



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOURTH SESSION  
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 38  
2018/2019

## ORDER PAPER

WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, 2019: 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Audited Financial Statements of InvesTT Limited for financial year ended September 30, 2018.

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

2. The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2009.

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

3. The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2010.

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

4. The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2011.

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

5. The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2012.

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

6. The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2013.

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

7. The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2014.

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

8. The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2015.

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

#### REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

#### PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

#### URGENT QUESTIONS

#### QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

#### Questions for Oral Answer

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

**(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

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. 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?

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\* Question No. 179 was deferred for two (2) weeks on Friday May 10, 2019, Friday May 24, 2019 and Friday June 7, 2019. Question No. 232 was deferred for two (2) weeks on Friday June 7, 2019. Question No. 230 was deferred for two (2) weeks on Monday June 10, 2019.

**\*Question No. 230 to the Attorney General:****(By the Member for Couva South)**

Given the recent disclosure that there were 3,772 cases of reported teenage pregnancies for the period 2014 to 2018 and that 570 of such pregnancies were between the age group of 13 to 16 years, could the Minister provide the number of perpetrators from the 570 cases that are before the Court as at April 30, 2019?

**Question No. 234 to the Minister of National Security:****(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

Could the Minister provide an update on the investigation into the procurement of automated passport kiosks by the Airport Authority of Trinidad and Tobago?

**Question No. 235 to the Minister of Works and Transport:****(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

Could the Minister indicate whether any legal action was initiated by Novo Technology Incorporation Limited in relation to the procurement of automated passport kiosks by the Airport Authority of Trinidad and Tobago?

**Question No. 236 to the Minister of Communications:****(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

With regard to Trinidad and Tobago Television Limited (T\*TT), could the Minister state:

- a) the quantum of the government subsidy to T\*TT since its launch on August 30, 2018 to April 30, 2019;
- b) the revenues generated by T\*TT (exclusive of the government subsidy) from August 30, 2018 to April 30, 2019;
- c) the value of the monthly rental arrangement between the National Lotteries Control Board and T\*TT; and
- d) whether the Water and Sewerage Authority is a sponsor of any T\*TT programming?

**Question No. 238 to the Attorney General:****(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

Could the Attorney General state the total amount spent on legal fees for the period September 2015 to April 30, 2019?

**Question No. 239 to the Attorney General:****(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

Could the Attorney General state the total amount expended by the Anti-Corruption Investigation Bureau from September 2015 to April 30, 2019?

**Question No. 240 to the Attorney General:****(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

Could the Attorney General provide the number and the list of Anti-Corruption Investigation Bureau investigations that led to successful prosecutions and convictions from September 2015 to April 30, 2019?

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 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 5<sup>th</sup> 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 19<sup>th</sup> 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 18<sup>th</sup> 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 29<sup>th</sup> 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 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)**

2. 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)**

3. 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)**

4. 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)**

5. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Criminal Law Act, Chap.10:04, the Prisons Act, Chap. 13:01, the Police Service Act, Chap. 15:01, the Immigration Act, Chap. 18:01, the Fire Service Act, Chap. 35:50 and the Customs Act, Chap. 78:01”.

**(By the Minister of National Security)**

6. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28”.

**(By the Attorney General)**

7. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Bail Act, Chap. 4:60”.

**(By the Attorney General)**

### COMMITTEE BUSINESS

#### Motions:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the Report of the Committee of Privileges of the House of Representatives on the Allegation of threatening words.

**(By the Member for Port of Spain North/St. Ann’s West)**

2. **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)**

3. **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. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House annul the Immigration (Amendment) Regulations, 2019\*.

**(By the Member for Naparima)**

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\* Filed pursuant to S.O. 80(3).

2. **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)**

3. **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)**

4. **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)**

5. **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)**

6. **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)**

7. **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)**

8. **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)**

9. **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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*June 21, 2019*



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOURTH SESSION  
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

No. 38  
2018/2019

## WEDNESDAY JUNE 26, 2019 1:30 P.M. NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Question which has been accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 27 is hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. To the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs:  
(By the Member for Oropouche East)

Could the Minister state the reasons why naval clearance and approval was given to a Russian Navy sea tanker named “Kama” to enter and berth in the territorial waters of Trinidad and Tobago?

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel*  
*Clerk of the House*

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*June 26, 2019*