SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

THIRTEENTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2016/2017)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY MARCH 07, 2017 AT 10:30 A.M.

1. PRAYERS

2. OATH OR AFFIRMATION

3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

   (i) The Tax Information Exchange Agreements Bill, 2016.

   (By the Minister of Finance who will move that the next stage of the Bill be taken later in the proceedings)

5. PETITIONS

6. PAPERS

   (i) The Value Added Tax (Amendment to Schedule 2) Order, 2017.

   (By the Minister of Finance)

   (ii) The Annual Report of First Citizens Bank Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.

   (By the Minister of Finance)

   (iii) The Annual Report of First Citizens Investment Services Limited and its Subsidiaries for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.

   (By the Minister of Finance)

   (iv) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Mayaro Civic Centre for the year ended September 30, 2011.

   (By the Minister of Finance)

   (v) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Mayaro Civic Centre for the year ended September 30, 2012.

   (By the Minister of Finance)

   (vi) The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended September 30, 2008.

   (By the Minister of Finance)

(vii) The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended September 30, 2009.

(By the Minister of Finance)

(viii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the National Library and Information System Authority for the year ended September 30, 2010.

(By the Minister of Finance)

(ix) The Audited Financial Statements of National Infrastructure Development Company Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2014.

(By the Minister of Finance)

(x) The Audited Financial Statements of National Infrastructure Development Company Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2015.

(By the Minister of Finance)

(xi) The Report of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (CBTT) on Insurance and Pensions for the year ended December 31, 2014.

(By the Minister of Finance)

(xii) The Annual Report of the Police Service Commission for the year 2014.

(By the Vice-President)

(xiii) The Annual Administrative Report of the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago for the period October 01, 2014 to September 30, 2015.

(By the Minister of Education)

(xiv) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Education to the First Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of State Enterprises (NSDSL, eTeck, NFM, NQCL, GHRS, NIDCO and TTMF).

(By the Minister of Education)

(xv) The Annual Report of the Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.

(By the Minister of Works and Transport)

(xvi) The Annual Report on the Administration of the Dangerous Drugs Act. Chap. 11:25 for the years 2015 and 2016.

(**By the Minister of Health)**

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(i) The Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Tax Information Exchange Agreements Bill, 2016.

(By the Senator W. Michael Coppin)

8. URGENT QUESTIONS

9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Question for Oral Answer

***Question No. 19 to the Prime Minister**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

What steps are being taken by Government to provide accommodation for victims of domestic violence?

***Question No. 22 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Could the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries inform the Senate of the following:-

(a) The name of the Company that has been retained by Petrotrin to be project manager of the Ultra-Low Sulphur Diesel Plant?

(b) The date that Company was retained?

(c) The process by which the Company was procured?

(d) The value of the contract awarded to the Company?

***Question No. 25 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

What is the percentage of BGTT's total natural gas sales made to the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago?

***Question No. 26 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

(a) Does Petrotrin owe the State any royalties related to the production and monetisation of crude oil and condensate?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, can the Minister state the amount owed and for what period was the liability incurred?

***Question No. 27 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

(a) Does Petrotrin owe the Board of Inland Revenue any taxes related to the production and monetisation of crude oil and condensate?

(b) If the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, can the Minister state the amount owed and for what period was the liability incurred?

* Questions Nos. 19, 25, 26 and 27 were deferred for one week on 14.02.2017 at the request of the Ag. Leader on the Opposition Bench.

* Question No. 22 was deferred for two weeks on 07.02.2017

***Question No. 46 to the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs**

(By Senator H.R. Ian Roach)

With respect to the hosting of Carnival events at the Hasely Crawford Stadium for the years 2013-2016:

(a) What has been the average annual cost incurred to remedy damage done to the Stadium after the hosting of such events;

(b) What was the total annual income received for the years 2013-2016 for hosting these events at the Stadium;

(c) What is the total amount received for each year by way of caution money deposits?

Question No. 54 to the Minister of Foreign and Caricom Affairs

(By the Senator Paul Richards)

Has the Ministry officially responded to comments made by Mr. Malcolm Nance on MSNBC?

Question No. 55 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Khadijah Ameen)

With the increasing number of concerns expressed by the members of the public regarding their safety for the upcoming Carnival season, what measures have been put in place to provide tourists and citizens with increased security over the period?

Question No. 56 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Khadijah Ameen)

Can the Minister inform the Senate of what sanctions will be imposed on Primary School Principals who refuse to follow the new registration guidelines issued by the Ministry?

Question No. 57 to the Minister of Health

(By Senator Khadijah Ameen)

In light of PAHO's report that Trinidad and Tobago is among three (3) countries with the highest cancer mortality rate, what measures does the Ministry intend to adopt to reverse this trend?

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

* Question No. 46 was deferred for two weeks on 07.02.2017

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

(i) A Bill entitled "An Act to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50 to introduce a system of traffic violations for certain breaches of the Act, to provide for the implementation of a red-light camera system, a demerit points system and the reform of the fixed penalty system and related legal proceedings and other related matters.

(By the Attorney General)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

(i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday February 14, 2017 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS the responsibility of a Government is to ensure public safety and security through the maintenance of law and order;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to address the extraordinary increase in the level of crime in Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate take note of the increasing and unacceptable levels of violent crimes in Trinidad and Tobago;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to take all immediate and necessary steps in the shortest possible time to deal with the unacceptable crime level facing the citizenry of Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Wayne Sturge)

(ii) **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)

(iii) **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)

(iv) **WHEREAS** Section 48 of the Tobago House of Assembly Act, Chap 25:03 provides for the unspent balance at the end of the financial year to be retained in the Fund and utilized for the purposes of capital investment;

AND WHEREAS the 2006 Auditor General Report of the Assembly revealed that the relevant documents and records necessary to verify and support its Fund Account balance of $225 million could not be produced for audit examination and funds totaling $10 million could not be accounted for;

AND WHEREAS the Assembly Financial Rule No. 34 stipulates that *"moneys shall not be withdrawn from the Contingencies Account other than for the purposes of meeting urgent or unforeseen expenditure"*;

AND WHEREAS the Auditor General has reported that sums in excess of one million dollars were transferred from the Fund Account to the Contingencies Account between 2001 and 2006, in breach of Financial Rule No. 34;

AND WHEREAS the Auditor General has not submitted financial reports on the audited accounts of the THA for the period 2007 to 2015;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate do call on the Government to conduct an immediate forensic audit of the Fund Account and Contingencies Account of the THA;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the forensic audit include all the financial reports related to the Assembly for the period 2002 to 2012 which were laid in the THA.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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PORT OF SPAIN

March 02, 2017

APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER –TUESDAY MARCH 07, 2017

QUESTION FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 53 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Paul Richards)

Can the Minister inform the Senate on the following:

a) How many anti-crime plans have been initiated in the past twelve (12) months;

b) What are the metrics for success of these initiatives; and

c) How many of these initiatives have been successful according to the metrics identified at 'b' above?

(Answer due by 14.03.2017)

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NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the President in accordance with Standing Order 25 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Ministers concerned.

1. **TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

   Has the Ministry confirmed whether any teachers were involved in yesterday's protest at the St. Madeleine Secondary School and whether such teachers were attacked by students?

   (By Senator Paul Richards)

2. **TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION**

   In light of the recent protests at the Ste. Madeleine Secondary School will a disciplinary tribunal be established to investigate allegations against the Principal?

   (By Senator Paul Richards)

3. **TO THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

   In light of the leaked Police Report regarding a rape victim in Tobago, what systems do the Police have in place to safeguard the rights of victims of sexual offences?

   (By Senator Wade Mark)

4. **TO THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

   In light of recent reports that Police Officers of the IATF have embarked on sick- out action over changes to their working conditions, can the Minister inform the Senate what measures are being taken to address this situation?

   (By Senator Wade Mark)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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