



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

TWENTY-SECOND SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2017/2018)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY APRIL 26, 2018 AT 2:00 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) A Green Paper on the National Policy on Gender and Development.
(By the Minister of State in the Office of the Prime Minister)
 - (ii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Siparia Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance)
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. 64 to the Minister of Finance**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Having regard to the Dunn and Bradstreet Report on the Galleons Passage, can the Minister indicate the following:

- i. the main elements contained in the report; and
- ii. the cost of said report?

* Question No. 64 – Standing Order 27(15) was invoked on 11.04.2018

***Question No. 74 to the Minister of Health**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given the failure of the Ministry over the last three years to allocate funds to the Trinidad and Tobago Cancer Society, a non-profit institution, can the Minister indicate what measures are being taken to assist this important organization?

***Question No. 92 to the Minister of Tourism**

(By Senator Saddam Hosein)

Can the Minister indicate what steps are being taken to minimize the effects of the sargassum seaweed in the coastal waters of Trinidad and Tobago?

Question No. 97 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In view of the public disquiet over the Government's decision to build multistorey complexes on lands of the St Augustine Nurseries in Curepe, can the Minister indicate what measures are being taken to engage with stakeholders and address their concerns?

Question No. 98 to the Attorney General

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Attorney General inform the Senate why this country is still blacklisted as a tax haven by the European Union?

Question No. 99 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given the recent protests by the residents of Demarie Hill, San Fernando over worsening road conditions, what measures are being implemented to render assistance to this community?

Question No. 119 to the Minister of Tourism

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

In the aftermath of a man having drowned at Blue Basin Waterfall in Diego Martin, can the Minister inform the Senate of the measures that are in place to ensure the safety of swimmers and visitors to the Waterfall?

Question No. 120 to the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

Having regard to the call made by the coach of the national football team for financial support for the Trinidad and Tobago Pro-League, can the Minister indicate what, if any, support is being provided to the League by his Ministry?

Question No. 125 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Saddam Hosein)

Having regard to the ISIS conflict in Syria and reports of the alleged participation of a number of Trinidad and Tobago nationals, can the Minister indicate what measures are being implemented

* Questions Nos. 74 and 92 were deferred for two weeks on 11.04.2018

by the Government to dissuade Trinidad and Tobago nationals from participating in conflict on behalf of ISIS?

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

Committee Stage

The Committee Stage of the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Friday April 20, 2018 will be resumed:

A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Valuation of Land Act, Chap. 58:03.'
(By the Minister of Finance)

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) **The debate on the Second reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Friday April 20, 2018 will be resumed:**
A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Property Tax Act, Chap. 76:04'.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (ii) 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)
- (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)
- (iv) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to repeal and replace the Insurance Act, Chap. 84:01; to reform the law relating to insurance companies; to regulate insurance businesses and privately administered pension fund plans and for other related purposes.'
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (v) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Registration of Titles to Land Act, 2000.'
(By the Attorney General)

- (vi) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Land Tribunal Act, 2000.’
(By the Attorney General)
- (vii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to repeal and replace the Crown Suits Limitation Ordinance.’
(By the Attorney General)
- (viii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Land Adjudication Act, 2000.’
(By the Attorney General)

Motions:

- (i) **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 34(1) of the Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Act, 2012 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the Minister may make Regulations for the purpose of giving effect to this Act, and all such other matters and things as may appear necessary or expedient or are required to be prescribed for effectively carrying into operation the provisions of the Act:

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 34(2), that Regulations made under the Act shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament:

AND WHEREAS the Minister of National Security has on the 5th day of March, 2018 made the Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Regulations, 2018:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Regulations, 2018 now be affirmed:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Regulations, 2018 be approved.

(By the Attorney General)

- (ii) **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 53(1)(a),(d),(e),(f) and (g) of the Children’s Community Residences, Foster Care and Nurseries Act, Chap. 46:04 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, make Regulations for, *inter alia*, –

- (a) the management of any Community Residence...;
- (d) the imposition of requirements as to the accommodation and equipment to be provided in residences, foster homes and nurseries;
- (e) the medical arrangements to be made for protecting the health of the children in Community Residences and foster homes;
- (f) the provision of information to the Authority by the Managers as to the facilities provided for the parents or guardians of children in Community Residences and foster homes, to visit and communicate with the children and where not provided to authorise the Authority to give directions as to the provision of such facilities; and
- (g) all such matters and things...for effectively carrying into operation the provisions of the Act:

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 53(2) of the Act that Regulations made under this section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament:

AND WHEREAS the Children’s Community Residences (Rehabilitation Centres) Regulations, 2018 were made by the Authority under section 53 of the Act on the 20th day of February, 2018 and approved by the Minister on the 5th day of March, 2018:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Regulations:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Children’s Community Residences (Rehabilitation Centres) Regulations, 2018 be approved.

(By the Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister)

(iii) **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 53(1)(a),(d),(e),(f) and (g) of the Children’s Community Residences, Foster Care and Nurseries Act, Chap. 46:04 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the Authority may, with the approval of the Minister, make Regulations for, *inter alia*, –

- (a) the management of any community residence...;
- (d) the imposition of requirements as to the accommodation and equipment to be provided in residences, foster homes and nurseries;
- (e) the medical arrangements to be made for protecting the health of the children in Community Residences and foster homes;
- (f) the provision of information to the Authority by the Managers as to the facilities provided for the parents or guardians of children in Community Residences and foster homes, to visit and communicate with the children and where not provided to authorise the Authority to give directions as to the provision of such facilities; and
- (g) all such matters and things...for effectively carrying into operation the provisions of the Act:

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 53(2) of the Act that Regulations made under this section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament:

AND WHEREAS the Children’s Community Residences (Children’s Homes) Regulations, 2018 were made by the Authority under section 53(1) of the Act on the 20th day of February, 2018 and approved by the Minister on the 5th day of March, 2018:

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Regulations:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Children’s Community Residences (Children’s Homes) Regulations, 2018 be approved.

(By the Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister)

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Motions:

(i) **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

April 25, 2018

ORDER PAPER – THURSDAY APRIL 26, 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. 78 to the Prime Minister**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In view of the public advertisements issued by the Office of the Prime Minister inviting suitably qualified nationals to apply for employment on contract in the positions of Director of Scheduling and Advance, Director of Communications, Communications Strategist, Deputy Director of Communications, Deputy Press Secretary and Office Support Assistant, can the Prime Minister provide this Senate with the following information:

- i. whether these advertised positions have since been filled;
- ii. if the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, what are the names of the respective persons who were selected for the positions;
- iii. details of the terms and conditions of each position as outlined above;
- iv. the names and qualifications of each person who applied;
- v. the process of selection used to arrive at the final selection of each position advertised; and
- vi. whether the persons selected are all based in the Office of the Prime Minister?

(Answer due by 29.03.2018)

Question No. 118 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

Having regard to the Government Assistance for Tuition Expenses Programme, can the Minister indicate the following:

- i. the total amount owed by Government to local tertiary level institutions;
- ii. a breakdown of the respective local tertiary level institutions and the amount of GATE funding owed to each as at February 2018; and
- iii. how soon are these institutions likely to receive full payment of monies owed to them?

(Answer due by 27.04. 2018)

* Question No. 13 - Standing Order 27(16) invoked on 20.02.2018

* Questions No. 78 was deferred for two weeks on 11.04.2018

Question No. 129 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

With respect to the Government's lobby group based in Washington DC known as The Group DC LLC, can the Minister indicate the following:

- i. the total amount paid, in both US and TT dollars, to this lobby group during the period October 31, 2016 to March 31, 2018;
- ii. a detailed breakdown of the services rendered by said lobby group during the period October 31, 2016 to March 31, 2018; and
- iii. how has the lobby group contributed in the promotion of Trade and Investment between the United States and Trinidad and Tobago during the period October 31, 2016 to March 31, 2018?

(Answer due by 12.05.2018)

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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 MINISTER OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the decision to close the Charlotte Street Heritage Route Market, can the Minister inform this Senate of the action the Government intends to take to address the concerns of the vendors?

2. **TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH**

(By Senator Paul Richards)

Can the Minister indicate what measures will be taken to address the issue of mixing components from different manufacturers for orthopedic surgeries?

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