



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

NINETEENTH SITTING, FIRST SESSION (2010/2011), TENTH PARLIAMENT
MONDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2010 AT 1:00 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

QUESTION FOR ORAL ANSWER

Question No. 3 to the Honourable Prime Minister

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

- A. Could the Prime Minister inform the Senate of the number of state boards appointed by her Government as at November 03, 2010 and the number of persons appointed to the said boards?
 - B. Could the Prime Minister also indicate the number of women appointed to the boards that have been appointed as at November 03, 2010? and
 - C. Could the Prime Minister further indicate the number of women appointed as Chairmen of these boards as at November 03, 2010?
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) **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday July 20, 2010 will be resumed:**

BE IT RESOLVED that this House take note of the ‘State of the Economy’ at this time.

(By the Minister of Planning, Economic and Social Restructuring and Gender Affairs)

- (ii) **WHEREAS** Article (8) of the Trinidad and Tobago (Constitution) Order in Council, 1961 provided that “the Governor shall make and cause to be laid before the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, when they first meet such Standing Orders with respect to the matters mentioned in article 26 of the Constitution as appear to him expedient to enable the Senate and House of Representatives to commence the transaction of their business in an orderly manner, but any such Orders may be amended or revoked by the chamber to which they relate”;

AND WHEREAS the Standing Orders of the Senate were made by the Governor in 1961 pursuant to the said Article and laid before the Senate on December 29, 1961.;

AND WHEREAS there has never been a comprehensive review of these Standing Orders since they were enacted;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Standing Orders of the Senate be referred to the Standing Orders Committee for consideration and report within the current session.

(By the Minister in the Ministry of National Security)

Bills Second Reading

- (i) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday November 16, 2010 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Firearms Act, Chap. 16:01”.

(By the Minister of National Security)

- (ii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Bail Act, Chap. 4:60 and the Kidnapping Act, Chap. 11:26”.

(By the Attorney General)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions

- (i) **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday October 26, 2010 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS Parliament is the arm of the State which gives effect to policy initiatives of the Executive through enabling legislation;

AND WHEREAS an efficient and effective Parliament can lead to improved governance for the benefit of citizens;

AND WHEREAS inordinate delays in the workings of Parliament can have an adverse impact on citizens, the economy and the society;

BE IT RESOLVED that Parliament take steps to evaluate its efficiency and effectiveness;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that arising from the evaluation, Parliament take the necessary action within its control to maximize its efficiency and effectiveness.

(By Senator Subhas Ramkhelawan)

- (ii) **WHEREAS** successive governments/administrations have alluded to the need for constitutional reform;

AND WHEREAS the previous People's National Movement administration tabled in Parliament and circulated for public comment, a blue print for Constitutional Reform;

AND WHEREAS the current People's Partnership administration had indicated during the election campaign that certain Constitutional Reform measures are to be pursued;

AND WHEREAS the repeal and replacement of the entire Constitution may not be the necessary, desirable or effective approach to better align the overall requirements of the nation for a more just and equitable society and enhanced governance;

BE IT RESOLVED that the process of Constitutional Reform be pursued through a series of amendments addressing specific areas of concerns;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the rationale for, as well as the scheduling and sequencing of each series of proposed amendments to the Constitution, be effectively communicated to the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago prior to debate in the Parliament.

(By Senator Subhas Ramkhelawan)

- (iii) **WHEREAS** we live in a world driven by Science and Technology; and

WHEREAS there is an established strong correlation between Science and Technology on one hand and economic development on the other; and

WHEREAS there is a need to diversify our economy and look for new directions for sustainable economic development; and

WHEREAS such new directions can be engendered by the proper application of Science and Technology.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Government of Trinidad and Tobago create with a sense of urgency the necessary policies and enabling environment to promote the full development of Science and Technology and facilitate its contribution to our economic development.

(By Senator Prof. Harold Ramkissoon)

(iv) **WHEREAS** conditions conducive to free, fair and transparent elections are essential to preserving Democracy;

AND WHEREAS various resources are needed to finance and support free, fair and transparent election campaigns;

AND WHEREAS the cost of financing campaigns has increased substantially over decades and sources of campaign finance are not transparent and therefore, a matter of serious concern to citizens;

AND WHEREAS citizens need to be satisfied that there is fairness and full disclosure with respect to transactions involving the use of public resources by elected representatives in the process of governance;

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

(By Senator Helen Drayton)

**Neil Jaggassar
Clerk of the Senate**

**Senate Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN
November 24, 2010**