SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

TWENTY-NINTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2011/2012)
TENTH PARLIAMENT
FRIDAY MAY 18, 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

   (i) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Police Complaints Authority for the year ended 30th September, 2004.

   (By the Minister of Finance)

7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 84 to the Honourable Minister of Justice

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

With respect to the Police Complaints Authority, could the Minister state:

(i) the number of reports made against police officers for the period January 2009 to March 2012;

(ii) the number of resolved matters; and

(iii) the number of officers that have been warned, disciplined or fired based on reports made to the Authority?

Question No. 86 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

A. Would the Minister inform the Senate whether negotiations are currently being undertaken by the Government with the following multilateral funding organizations:

   (i) World Bank;

(ii) Inter-American Development Bank;

(iii) European Investment Bank;

(iv) Caribbean Development Bank?

B. If these answers are affirmative, could the Minister state the quantum and purpose of the loans or proposed loans?

Question No. 89 to the Honourable Minister of Health

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

Would the Minister provide the Senate with the Infant Mortality and the Maternal Mortality Rates for Trinidad and Tobago for the past five (5) years?

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)

Committee Stage

(i) **The Committee Stage on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday May 08, 2012 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Regional Health Authorities Act, Chap 29:05."
(By the Minister of Health)

Bills Second Reading

(i) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday May 15, 2012 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, "An Act relating to the protection of children and for matters related thereto".

(By the Minister of Gender, Youth and Child Development)

(ii) A Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Land Adjudication Act, 2000."
(By the Attorney General)

(iii) 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 April 24, 2012 will be resumed:**

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)

(ii) **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)

(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 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)

(iv) **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)

(v) **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

Motions

(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)

(ii) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate adopt the Second Report of the Joint Select Committee on Parliamentary Accommodation (10th Parliament) - 2011/2012 Session.
(By Senator Dr. James Armstrong)

Nataki Atiba-Dilchan
Clerk of the Senate

Senate Secretariat
Office of the Parliament
Level 3, Tower D
The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road
PORT OF SPAIN

May 16, 2012

APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER/FRIDAY MAY 18, 2012
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 61 to the Honourable Minister of Housing and the Environment

(**By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)**

A. Would the Minister kindly identify and/or name the locations of the parcels of land, owned by or vested in the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) that are earmarked for housing, across Trinidad and Tobago and the anticipated start date for such housing development in each case?

B. Would the Minister kindly provide the pertinent details as to this ownership and/or vesting?

C. Would the Minister indicate those parcels at (A) above which are occupied in whole or in part, by farmers/squatters and are now under cultivation or other illegal occupation?

D. Would the Minister also advise whether and when the HDC proposes to take occupation of the lands at (C)?

(Answer due by 02.05.2012)

Question No. 62 to the Honourable Minister of Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

With respect to housing units under the purview of the Housing Development Corporation (HDC), could the Minister indicate:

(a) the number of housing units owned by the HDC that comprise the entire housing stock;

(b) the number of units of this stock that have never been occupied by tenants and those other than units for rental, not yet sold, and when such units will be made available to citizens; and

(c) how many units have been allocated to beneficiaries between September 01, 2010 and the current date, and the addresses of these units?

(Answer due by 02.05.2012)

Question No. 63 to the Honourable Minister of Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

A. Would the Minister kindly indicate whether the HDC complied with the provisions of Section 35 (1) of the Environmental Management Act of 2000, when it caused approximately 40 acres of land at Pineapple Crescent, D'Abadie, to be bulldozed?

B. If the answer is in the negative, could the Minister explain why not?

C. If the answer at (A) is in the affirmative, would the Minister provide this House with a copy of the relevant Certificate of Clearance?

(Answer due by 02.05.2012)

Question No. 64 to the Honourable Minister of Housing and the Environment
(**By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)**

Would the Minister indicate:

(a) the names, academic qualifications and other certification of the members of the Board of Management of the Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation (HDC);

(b) the date of appointment of each such member; and

(c) whether any of these persons holds any other office within the said HDC or the Ministry of Housing and the Environment, whether on contract or otherwise?

(Answer due by 02.05.2012)

Question No. 65 to the Honourable Minister of Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

A. Would the Minister advise whether compensation was paid to the farmers who were in occupation of lands at Pineapple Crescent, D'Abadie, which were bulldozed by the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) for housing purposes?

B. If the answer to (A) is in the affirmative, would the Minister indicate how many farmers were affected, the amount paid to each, and for what specific loss?

C. Would the Minister further indicate what has the HDC done to relocated, to what location(s)?

D. Are the sums identified at (B) above the full and final settlement?

(Answer due by 02.05.2012)

Question No. 66 to the Honourable Minister of Sport

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

With respect to the Trinidad and Tobago Boxing Board of Control, could the Minister indicate:

(a) the name(s) and professions/occupations of the members of the Trinidad and Tobago Boxing Board of Control;

(b) the date of the appointment of each of these persons;

(c) whether any person has been appointed as an Adviser to the said Trinidad and Tobago Boxing Board of Control; and if so, could the Minister provide the name of this person and indicate the full terms and conditions of the engagement of this person relative to this appointment;

(d) whether any member of the said Board has ever been convicted for any criminal offence in Trinidad and Tobago; and if so, on what date(s) and what was (or were) the sentence(s); and

(e) whether a criminal conviction disqualifies a person from holding a Board position?

(Answer due by 02.05.2012)

Question No. 69 to the Honourable Prime Minister

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

A. Would the Honourable Prime Minister indicate what specific projects, initiatives and activities were implemented by her Government in commemoration of United Nations International Year for People of African Descent?

B. Did the central government or any state agency fund or otherwise support these initiatives?

C. If the answer to (B) is in the affirmative, how much money was expended in respect of these initiatives?

(Answer due by 02.05.2012)

Question No. 83 to the Honourable Minister of Local Government

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

Could the Minister inform the Senate of the total amount of funds spent on the Unemployment Relief Programme on a monthly basis for the period June 2010 to May 2012?

(Answer due by 23.05.2012)

Question No. 85 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

Would the Minister provide the Senate with:

(i) a detailed breakdown of the annual financial allocation made to all State Enterprises and Authorities for the period 2010, 2011 and 2012; and

(ii) a detailed breakdown of the profit and losses for these State Enterprises and Statutory Authorities over the said period?

(Answer due by 23.05.2012)

Question No. 87 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

Could the Minister indicate to the Senate the amount of monies collected for traffic offences for the years 2005 to 2012?

(Answer due by 23.05.2012)

Question No. 88 to the Honourable Minister of Finance

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

Would the Minister provide the Senate with:

(i) a detailed listing of the names of all Chairmen and members of all Boards of Directors appointed by this government from June 2010; and

(ii) the qualifications, gender, address and honorarium for the above-mentioned board members?

(Answer due by 23.05.2012)

Question No. 90 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

With respect to the Water and Sewerage Authority, would the Minister inform the Senate of:

(i) the total work force of the Authority;

(ii) the number of new workers employed since June 2010;

(iii) the names, positions and addresses of the persons employed; and

(iv) the qualifications of the persons employed?

(Answer due by 23.05.2012)

Question No. 91 to the Honourable Minister of Housing and the Environment

(By Senator Pennelope Beckles)

Would the Minister provide the Senate with the following:

(i) the names and addresses of contractors awarded contracts through the Community based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) since June 2010 to date;

(ii) dates of the award of the contracts to companies/NGO's under the CEPEP ;

(iii) the amount of monies paid to each of these companies/NGO's to date;

(iv) date of Incorporation/Registration of the companies/NGO's

(v) names and addresses of their Directors;

(vi) the criteria for the selection of contractors; and

(vii) a list of all contractors/NGO's who applied for contracts and the names and addresses of contractors/NGO's who were unsuccessful and the reasons for their rejection?

(Answer due by 23.05.2012)

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