



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
ORDER PAPER

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

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 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 Special Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on a Follow-Up Audit of the Targeted Conditional Cash Transfer Programme (TCCIP) of the Ministry of Social Development and Family Services.
(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 Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago, Children Authority Fund for the year ended September 30, 2017.
(By the Minister of Finance)
 - (iii) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Works and Transport to the Eighteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Third Session (2017/2018), Eleventh Parliament on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (AATT) for the financial years 2008 to 2012.
(By the Minister of Works and Transport)
 - (iv) The Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards for the year ended September 30, 2016.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)
 - (v) The Delegation Report on the Annual Conference of the Caribbean, the Americas & the Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association held in Cayman Islands.
(By Senator Ronald Huggins)
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. 170 to the Minister of Health

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister indicate what, if any, assistance is being granted to the two-year-old reported to be suffering from nephrotic syndrome?

Question No. 171 to the Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister indicate what, if any, efforts are being made to provide funding to the Trinidad and Tobago Volleyball Federation?

Question No. 176 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Having regard to the economic turnaround announced by the Minister of Finance, what measures, if any, are being put in place to refund Value Added Tax owed by the Government to the TTMA's members as well as other businesses?

***Question No. 187 to the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development**

(By Senator Taharqa Obika)

Given recent reports that salary deductions from MTS Workers are not being remitted to certain financial and related institutions, can the Minister indicate the following:

- (i) the number of workers affected by this situation; and
- (ii) when will this issue be remedied?

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. 121 – Standing Order 27(15) invoked on 29.05.2018

* Question No. 187 was deferred for two (2) weeks on 26.06.2018

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 Monday July 02, 2018 will be resumed:**

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)

- (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)

Motions:

- (i) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate consider the findings and recommendations of the Thirty-Eighth, Thirty-Ninth and Fortieth Annual Reports of the Ombudsman.

(By the Leader of Government Business)

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday June 26, 2018 will be resumed:**

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 of 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)

- (ii) **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)

- (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)

Chantal La Roche
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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The Port of Spain International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road
PORT OF SPAIN
September 11, 2018

ORDER PAPER – THURSDAY SEPTEMBER 13, 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
September 11, 2018**

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



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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 RURAL DEVELOPMENT AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister inform the Senate what urgent measures are being taken to assist scores of Cedros families whose homes were completely inundated by unprecedented flood waters and whose households have suffered severe losses?

2. **TO THE MINISTER OF WORKS AND TRANSPORT**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of reports of severe flooding in Cedros, can the Minister inform this Senate of the measures being taken to urgently complete the Cedros Bridge and floodgates?

3. **TO THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN DEVELOPMENT**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister state what actions are being taken by UDECOTT to deal with contractors who continue to openly flout the immigration laws of the country by their continued employment of non-nationals without the relevant work permit documents?

4. **TO THE MINISTER OF SPORT AND YOUTH AFFAIRS**

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given reports of constant break-ins at the Persto Praesto Youth Development Centre and the pleas from officials for better security, can the Minister state the mechanisms being deployed to urgently render some assistance to this Centre that facilitates at-risk-youths?

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