



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ORDER PAPER**

SEVENTEENTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2011/2012), TENTH PARLIAMENT  
TUESDAY FEBRUARY 28, 2012 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 Oral Answer**

**Question No. 33 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

**(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)**

Could the Minister indicate what specific action has been taken to deal with any additional stress brought upon the officers of the Police Service and Defence Force, by virtue of the increased work arising out of demand for more work and effort, since the declaration of the State of Emergency on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011?

**Question No. 34 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

**(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)**

With respect to the construction of the new prison at Santa Rosa Heights, Arima, could the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (i) when was the decision made or taken for the construction of the new prison;
- (ii) the name of the individual(s) or entity who/which owns the property lands upon which this Prison is located;
- (iii) the component and total cost of construction of this facility;
- (iv) the cost of the lease/rental for the period of the lease and the period of such lease;

- (v) whether all of the inmates held at this facility were persons arrested since the imposition of the State of Emergency on August 21<sup>st</sup>, 2011; and
- (vi) What is the population of that Prison as at November 7th, 2011?

**Question No. 36 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

**(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)**

- A. Could the Minister inform the Senate of the number of persons arrested as at October 31, 2011 since the imposition of the State of Public Emergency?
- B. Could the Minister also indicate the number of persons who were arrested under the Preventative Detention process vested in the Minister as a consequence of the declaration of the State of Public Emergency?

**Question No. 47 to the Honourable Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Dr. James Armstrong)**

With respect to monies owed to contractors who have completed works under agreements with the Education Facilities Company Ltd (EFCL) and who have submitted claims for payment, could the Honourable Minister indicate:

- a) the procedure as agreed between the Ministry of Education and the Ministry of Finance with the EFCL in respect of the settlement of certified payments to contractors;
- b) the degree of compliance of the EFCL with such an agreement or other directives of the Ministry of Education/Ministry of Finance;
- c) what are the established criteria for the priority order of payments to contractors;
- d) what are the outstanding amounts owed to contractors, who completed work for the EFCL, as at December 2011; and
- e) whether funds have been allocated to meet these payments on a timely basis?

**Question No. 48 to the Honourable Minister of Planning and the Economy**

**(By Senator Dr. James Armstrong)**

With respect to the Invaders Bay Request for Proposals (RFP), could the Minister advise:

- (a) has an Evaluation Committee been established by his Ministry for evaluation of proposals in response to the RFP;
- (b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, when was the Evaluation Committee appointed and who are the members;
- (c) did the publication of the Request for Proposals (RFP) conform to the Tenders Board Act; and
- (d) what is the document referred to at paragraph 3.5 in the Request for Proposals (RFP) as an “Invaders Bay Development Matrix and Criteria Description” and has this actually been used in the evaluation of proposals in response to the (RFP)?

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

### **PRIVATE BUSINESS**

#### **Motions**

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday January 31, 2012, will be resumed:**

**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)**

- (ii) **WHEREAS** the year 2012 will mark the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of this nation's Independence;

**AND WHEREAS** since 1962, several Heads of State and Heads of Government have made outstanding contributions to the advancement of this republic;

**AND WHEREAS** there exists a Memorial Collection of the contributions of the late Dr. Eric Eustace Williams, first Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago whose centennial takes place later in 2011;

**AND WHEREAS** Arthur Napoleon Raymond Robinson who served this country both as President and Prime Minister has initiated the Castara Project of his pursuits and achievements;

**AND WHEREAS** one method of bestowing honour on these office holders is through the establishment and maintenance of memorials in recognition of their contributions to the development of the nation during the course of their tenure;

**AND WHEREAS** the Honourable Prime Minister of Trinidad and Tobago in tribute to the first President of Trinidad and Tobago announced the endowment of the Sir Ellis Clarke Chair in Commonwealth Parliamentary and Constitutional Studies at the University of the West Indies;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that there be established formal tangible memorials of the work and contributions of all the former Heads of State and Heads of Government of this country;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that there be instituted a State-funded arrangement whereby the contributions of all who served in the offices of President and Prime Minister of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago will be recognized.

**(By Senator Corinne Baptiste Mc Knight)**

(iii) **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)**

(iv) **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 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 Professor Harold Ramkissoon)**

(v) **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 (SIA), 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)**

(vi) **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)**

## GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

### Motions

- (i) **WHEREAS** on Friday February 17, 2012, the House of Representatives considered the Senate amendments to the Finance Bill, 2012;

**AND WHEREAS** the House of Representatives concurred with the Senate, except in the amendment to Clause 19;

**AND WHEREAS** the Senate amendment to Clause 19 has fundamentally changed the intent of the provision;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate note the reason for the disagreement of the House of Representatives with the amendment to Clause 19 and take no further action.

**(By the Minister of Finance)**

- (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 Leader of Government Business)**

### Bills Second Reading

- (i) 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)**

- (ii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Trinidad and Tobago Postal Corporation Act, Chap. 47:02.”  
**(By the Minister of Public Utilities)**

Nataki Atiba-Dilchan  
**Clerk of the Senate**

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**February 22, 2012**