



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTH SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 15
2019/2020

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY JANUARY 31, 2020: 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 the National Maintenance Training and Security Company Limited for the year ended December 31, 2018.

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

2. The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Heritage and Stabilisation Fund for the year ended September 30, 2019.

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

3. The Audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited for the year ended September 30, 2017.

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

4. The Consolidated Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Creative Industries Company Limited for the year ended September 30, 2018.

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

5. The Audited Consolidated Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Business Development Limited for the year ended December 31, 2018.

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

6. The Audited Financial Statements of the Rural Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the year ended September 30, 2018.

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

7. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the National Library and Information System Authority for the year ended September 30, 2012.

(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 National Library and Information System Authority for the year ended September 30, 2013.

(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 National Library and Information System Authority for the year ended September 30, 2014.

(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 National Library and Information System Authority 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)

11. The Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Postal 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 [Enterprises] Committee)

12. The Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Postal Corporation 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)

13. The Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Postal 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)

14. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Twenty-Fifth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Lotteries Control Board (NLCB) for the years 2008 to 2012 and the NLCB's expenditure and internal controls during this period.

(By the Minister of Finance)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer will appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 21 to the Minister of Education:

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

Could the Minister provide the annual number of students enrolled at the UTT from 2018 to present?

Question No. 25 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Could the Minister provide the new exploration techniques (exclusive of techniques previously utilised at Petrotrin) implemented at Heritage Petroleum Limited since the commencement of its operations?

Question No. 26 to the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development:

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Could the Minister provide the unemployment rate as calculated by the Central Statistical Office for the periods:

- a) July 1, 2018 to December 31, 2018; and
- b) January 1, 2019 to October 1, 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 section 3(1) of the Development Loans Act that the Government is authorized, for the purpose of –
 - (a) financing general development in Trinidad and Tobago;
 - (b) repayment of borrowings effected for such general development; or
 - (c) repayment of borrowings effected for general development—

- i. by a statutory authority within the meaning of the Statutory Authorities Act;
- ii. by an enterprise that is controlled by or on behalf of the State; or
- iii. by the University of the West Indies,

to borrow from time to time money externally or internally in a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate forty five thousand million dollars in the currency of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS it is also provided in the said section 3(1), that thereafter such sum in such currency may from time to time be specified by Resolution passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary for the Government to borrow further sums of money for the purposes stated in the said section;

BE IT RESOLVED that for the purposes stated in the said section, the Government is hereby authorized to borrow money externally or internally in a further sum or in further sums not exceeding in the aggregate ten thousand million dollars in the currency of Trinidad and Tobago.

(By the Minister of Finance)

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Insurance Act, 2018”.

(By the Minister of Finance)

2. **The Second Reading stage of the following Bill which was in progress on Wednesday November 27, 2019 will be completed:**

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

(By the Attorney General)

3. 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)

4. A Bill entitled, “An Act to repeal and replace the Shipping Act, Chap 50:10, the Harbours Act, Chap 50:06, the Droghers Act, Chap. 50:07, the Motor Launches Act, Chap. 50:08, to amend the Port Authority Act, Chap. 51:01 and the Coroners Act, Chap. 6:04 to provide for the and the certification and registration of vessels and offshore installations, matters relating to crew safety and security of life at sea and matters incidental thereto”.

(By the Minister of Works and Transport)

5. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Constitution (Prescribed Matters) Act, Chap. 1:02, the Interpretation Act, Chap. 3:01 and the Judicial and Legal Service Act, Chap. 6:01”.

(By the Attorney General)

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 Private Security Industry Bill, 2019 in the Fifth Session, Eleventh Parliament.

(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 Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters Bill, 2018, the Tax Information Exchange Agreements Bill, 2018 and the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill, 2019 in the Fifth Session, Eleventh Parliament.

(By the Member for Diego Martin North/East)

3. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control Bill, 2016 in the Fifth Session, Eleventh Parliament.

(By the Member for Diego Martin North/East)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

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

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 has, from time to time, experienced cycles of drought, heavy rainfall, hurricanes and floods;

AND WHEREAS earthquakes and other natural disasters must be anticipated and 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 the perennial flooding in Trinidad and Tobago and the effective management of drought conditions and the impact of such disasters on the quality of human life.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

2. **WHEREAS** the prices of oil and natural gas on which the 2020 Budget was premised were too high and production of natural gas is likely to be lower than estimated yielding shortfalls in revenue targets;

AND WHEREAS business and consumer confidence in the economy continues to deteriorate characterised by business closures, lack of investment and job losses;

AND WHEREAS the official debt is upward of one hundred billion indebtedness is much higher and our foreign reserves, unsupported by export gains have been dwindling;

AND WHEREAS there has been little action with regard to diversification;

AND WHEREAS Government policy is yet to yield recovery, prompt a structural shift or transform the economy;

AND WHEREAS the fiscal, monetary and economic policies of the Government have been a collection of contradictions and a total failure;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call on the Prime Minister to immediately dissolve Parliament and call for a General Election to facilitate the change needed to execute coherent and inclusive policies that will promote the recovery and renewal of confidence of the economy.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

3. **WHEREAS** the public health sector of Trinidad and Tobago over the past four (4) years has deteriorated, with significantly increased morbidity and preventable deaths;

AND WHEREAS the collapse of the primary health care system has resulted in widespread suffering from chronic, non-communicable diseases;

AND WHEREAS there is overcrowding of Accident and Emergency Departments at public hospitals, with unacceptable waiting times for surgeries as a result of insufficient medical resources and non-functioning diagnostic equipment among other things;

AND WHEREAS numerous nationals were denied employment as doctors, nurses and technicians, despite the shortage of these professionals;

AND WHEREAS the closure of the Central Block of Port of Spain General Hospital has led to patients of North and West Trinidad being deprived of health care;

AND WHEREAS the Government has refused to put the modern Couva Hospital into optimum use and has terminated construction of the National Oncology Centre;

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

(By the Member for Caroni East)

4. **WHEREAS** Trinidad and Tobago's energy sector has been a significant contributor to our nation's revenue, generating employment and promoting economic stability and infrastructural and national development;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed on its commitment to create an environment in which producer companies in the energy sector and aggressively seek new discoveries in oil and gas;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to deliver its promise of ensuring that we have an attractive, competitive and responsive fiscal and regulatory environment that will maximise recovery of our hydrocarbon resources;

AND WHEREAS over the last four years we have seen a reduction in oil and gas production and numerous closures of key operators, service providers and companies within the energy sector;

AND WHEREAS the state of our energy sector presents detrimental consequences for our economy;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn this Government's failure to stimulate, secure and sustainably grow our energy sector in a timely manner.

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

5. **WHEREAS** since 2015 this Government has been unable to provide for the safety and security of citizens resulting in increases in serious crimes particularly murder;

AND WHEREAS in 2019 Trinidad and Tobago has experienced two consecutive years with over 516 murders and witnessed in 2019 the second highest annual murder rate in its history;

AND WHEREAS the Government has been unwilling or unable to articulate specific, measurable, timely, and outputs-oriented crime-reduction targets;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to realize that an 'Whole of Government Approach' to solving crime is necessary;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemns this Government for its failure to deal with rampant crime.

(By the Member for Naparima)

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Kabir Association of Trinidad (Incorporation) Ordinance, 1932".

(The Speaker will propose the question that the Bill be read a Second time)

ORDER PAPER FRIDAY JANUARY 31, 2020QUESTION FOR WRITTEN ANSWER***Question No. 10 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Could the Minister provide the level of oil production in terms of barrels of oil produced per day (BOPD) for each month from October 1, 2018 to October 1, 2019?

(Answer due by 14.12.2019)***Question No. 11 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Could the Minister provide the level of natural gas production in terms of billion standard cubic feet (BSCF) for each month from October 1, 2018 to October 1, 2019?

(Answer due by 14.12.2019)***Question No. 12 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

With regard to Paria Fuel Trading Company, could the Minister state:

- a) the specific quantum of imported fuel from March 1, 2019 to October 1, 2019;
- b) the price paid or value for imported fuel from March 1, 2019 to October 1, 2019;
- c) the supplier(s) of imported fuel for the period December 1, 2018 to October 1, 2019; and
- d) whether a profit or loss was recorded for the period December 1, 2018 to October 1, 2019?

(Answer due by 14.12.2019)**Question No. 27 to the Minister of Finance:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

With regard to the nation's public debt, could the Minister state:

- a) the total value of loans in the local and international financial markets for the period April 22 2017 to December 31, 2019; and
- b) the total value of bonds raised for the period April 22, 2017 to December 31, 2019?

(Answer due by 29.01.2020)**Question No. 28 to the Minister of Trade and Industry:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Could the Minister provide the number of new trade agreements and bilateral agreements that were signed between Trinidad and Tobago and other countries/markets since September 2015?

(Answer due by 29.01.2020)

* Question Nos. 10, 11 and 12 were deferred on Monday December 16, 2019 to the next Sitting.

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives' Secretariat
Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN

January 28, 2020



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTH SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

No. 15
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FRIDAY JANUARY 31, 2020 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 Energy and Energy Industries:**

Given the recent reports of possible job losses among companies in the manufacturing sector that buy natural gas from the National Gas Company (NGC) and the many calls from stakeholders for NGC to consider renegotiating its' gas pricing arrangements, can the Minister inform this House whether the Government is prepared to renegotiate NGC's gas pricing formula?

(By the Member for Couva South)

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives' Secretariat
Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN

January 31, 2020