



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

TWENTY-FIRST SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2012/2013)

TENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY MAY 14, 2013 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 Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Regulated Industries Commission for the year ended December 31, 2009.
(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)
 - (ii) The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Postal Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2007.
(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)
 - (iii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended September 30, 2012.
(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)
 - (iv) The Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended September 30, 2012- Vols. I and II.
(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
 - (i) The Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee established to inquire into and report to Parliament on Ministries (Group 1) and on the Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises falling under their purview on the Administration and Operations of the Ministry of Health with specific focus on Primary Health Care.
(By Senator Corinne Baptiste-Mc Knight)

- (ii) The Eight Report of the Joint Select Committee established to inquire into and report to Parliament on Municipal Corporations and Service Commissions on the Review of the Police Commission.

(By Senator the Honourable Marlene Coudray)

8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

***Question No. 41 to the Honourable Attorney General**

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Honourable Attorney General indicate, as at March 2013, the following:

- (i) the total cost of the Commission of Inquiry into the 1990 attempted coup inclusive of salaries for professional services rendered, administrative costs and other incidentals;
- (ii) the names of professionals providing services to the Commission and to the State and to all State Enterprises appearing at the Commission and/or advising in relation thereto; and
- (iii) the total fees paid to the professionals identified under paragraph (ii) above?

***Question No. 42 to the Honourable Attorney General**

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Honourable Attorney General indicate as at March 2013, the following:

- (i) the total cost of the CLICO/HCU Commission of Inquiry inclusive of salaries, fees for professional services rendered, administrative costs and other incidentals;
- (ii) the names of professionals providing services to the Commission and to State and to all State Enterprises appearing at the Commission and/or advising in relation thereto; and
- (iii) the total fees paid to the professionals identified under paragraph (ii) above?

***Question No. 44 to the Honourable Minister of Trade, Industry and Investment**

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (i) what was the country's total Food Import Bill per year for the years 2008 to 2012 inclusive; and

* Questions Nos. 41 and 42 were deferred for two weeks on 23.04.13

* Question No. 44 was deferred for two weeks on 30.04.13

- (ii) the first ten items of highest expenditure on the Food Import Bill for the above mentioned years together with the monetary values?

***Question No. 45 to the Honourable Minister of Tertiary Education and Skills Training**

(By Senator Prof. Harold Ramkissoon)

With regard to the Science and Technology Policy for Trinidad and Tobago, could the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (i) what is the status of development/execution of this policy;
- (ii) how will the policy be funded;
- (iii) does the policy include a National Research and Development (R&D) System;
- (iv) how much has already been spent on R&D as a percentage of GDP during the 2010 -11 and 2011 -12 periods;
- (v) what major areas were the recipients of the expenditure under (iv) and how much was expended on each area; and
- (vi) when can the country expect to reach the international recommended minimum expenditure on R&D of 1% of GDP?

***Question No. 47 to the Honourable Attorney General**
(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

With respect to the “A-Team” assembled to investigate and collect evidence on corruption as announced by the Attorney General on 13th August 2010, could the Honourable Attorney General indicate:

- (i) the total amount of fees paid to date, to each of the local and foreign-based lawyers of the “A-Team”;
- (ii) the total sum paid to-date to the non-lawyer(s) on the “A-Team”;
- (iii) whether the work of the “A-Team” is complete, and if so, whether any evidence to support any criminal charges against any person has been gathered; and
- (iv) if the work of the “A-Team” is not yet complete, would the Honourable Attorney General indicate the status and a projected completion date?

***Question No. 48 to the Honourable Minister of Health**
(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

With respect to the Children’s Life Fund, would the Minister indicate to the Senate:

- (i) the total amount of money now held in the account(s) of the Children’s Life Fund as at 31st December, 2012;

*Questions Nos. 45, 47 and 48 were deferred for two weeks on 23.04.13

- (ii) the number of children up to the said 31st December, 2012, who benefited from access to this fund;
- (iii) the number of children who acquired treatment/care locally; and the number who acquired treatment/care abroad;
- (iv) what was the largest single donation/contribution to the fund, as well as its source; and
- (v) whether any contributions from ministerial salaries are included in the figure(s) at (i) above?

***Question No. 49 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy**

(By Senator Terrence Deyalsingh)

With regard to the hiring of Ascend Aviation, by Caribbean Airlines, to perform evaluation work as to the suitability of leased aircraft, could the Minister indicate:

- a. which of Ascend Aviation's worldwide offices performed the evaluation;
- b. the date of procurement of such services;
- c. the date of submission of the report;
- d. the terms of reference of the exercise;
- e. the cost of the exercise; and
- f. the name of the person who signed off on the report?

Question No. 50 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

With regard to the operations of Caribbean Airlines Limited, could the Minister state:

- (a) the total profit and/or loss of Caribbean Airlines Limited (CAL) over the calendar year January 2012 thru December 2012;
- (b) whether CAL has utilized the services of foreign pilots who did not possess the required work permits at any time over the past 2 years;
- (c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative, whether there were suitably qualified local pilots available to fill the positions held by such foreign pilots; and
- (d) If the answer to (b) and (c) are in the affirmative, could the Minister state the consequences of this practice?

Question No. 51 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

Would the Minister provide an update with respect to all outstanding matters required to achieve a final resolution of the CLICO/CLF matter?

*Question No. 49 was deferred for two weeks on 23.04.13

Question No. 52 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

Would the Minister provide an update on the performance of the Heritage and Stabilization Fund (HSF), and state when the review of the provisions of the HSF, as required by section 22 of the HSF Act, will be laid before the Parliament?

Question No. 53 to the Honourable Minister of Health

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

Regarding the proposed construction of a new Children's Hospital, would the Minister of Health indicate to the Senate:

- (a) how many other sites were considered for the location of the hospital;
- (b) was the chosen site the first site chosen;
- (c) whether design plans have already been prepared in respect of the hospital, and what is the projected cost of this project;
- (d) were any designs plans for this hospital drawn up for any site other than the one identified at (b) and discarded in favour of the current site;
- (e) if the answer to part (d) is in the affirmative, whether there has been any variation in the projected costs having regard to the changed location;
- (f) what are the financing arrangements for this project, including the repayment schedule;
- (g) when is the money to build the said hospital to become available to the government;
- (h) what is the anticipated completion date of the hospital; and
- (i) the amount of money expended on the negotiation, planning, ground-preparation (including infrastructural work) and other such activities in respect of this hospital to date?

Question No. 54 to the Honourable Prime Minister

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

Would the Prime Minister, in her capacity as Chairman of the National Security Council, indicate:

- a. whether any persons were dismissed from the SSA/SIA between May 21st, 2010 and 21st January, 2011;
- b. if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, from what posts/positions were persons dismissed and the reasons for such dismissals;
- c. how many Directors does the agency now have and who are they; when was the last Director appointed?

Question No. 55 to the Honourable Prime Minister

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

With regard to the statement made in Parliament on April 25, 2012 by the Prime Minister that the Government will bring legislation to abolish appeals to the Privy Council in all criminal

matters and to cede such jurisdiction to the Caribbean Court of Justice, would the Prime Minister advise this Senate on the status of this proposal?

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) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to provide for the implementation of the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport, the establishment of the Trinidad and Tobago Anti-Doping Disciplinary Panel and the Trinidad and Tobago Anti-Doping Appeal Panel, the promotion of an anti-doping environment which encourages positive behavior among participants in sport and dissuades them from using substances and prohibited methods and for other related matters.

(By the Minister of Sport)

- (ii) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Wednesday April 23, 2013 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Defence Act, Chap. 14:01 and the Police Complaints Authority Act, Chap. 15:05'.

(By the Attorney General)

- (iii) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday November 27, 2012 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, 'An Act to provide for the establishment of the Beverage Containers Advisory Board and of a deposit and refund system for beverage containers and for related matters'.

(By the Minister of the Environment and Water Resources)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions

- (i) **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday April 30, 2013 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago in its preamble, its terms and spirit, recognises and promotes the observance and practice of democratic principles;

BE IT RESOLVED that the government re-affirm its commitment to these principles and the practice of democracy in Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

- (ii) **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 importance 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 six months of its appointment.

(By Senator Helen Drayton)

(iii) **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, have issued statements with respect to the management of information gathered by the state intelligence apparatus;

AND WHEREAS questions have arisen as to whether such statements are at variance with international best practice raising concerns as to the safety and security of citizens of Trinidad and Tobago;

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)

(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 Prof. Harold Ramkissoon)

(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)

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 07, 2013

APPENDIX

**ORDER PAPER
TUESDAY MAY 14, 2013
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**

Question No. 6 to the Honourable Minister of Housing, Land and Marine Affairs

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

With regards to the Community-Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP), could the Minister provide the Senate with the following:

- (i) the names and addresses of companies/NGOs who were awarded contracts through CEPEP since June 2010;
- (ii) the dates of the award of the contracts to CEPEP Contractors;
- (iii) the amount of monies paid to each of these CEPEP contractors;
- (iv) the date of incorporation/registration of each CEPEP contractor;
- (v) the names of the Directors of each CEPEP contractor and their respective addresses;
- (vi) criteria for the selection of CEPEP contractors;
- (vii) a list of all contractors/NGO's who applied to CEPEP for contracts, the names and addresses of contractors/NGO's who were unsuccessful and the reason(s) for their rejection; and
- (viii) a list of contractors in CEPEP terminated since June 2010 and a list of employees whose contracts have been terminated by CEPEP since June 2010?

(Answer due by 03.10.2012)

Question No. 13 to the Honourable Minister of Housing, Land and Marine Affairs

(By Senator Penelope Beckles)

Could the Minister provide the Senate with:

- (i) the number of leases distributed to persons, NGOs or companies during the years 2009 – 2012;
- (ii) the names of persons receiving the leases, the period of the leases and the conditions of same; and
- (iii) the location of the parcels of land and nature of activities approved under the leases?

(Answer due by 03.10.2012)

Question No. 35 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 15.12.2012)

Question No. 39 to the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

- A. Could the Minister state how many nationals of Trinidad and Tobago were employed in the Office of the Trinidad and Tobago Permanent Representative to the United Nations from January 1st, 2011?
- B. In relation to (A), would the Honourable Minister state the names of these persons and provide their terms and conditions of service?
- C. Are any of these persons a relative of any Minister of Government?

(Answer due by 20.03.2013)

Question No. 46 to the Honourable Attorney General

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

With respect to court matters arising during the period 1st January, 2008 to 1st December, 2012 in which the State is a party, could the Honourable Attorney General indicate:

- (a) the number of matters referred to the Privy Council for each such year;
- (b) the total legal fees paid to local and foreign-based lawyers for each year during the said period;
- (c) the names of the respective attorneys/law firms who represented the State of Trinidad and Tobago in such matters; and
- (d) the number of such matters resolved and the outcomes in each case?

(Answer due by 24.04.2013)

Question No. 53 to the Honourable Minister of Health

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

Would the Honourable Minister of Health provide:

- (i) A list of all the contributors and the respective amounts contributed to the Children's Life Fund as at 31st January, 2013;
- (ii) A list of all beneficiaries of this Fund and the amount expended in each case? date?

(Answer due by 16.05.2013)

Senate Secretariat

Office of the Parliament

Level 3, Tower D

The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre

1A Wrightson Road

PORT OF SPAIN

May 07, 2013