



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

THIRTIETH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2016/2017)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY JUNE 27, 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 Tourism to the Third Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament, on an Examination of the System of Inventory Control within the Public Service.
(By the Minister of Tourism)
 - (ii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the National Institute of Higher Education (Research, Science and Technology) for the year ended December 31, 2009.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Mayor's Fund of the San Fernando City Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2011.
(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 Mayor's Fund of the San Fernando City Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2012.
(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 Mayor's Fund of the San Fernando City Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (vi) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Mayor's Fund of the San Fernando City Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2014.
(By the Minister of Finance)

(vii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statement of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2014.

(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 Chairman's Fund of the Mayaro-Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2012.

(By the Minister of Finance)

(ix) The Annual Report on the Operation of the Interception of Communications Act, Chap. 15:08 for the year 2013.

(By the Minister of National Security)

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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 April 25, 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) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday May 23, 2017 will be resumed:**

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

Committee Stage:

- (i) **The Committee Stage of the following Bill was about to commence when the Senate adjourned on Thursday June 22, 2017:**

A Bill entitled ‘An act to establish a system of plea discussions and plea agreements and for matters incidental thereto.’

(By the Attorney General)

Bills Second Reading:

- (ii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Bail Act, Chap. 4:60.’

(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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June 23, 2017



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TUESDAY JUNE 27, 2017 AT 1:30 P.M.

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 AGRICULTURE, LAND AND FISHERIES**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of reports of the theft of crops on farms that were affected by recent floods and the consequent sale of these items to the public, what action does the Ministry intend to take to protect the health of consumers?

2. **TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the closure of four (4) outpatient clinics at the Port-of-Spain General Hospital today, what action is being taken to ensure that affected patients are not inconvenienced with delays to their appointments?

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

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