



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

THIRTEENTH SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2010), NINTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY, APRIL 06, 2010 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 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, 2008.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry and Minister in the Ministry of Finance)
 - (ii) The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the year ended December 31, 2008.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry and Minister in the Ministry of Finance)
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN APPENDIX I

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWER

***Question No. 1 to the Honourable Minister of Health**

(By Senator Michael Annisette)

Could the Minister inform this Senate of the findings of the Ministry's enquiry into the Landate matter?

***Question No. 2 to the Honourable Attorney General**

(By Senator Michael Annisette)

Could the Attorney General indicate to this Senate what action the Government intends to take with respect to:

- (i) the findings of the Commission of Enquiry into the Scarborough Hospital; and

* Question No. 1 was deferred for one (1) week on 09.02.10, for one (1) week on 23.02.10, for two (2) weeks on 02.03.10 for one (1) week on 16.03.10 and for one (1) week on 23.03.10

* Question No. 2 was deferred for one (1) week on 09.02.10, for one (1) week on 23.02.10, for three (3) weeks on 02.03.10, and for one (1) week on 23.03.10

- (ii) its investigation into the matter which included Landate?

***Question No. 33 to the Honourable Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (a) the total expenditure to date on the Brian Lara Toruba Sporting Complex;
- (b) the projected date of completion of the Complex; and
- (c) the estimated total expenditure anticipated for this project?

Question No. 44 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Corinne Baptiste-Mc Knight)

- A. Could the Minister inform the Senate what is the status of the Comprehensive National Transportation Study commissioned in 2004?
- B. Could the Minister also inform the Senate, what was the cost of that study?

Question No. 45 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Corinne Baptiste-Mc Knight)

- A. Could the Minister advise what impact have the results of the Comprehensive National Transportation Study had on current Government plans to solve the nation's transportation problems?
- B. Could the Minister also inform the Senate if there is now a National Transportation Plan in place?

Question No. 50 to the Honourable Minister of Social Development

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

Could the Minister inform the Senate of the status and cost incurred thus far, of the Assessment Centre for street dwellers housed on Queen Street, Port of Spain?

Question No. 52 to the Honourable Minister of Social Development

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

Could the Minister indicate to the Senate, the number of persons housed or treated at the Displacement Centre at Piparo and Riverside Plaza from February 2008 to February 28, 2010?

Question No. 53 to the Honourable Minister of Education

(By Senator Corinne Baptiste-McKnight)

Would the Minister identify the policies and procedures currently in place to provide supervision, counselling and academic support to students during periods of suspension from school?

- 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

* Question No. 33 was deferred for two (2) weeks on 02.03.10 and for two (2) weeks on 16.03.10

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 this Senate approve the decision of the President to acquire the lands described in Appendix II for the public purpose specified.

(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Marine Resources)

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend various Acts, namely the Queen’s Park Act, Chap. 41:04, the Highways Act Chap. 48:01, the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50, the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Enforcement and Administration) Act, Chap. 48:52 and the Maxi-Taxi Act, Chap. 48:53 to increase the pecuniary penalties for motor vehicle offences; to provide for the issue of tickets for certain motor vehicle offences; to regularize and increase the period for the renewal of driving permits and to provide for related matters”.

(By the Minister of Works and Transport)

- (ii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to provide for the variation of certain duties and taxes and to introduce provisions of a fiscal nature and for related matters”.

(By the Minister of Finance)

- (iii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to establish the Trinidad and Tobago Revenue Authority and for related matters”.

(By the Minister of Finance)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **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)

- (ii) **WHEREAS** there is an increasing need and demand for participatory democracy;

AND WHEREAS the population is engaged in the process of constitutional reform via dialogue and consultation;

AND WHEREAS there is need to reduce corruption by holders of public office;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take steps to amend the Constitution so that all elected and appointed Members of Parliament be limited to serving three consecutive terms or three terms in a lifetime.

(By Senator Gail Merhair)

(iii) **WHEREAS** there has been recognition of the need for constitutional reform;

AND WHEREAS the population is demanding an even playing field in the conduct of elections;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take steps to amend the Constitution to introduce fixed dates for general elections except in the instance of a successful moving of a motion of no confidence in the government.

(By Senator Gail Merhair)

(iv) **WHEREAS** there is need to modernize our tax structure;

AND WHEREAS tax should be based on the discretion of the payer through expenditure;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government take steps to abolish income tax.

(By Senator Gail Merhair)

(v) **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)

(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;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Government drastically increase meaningful investment in the health and well-being of children and their mothers as not only a human rights imperative, but as a sound economic decision and as a way for this country's future to be better assured.

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

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

Senate Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN
March 31, 2010

ORDER PAPER/TUESDAY APRIL 06, 2010
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 26 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; and
- (d) the cost of the services of each consultant?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

Question No. 27 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 give a further 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 27.02.10)

Question No. 28 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; and
 - (ii) how many contractors have not been paid and exactly when would they be paid?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

Question No. 35 to the Honourable Minister of Public Administration

(By Senator Wade Mark)

With respect to the rental of buildings to house Government Offices, could the Minister inform the Senate:

- (a) what was government's expenditure for the years 2007-2009; and

(b) the details of such expenditure, inclusive of the names of the landlords and the amounts paid?

(Answer due by 27.02.10)

Question No. 46 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

- A. Would the Minister inform of the Senate the number of applications made for government/public housing since 2006?
- B. Would the Minister further indicate the number of these applications which were successful in obtaining government/public housing?
- C. Would the Minister also indicate reasons for refusal or non-processing of the unsuccessful applications?

(Answer due by 07.04.10)

Question No. 47 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

With respect to the \$12M Housing Grants given for home improvements in 2009, Could the Minister inform the Senate of:

- (a) the number of recipients/beneficiaries; and
- (b) the geographical location of the recipients/beneficiaries?

(Answer due by 07.04.10)

Question No. 48 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

Would the Minister explain to the Senate, the difference between the budgetary allocation of \$1045M and the expenditure of \$901.6M in the Ministry for the fiscal year 2009?

(Answer due by 07.04.10)

Question No. 49 to the Honourable Minister of Planning, Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

With respect to the \$40M IDB Assisted National Settlement Second Stage Programme, could the Minister advise the Senate:

- (a) of the number of recipients; and
- (b) the geographical location to the recipients?

(Answer due by 07.04.10)

Question No. 51 to the Honourable Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

With respect to the disbursement of \$30M under the National Commission for Self-Help for fiscal 2009, could the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (i) the number of registered and non-registered recipients who benefitted from the disbursement; and
- (ii) the amount received by each recipient?

(Answer due by 07.04.10)

Question No. 55 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

Could the Minister provide this Senate with:

- (i) the names of authorized quarry operators in Trinidad and Tobago since 2006; and
- (ii) the number of illegal quarry operators who have been caught, charged and/or otherwise punished in Trinidad and Tobago from 2006 to present?

(Answer due by 14.04.10)

Question No. 56 to the Honourable Minister of Community Development, Culture and Gender Affairs

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

A. Would the Minister inform the Senate of the financial allocations/funding given by its Ministry to the following:

- (i) the National Carnival Bands Association;
- (ii) the Trinbago Unified Calypso Organisation; and
- (iii) Pan Trinbago since 2006?

B. Further, would the Minister indicate what other organisations were the recipients of direct funding by the Ministry, for carnival and carnival related events and activities since 2006?

(Answer due by 16.04.10)

Question No. 57 to the Honourable Minister of Social Development

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

Would the Minister identify the recipients of the scholarships granted to residents of government-sanctioned homes and orphanages for 2009, and the sum of the scholarship awarded to each?

(Answer due by 16.04.10)

Question No. 58 to the Honourable Minister of Social Development

(By Senator Lyndira Oudit)

With regard to the Conditional Cash Transfer Food Support Programme, from 2006 to present, could the Minister indicate:

- (a) the names and addresses of recipients under this programme;
- (b) the owners of buildings and rent paid/purchase price of these buildings used in the programme in Tunapuna, Arima, Point Fortin or elsewhere in Trinidad and Tobago?

(Answer due by 16.04.10)

APPENDIX II

DESCRIPTION OF LAND	PUBLIC PURPOSES FOR WHICH TO BE ACQUIRED
<p>1. The parcel of land Comprising 94.5 square metres or 1017.2 square feet more or less, situate at the South Western corner of Bacolet and Main Streets, in the Town of Scarborough in the Ward of Tobago and described in the Schedule and coloured raw sienna on a plan or survey signed by the Director of Surveys and dated 18th July, 2006 executed under Survey Order No. 11/2002 and filed in the Lands and Surveys Division;</p> <p style="text-align: center;"><u>SCHEDULE</u></p> <p>A parcel of land comprising 94.5m² or 1017.2 square feet more or less, situate at the south-western corner of Bacolet and Main Streets, Scarborough, in the Ward of Tobago and said to belong now or formerly to Lennox Phillips.</p> <p>The parcel of land is more particularly shown coloured raw sienna on a Survey Plan filed in Book 1361 as Folio 20 and surveyed under Survey Order No. 11/2002, which is filed in the vault of the Lands and Surveys Division, Old General Post Office Building, Wrightson Road, Port of Spain.</p>	<p>The widening of the junction of Bacolet Street with the Claude Noel Highway.</p>

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

March 31, 2010