



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

EIGHTEENTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2016/2017)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY APRIL 25, 2017 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
 - (i) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of National Security to the Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity on the Treatment of Child Offenders at the Youth Training Centre, St Michael's Rehabilitation Centre for Young Male Offenders and St Jude's Interim Rehabilitation Centre for Young Female Offenders.
(By the Minister of National Security)
 - (ii) The Annual Administrative Report of the Ministry of Tourism for the fiscal year 2014.
(By the Minister of Tourism)
 - (iii) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Tourism to the Second Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year 2014 with specific reference to the Ministry of Tourism.
(By the Minister of Tourism)
 - (iv) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Tobago Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2010.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (v) The Response of the Treasury Division of the Ministry of Finance to the First Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Years 2014 and 2015 with specific reference to the Auditor General's Department.
(By the Minister of Finance)

- (vi) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Sixth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Years 2014 and 2015 with specific reference to the Ministry of Finance.

(By the Minister of Finance)

- (vii) The Response of the Auditor General's Department to the First Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Years 2014 and 2015 with specific reference to the Auditor General's Department.

(By the Vice-President)

- (viii) The Response of the Personnel Department to the First Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial years 2014 and 2015 with specific reference to the Auditor General's Department.

(By the Vice-President)

- (ix) The 29th Annual Report of the Integrity Commission for the year ended December 31, 2016.

(By the Vice-President)

- (x) The Ministerial Response of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs to the First Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial years 2014 and 2015 with specific reference to the Auditor General's Department.

(By the Attorney General)

- (xi) The Ministerial Response of the Office of the Prime Minister to the Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity on the treatment of Child Offenders at the Youth Training Centre, St. Michael's Rehabilitation Centre for Young Male Offenders and St. Jude's Interim Rehabilitation Centre for Young Female Offenders.

(By the Prime Minister)

- (xii) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries to the Fourth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the Financial Year 2014 with specific reference to the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries.

(By the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries)

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (i) The Third Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Eleventh Parliament (Second Session) on the Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheet and other Financial Statements of the Community Improvement Services Limited (CISL) for the financial years 2008 to 2012.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (ii) The Fourth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Eleventh Parliament (Second Session) on the Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheet and other Financial Statements of the Community Based Environmental Protection and Enhancement Programme (CEPEP) for the financial years 2009 to 2014.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iii) The Fifth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Eleventh Parliament (Second Session) on the Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheet and other Financial Statements of the Point Lisas Industrial Port Development Corporation Limited (PLIPDECO) for the financial years 2008 to 2015.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iv) The Sixth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Eleventh Parliament (Second Session) on the Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheet and other Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Solid Waste Management Company Limited (SWMCOL) for the financial years 2008 to 2013.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

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)

Having recorded an economic contraction of -8% in the second quarter of 2016, what specific measures are being taken by the Government to improve the country's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) and economic situation?

Question No. 40 to the Minister of Tourism

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given the low hotel occupancy rate of below ten percent, what is the Government's plan to increase tourist arrivals to Tobago over the short, medium and long term?

Question No. 41 to the Attorney General

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister inform the Senate:

- a. what is the total number of persons on death row;
- b. how many persons identified at 'a' above fall within the timeframe set out in the Pratt and Morgan ruling; and
- c. what is the Government's timetable to resume the carrying out of the death penalty?

Question No. 42 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the tragedies in Springdale, Claxton Bay and Second Caledonia Malick in which a total of twenty (20) persons were displaced when their homes were destroyed by fire, what measures are being taken by the Ministry to assist the affected citizens?

* Question No. 36 was deferred for two weeks on 28.03. 2017

Question No. 63 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services

(By Senator Paul Richards)

In light of the many behavioral problems being displayed by children and the noticeable link to poor parenting, does the Government intend to implement a National Parenting Policy, and if so, within what timeframe?

Question No. 64 to the Prime Minister

(By Senator Paul Richards)

What measures have been instituted to monitor the operations of the Children's Authority to ensure strict compliance with the law and to guarantee that proper procedures and protocols are being followed?

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday March 28, 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)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) **The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday March 21, 2017 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled 'An Act to amend the Offences Against the Person Act, Chap. 11:08 and the Criminal Procedure Act, Chap. 12:02 and for related matters.'

(By the Attorney General)

- (ii) 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)

- (iii) A Bill entitled ‘An Act to abolish preliminary enquiries and to provide for the pre-trial procedure in respect of indictable offences and for ancillary matters.’

(By the Attorney General)

**Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)**

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April 20, 2017

ORDER PAPER – TUESDAY APRIL 25, 2017

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 60 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister indicate the terms of the contract between the Government of Trinidad and Tobago and the US Lobbyist 'The Group DC LLC' including the cost of the contract in TT currency, and the metrics being used to measure what benefits, if any, are being derived from the engagement with said US Lobbyist?

(Answer due By 20.04.2017)

Question No. 62 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

What are the names and compensation packages of persons hired as advisers in the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries since September 2015 to present?

(Answer due By 20.04.2017)

Question No. 65 to the Prime Minister

(By Senator Rodger Samuel)

Can the Prime Minister provide the following information on HIV/AIDS in Trinidad and Tobago as at December 31, 2016:

- a) the total number of persons infected with the disease;
- b) the total number of persons being treated;
- c) a detailed breakdown of the cost of said treatment;
- d) a detailed breakdown of treatment programmes for persons living with the disease; and
- e) new preventative programmes implemented by Government Agencies?

(Answer due by 05.05.2017)

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