



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

THIRTY-FIFTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2016/2017)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 19, 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
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
 - (i) The Guideline on the Implementation of the Tax Information Exchange Agreements (United States of America) Act, 2017.
(By the Minister of Finance)
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
 - (ii) The Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control Bill, 2016.
(By Senator Foster Cummings)
 - (iii) The Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Cybercrime Bill, 2017.
(By Senator the Hon. Clarence Rambharat)
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Oral Answers

Question No. 104 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the recent deaths by suicide of three young persons, can the Minister state what urgent measures are being taken to stem the rising suicide rate among young individuals?

Question No. 105 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services

(By Senator Wade Mark)

What steps are being taken to establish a soup kitchen in San Fernando to provide for the socially displaced?

Question No. 106 to the Minister of Tourism

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Does the Government intend to make the Cecil Miller Report on the future operations of the TDC public?

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

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) **The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Thursday September 14, 2017 will be resumed:**

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)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday June 27, 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)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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September 15, 2017