



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

TWENTY-SIXTH SITTING, FIRST SESSION (2010/2011), TENTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2011 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 Sangre Grande Regional Corporation for the period October 2005 to September 2006.
(By the Minister of Local Government)
 - (ii) The Report of the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation for the period October 2006 to September 2007.
(By the Minister of Local Government)
 - (iii) The Report of the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation for the period October 2007 to September 2008.
(By the Minister of Local Government)
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

NEW QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 37 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Minister indicate by Magisterial Districts:

- i. the number of Court exhibits to firearm offences that have been forwarded to the Forensic Science Centre for testing for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010
- ii. the average timeframe for the return of these results?

(Answer due by 08.03.2011)

Question No. 38 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Minister indicate by Magisterial Districts:

- i. the number of Court exhibits related to drug offences that have been forwarded to the Forensic Centre for testing for the years 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009 and 2010; and
- ii. the average timeframe for the return of these results?

(Answer due by 08.03.2011)

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Question for Oral Answer

***Question No. 20 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Transport**

(By Senator Terrence Deyalsingh)

With respect to the project to construct a tunnel from Tunapuna to Maracas as mentioned by the Minister of Finance during the 2010-2011 Budget debate, could the Minister:

- a. provide a status update on this project;
- b. indicate what are the expected costs associated with its construction;
- c. advise whether feasibility studies have been done;
- d. provide the expected start and end dates;
- e. outline the anticipated impact on the existing traffic conditions as opposed to the implementation of a rapid rail system?

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

* Question No. 20 was deferred for one week on 01.02.11 and for one week on 8.02.11

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 the last review of these Standing Orders was undertaken in 2000;

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) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Statutory Authorities Act Chap: 24:01”.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (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)
- (iii) 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 Finance)
- (iv) A Bill entitled, “An Act to give effect to the Convention on the Prohibition of the Development, Production and Stockpiling of Bacteriological (Biological) and Toxin Weapons and on their Destruction”.
(By the Minister of National Security)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions

- (i) **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)

- (ii) **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)

- (iii) **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)

- (iv) **BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable Senate take note of the strengths and deficiencies of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service and its impact and potential in the fight against crime.

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

- (v) **WHEREAS** the Cabinet of the government of Trinidad and Tobago, appointed a Task force to review our penal system and to make recommendations;

AND WHEREAS Cabinet accepted the recommendations of the said Task Force as government policy;

AND WHEREAS several of these recommendations are at varying levels of implementation;

BE IT RESOLVED that the government fully implement these recommendations for the modernization, transformation and efficiency of the penal system and the Prison Service.

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

- (vi) **WHEREAS** the Interception of Communications Act, 2010 is now part of the Laws of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS there exist provisions for the management of the information gathered by the Security Intelligence Agency, prior to and after the passage of the abovementioned Act;

AND WHEREAS spokespersons for the Government, before and after the passage of this Act, issued statements at variance with each other and at variance with international best practice in management of information gathered by the state intelligence apparatus;

AND WHEREAS this state of affairs has generated deep concerns on the part of citizens of Trinidad and Tobago in relation to their safety and security;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate examine this state of affairs and record its observations and concerns on these issues, which are at the heart of our national security and good governance in Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

**Neil Jaggassar
Clerk of the Senate**

**Senate Secretariat
The Red House
PORT OF SPAIN
February 09, 2011**

APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER/TUESDAY FEBRUARY 15, 2011
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 22 to the Honourable Minister of Tourism

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Minister provide the Senate with a detailed annual breakdown of visitor arrivals from the top twenty (20) countries to Tobago over the last five (5) years?

(Answer due by 14.02.2011)

Question No. 23 to the Honourable Minister of Tourism

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Minister provide the Senate with a detailed annual breakdown of visitor arrivals from the top twenty (20) countries to Trinidad over the last five (5) years?

(Answer due by 14.02.2011)

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

February 09, 2011