



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

THIRTY-THIRD SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2017/2018)

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY JUNE 21, 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) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Tobago Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2011.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (ii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Tobago Regional Health Authority for the year ended September 30, 2012.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iii) The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Princes Town Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iv) The Annual Parent and Consolidated Audited Financial Statements of the Point Lisas Industrial Port Development Corporation Limited (PLIPDECO) for the financial year ended December 31, 2017.
(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. 121 to the Prime Minister**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

What assistance is being provided to Tobago businesses, having regard to the state of the Tobago economy and their request for financial support of approximately \$750 million?

***Question No. 137 to the Minister of Works and Transport**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In view of the latest date change for the arrival of the Galleons Passage to Trinidad and Tobago, can the Minister advise on the following:

- i. a definite date by which this vessel will arrive in Port of Spain; and
- ii. the date by which this vessel will begin to operate on the interisland sea-bridge?

Question No. 150 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of recent reports that the T&T Coast Guard has been experiencing a reduction in the supply of fuel to eight of its large patrol vessels, can the Minister indicate what is being done to immediately rectify this problem?

Question No. 151 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the Government's decision to engage the Community Policing Unit of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service to assist in addressing the issue of school violence, can the Minister indicate whether this initiative is temporary or permanent?

Question No. 152 to the Minister of Health

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of reports concerning the chronic shortage of nurses and other health care professionals in the public health sector, can the Minister indicate what steps are being taken to address this shortage?

Question No. 174 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Khadijah Ameen)

Can the Minister state what steps, if any, the Government intends to take to address the frequent traffic pileup on Wrightson Road caused by the queue of trucks bound for Tobago and waiting to enter the Port compound?

Question No. 175 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Khadijah Ameen)

Can the Minister advise of Government's rationale for the planned replacement of safety cable barriers with concrete barriers along the Solomon Hochoy highway?

10. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

* Question No. 121 - Standing Order 27(15) invoked on 29.05.2018

* Question No. 137 was deferred for two weeks on 05.06.2018

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 June 14, 2018 will be resumed:**
A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to make jurisdiction for criminal matters exercisable in a division of the High Court to be known as “the Criminal Division” and to make jurisdiction for criminal and traffic matters exercisable in a division of Summary Courts to be known as “the District Criminal and Traffic Courts” and to make provision for matters connected therewith.’
(By the Attorney General)
- (ii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to make provision for payments into and out of Court to be made electronically and into and out of a Custodial Bank Account in the name of the Judiciary of Trinidad and Tobago and for related matters.’
(By the Attorney General)
- (iii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Interpretation Act, Chap. 3:01, the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01, the Summary Courts Act, Chap. 4:20, the Bail Act, Chap. 4:60, Administration of Justice (Deoxyribonucleic Acid) Act, Chap. 5:34, the Legal Aid and Advice Act, Chap. 7:07, the Child Rehabilitation Centre Act, Chap. 13:05, the Indictable Offences (Preliminary Enquiry) Act, Chap. 12:01, the Children Act, Chap. 46:01, the Children’s Community Residences, Foster Care and Nurseries Act, Chap. 46:04, the Children’s Authority Act, Chap. 46:10, and the Family and Children Division Act, 2016.’
(By the Attorney General)
- (iv) 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)
- (v) 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 Monday May 21, 2018 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS it is established by Section 71(1) and (12) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, that there shall be an Elections and Boundaries Commission that in the exercise of its functions shall not be subject to the direction or control of any other person or authority;

AND WHEREAS the Elections and Boundaries Commission is responsible for holding free and fair elections throughout Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate take note that the Elections and Boundaries Commission is not subject to any parliamentary scrutiny or accountability in respect of its activities and operations unlike other similar independent bodies such as Service Commissions;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate call on the Government to take urgent steps to introduce legislation that would make the Elections and Boundaries Commission accountable to the citizenry of Trinidad and Tobago by allowing parliamentary scrutiny of its administration, the manner of the exercise of its powers, methods of functioning and any criteria adopted by the Commission in the exercise of its powers and functions.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (ii) **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)

- (iii) **WHEREAS** the Government has acquired the Galleons Passage, a new inter-island Passenger Ferry in a procurement arrangement that did not include the Central Tenders Board;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Finance has advised that the Government was guided in the amount it paid for the vessel by the valuation reports of two independent international firms;

AND WHEREAS it was discovered that one of the two firms that conducted the valuation is owned by the same company from which Government purchased the vessel;

AND WHEREAS in the interest of transparency and accountability in the procurement of the inter-island passenger ferry, several requests were made for the Minister of Finance to provide the Senate with copies of the Valuation Reports, the Memorandum of Agreement between NIDCO and the vendor of the vessel and the Dunn and Bradstreet Report on the Galleons Passage; yet none of these documents have been provided;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Minister Finance to table, within fourteen days, copies of the Valuation Reports, the Memorandum of Agreement between NIDCO and the vendor of the vessel and the Dunn and Bradstreet Report on the Galleons Passage.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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Level 3, Tower D
The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road
PORT OF SPAIN
June 18, 2018

ORDER PAPER – THURSDAY JUNE 21, 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)

**Senate Secretariat
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Level 3, Tower D
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PORT OF SPAIN
June 18, 2018**

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



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THURSDAY JUNE 21, 2018 AT 2:00 P.M.

NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the Vice-President in accordance with Standing Order 25 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Ministers concerned.

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

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the recent murder of a woman who was a victim of domestic abuse and had been granted a protection order by the Courts, are the authorities reviewing the mechanisms available for victims of abuse to obtain the protection of the state?

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

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of reports that a list of names, photos and addresses of gang members have been leaked onto social media by members of the Police Service, has the TTPS launched an investigation into said reports?

3. **TO THE PRIME MINISTER**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Having regard to reports that the body of the murdered thirty-three year old mother of Dundonald Hill, Dibe was discovered by her two young children, has the Children's Authority arranged for the care and counselling of said children?

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

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of recent reports that persons dressed in Police uniform attempted to carry out a robbery in Central Trinidad, what systems exist in the TTPS for officers to account for uniforms issued to them?

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

(By Senator Paul Richards)

In light of reports that a police officer's firearm and ammunition were stolen by someone he was transporting in his vehicle, has the alleged perpetrator been caught and has the firearm and ammunition been recovered?

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