



## SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

# ORDER PAPER

FORTY-FIRST SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2009), NINTH PARLIAMENT  
TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17, 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) The Administrative Report and Accounts of the Ministry of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development for fiscal year 2007/2008.  
**(By the Minister of Labour and Small and Micro Enterprise Development )**
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

### Questions for Oral Answer

#### \*Question No. 40 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment

#### **(By Senator Wade Mark)**

With respect to the construction of the National Academies of Performing Arts in Port-of-Spain and San Fernando, could the Minister provide the Senate with:

- (i) a detailed status report on the Construction of the National Academies of Performing Arts;
- (ii) the original estimated cost of construction of the National Academies;
- (iii) the initial projected completion dates for both Academies;
- (iv) the current estimated cost and new projected cost of the construction of the Academies; and
- (v) the new projected completion dates for the National Academies?

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\* Question No. 40 was deferred for two (2) weeks on 05.05.09, for three (3) weeks on 19.05.09, for three (3) weeks on 09.06.09, for two (2) weeks on 30.06.09, for two (2) weeks on 14.07.09, for three (3) weeks on 28.07.09, for three (3) weeks on 28.09.09, for two (2) weeks on 20.10.09 and for two (2) weeks on 03.11.09.

**Question No. 188 to the Honourable Minister of Health**

**(By Senator Michael Annisette)**

Would the Minister please inform this Honourable Senate of its findings from its own enquiry into the Landate matter?

**Question No. 189 to the Honourable Attorney General**

**(By Senator Michael Annisette)**

Would the Attorney General please inform this Honourable Senate of what action the Government intends to take on :

- (i) the findings of the Commission of Enquiry into the Scarborough Hospital and
- (ii) the findings of its own investigation into the matter which included Landate?

**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX**

- 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**

**Motions:**

- (i) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate adopt the Interim Report of the Joint Select Committee on the Local Government Bill, 2009.

**(By the Minister of Health)**

**Bills Second Reading:**

- (i) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday November 10, 2009 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, "An Act to prevent tobacco use by children; regulate tobacco use by individuals; enhance public awareness of the hazards of tobacco use and ensure that individuals are provided with information to make more fully informed decisions about

using tobacco; protect individuals from exposure to tobacco smoke; prohibit and restrict promotional practices; prevent smuggling of tobacco; provide for regulation of tobacco products to mitigate against the harmful effects of tobacco; and provide for other related matters”.

**(By the Minister of Health)**

- (ii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to provide protection to investors from unfair, improper or fraudulent practices; foster fair and efficient capital markets and confidence in the capital markets in Trinidad and Tobago and to reduce systemic risk; to co-operate with other jurisdictions in the development of fair and efficient capital markets, and for other related matters”.

**(By the Minister of Trade and Industry and Minister in the Ministry of Finance)**

- (iii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Evidence Act, Chap. 7:02”.

**(By the Attorney General)** *(To revive the common law doctrine of recent complaint in respect of trials for sexual offences).*

- (iv) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01”.

**(By the Attorney General)**

- (v) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday May 19, 2009 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Integrity in Public Life Act, Chap. 22:01”.

**(By the Attorney General)**

- (vi) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday July 14, 2009 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to vest jurisdiction for all family matters and juvenile matters in a Division of the High Court to be called the Family Court and to make provision for matters connected therewith”.

**(By the Attorney General)**

- (vii) 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:**

- (i) **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday May 26, 2009 will be resumed:**

**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)**

- (ii) **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)**

- (iii) **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)**

- (iv) **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)**

- (v) **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)**

- (vi) **WHEREAS** child mortality is a sensitive indication of a country's state and pace of development;

**AND WHEREAS** child mortality is critical evidence of basic priorities and core values of a country's administration;

**AND WHEREAS** the health and well-being of children and their mothers is not only a human rights imperative, but a sound economic decision in order to assure the country's future;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government drastically increase meaningful investment in the health and well-being of children and their mothers.

**(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)**

(vii) **WHEREAS** our national heroes have performed extraordinary tasks in the interests, promotion and development of Trinidad and Tobago;

**AND WHEREAS** the current system of National Awards does not display the true affection of a grateful nation;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate appoint a Special Select Committee to examine, evaluate and prepare a new methodology for the recognition of our national heroes.

**(By Senator Gail Merhair)**

(viii) **WHEREAS** the Government of Trinidad and Tobago closed Caroni (1975) Ltd (the Company) in or around 2003;

**AND WHEREAS** the Cane Farmers, one of the major stakeholders of the industry, were adversely affected by the closure of the Company;

**AND WHEREAS** the European Union recognizing the severe impact the closure of the sugar industry would have on the Stakeholders of the ACP countries, made grant funds available to those countries to cushion the impact of the closure of the industry;

**AND WHEREAS** Trinidad and Tobago was one of the countries which stood to benefit from the grant funds from the European Union mentioned above;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government of Trinidad and Tobago has not accessed the available funds from the European Union for the benefits of the Cane farmers;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago take immediate steps to access the funds from the European Union and disburse same to the former Cane Farmers of Caroni (1975) Ltd.;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Government consult with, and keep the Cane Farmers informed at regular intervals on the progress being made with respect to the drawdown of the said funds from the European Union.

**(By Senator Dr. Jennifer Kernahan)**

### **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

(ii) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee of Parliament appointed to inquire into and report to Parliament on Municipal Corporations and Service Commissions with the exception of the Judicial and Legal Service Commission on the Establishment of the Secretariat of the Police Service Commission at 62 Queen Street, Port of Spain.

**(By Senator Dr. Adesh Nanan)**

***Nataki Atiba-Dilchan***  
**Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)**

Senate Secretariat  
The Red House  
PORT OF SPAIN  
November 11, 2009



APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER/TUESDAY NOVEMBER 17, 2009

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

**Question No. 60 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

With respect to local and foreign consultants employed in each Government Department, Ministry or Agency controlled by the State or any State Enterprise, could the Minister inform the Senate of:

- (a) the total number of consultants employed;
- (b) the name of each consultant and the specific areas/projects that each consultant is advising the government on;
- (c) the exact duration of each of these contracts;
- (d) the cost of the services of each consultant?

**(Answer due by 13.05.09)**

**Question No. 63 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Could the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (i) the amount of money borrowed directly by the State from both foreign and local sources during the period January 2007 to March 31, 2009;
- (ii) the specific purposes for which the money was borrowed;
- (iii) the specific rate of interest charged on each of these loans; and
- (iv) the levels of borrowing planned for the next four years and their precise allocation in respect of development programmes and projects?

**(Answer due by 13.05.09)**

**Question No. 64 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

- (A) Could the Minister outline in detail the various assets being held in her capacity as Corporation Sole on behalf of the People of Trinidad and Tobago?
- (B) Could the Minister also state the estimated value of these assets?
- (C) Could the Minister further give a breakdown of any changes on the portfolio of assets on a year-to-year basis over the period January 2007 – March 31, 2009?

**(Answer due by 13.05.09)**

**Question No. 79 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

- (a) Could the Minister provide the Senate with:

- (i) the names of all the contractors engaged by WASA for the period January 2007 to March 31, 2009;
  - (ii) the exact nature of works these contractors have been engaged to perform; and
  - (iii) the duration of these contracts and the financial value of each contract?
- (b) Could the Minister further state:
- (i) how many contractors have been paid to date;
  - (ii) how many contractors have not been paid and exactly when would they be paid?

**(Answer due by 13.05.09)**

**Question No. 130 to the Honourable Minister of Finance**

**(By Senator Gail Merhair)**

Could the Minister provide the Senate with the terms and conditions of agreements signed by thirty-two (32) persons employed on contract in the Ministry of Finance for the year 2007/2008, but which were not submitted to the Auditor General's Department as reported at item 2.34 on Page 103 of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year 2007/2008?

**(Answer due by 09.06.09)**

**Question No. 158 to the Honourable Attorney General**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Could the Attorney General provide the Senate with the quantum of legal or consultancy fees paid to Senior Counsels appointed after January 01, 2005 by any State Enterprise, Municipal Corporation, Statutory Authority, Government Ministry or other State Agency from the period of their respective appointments to June 16, 2009?

**(Answer Due by 22.07.09)**

**Senate Secretariat  
The Red House  
PORT OF SPAIN  
November 11, 2009**