswered;

AND WHEREAS the Chief Justice has by his resolute refusal to respond adequately to these allegations, brought the office of Chief Justice and by extension, the entire Judiciary into disrepute and odium;

AND WHEREAS by Section 137 of the Constitution the Prime Minister has the authority and responsibility to act in the interest of the integrity of the Office of the Chief Justice and the Judiciary;

AND WHEREAS the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago established a Committee to investigate allegations of misconduct by the Chief Justice and the Committee Report was sent to the Prime Minister for which action is yet to be taken;

AND WHEREAS there have been public calls for the Prime Minister to act and trigger Section 137 thereby allowing for the course of natural justice which would allow for the rebuilding of public confidence in the administration of justice and the Judiciary;

AND WHEREAS the Prime Minister by his failure to act permits the perception that the Government is protecting the Chief Justice and has further eroded public confidence in the administration of justice;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call upon the Prime Minister to trigger Section 137 of the Constitution and forthwith advise the President that the question of removing the Chief Justice ought to be investigated.

(By the Member for Oropouche East)

5. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday February 22, 2019 will be resumed:**

BE IT RESOLVED that this House consider the details of the two-part address by the Hon. Keith Rowley, MP, Prime Minister termed, "*Mind your Business: Reporting to the Nation*" that aired on January 6, 2019 and January 7, 2019.

(By the Leader of the Opposition)

6. **WHEREAS** the Government has taken a policy decision to construct and establish an all-inclusive tourist destination in Tobago;

AND WHEREAS this decision has been met with considerable public disquiet, controversy and outrage over matters of procurement of Sandals Resorts International and project planning and development;

AND WHEREAS it is felt that this project had been conceptualized and is being implemented without any regard to transparency, accountability and good governance;

AND WHEREAS this project involves the expenditure of approximately one billion Trinidad and Tobago dollars with concerns over the social and economic returns to such an investment;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn the lack of proper procurement policy, disclosure and the improper implementation of the Sandals Resorts International project.

(By the Member for Couva North)

7. **WHEREAS** climate change is a matter of global concern which threatens all nations;

AND WHEREAS small island states and coastal states are especially susceptible to the impact of climate change;

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean region including Trinidad and Tobago has recently experienced heavy rainfall, devastating hurricanes, and floods;

AND WHEREAS earthquakes and drought are anticipated and must be prepared for;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House agree that the Government develop a holistic and sustainable national response to climate change inclusive of solutions to perennial flooding in Trinidad and Tobago and the management of drought conditions.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

8. **WHEREAS** over the past three years there has been a collapse of the public health sector with a significant increase in morbidity, mortality and preventable deaths in major health institutions;

AND WHEREAS the collapse of our primary health care system and widespread suffering from chronic, non-communicable diseases have resulted from the absence of public education programmes, reduction in the opening hours at health centres and the unavailability of many CDAP drugs;

AND WHEREAS at major hospitals, there exist overcrowding at Emergency Departments with patients dying on trolleys and the unavailability of beds, basic pharmaceutical supplies, reagents for lab testing, first-line chemotherapy, anti-cancer drugs and surgical medical supplies;

AND WHEREAS the waiting time for surgery is highly unacceptable and there is non-functional diagnostic equipment;

AND WHEREAS hundreds of nationals were denied employment as nurses and doctors despite severe shortages of medical personnel while hundreds of foreign doctors were employed;

AND WHEREAS the closure of the Central Block of the Port of Spain General Hospital, the underutilisation of the Couva Hospital and the discontinued construction of the National Oncology Centre have deprived patients of health care and have led to a major crisis in the delivery of medical care;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn the Government for its mismanagement of the health sector and call for the implementation of remedial measures, policies and programmes.

(By the Member for Caroni East)

*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 3, 2019

ORDER PAPER FRIDAY JUNE 07, 2019**QUESTION FOR WRITTEN ANSWER****Question No. 216 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:****(By the Member for Mayaro)**

Further to the response to House of Representatives Question No. 41 on December 6, 2017, could the Minister provide the list of all Agricultural Access Roads rehabilitated in the district of Mayaro from December 2017 to March 2019?

(Answer due by 06.06.2019)**Question No. 217 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:****(By the Member for Mayaro)**

Could the Minister provide:

- a) the list of all agriculture land leases granted to farmers from the district of Mayaro from September 2015 to March 2019; and
- b) the application date of each successful applicant in part (a)?

(Answer due by 06.06.2019)**Question No. 220 to the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts:****(By the Member for Mayaro)**

Could the Minister provide a list of applicants for the National Commission for Self Help Limited grants from the district of Mayaro between September 2015 and March 2019 and the status of these applications?

(Answer due by 06.06.2019)



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FOURTH SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

No. 34
2018/2019

FRIDAY JUNE 07, 2019 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 Member for Oropouche East)

Could the Minister state the nature and cause of a reported explosion and or disturbance in the vicinity of the Port of Spain Magistrates Court this morning?

2. **To the Minister of National Security:**
(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)

Could the Minister of National Security indicate whether all inmates of the Immigration Detention Centre are able to register for amnesty, as per the Venezuelans at present?

3. **To the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:**
(By the Member for Oropouche East)

Could the Minister state the reasons for the sudden departure of the chairman of the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited, Professor Gerry Brooks at a time of heightened top-level international negotiations on energy pricing, contractual and commercial arrangements involving the Prime Minister and his touring party?

4. **To the Attorney General:**
(By the Member for Naparima)

Could the Attorney General state why has the Government not yet fulfilled the May 23rd promise by the Prime Minister to release documents relating to the State's decision to drop its multi-million dollar lawsuit against former Petrotrin executive chairman Malcolm Jones?

5. **To the Minister of National Security:**
(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

In light of the reports that a Jamaican national who was denied entry into Trinidad and Tobago managed to escape the authorities and enter the country, could the Minister update the country on the status of his capture as well as the reason for the breach in security?

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

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June 07, 2019