



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

**THIRTY-FIFTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2003/2004) EIGHTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY JUNE 22, 2004 AT 1.30 P.M.**

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW MEMBER
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS
(Questions for Oral Answer)

*** Question No. 60 to the Honourable Minister of Local Government**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- A. Could the Minister provide the management structure of the Unemployment Relief Programme (URP) inclusive of the Women's Programme in Trinidad and Tobago?
- B. Could the Minister further provide:
 - (i) the names;
 - (ii) qualifications,
 - (iii) salaries; and
 - (iv) other conditions of employment of all persons permanently employed by the URP particularly those positions from labourer or to Director in URP Women's Section over the period January, 2002 to March, 2004?

* Question No. 60 was deferred for one (1) week on June 16, 2004.

***Question No. 61 to the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister give a detailed account on the impact of the maritime and trade matters that are adversely affecting friendly relations between Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago?

***Question No. 62 to the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister table the several diplomatic notes of protests received from the Government of Barbados and the responses of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago to these notes and protests?

***Question No. 84 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport**

(By Senator Sadiq Baksh)

With respect to the Piarco Airport Runway Overlay Project could the Minister indicate to this Senate:

- (i) Whether the contractor was given an “Extension of Time”?;
- (ii) If the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, on what basis was the “Extension of Time” given;
- (iii) What is the new completion date for this project; and
- (iv) Was any Liquidated Damages charged for any delays in the works?

***Question No. 85 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport**

(By Senator Sadiq Baksh)

With respect to the original contract for the Piarco Airport Runway Overlay Project, could the Minister state:

- (i) Whether there was any increase in the contract sum;
- (ii) If there was an increase, would the Minister state which clause in the original contract allowed for this;
- (iii) Whether there were any variation orders issued under the contract for additional works and if so, what were they; and
- (iv) Whether the Performance Bond was seized for failure to perform in accordance with the contract?

* Question Nos. 61, 62, 84 and 85 were deferred for one (1) week on June 16, 2004.

Question No. 96 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan)

- A. Could the Minister advise the Senate what is the role and function of the Natural Gas Export Task Force?
- B. Could the Minister provide the Senate with the names, professions and of any affiliations with private entities of the Members of this Task Force?
- C. Could the Minister provide the names of projects undertaken by this Task Force which are currently in the conceptual and/or developmental stage?

Question No. 97 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan)

- A. Could the Minister inform the Senate if the Government of Trinidad and Tobago or any State Agency has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or is in the process of negotiating for the building of a world scale Ethylene Complex in Trinidad and Tobago?
- B. If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, could the Minister provide;
 - (i) the name/names of the company/companies with whom the Government has either signed the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) or with whom they are presently negotiating; and
 - (ii) state whether the firm KENESJAY or any of its principals were involved in the negotiations/discussions leading to the signing of the agreement? and if they were, what was their role/function?

Question No. 98 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan)

- A. Could the Minister indicate to the Senate if any other company/companies, either local or foreign, have submitted proposals for the building of a world scale Ethylene Complex in Trinidad and Tobago?
- B. If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, could the Minister indicate whether these proposals were evaluated by technocrats of the relevant Ministry/Ministries prior to commencement of negotiations or to the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)?

- 9. QUESTIONS TO CHAIRMEN OF SESSIONAL AND SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEES
- 10. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
- 11. STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES
- 12. PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

13. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS
14. MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARY
15. PUBLIC BUSINESS

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion, which was in progress when the Senate was adjourned on Tuesday May 25, 2004, will be resumed:**

WHEREAS Section 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago provides for all citizens the right to equality of treatment from any public authority in the exercise of any function and the right to equality before the law and the protection of the law;

AND WHEREAS both Houses of Parliament have already passed into law the Equal Opportunities Act;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government takes immediate steps to have the Equal Opportunity Legislation proclaimed and fully effected in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

2. **WHEREAS** the Government during the period 1995 to 2001 instituted several measures to combat corruption in public office and to empower the population.

AND WHEREAS the object of the Prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill 2001, was to amend the Prevention of Corruption Act No. 11 of 1987 to implement further and more effective measures for the prevention of corruption.

AND WHEREAS this said Bill was introduced in the House of Representatives on July 20, 2001 but lapsed upon the dissolution of Parliament in August 2001.

AND WHEREAS there still is an urgent need to address objectively the issues of corruption, transparency and probity in public affairs.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take all the required steps to expedite the enactment of legislation similar to (if not identical with) the provisions of the prevention of Corruption (Amendment) Bill, 2001 in order to implement further and more effective measures for the prevention of corruption.

(By Senator Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan)

3. **WHEREAS** Article 3 of the United Nations Declaration on the Elimination of all forms of Discrimination states that “Particular efforts shall be made to prevent discrimination based on race, colour or ethnic origin, especially in the fields of civil rights, access to citizenship, education, religion, employment, occupation and housing”; and

WHEREAS Article 26 of the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights asserts that “*Technical and professional education shall be made generally available and higher education shall be equally accessible to all on the basis of merit*”; and

WHEREAS on November 3rd 1973, Trinidad and Tobago ratified the Convention on the Elimination of all forms of Racial Discrimination; and

WHEREAS section 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago recognises and declares that in Trinidad and Tobago there have existed and shall continue to exist, without discrimination by reason of race, origin, colour, religion or sex, certain fundamental human rights and freedoms; and

WHEREAS the National Anthem of Trinidad and Tobago resonates with the aspiration that “*Here every creed and race find an equal place*”; and

WHEREAS section 7 of the Education Act, Chap. 39:01 states, “*No person shall be refused admission to any public institution on account of religious persuasion, race, social status or language of such a person or of his parent*”; and

WHEREAS since December 24th 2001 there has been a renewal and an institutionalization of the victimization of and discrimination against employees of State Enterprises, Statutory Authorities, Government Ministries and Public Authorities by the PNM Government; and

WHEREAS, throughout our nation, through victimization and discrimination by the PNM government, citizens are denied the opportunity to access jobs, contracts and loans in the Unemployment Relief Programme (URP); the Community Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) and the National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited (NEDCO) and other public programmes; and

WHEREAS, throughout the nation, citizens are denied equality of treatment in accessing training opportunities in the Youth Apprenticeship Programme in Agriculture (YAPA); On the Job Training (OJT); Helping You Prepare for Employment (HYPE); Geriatric Adolescent/Partnership Programme (GAPP) and other public programmes; and

WHEREAS the Honourable Member for Diego Martin West and Minister of Housing has publicly affirmed a policy of racial and gender discrimination as contained in the *Social and Economic Framework 2004* policy document, notwithstanding its deletion as an “Errata”:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House re-affirms its commitment to the elimination of discrimination in all its forms and the right of the individual to equality of treatment from public authorities.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

4. **WHEREAS** the Integrity in Public Life Act, 2000 has been proclaimed by the President and came into force on the 6th day of November, 2000.

AND WHEREAS the Integrity in Public Life (Prescribed Forms) Regulations, 2003 were duly made by the Integrity Commission on the 12th day of September, 2003.

AND WHEREAS the Integrity in Public Life (Period of Furnishing of Information Regulations) was duly made by the Integrity Commission on the 12th day of September, 2003.

AND WHEREAS the Integrity Commission, under Section 11(2) of the Act, has no power to extend the time for persons in public life to furnish their declarations for the years 1999, 2000 and 2001 respectively:

AND WHEREAS by December 1st, 2003, the Integrity Commission shall under Section 11(2) of the Act, have no power to extend the time for persons in public life to furnish their declarations for the year 2002:

AND WHEREAS the Opposition United National Congress is committed to ensuring that the law is not frustrated and that the Government is not allowed to escape its responsibilities under the law:

BE IT RESOLVED that leave of this House be granted to Senator Robin Montano to introduce a Bill entitled the Integrity in Public Life Act (Amendment) (No. 3) Bill, 2004.

(By Senator Robin Montano)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled, “An Act to make provision for the efficient management of the Police Service, to consolidate, amend and revise the law relating to the Police Service and for other related matters”.

(By the Minister of National Security)

2. A Bill entitled, “An Act to establish an independent body to investigate criminal offences involving police officers, police corruption and serious police misconduct and for other related matters”.

(By the Minister of National Security)

3. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Constitution by providing for the establishment of a Police Management Authority, and for other related matters”.

(By the Minister of National Security)

4. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Venture Capital Act, 1994.”
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)
5. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Regional Health Authorities Act, 1994”.
(By the Minister of Health)
6. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Commissions of Enquiry Act, Chap. 19:01”.
(By the Attorney General)
7. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Constitution of Trinidad and Tobago”.
(By the Attorney General)
8. A Bill entitled, “An Act to implement the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Court of Justice and for other related matters”.
(By the Attorney General)

*Senate Secretariat
The Red House
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PORT OF SPAIN*

*Neil Jaggassar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)*

June 17, 2004

APPENDIX

8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

*Questions for Written Answer***Question No. 15 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Industries***(By Senator Wade Mark)*

Could the Minister provide this Senate with a copy of the twenty (20) year Agreement signed between Point Fortin LNG Exports Limited and the U.S. based El Paso Merchant Energy LP to supply LNG from Atlantic LNG's trains II and III to Elba Island regasification terminal with effect from January 01, 2004?

*(Answer due by February 27, 2004)***Question No. 18 to the Honourable Attorney General***(By Senator Wade Mark)*

Would the Attorney General provide this Senate with:

- (i) a list of all Acts passed by Parliament since 1976 and not yet proclaimed; and
- (ii) state the reasons for the inability of the Government to have these Acts proclaimed.?

*(Answer due by February 27, 2004)***Question No. 28 to the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources***(By Senator Dr. Eastlyn McKenzie)*

- A. Could the Minister provide a list of all the names of land owners in Tobago whose lands have been used or entered upon or acquired by the State and have not been paid for?
- B. Could the Minister state:
 - (i) the purpose for which the lands were taken?
 - (ii) the reasons for the delay in payment to the landowners?
- C. (i) Could the Minister give the description and location of all lands used or entered upon or acquired by the State where ownership has not been established;
 - (ii) could he state the purpose for which the lands were used, entered upon or acquired?

(Answer due by April 07, 2004)

Question No. 29 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities and the Environment

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- A. Could the Minister provide this Senate with a detailed breakdown of the names and addresses of all the residential of commercial, industrial and other charitable users owing the \$500 million plus arrears to the Water and Sewerage Authority as at end of February, 2004; and
- B. Could the Minister further provide this Senate with details on the sums of money owed by each residential, commercial and industrial customer as well as each charitable organisation (customer) to the Water and Sewerage Authority as at the end of February, 2004.

(Answer due by April 07, 2004)

*Neil Jaggassar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)*

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June 17, 2004