



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ORDER PAPER**

TWENTY-SECOND SITTING, FOURTH SESSION (2013/2014)

TENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY 6<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 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 Audited Separate Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission for the year ended December 31, 2012.  
**(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)**
  - (ii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Chaguanas Borough Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2009.  
**(By the Minister of Finance and the Economy)**
  - (iii) The Response to the Fourth Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report on Municipal Corporations and Service Commissions (with the exception of the Judicial and Legal Service Commissions).  
**(By the Vice-President)**
  - (iv) The Response to the Eighth Report of the Joint Select Committee JSC on Municipal Corporations and Service commissions (with the exception of the Judicial and Legal Service Commissions).  
**(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. 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 30<sup>th</sup> 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 21<sup>st</sup>, 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. 69 to the Honourable Minister of the Environment and Water Resources**

**(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)**

- A. Would the Minister indicate whether an investigation has been launched into allegations of bid-rigging, in respect of Contract WTC 197/2011 issued by WASA, in the sum of approximately \$70m dollars?
- B. Would the Minister indicate the status of this investigation, if indeed, one is on-going?

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\* Questions Nos. 62, 63, and 64 were deferred for two weeks on 02.04.2014

\* Question No. 69 was deferred for two weeks on 15.04.14

- C. Would the Minister confirm whether this allegation of bid-rigging, or any related conduct, was reported to either the Auditor General, the Integrity Commission or to the Police?
- D. If the answer to (C) is affirmative, would the Minister indicate when was/were this/these report(s) made and what is the status of this/these report(s)?
- E. If the answer to (C) is negative, would that Minister say why no report was made and further indicate whether there is any plan or intention to do so? If so, when?
- F. Would the Minister also indicate whether the person or persons who was/were suspected to be involved in this matter is/are still in office or whether such person or persons has/have been suspended, pending the outcome of this investigation?
- G. Would the Minister further indicate what interim measures, if any, have been taken to protect the authority and the tax-payers of Trinidad and Tobago, from the type of conduct that brought about these allegations and investigation?
- H. Would the Minister provide the names of the companies which bid for the said contract and which company actually emerged as the awardee, in the process now under investigation?
- I. Would the Minister say whether this contract award is the subject of any court proceedings?

**Question No. 71 to the Honourable Minister of Trade, Industry, Investment and Communications**

**(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)**

- A. Would the Minister indicate whether any entity within the purview of his Ministry, placed any advertisements or expended any money on advertisements in any Indian publication, during or in advance of the official visit by the Prime Minister to India in 2012?
- B. If so, would the Minister indicate which entity, the cost of this/these advertisement(s) and whether this cost was included in the figure previously disclosed by the Minister in any answer to Parliamentary questions put to him in the House of Representatives?

**Question No. 72 to the Honourable Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)**

In regard to the "Textbook Programme", could the Minister indicate to this Senate:

- (a) the actual cost of the Programme" for the years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 and the projected cost for 2014?
- (b) the amounts approved by the Cabinet prior to the actual expenditures for this programme, for each of the years at (a) above?
- (c) the actual number of textbooks purchased in each of these years by the Government, in order to facilitate this programme?

**Question No. 73 to the Honourable Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Camille Robinson-Regis)**

Would the Minister indicate the number of Secondary Entrance Assessment (SEA) candidates for years 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013?

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

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\* Question No. 82 was deferred for two weeks on 02.04.2014

**(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
- (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 3<sup>rd</sup> 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;

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\* Questions Nos. 83, 84, 85, 86 and 87 were deferred for two weeks on 02.04.2014

- (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. 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. 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;
- (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

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\*Questions Nos. 91, 100 and 101 were deferred for two weeks on 02.04.14

15. PUBLIC BUSINESS

**PRIVATE BUSINESS**

**Motions**

- (i) **The debate on the following motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Wednesday April 02, 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)**

**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 13<sup>th</sup> 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)**

## **Bills Second Reading**

- (i) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday April 15, 2014 will be resumed:**

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

**(By the Minister of Health)**

- (ii) 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)**

- (iii) A Bill entitled “An Act to provide for public procurement, and for the retention and disposal of public property, in accordance with the principles of good governance, namely accountability, transparency, integrity and value for money, the establishment of the Office of Procurement Regulation, the repeal of the Central Tenders Board Act, Chap. 71:91 and related matters”.

**(By the Minister of Planning and Sustainable Development)**

**Nataki Atiba-Dilchan  
Clerk of the Senate**

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PORT OF SPAIN  
April 29, 2014**





**ORDER PAPER - TUESDAY 6<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2014**  
**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**

**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 01<sup>st</sup> January, 2011 to 31<sup>st</sup> 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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