



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

SEVENTH SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2017/2018)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY DECEMBER 12, 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 Annual Audited Financial Statements of InvesTT Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (ii) The Annual Audited Financial Statements of InvesTT Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iii) The Report of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago to the High Court pursuant to Section 44E(7) of the Central Bank Act, Chap. 79:02 for the Quarter ended September 30, 2017.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iv) The Audited Financial Statements of the University of Trinidad and Tobago (UTT) for the financial year ended September 30, 2014.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (v) The Administrative Report of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Affairs for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015.
(By the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries)
 - (vi) The Annual Administrative Report of the Evolving TecKnologies and Enterprise Development Company Limited (eTeck) for the fiscal year ended September 30, 2015.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)
 - (vii) The Annual Report of the Industrial Court of Trinidad and Tobago for the year 2015-2016.
(By the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development)

(viii) The Annual Administrative Report of the Ministry of Community Development for fiscal year 2014/2015.

(By the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts)

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. 1 to the Minister of Health**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of reports that there were over nine thousand teenage pregnancies for the period 2011-2015, can the Minister advise as to what measures the Government intends to implement to reduce these numbers especially with respect to teenagers still attending school?

Question No. 7 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of reports of prisoners having illegal access to a number of items and services, can the Minister indicate what measures are being taken to stop this illegal activity within the prisons?

Question No. 8 to the Prime Minister

(By Senator Wade Mark)

What measures are being implemented to protect the nation's children from physical and emotional abuse?

Question No. 9 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given that the Minister is now in possession of the Petrotrin Internal Audit Report dealing with A&V Oil and Gas Limited, what action, if any, does the Minister intend to take to address the issues raised in the report?

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. 1 was deferred for two weeks on 28.11.2017

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **WHEREAS** it is provided by Section 5A of the Dental Profession Act, Chap. 29:54 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the Minister may by Order, after consultation with the Council, amend the Schedule by adding thereto or deleting therefrom any University, College or other Institution;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by the said Section 5A of the Act that every Order made under this section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the Dental Profession (Amendment to the Schedule) Order, 2017 was made by the Minister under section 5A of the Act on the 10th day of November, 2017;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Order:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Dental Profession (Amendment to the Schedule) Order, 2017 be approved.

(By the Minister of Health)

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)

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday December 05, 2017 will be resumed:**

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)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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PORT OF SPAIN
December 07, 2017

ORDER PAPER – TUESDAY DECEMBER 12, 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)

Question No. 36 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Having regard to the Central Bank's efforts towards the adoption of Basel 11 standards by June 2018, can the Minister provide the Senate with a detailed breakdown of the standards and the implications for the Banking Sector?

(Answer due by 19.12.2017)

Question No. 38 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister provide the following information with respect to the delegation that visited Mozambique, Tanzania and Ghana in September 2017:

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

* Question No. 33 was deferred for two weeks on 05.12.2017

- i. the names and designations of the officials of the NGC and Phoenix Park Gas Processors Ltd. who were part of the delegation;
- ii. the total cost of the trip broken down in terms of the cost for each individual;
- iii. whether members of the delegation were accompanied by their spouses or other individuals who are not officials of the company;
- iv. if the answer to (iii) is in the affirmative, please indicate whether the NGC and Phoenix Park Gas Processors Ltd. incurred any cost in respect of the travel and accommodation for the accompanying persons, and if so, how much; and
- v. the names of such spouses and other non-official persons, if any, whose travel and accommodation expenses were covered by NCG or Phoenix Gas Processors Ltd?

(Answer due by 19.12.2017)

Question No. 48 to the Minister of Public Utilities

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

With respect to reports concerning the construction of ten new mobile substations for T&TEC, can the Minister state:

- i. the name of the company that was awarded the contract to construct the substations;
- ii. the procurement and selection process for suppliers; and
- iii. the terms of engagement, financial and otherwise, for contracts awarded to suppliers?

(Answer due by 03.01.2018)

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