



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

NINETEENTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2011/2012), TENTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY MARCH 13, 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
 - (i) The Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on Ministries, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises (Group 2) on the Sport Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SPORTT).
(By Senator Dr. James Armstrong)
 - (ii) The Fourth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Ministries, Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises (Group 2) on the Office of Disaster Preparedness and Management (ODPM).
(By Senator Dr. James Armstrong)
8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 40 to the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs and Communications

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

- (i) Could the Minister indicate the number of Diplomatic Passports issued to citizens of Trinidad and Tobago over the past five (5) years;
- (ii) Could the Minister outline the criteria that have been applied for the issuance of such passports over the said period;
- (iii) Could the Minister indicate the total number of such valid passports now in existence; and

- (iv) Could the Minister indicate the course of action typically adopted by his Ministry, if and when the circumstances of a Diplomatic Passport holder changes?

Question No. 41 to the Honourable Minister of Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

- (a) Could the Minister indicate the total cost (including bulldozer cost, security cost and supervision) of the recent clearing of the lands by agents of the HDC, previously occupied and cultivated by farmers at Pineapple Crescent, D'Abadie also known as "Pineapple Smith Lands" and Egypt Trace, Enterprise, Chaguanas?
- (b) Could the Minister indicate whether the bulldozed produce were "short crops"?
- (c) If the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, would the Minister indicate whether these crops were fully developed and if so, why were they not saved?
- (d) Could the Minister indicate whether the development of housing has actually begun?
- (e) If the answer to (d) above is in the negative, could the Minister further indicate the expected start-date?

Question No. 42 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

- (a) Could the Minister indicate why the sum of approximately \$7Billion (TT) needed to fund the construction of the San Fernando/Pt. Fortin Highway was not raised by borrowing "in the market"?
- (b) Given that the sum of \$1.5Billion (TT) was not budgeted for the project at (a) above in fiscal 2010-2011, could the Minister indicate from which "Heads" in the estimates of expenditure was this sum taken?

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) **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) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday March 06, 2012, will be resumed:**

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 Foreign Affairs and Communications)

- (ii) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday March 06, 2012, will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Trinidad and Tobago Postal Corporations Act, Chap. 47:02.”

(By the Minister of Public Utilities)

- (iii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Land Adjudication Act, 2000.”

(By the Attorney General)

- (iv) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Registration of Titles to Land Act, 2000.”

(By the Attorney General)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday February 28, 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 50th 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)

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motion

(i) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate adopt the Interim Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report to Parliament on the Legislative Proposals to provide for Public Procurement and Disposal of Public Property and the Repeal and Replacement of the Central Tenders Board Act, Second Session (2011/2012), Tenth Parliament.

(By the Minister of Planning and the Economy)

Nataki Atiba-Dilchan
Clerk of the Senate

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PORT OF SPAIN

March 07, 2012

APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER/TUESDAY MARCH 13, 2012
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 54 to the Honourable Minister of Food Production, Land and Marine Affairs

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Minister provide the names of all persons who received compensation from his Ministry during the period June 2010 to January 2012, the value of compensation received by each applicant and the respective categories of compensation?

(Answer due by 27.03.2012)

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