



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

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

TENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY JUNE 04, 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 National Insurance (Contribution) (Amendment) Regulations, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)
 - (ii) The Emergency Ambulance Services and Emergency Medical Personnel Regulations, 2013.
(By the Minister of Health)
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. 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

* Question No. 44 was deferred for two weeks on 30.04.13; postponed for one week on 14.05.13 in accordance with S.O 18(3); and one week on 28.05.13.

- (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. 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;
- (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?

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";

*Question 48 was deferred for two weeks on 23.04.13; two weeks on 14.05.13; and one week on 28.05.13.

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)

- (ii) **WHEREAS** section 3(1) of the Treasury Notes Act, Chap. 71:39 provides that the Minister of Finance and the Economy on the written advice of the Governor of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago may, for the purposes of promoting monetary credit and exchange conditions most favourable to the economy of Trinidad and Tobago, borrow money in Trinidad and Tobago in such sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate, one thousand million Trinidad and Tobago dollars and such further sum or sums or the equivalent thereof in any foreign currency or currencies as may be specified by resolution of Parliament, by the issue of Notes;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary for the Minister of Finance and the Economy to borrow further sums of money for the purposes stated in section 3(1) of the Act;

BE IT RESOLVED that for the purposes of promoting monetary credit and exchange conditions most favourable to the economy of Trinidad and Tobago, the Minister of Finance and the Economy is hereby authorized to borrow such further sum or sums in Trinidad and Tobago, not exceeding in the aggregate, fifteen thousand million Trinidad and Tobago dollars or the equivalent thereof in any foreign currency or currencies, by the issue of Notes.

(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)

- (iii) **WHEREAS** Section 2(1) of the Treasury Bills Act, Chap. 71:40 provides that the Minister of Finance and the Economy may borrow in Trinidad and Tobago such sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate, two thousand million Trinidad and Tobago dollars or the equivalent thereof in any foreign currency or currencies and such further sum or sums as may be specified by resolution of Parliament, or the equivalent thereof in any foreign currency or currencies, by the issue of Treasury Bills;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary for the Minister of Finance and the Economy to borrow further sums of money for the purpose of facilitating the conduct of open market operations by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that for the purposes of facilitating the conduct of open market operations by the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago, the Minister of Finance and the Economy is hereby authorized to borrow such further sum or sums in Trinidad and Tobago, not exceeding in the aggregate, thirty thousand million Trinidad and Tobago dollars or the equivalent thereof in any foreign currency or currencies, by the issue of Treasury Bills.

(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)

Bills Second Reading

- (i) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Customs Act, Chap. 78:01 to enhance border control by providing for advance passenger and cargo information to be submitted electronically to the Comptroller of Customs and Excise and for related matters”.
- (By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)**
- (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 May 28, 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
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May 29, 2013

APPENDIX

**ORDER PAPER
TUESDAY JUNE 04, 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. 56 to the Honourable Minister of Health

(By Senator Fitzgerald Hinds)

Would the 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)

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