



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ORDER PAPER**

SIXTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2009), NINTH PARLIAMENT  
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 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
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. 8 to the Honourable Minister of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Could the Minister state whether the government intends to amend the Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act with specific reference to those sections which deal with the quantum of severance benefits?

**Question No. 9 to the Honourable Minister of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Could the Minister inform this Senate of the steps which government intends to take to comply with requests by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) for the immediate amendment of the Industrial Relations Act in order to conform with the relevant conventions, recommendations and standard of the ILO?

**Question No. 10 to the Honourable Minister of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Could the Minister indicate to this Senate whether it is Government's intention to introduce modern labour laws in 2009 to improve conditions under which the working class functions?

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 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)**

- (ii) 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)**

**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 06, 2009**

**ORDER PAPER/TUESDAY FEBRUARY 10, 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)**