



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

SIXTH SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2017/2018)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY DECEMBER 05, 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 Audited Financial Statements of National Schools Dietary Services Limited (NSDSL) for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.
(By the Ministry of Finance)
 - (ii) The Audited Financial Statements of the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (SPORTI) for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iii) The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the National Maintenance Training and Security Company Limited for the year ended December 31, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iv) The Response of the Statutory Authorities Service Commission Department to the Fourth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament, on an Examination of the System of Internal Audit within the Public Service.
(By the Minister of Public Administration and Communications)
 - (v) The Response of the Service Commissions Department to the Fourth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament, on an Examination of the System of Internal Audit within the Public Service.
(By the Minister of Public Administration and Communications)
 - (vi) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Health to the Fourth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament, on an Examination of the System of Internal Audit within the Public Service.
(By the Minister of Health)

(vii) The Dental Profession (Amendment to the Schedule) Order, 2017.

(By the Minister of Health)

(viii) The Ministerial Response to the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries to the Eighth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament, on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (NGC) for the financial years 2009-2015.

(By the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries)

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. 4 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given reports on the delay in disbursement of gratuity and pension payments to retired public officers, what measures are being implemented to address this problem?

Question No. 5 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of reports that Trinidad and Tobago has become a destination, transit and source country for adults and children subjected to sex-trafficking and forced labour, can the Minister indicate what initiatives are being taken by the Counter Trafficking Unit of the Ministry to address this problem?

Question No. 6 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the latest US Report on the trafficking of persons in which reference is made to the role played by the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service and Immigration Officers in allegedly facilitating sex-trafficking, can the Minister indicate if this information has been verified, and if so, what measures are being taken to address the problem?

Question No. 27 to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development

(By Senator Paul Richards)

Having regard to the HDC's housing stock, can the Minister indicate:

- i. the number of completed housing units that remained unoccupied during the period October 01, 2015 – September 30, 2017;
- ii. the number of completed units illegally occupied during the period October 01, 2015 – September 30, 2017?

Question No. 28 to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development

(By Senator Paul Richards)

Having regard to the HDC's housing stock, can the Minister indicate the number of housing units that have been vandalized during the period October 01, 2015 – September 30, 2017 and the cost to repair same?

Question No. 30 to the Minister of Planning and Development

(By Senator Paul Richards)

What is the status of the development of a National Land Use Policy?

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) **WHEREAS** the state owned company PETROTRIN is responsible for petroleum operations including the exploration for, development of and production of hydrocarbons, and the manufacturing and marketing of petroleum products;

AND WHEREAS over the last ten years there has been a steady decline in the revenue generated from the energy sector due to the decline in the price of oil and gas and also a reduction in oil production;

AND WHEREAS it was reported in the media that one of PETROTRIN's operators, A&V Oil and Gas Limited overstated its level of production during the period of January 2017 to 11th July 2017 resulting in PETROTRIN having paid royalties for crude oil that was not received;

AND WHEREAS recommendations were made by PETROTRIN's Audit Committee that payments to A&V Oil and Gas Limited be withheld and the contract terminated due to the alleged misrepresentation of the operator;

BE IT RESOLVED that immediate action be taken by the Ministry of Finance, as Corporation Sole, to suspend this operator's contract while investigations into the Audit Committee's Report are ongoing;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the matter of the overstating of oil production be referred to the Joint Select Committee on State Enterprises for inquiry and report.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (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)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chap. 48:50 to provide for the implementation of spot speed camera devices for the purpose of detecting speeding violations.'

(By the Attorney General)

- (ii) 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.)

Senate Secretariat
Office of the Parliament
Level 3, Tower D
The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road
PORT OF SPAIN
November 30, 2017

ORDER PAPER – TUESDAY DECEMBER 05, 2017

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

***Question No. 13 to the Minister of Public Administration and Communications**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Having regard to contract employment in Government Ministries/Departments and Statutory Authorities, can the Minister provide the following information:

- a) the names and designations of all persons whose contracts were not renewed during the period September 30, 2015 – September 30, 2017;
- b) the reasons for such non-renewal referred to in (a);
- c) the names and designations of all persons employed/recruited on contract during the period September 30, 2015 – September 30, 2017
- d) details of the compensation package of each person referred to in (c);
- e) the names and designations of all contract officers who during the period September 30, 2015 and September 30, 2017 were terminated before the original completion date of their contracts; and
- f) the reasons for the termination referred to in (e)?

(Answer due by 03.11.2017)

***Question No. 21 to the Minister Trade and Industry**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister indicate to this Senate what tangible trade and investment benefits/opportunities have been realized by this country as a result of the eight day visit to New York by the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs, subsequent to his address at the United Nations General Assembly on Saturday 23rd September 2017?

(Answer due by 03.11.2017)

Question No. 33 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the award of a contract valued at some \$400 million to Kall Co. Ltd, can the Minister provide details of the evaluation criteria and bases used in the selection of Kall Co. Ltd to construct the first phase of the Churchill Roosevelt Highway Extension to Manzanilla?

(Answer due by 02.12.2017)

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* Questions Nos. 13 and 21 were deferred for two weeks on 28.11.2017



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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 PRIME MINISTER**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given that the Children's Authority's 2016 report confirmed that 5,522 reports of child abuse were received in 2016 and approximately 6,000 reports are anticipated for 2017, what urgent strategies are being implemented to alleviate child abuse in this country?

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

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given that for the month of December, there has been sixteen murders in four days, can the Minister indicate the urgent mechanisms being put in place to stem the escalating murder rate?

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December 05, 2017