



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

**FIFTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2009), NINTH PARLIAMENT
THURSDAY FEBRUARY 05, 2009 AT 1:30 P.M.**

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OF ALLEGIANCE OF A NEW SENATOR
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
 - (i) Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Agricultural Development Bank of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended September 30, 2007.

(By the Minister in the Ministry of Finance)

7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 1 to the Honourable Minister of Legal Affairs

(By Senator Gail Merhair)

Would the Minister inform the Senate of the steps which are being taken to re-validate and/or amend the Rent Restrictions Act, Chap. 59:50?

Question No. 2 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport**(By Senator Gail Merhair)**

Would the Minister inform this Senate of the steps if any, which are being taken to regulate Maxi Taxis who work parts of the route along the East/West Corridor?

Question No. 4 to the Honourable Minister of Health**(By Senator Gail Merhair)**

Could the Minister indicate to this Senate whether there are institutional plans are in place to assist with the funding of children who must seek medical treatment abroad?

Question No. 5 to the Honourable Minister of Sports and Youth Affairs**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Could the Minister inform this Senate of:

- (a) the current status of the Brian Lara Cricketing Academy in Tarouba;
- (b) the total sum expended on the project as at December 31, 2008;
- (c) the estimated sum required for the completion of the project; and
- (d) the completion date of the project?

Question No. 6 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Could the Minister inform this Senate of:

- (a) the current status of the Ministry of Education Tower located on Lower St. Vincent Street, Port of Spain;
- (b) the total sum expended on the project as at December 31, 2008;
- (c) the estimated sum required for the completion of the project; and
- (d) the expected completion date of the project?

Question No. 7 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Regarding bail-outs of private financial institutions by European countries with which Trinidad and Tobago has trading relations under the Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA), could the Minister state:

- (a) Trinidad and Tobago's position in the absence of similar bail-outs?
- (b) whether such bail-outs violate any of the terms and conditions of the EPA?
- (c) if the answer to (b) above is in the affirmative, could the Minister state the steps the government intends to take to address any violation of the Agreement?

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) A Bill entitled, "An Act to establish the Trinidad and Tobago National Steel Symphony Orchestra Corporation and for matters incidental thereto."
(By the Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs)
- (ii) A Bill entitled, "An Act to regulate emergency ambulance services, to provide for the registration of emergency medical personnel in Trinidad and Tobago, for the establishment of a National Emergency Ambulance Authority and for matters connected therein."
(By the Minister of Health)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday February 03, 2009 will be resumed:

- (i) **WHEREAS** financial support for election campaigns is necessary for a healthy multi-party democracy;
AND WHEREAS the electorate needs to be satisfied that all viable political parties contest elections under conditions which are fair and transparent;

AND WHEREAS the issue of election financing has been the subject of widespread public concern during the last thirty years in this country;

BE IT RESOLVED that Parliament appoint a Joint Select Committee to consider establishing a legislative framework to govern the financing of election campaigns and to submit its report with recommendations to both Houses of Parliament within six months of its appointment.

(By Senator Prof. Ramesh Deosaran)

- (ii) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the government of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago take immediate steps to give effect to proposals of the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) through appropriate legislation and administrative action in respect of statistical reporting of oil, gas and mining revenue payments made to the government of Trinidad and Tobago by the various companies involved in the exploitation of our natural resources in order to promote energy revenue transparency which has been deemed a non-partisan issue by EITI.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iii) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the government of Trinidad and Tobago to root out all corrupt practices in the management of the public purse;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that individuals found engaging in such activities be subjected to swift and compelling justice;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Senate call on the government to take immediate steps to effect legislation dealing with public procurement practices and standards in Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iv) **WHEREAS** it is the role of the Parliament to oversee and scrutinize the actions of the Executive arm of the State;

AND WHEREAS Parliament has established a number of mechanisms to give effect to its role;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the government to promote standards of good governance by permitting the Parliament and its Committees to function efficiently and effectively.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (v) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Minister of Finance be afforded the financial, technical and human resources by the government to join in the fight against drug trafficking and other crimes involving large financial transactions being conducted in the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago?

(By Senator Dr. Adesh Nanan)

- (vi) **WHEREAS** Trinidad and Tobago has been a signatory of the ILO and its conventions, recommendations and standards for a number of years;

BE IT RESOLVED that the government take immediate actions to respond to all request by the ILO to give effect to all the Conventions, Recommendations and Standards to which Trinidad and Tobago is a signatory.

(By Senator Dr. Adesh Nanan)

(vii) **WHEREAS** the operations of the Water and Sewerage Authority are vital and indispensable to the good health and welfare of the people of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS the Water and Sewerage Authority and its functions are provided for by Parliament;

BE IT RESOLVED that government take all the necessary steps to ensure that the sewerage function of the Authority remain entirely and solely the responsibility of the Water and Sewerage Authority as provided for in law.

(By Senator Dr. Adesh Nanan)

Neil Jaggassar
Clerk of the Senate

**Senate Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN**

February 03, 2009

ORDER PAPER/THURSDAY FEBRUARY 05, 2009

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 3 to the Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs

(By Senator Gail Merhair)

Would the Minister provide this Senate with a detailed list of the projects undertaken by the National Trust of Trinidad and Tobago between the years 2002 to 2007?

(Answer due by 12.02.09)

Question No. 11 to the Attorney General

(By Senator Wade Mark)

With respect to the Caribbean Court of Justice (CCJ) Headquartered in Port of Spain, could the Attorney General provide this Senate with:

- (a) the number of cases brought before the (CCJ) from its inception to December 31, 2008;
- (b) the number of matters determined by the Court over the same period;
- (c) the total cost to Trinidad and Tobago for the establishment and operations of the CCJ from its inception to December 31, 2008.

(Answer due by 12.02.09)

Question No. 18 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

(A) Could the Minister provide this Senate with:

- (i) a list of the steps taken by Police and the Immigration authorities to locate persons reported missing for the year 2008; and
- (ii) a detailed list of missing persons for the year 2008;

(B) Could the Minister state whether any investigations have been conducted by the Police Service into allegations of human trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago?

(Answer due by 12.02.09)

Question No. 19 to the Attorney General

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Attorney General inform this Senate of:

- (a) the number of backlog cases in the Magistracy as at December 31, 2008;
- (b) the administrative arrangements, if any, being made to reduce the backlog of cases in the Magistracy?

(Answer due by 12.02.09)