SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

TWELFTH SITTING, FOURTH SESSION (2013/2014)
TENTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY JANUARY 28, 2014 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 Administrative Report of the Public Service Commission for the year 2012.

   (By the Vice-President)

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. 42 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

   (By Senator David Small)

   With regard to increased exploration activity and production, could the Minister inform this Senate:

   (a) of the results/benefits and the expected outlook as a direct result of the incentives instituted in the past 2 years aimed at stimulating the increase in oil and gas production;
   (b) of the Government's position as to the efficacy of the measures at (a) above to date, in relation to the companies who have directly gained benefits and the concomitant gains to the state (if any); and
   (c) whether the efficacy of the application of the measures at (a) above are being reviewed, and if so, how often and what reports, etc., have been generated as well as the key findings of such reports (if any exist)?

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* Question No. 42 was deferred for one week on 14.01.2014 and for one week on 21.01.2014.

***Question No. 45 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

Could the Minister advise on the status of the Standing Committee on Energy as it relates to the following:

(a) the number of meetings held in the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 (to date);
(b) the energy projects that have been the subject of deliberation by the Committee;
(c) the projects approved for development by the Committee; and
(d) the major energy policy decisions of the Committee?

***Question No. 46 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

Could the Minister kindly advise this Senate on:

(a) the status of the reorganization and transformation of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs; and

(b) the schedule for the completion of the restructuring of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs, as well as the benefits that will accrue from the exercise?

***Question No. 47 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

Could the Minister please advise this Senate on:

(a) the status of the operations of the Permanent Petroleum Pricing Committee and the number of meetings held in the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2103;

(b) whether the non-functioning of the Permanent Petroleum Pricing Committee is in contravention of any of the laws of Trinidad and Tobago;

(c) given that most of the LNG and petrochemical sales, cannot be strictly termed as being at "arm's length", since they are marketed by companies affiliated to the upstream producers, what measures are being utilised by the Ministry to establish and confirm the "correctness" of sale prices for these products; and

(d) the mechanisms used to determine the true market value of the transactions at (c) above?

***Question No. 48 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

Could the Minister please advise the Senate on:

(a) the status of the conduct of an updated audit of the oil reserves in the country;
(b) whether or not any upstream companies have been holding data on oil and gas wells and geophysical data as being "confidential" for over 30 years;

(c) whether such a practice is in line with other jurisdictions and the potential for this to hurt the ability of the State to maximise the exploration of all existing acreage; and

(d) what action, if any is being contemplated by the Ministry to address the issues described at (b) and (c) above?

* Questions Nos. 45 and 46 were deferred for one week on 14.01.2014 and for one week on 21.01.2014.
* Questions Nos. 47 and 48 were deferred for one week on 21.01.2014.

***Question No. 49 to the Honourable Minister of Education**

(By Senator Dr. Victor Wheeler)

i) Could the Minister say how many school girls who were attending primary school in each year from 2008 to 2012 gave birth?

ii) Could the Minister say how many school girls, at both the primary school and secondary school level, returned to school after giving birth and further, how many of them were able to complete their education up to form five?

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 November 26, 2013 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS conditions conductive 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)

* Question No. 49 was deferred for one week on 14.01.2014 and for one week on 21.01.2014.

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Committee Stage

(i) **The Committee Stage on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Wednesday January 22, 2014 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Bail Act, Chap. 4:60".

(By the Attorney General)

Bills Second Reading

(i) A Bill entitled, "An Act to establish a Council for Urban and Regional Planners and to provide for the regulation of the urban and regional planning profession and other matters incidental thereto".

(By the Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development)

Nataki Atiba-Dilchan
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January 22, 2014

APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER - TUESDAY JANUARY 28, 2014
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 20 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy

(By Senator David Small)

Could the Minister provide this Senate with the Government revenues from the Methanol and Urea Industry broken out into its component parts such as upstream royalties, taxes from gas sales and Corporation taxes for the period 2010 to 2013?

(Answer due by 07.11.13)

Question No. 43 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy

(By Senator David Small)

Could the Minister provide this Senate with:

(a) the fiscal gains/losses (if any) realized/incurred as a direct result of the application of the fiscal incentives intended to stimulate the production of oil in the country; and

(b) the cost-benefit analysis that quantifies how the country will earn value for money as a direct result of these incentives that are intended to stimulate exploration and development investments?

(Answer due by 26.12.13)

Question No. 44 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs

(By Senator David Small)

With regard to the local content policy, could the Minister:

(a) inform the Senate of the Government's position and plans for ensuring the maximisation of local content from ongoing and planned energy activities in the country;
(b) provide a detailed and quantified cost-benefit analysis of the benefits to the country from the application of the existing local content policy;
(c) state what are the opportunities for local Private Sector Investment and Public/Private Partnerships that your Ministry and the State companies are addressing to get more local value added from oil and natural gas and to get more local private equity engaged in this very productive sector; and
(d) state where has the Ministry reached in preparing legislation on local content?

(Answer due by 26.12.13)

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