



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

EIGHTEENTH SITTING, FIRST SESSION (2015/2016)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY MAY 10, 2016 AT 1:30 P.M.

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OR AFFIRMATION
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

***Question No. 36 to the Minister of Finance**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- A. Could the Minister of Finance inform this Senate as to whether the Government intends to offer coverage to self-employed persons under the National Insurance Scheme of Trinidad and Tobago?
- B. If the answer to (A) is in the affirmative, could the Minister provide the Senate with a specific time frame for the incorporation of these self-employed persons under the National Insurance System?

Question No. 43 to the Prime Minister

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given the recent announcement of the establishment of the Cabinet led Committee to supervise restoration works on several of our prominent historical buildings, could the Prime Minister state whether there is any intention to establish a Joint Select Committee on Parliamentary Accommodation to specifically oversee the restoration and rehabilitation of the Red House?

* Question No. 36 was deferred for two weeks on 26.04.2016.

Question No. 44 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister confirm that there has recently been an off-shore spill, of approximately 25 barrels of oil, near a Trinmar platform that has left a six (6) mile trail along the coastline?

Question No. 47 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister provide the Senate with details of the monthly board fees and allowances currently being received by Mr. Gerry C Brooks in his various capacities as Chairman/Member on the following National Gas Company Group of Companies:-

- i. National Gas Company;
- ii. National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago;
- iii. Phoenix Park Gas Processors Limited;
- iv. La Brea Industrial Development Company Limited;
- v. NGC , CNG Company Limited;
- vi. NGC, NGL Company Limited;
- vii. Trinidad and Tobago NGL Limited;
- viii. NGC Petrochemicals Limited;
- ix. NGC Pipeline Company Limited; and
- x.. National Enterprises Limited(NEL).

***Question No. 52 to the Prime Minister**

(By Senator Khadijah Ameen)

Could the Minister state whether the government intends to hold an inquiry into the \$93,000.00 transaction involving a senior Cabinet Minister which recently occurred at a major commercial bank?

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
15. PUBLIC BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Motions:

* Question No. 52 was deferred for two weeks on 26.04.2016.

- (i) **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 9 of the Privileges and Immunities (Diplomatic, Consular and International Organisations) Act, Chap. 17:01 (hereinafter called “the Act”) that the President may by Order declare that any international or regional organisation or agency named or described in such Order shall, to such extent as specified in the Order, be accorded certain privileges and immunities;

AND WHEREAS it is also provided by section 9 of the Act that every Order made under that section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 22nd day of April, 2016 made the Privileges and Immunities [CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMAPCS)] Order, 2016;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the Order now be affirmed:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Privileges and Immunities [CARICOM Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS)] Order, 2016 be approved.

(By the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs)

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) **The debate on the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday May 03, 2016 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Strategic Services Agency Act, Chap. 15:06, to expand the functions of the Strategic Services Agency”.

(By the Attorney General)

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate adopt the First Report of the Joint Select Committee on Government Assurances.

(By Senator Foster Cummings)

- (ii) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate adopt the First Report of the Senate Standing Orders Committee, First Session (2015/2016), Eleventh Parliament.

(By Senator Nigel De Freitas)

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday March 22, 2016 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago is established under Chap 79:02 of the laws of Trinidad and Tobago as a body corporate with the purpose to promote monetary credit and exchange conditions that are most favourable to the development of the economy;

AND WHEREAS as the institution that manages monetary credit, exchange conditions and interest rates, Central Banks worldwide are expected to be independent of political interference;

AND WHEREAS the Bank is managed by a Board of Directors and the day to day management of the Bank is entrusted to the Governor who shall be appointed by the President for a period of five (5) years;

AND WHEREAS section 10(1) of the Central Bank Act stipulates that the Governor shall be answerable to the Board for his acts or decisions;

AND WHEREAS there has been no public disclosure by the Board of Directors or otherwise with regard to apparent reasons for the dismissal of the Governor owing to his actions or decisions;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate condemn the actions of the Government in its dismissal of the Governor of the Central Bank on December 24, 2015.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (ii) **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House take note of the escalating levels of job losses in the country since September 2015 and condemn the Government for its failure to present a clear and cogent economic policy to guide Trinidad and Tobago through these challenging economic circumstances.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iii) **WHEREAS** financial and administrative autonomy of Parliament is an undisputed benchmark of a true democracy;

AND WHEREAS a Joint Select Committee established during the Tenth Parliament to consider proposals for the autonomy of Parliament reported to both Houses that parliamentary autonomy should be viewed as a recalibration of the existing relationship between the Executive and the Legislature;

AND WHEREAS the Government, in adopting the 2015 Manifesto of the People's National Movement as its official policy framework, confirmed its commitment to the principles of parliamentary autonomy;

BE IT RESOLVED that a Joint Select Committee of Parliament be established to consider and report within three (3) months on a legislative formula for parliamentary autonomy in Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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PORT OF SPAIN

May 05, 2016

ORDER PAPER- TUESDAY MAY 10, 2016
QUESTION FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 76 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the worsening revenue situation being faced by the government, could the Minister provide the Senate with the precise measures and timelines for the strengthening of revenue collection systems in the local mining sector?

(Answer due by 28.05.2016)

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