



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ORDER PAPER**

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

ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 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 Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Mayaro-Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2008.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**
  - (ii) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Public Administration 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 for the financial years 2008 to 2012.  
**(By the Minister of Public Administration)**
  - (iii) The Ministerial Response of the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs to the Seventeenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee, Third Session (2017/2018), Eleventh Parliament, on the Examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards for the Financial Years 2009 to 2013.  
**(By the Attorney General)**
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
  - (i) The Eighth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity, Third Session (2017/2018), Eleventh Parliament on the Examination of the Perceived Inequality Faced by Single Fathers in Trinidad and Tobago with Specific Focus on Custody Matters, Policies and Access to Programmes and Services.  
**(By Senator the Hon. Dennis Moses)**
  - (ii) The Ninth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity, Third Session (2017/2018), Eleventh Parliament on the Examination of the Treatment of Detainees and Conditions of Holdings Cells in Trinidad and Tobago Police Stations.  
**(By Senator Saddam Hosein)**

- (iii) The Fourth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Finance and Legal Affairs, Third Session (2017/2018), Eleventh Parliament on an Inquiry into certain aspects of the National Insurance System of Trinidad and Tobago.

**(By Senator Sophia Chote, SC)**

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. 184 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of an admission by the Minister that both the EMBDC and National Quarries Limited have been operating without the requisite licences, can the Minister indicate when will the relevant authorities be addressing this situation?

**Question No. 185 to the Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of reports that the University of Trinidad and Tobago has taken a decision to replace its ICT system with a new system which is estimated to cost some \$45 million, can the Minister indicate what procurement procedures were used in acquiring this new technology?

**Question No. 186 to the Prime Minister**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Given recent reports that the Tobago House of Assembly intends to collaborate with the private sector to phase out the use of styrofoam on the island, can the Prime Minister inform the Senate how this objective is expected to be realised?

**\*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

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

\* Question No. 187 – Standing Order 27(15) invoked on 18.09.2018

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:**

- (i) **The Committee Stage of the following Bill will commence:**

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, the 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)**

#### **Bills Second Reading:**

- (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)**

**Brian Caesar**  
**Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)**

Senate Secretariat  
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PORT OF SPAIN  
September 19, 2018

**ORDER PAPER – FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 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)**

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September 19, 2018**

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



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**FORTY-SECOND SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2017/2018)**

**ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT**

**FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 21, 2018 AT 1:30 P.M.**

**NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS**

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

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

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of the dry-docking of the Cabo Star last evening and the absence of any alternative cargo vessel to replace same, can the Minister advise what is being done to mitigate the impact of the lack of such a cargo vessel?

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**September 21, 2018**