



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

EIGHTH SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2017/2018)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY JANUARY 16, 2018 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 Administrative Report of the Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo Regional Corporation for the fiscal year October 2014 to September 2015.
(By the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government)
 - (ii) The Thirty-Ninth Annual Report of the Ombudsman for the year 2016.
(By the Vice-President)
 - (iii) The Annual Report of the Registration Recognition and Certification Board for the year 2015.
(By the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development)
 - (iv) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the North Central Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2009.
(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 North Central Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2010.
(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 North Central Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2011.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (vii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the North Central Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2012.
(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 North Central Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (ix) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (x) The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Education Facilities Company Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2014.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xi) The Annual Report of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago (FIUTI) for the year ended September 30, 2017.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xii) The Audited Financial Statements of the National Quarries Company Limited for the year ended September 30, 2010.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xiii) The Audited Financial Statements of the National Quarries Company Limited for the year ended September 30, 2011.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xiv) The Report of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago (CBTT) on Insurance and Pensions for the year ended December 31, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xv) The Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Tourism Business Development Limited (TTTBDL) for the financial year ended December 31, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xvi) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the National Agricultural Marketing and Development Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2008.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xvii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statement of the Point Fortin Civic Centre for the year ended September 30, 2007.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xviii) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Sixth Report of the Joint Select Committee on State Enterprises, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on an inquiry into the borrowing practices of State Enterprises with an emphasis on regulation of borrowing, purposes for borrowed funds and sustainability of debt servicing ratios.
(By the Minister of Finance)

- (xix) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee on State Enterprises, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on an Inquiry into the Administration and Operations of Caribbean Airlines Limited.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xx) The Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of First Citizens Holdings Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (xxi) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Works and Transport to the Eighth Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on a Special Audit of the Public Transport Service Corporation.
(By the Minister of Works and Transport)
- (xxii) The Annual Report of the Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority for the year 2016-2017.
(By the Minister Works and Transport)
- (xxiii) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Agriculture, Lands and Fisheries to the Second Report of the Joint Select Committee on Land and Physical Infrastructure, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on an inquiry into the allocation and utilization of State lands for food production.
(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)
- (xxiv) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development to the Fifth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on an examination into the Ministry of Housing and Urban Development with specific reference to Accountability and Transparency, Inventory Control, Internal Audit, Sub-Head 02 – Goods and Services, Sub Head 03 – Minor Equipment Purchases, Sub-Head 09 – Development Programme – Consolidated Fund and Infrastructure Development Fund.
(By the Minister of Housing and Urban Development)
- (xxv) The Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation (Vesting) (Amendment to the First Schedule) (No.6) Order, 2017.
(By the Minister of Housing and Urban Development)
- (xxvi) The Freedom of Information (Exemption) Order, 2017.
(By the Attorney General)
- (xxvii) The Annual Report of the Legal Aid and Advisory Authority for the year 2012-2013.
(By the Attorney General)
- (xxviii) Additional Information relating to the Administrative Report of the former Ministry of the Arts and Multiculturalism for the period 2014/2015.
(By the Minister of Community Development, Culture and the Arts)
- (xxix) The Administrative Report of the National Library and Information System Authority (NALIS) for the fiscal year 2015-2016.
(By the Minister of Public Administration and Communications)
- (xxx) The Annual Report of the Public Service Commission for the year 2016.
(By the Minister of Public of Administration and Communications)

(xxxix) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of National Security to the Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament, on the Examination of the Human Rights of Remandees at Remand Prisons.

(By the Minister of National Security)

(xxxix) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Sports and Youth Affairs to the Second Report of the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on a Special Audit of the Operations of the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago with particular reference to the development and upgrading of Sporting Facilities in Trinidad.

(By the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs)

(xxxix) The Petroleum (Amendment) Regulations, 2017.

(By the Minister of and Energy Industries)

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(i) The Tenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on the examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Eastern Regional Health Authority for the financial years 2008-2013.

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

(ii) The Eleventh Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on the examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Land Settlement Agency for the financial years 2008 and 2009.

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

(iii) The Twelfth Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament 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 2016 with specific reference to the Auditor General's Department.

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

(iv) The Thirteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament 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 2016 with specific reference to the Ministry of Finance.

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

(v) The Fourteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament 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 2016 with specific reference to the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries.

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

(vi) The Seventh Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on an examination into the Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs with specific reference to Follow-up to the First Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee and Current Expenditure Related to Official Travel to Tobago.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (vii) The Eighth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on the examination into the Ministry of Education with specific reference to Inventory Control, Internal Audit, Sub-Head 02 – Goods and Services, Sub-Head 03 – Minor Equipment Purchases, Sub-Head 04 – Current Transfers and Subsidies, Sub-Head 09 – Development Programme, Consolidated Fund and Infrastructure Development Fund.

(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. 10 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister state whether any equipment belonging to Petrotrin has been located on the compound of A&V Oil and Gas Limited, if yes, what action is been taken to bring an end to this situation?

Question No. 11 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister inform this Senate of the circumstances which led to the transfer of Mr. Vidya Deokiesingh from the position of Hospitality Officer to Custody Transfer Officer at Petrotrin?

Question No. 12 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the recent attack on members of the media in the vicinity of A&V Oil and Gas Limited, what action does the government intend to take to prevent a recurrence?

Question No. 39 to the Minister of Public Administration and Communications

(By Senator Paul Richards)

With regard to the Draft Broadcasting Code published by TATT for public Consultation since April 2014, can the Minister advise on the following:

- i. when is the Broadcasting Code to be brought to Parliament;
- ii. is it the intention of the Government to include in the Broadcasting Code a provision mandating commercial radio owners/operators to include a set percentage of local content in airplay; and
- iii. if the answer to part (ii) is yes, what is the set percentage being considered?

Question No. 40 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Saddam Hosein)

Having regard to the announcement by Government that a Port will be constructed in Toco, can the Minister indicate the following:

- i. whether a feasibility study has been conducted for the construction of the port;
- ii. if the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, when was it commenced and when was it completed;
- iii. what was the cost of the study; and

iv. what is the name of the firm that conducted the study?

Question No. 41 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Saddam Hosein)

When is construction of the Toco Port expected to commence and conclude, and what is the overall cost of the project?

Question No. 42 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

(By Senator Saddam Hosein)

Can the Minister indicate the following:

- i. whether a Certificate of Environmental Clearance (CEC) has been obtained from the Environmental Management Authority for the construction of the Moruga Fishing Port; and
- ii. how much of the sum allocated for fiscal 2018 has been spent to date on the project?

Question No. 47 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

When will the classrooms that have been closed at the Point Fortin Anglican Primary School, owing to serious occupational safety and health hazards, be reopened?

Question No. 49 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Melissa Ramkissoon)

With regard to the Fanny Village Government Primary School that was burnt in 2015, can the Minister advise:

- i. whether construction of the new school has commenced, and if so, the date of such commencement; if not,
- ii. the reason(s) for the delay; and
- iii. how long are the teachers and students expected to be housed at the Community Centre?

Question No. 50 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Paul Richards)

Based on reports that scholarships winners have not received their monthly stipends as at the end of November 2017, can the Minister advise as to when this matter will be resolved?

Question No. 52 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

With respect to the provision of security services at schools throughout Trinidad and Tobago, can the Minister state:

- i. the current amount owed to security firms; and
- ii. when will said amount be paid to such firms?

Question No. 53 to the Minister of Public Utilities

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

With respect to a recent announcement by the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) advising that it will be advertising properties of delinquent customers for sale, can the Minister inform the Senate:

- i. at what level of indebtedness would WASA determine that a property will be advertised for sale; and
- ii. what alternative arrangements will be put in place for persons who are infirmed or disabled?

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

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.)

Senate Secretariat
Office of the Parliament
Level 3, Tower D
The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road
PORT OF SPAIN
January 11, 2018

ORDER PAPER – TUESDAY JANUARY 16, 2018

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. 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)

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

January 11, 2018

* Question No. 13 was deferred for two weeks on 28.11.2017



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
EIGHTH SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2017/2018)
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT
TUESDAY JANUARY 16, 2018 AT 1:30 P.M.

NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTION

The under-mentioned Question which has been accepted by the Vice-President in accordance with Standing Order 25 is hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. **TO THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION**
(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister indicate what urgent measures are being implemented to ensure the timely completion of the works being done on the Ramai Trace Hindu School?

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

January 16, 2018