



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

NINETEENTH SITTING, FOURTH SESSION (2013/2014)

TENTH PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY 2nd APRIL, 2014 AT 10:00 A.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 Report of the Heritage and Stabilization Fund 2012-2013.
(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)
 - (ii) The Annual Report of the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission for the year ended September 30, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)
 - (iii) The Response to the Twelfth Report of the Joint Select Committee established to inquire and report to Parliament on Municipal Corporations and Service Commissions (with the exception of the Judicial and Legal Service Commission) on the Re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Statutory Authorities' Service Commission.
(By the Vice-President)
 - (iv) The Response to the Sixth Report of the Joint Select Committee established to inquire and report to Parliament on Municipal Corporations and Service Commissions (with the exception of the Judicial and Legal Service Commission) on the Re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Statutory Authorities' Service Commission.
(By the Vice-President)
7. PRESENTATION OF REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
 - (i) The Fifteenth Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report on Government Ministries (Group 2), Statutory Authorities and State Enterprises falling under their purview on the Administration and Operations of the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC).
(By Senator Dr. Victor Wheeler)

- (ii) The Thirteenth Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report on Municipal Corporations and Service Commissions on a review of the Administration of the Point Fortin Borough Corporation.

(Senator Shamfa Cudjoe)

8. QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

***Question No. 52 to the Honourable Minister of Works and Infrastructure**

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

Could the Minister inform this Senate on:

- (i) the amount of moneys collected under the Road Improvement Fund for the period July 2010 to present; and
- (ii) the use that has been made by the Ministry of the said funds?

***Question No. 57 to the Honourable Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development**

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

- A. Could the Minister indicate the study, the author and the date thereof, which underpins the Government's decision to remove three (3) Government Ministries and other state institutions from the capital city to the Borough of Chaguanas?
- B. What is the government's rationale for choosing Chaguanas for such re-location?
- C. Does the Government anticipate that any residents, businesses and business persons in Port of Spain will be adversely affected by the removal of these ministries and institutions out of their immediate economic space, and if so what specific programme(s) will the government put in place to deal with such adverse effects?

***Question No. 58 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

- A. Would the Minister indicate what was this country's Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) production for each of the years 2007 to 2013?
- B. Is the Minister aware that the Central Bank reported a recent fall/drop by 16.5% in such production? Does the government accept this finding?
- C. Would the Minister indicate what are the implications of this development on the country's prospects for economic growth in the current and next two fiscal years?
- D. What does the government plan to do in response to this development?

* Question No. 52 was deferred for two weeks on 25.02.2014 and for a further two weeks on 11.03.2014.

*Question Nos. 57 and 58 were deferred for two weeks on 11.03.2014.

Question No. 62 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

With regard to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, would the Minister indicate:

- (a) what is the authorised/established strength of the Trinidad & Tobago Police Service;
- (b) the actual strength; and
- (c) whether there are any vacancies for Constables, Corporals and Sergeants; and if so how many vacancies exist?

Question No. 63 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

With regard to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, would the Minister indicate:

- (i) the length of the training period for both the regular and Special Reserve Police Officers and what are the core elements of the training in respect of the SRPs;
- (ii) how many regular police officers are operational and engaged in the exercise of police duties who are not trained in the use of firearms as at 30th June, 2013;
- (iii) how many SRPs are in active service within the TTPS without having had training in the use and handling of firearms? and
- (iv) whether the Government intends to arrange such training and if so, could the Minister state how and when this will occur?

Question No. 64 to the Honourable Minister of National Security

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

- A. Would the Minister indicate the period of the service provided by the four (4) Senior Counsels, who were engaged by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS), to consult and advise the TTPS regarding the arrest of certain persons under the “Anti-Gang” legislation and the gathering and preparation of evidence against these persons, during the period of the State of Public Emergency which was declared in Trinidad and Tobago on August 21st, 2011?
- B. In addition, would the Minister indicate the total sum (the global figure) paid to these four (4) Senior Counsel, for the provision of their legal services, for the purposes as outlined at (A) above?

***Question No. 82 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities**

(By Senator Shamfa Cudjoe)

With regard to Estate Trace of the Cove compound, could the Minister inform the Senate:

- (i) whether T&TEC intends to adhere to Town and Country approval No, T9K0165/2009 and remove the overhead infrastructure that was erected in the tree buffer zone that is situated along the Trace;
- (ii) if the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, when will this be done;
- (iii) if the answer to (i) is in the negative, could the Minister please state the reason(s) why not;
- (iv) whether permission and approval was granted by the Town and Country Planning Division to T&TEC for the erection of the light poles in the tree buffer that is situated along the Trace; and

* Question No. 82 was deferred for two weeks on 11.03.2014.

- (v) if the answer to (iv) is in the affirmative, what is the number of the Town and Country approval document?

***Question No. 83 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities**

(By Senator Shamfa Cudjoe)

- A. Could the Minister inform the Senate what is the stipulated processing time for the approval and issuance of generator licenses, after applications have been made to T&TEC?
- B. Could the Minister inform the Senate on the status of applications for generator licenses made by EIDCOT on May 3rd 2013 for three generators situated at the Cove Eco Industrial Business Park in Tobago?

***Question No. 84 to the Honourable Minister of Public Utilities**

(By Senator Shamfa Cudjoe)

Could the Minister inform this Senate when T&TEC intends to resume negotiations on lease arrangements to formalize the Commission's residency at the Cove Eco Industrial Business Park in Tobago?

***Question No. 85 to the Honourable Minister of Public Administration**

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

Could the Minister provide the Senate with the total number of contract workers employed in the civil service for the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013?

***Question No. 86 to the Honourable Minister of the Environment and Water Resources**

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

Could the Minister say what is the total number of contract and full time employees at the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) for the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013?

***Question No. 87 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy**

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

With regard to Atrius, could the Minister inform the Senate:

- (i) what is the status of Atrius;
- (ii) what are the impediments to the transferring of the assets from CLICO to this new entity; and
- (iii) what activities has the Board of Directors of Atrius been engaged in and are they being paid?

***Question No. 88 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy**

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

With regard to the operations and management of CAL, could the Minister state:

- (i) how many non-national pilots received training at the expense of CAL and subsequently left CAL without ever actually working for the airline;

* Questions Nos. 83, 84, 85, 86 and 87 were deferred for two weeks on 11.03.2014.

* Questions No. 88 was deferred for two weeks on 18.03.2014.

- (ii) is CAL in the process of cancelling the Port of Spain to London route; and
- (iii) what management arrangement is in place for the running of CAL's operations in Jamaica?

***Question No. 89 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy**

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

Could the Minister state what are the outstanding issues which are affecting a final resolution of the CL financial matter?

****Question No. 90 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy**

(By Senator Dr. Lester Henry)

With regard to public revenue, could the Minister state:

- (i) what is the Government's borrowing profile for the short to medium term;
- (ii) is the Government having revenue short-falls since the start of the fiscal year 2013 to 2014; and
- (iii) if the answer to (ii) is in the affirmative, what is the reason for this?
the Minister please inform this Senate as to:

***Question No. 91 to the Honourable Minister of Transport**

(By Senator Avinash Singh)

With respect to the Vehicle Management Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago, could the Minister please inform this Senate as to:

- a) whether the CEO contract at VMCOTT was terminated by the new Chairman of the Board;
- b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, on what basis was it done;
- c) whether the Chief Operating Officer position at VMCOTT was an existing position prior to 2010;
- d) whether the Chairman of VMCOTT is an Executive Chairman; and
- e) have the Managers at VMCOTT met the minimum qualifications for their positions?

***Question No. 92 to the Honourable Minister of Food Production**

(By Senator Avinash Singh)

With respect to the Commercial Large Farms Programme (CLFP), could the Minister kindly inform this Senate as to :

- a) what is the status of each of the 12 commercial farms in Trinidad and Tobago;
- b) whether the CLFP is meeting its objectives within the supply side of the Agricultural Sector and indicate with the relevant statistics; and
- c) what commodities are being cultivated under this programme and where are the goods being sold?

***Question No. 93 to the Honourable Minister of Food Production**

(By Senator Avinash Singh)

With respect to the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation, would the

* Questions Nos. 89 and 90 was deferred for two weeks on 18.03.2014

* Questions Nos. 91, 92, and 93 were deferred for two weeks on 11.03.2014.

Minister inform this Senate as to:

- a) what has been the total budgetary allocation to NAMDEVCO for the period 2010 to 2013;
- b) what commodities and value added products are available from NAMDEVCO and how many new export markets have been achieved for the period 2010 to 2013;
- c) whether NAMDEVCO prioritizes the marketing of local produce over similar imported commodities; and
- d) if the answer to (c) is yes, how is the prioritization done and what statistics can be used for analysis?

***Question No. 94 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy**

(By Senator David Small)

Given the ruling by the Tribunal ordering the sale of CLICO's 56.53% shareholding in Methanol Holdings Trinidad Limited (MHTL) to Consolidated Energy (Trinidad and Tobago) Limited by January 31, 2014, could the Minister inform this Senate of: the current status of the sale process?

***Question No. 96 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

With respect to the oil spill incident in south west Trinidad , could the Minister inform this Senate of any assessments made by the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs and/or Petrotrin as it relates to the following:

- a) estimated volume of lost oil and/or oil products and the estimated amount of such product(s) recovered to date;
- b) estimated costs of damage to Petrotrin's oil field and related equipment to date;
- c) the total volume of COREXIT9500 and other dispersants used in the spill control efforts to date;
- d) estimated to date containment costs to stop or reduce further oil spillage (e.g., efforts to cap wells, booms, dispersants, overtime, temporary employment etc);
- e) economic damages, (total value and number of citizens), paid to affected citizens to date;
- f) fines imposed by regulatory agencies to date;
- g) estimate of the scale of natural resource damage (beaches, mangroves etc) and the plans for remediation of the affected areas; and
- h) estimate of natural resource remediation costs such that the affected areas are returned to "pre-spill" condition?

***Question No. 97 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

With respect to the Ultra-Low Sulphur Diesel project could the Minister inform this Senate as to::

- a) what is the current completion status of the Petrotrin Ultra-Low Sulphur Diesel Project;
- b) what is the expected commissioning and start-up date;

* Questions Nos. 94, 96 and 97 were deferred for two weeks on 11.03.2014.

- c) what is the status of completion works by the EPC contractor;
- d) what is the total expenditure on this project on a year by year basis from 2009 to present and the cumulative spend to date; and
- e) what is the forecast expenditure to complete the plant and make it operational?

***Question No. 98 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

In view of the significant effects of the recent oil spill in south-west Trinidad could the Minister advise this Senate whether:

- a) the MEEA already requires or is considering requesting *all* operators to provide oil spill modeling and oil spill response plans for their *existing* oil producing assets;
- b) the MEEA will consider requesting such plans before production on *new* prospects begins;
- c) through the work done over the years by the MEEA inspection unit, whether Petrotrin's oil producing, distribution and storage facilities adhere to the environmental and health and safety practices required;
- d) if the answer to c) is in the wholly or partly negative, could this Senate be provided with the number of instances of failures to meet inspection requirements as discovered by the Inspection Unit of the MEEA in 2011, 2012 and 2013; and
- e) given the response to c) above, the level of confidence that the physical environment around Petrotrin's oil producing, storage and distribution installations meet environmental standards?

***Question No. 99 to the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs**

(By Senator David Small)

Could the Honourable Minister of Energy and Energy Affairs advise that in view of the ecological and social disaster caused by the December Petrotrin oil spill whether:

- a) any member of the Petrotrin Board of Directors has tendered their resignation;
- b) any member of the Petrotrin Executive Management Team has tendered their resignation;
- c) any other member of Petrotrin's staff complement has tendered their resignation; and
- d) any such resignation received at a, b or c has been accepted or rejected and the relevant reasons for such acceptance/rejection?

***Question No. 100 to the Honourable Minister of National Security**

(By Senator Diane Baldeo-Chadeesingh)

Could the Minister inform this Senate on:

- (a) the number of surveillance bays currently installed on the Solomon Hochoy Highway and their exact locations;

* Questions Nos. 98 and 99 were deferred for two weeks on 18.03.2014.

* Question No. 100 was deferred for two weeks on 11.03.2014.

- (b) whether a maintenance contract exists for routine upkeep and, if so, the name of the contractor to whom such was awarded; and
- (c) if the answer to (b) is in the affirmative the cost per month of the contract?

***Question No. 101 to the Honourable Minister of Transport**

(By Senator Diane Baldeo-Chadeesingh)

Could the Minister inform the Senate of the status of the introduction of speed monitoring devices, in particular radar speed guns, to address the carnage on the nation's roads?

- 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** it is provided by section 14(5) of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") that the President may by Order amend the Fourth Schedule of the Act to exempt the University of the West Indies from the payment of Motor Vehicles Tax in respect of motor vehicles (including agricultural tractors) purchased by the University for its own use and the Order shall have effect from the date of publication in the *Gazette*.

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 14(6), that every Order issued under that subsection shall, after four days and within twenty-one days from the date of its first publication, be submitted to the Senate and the House of Representatives and the Senate and the House of Representatives may by Resolution confirm, amend or revoke such Order, and upon publication of the Resolution of the Senate and the House of Representatives in the *Gazette*, the Resolution shall have effect:

AND WHEREAS the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Order, 2014, was made under section 14(5) of the Act, and first published in the *Gazette* on the 13th day of February, 2014:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to confirm the said Order:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Order, 2014 be confirmed.

(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)

* Question No. 101 was deferred for two weeks on 11.03.2014.

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)

- (ii) A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Nurses and Midwives Registration Act, Chap. 29:53”

(By the Minister of Health)

PRIVATE BUSINESS

Motions

- (i) **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday February 25, 2014 will be resumed:**

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)

Nataki Atiba-Dilchan
Clerk of the Senate

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PORT OF SPAIN
March 26, 2014**

ORDER PAPER - WEDNESDAY 2nd APRIL, 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. 54 to the Honourable Minister of Transport

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

- A. Would the Minister indicate whether any tenant was ejected from occupation of any unit in any of the Terminal Malls under the purview of the Public Transport Service Corporation, since May 2010?
- B. If the answer to (A) is in the affirmative, would the Minister indicate:
 - (i) how many such occupants were ejected;
 - (ii) from which mall and which unit(s);
 - (iii) when was/were this/these tenant(s) ejected;
 - (iv) by what legal means this was achieved; and
 - (v) whether any legal proceedings were instituted in the High Court or the Magistrates Courts to achieve this objective and if so, the names of the Attorney(s) used for this purpose and the respective fees(s) paid in each case?

(Answer due by 08.03.14)

Question No. 55 to the Honourable Minister of Transport

(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)

Would the Minister provide this Senate with a list of all contracts entered into, for the provision of goods and/or services to the Public Transport Service Corporation for the period 01st January, 2011 to 31st December, 2013, giving details as to the names of the individual/entity; the scope of works or service; and the contract sum in each case?

(Answer due by 08.03.14)

Question No. 95 to the Honourable Minister of Finance and the Economy

(By Senator David Small)

With regard to Petroleum Pricing, could the Minister please inform the Senate as to:

- 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 2013;
- b) what measures are being utilised by the Ministry to establish and confirm the “correctness” of sale prices for petroleum and other petrochemical products; and
- c) the mechanisms which are used to determine whether the true market value of these transactions are adequate?

(Answer due by 14.03.14)

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