



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

THIRTY-THIRD SITTING, FIRST SESSION (2020/2021)

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY JULY 07, 2021 AT 10:00 A.M.

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OR AFFIRMATION
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
 - (i) The First Report of the Joint Select Committee on State Enterprises on an inquiry to understand the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the operations of National Schools Dietary Services Limited (NSDSL), and the measures implemented to ensure the delivery of meals in the context of the COVID-19 safety requirements, First Session (2020/2021), Twelfth Parliament.
(By Senator Anthony Vieira)
 - (ii) The Second Report of the Joint Select Committee on State Enterprises on an inquiry into the operations of the National Infrastructure Development Company Limited (NIDCO) including its compulsory land acquisition in relation to major projects, First Session (2020/2021), Twelfth Parliament.
(By Senator Anthony Vieira)
 - (iii) The First Report of the Joint Select Committee on Foreign Affairs on an Examination of the Foreign Policy of Trinidad and Tobago, First Session (2020/2021), Twelfth Parliament.
(By Senator the Hon. Paula Gopee-Scoon)
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Oral Answer

*Question No. 110 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Wade Mark)

As regard the levy in the sum of one million dollars on the Education Facilities Company Limited (EFCL) by a contractor, can the Minister indicate the following:

- (i) how many contractors are still owed monies by the EFCL for works completed prior to December 31, 2020; and
- (ii) what is the sum of said monies owed?

Question No. 135 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the recent fire at the PTSC's Carlsen Field compound which destroyed several "shell" buses, can the Minister indicate the action being taken to prevent such a recurrence?

Question No. 136 to the Minister of Health

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister outline the steps being taken to prevent the migration of experienced nurses and midwives as has been reported?

Question No. 137 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of several drownings at beaches between March-April 2021 and the commitment by the Government to provide lifeguards with the tools and training necessary to better perform their duties, can the Minister indicate when will these measures be implemented?

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

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **BE IT RESOLVED** that this Senate adopt the Report of the Committee of Privileges of the Senate, First Session (2020/2021) Twelfth Parliament, on the matter of Contempt of Parliament.
(By Senator the Hon. Clarence Rambharat)

* Question No. 110 – Standing Order 27(15) invoked on 05.07.2021

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Motions:

WHEREAS it is provided by section 5(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, Chap. 58:01 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the President may by Order declare that land is required for a public purpose;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 5(2) of the Act that Parliament may by resolution approve an Order made under section 5(1);

AND WHEREAS the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2020 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 399 dated the 15th day of December, 2020;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Order;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2020 be approved.

(By the Attorney General)

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 05, 2021 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Special Reserve Police Act, Chap. 15:03 and the Police Complaints Authority Act, Chap. 15:05’.

(By the Attorney General)

(ii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Quarantine Act, Chap. 28:05’.

(By the Attorney General)

(iii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to repeal the Livestock and Livestock Products Board Act, Chap. 67:05’.

(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

(iv) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to repeal the Foreign Labour Contracts Act, Chap. 88:11’.

(By the Minister of Labour)

PRIVATE MEMBERS’ BUSINESS

Motions:

(i) **WHEREAS** the Commissions of Enquiry Act, Chap. 19:01 provides for the establishment of commissions to manage the conduct of enquiries into public officers, departments and matters of public welfare;

AND WHEREAS Commissions of Enquiry are recognized as an important tool for social investigation in contemporary society, an effective mechanism for delivering truth, justice and social or organizational reform, and a device for inquiring into and ameliorating matters of public concern;

AND WHEREAS successive Government administrations have failed to adequately address public concerns which have arisen from time to time on whether the Commissions of Enquiry in Trinidad and Tobago have been effectively and efficiently carrying out their mandate;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to review the Commissions of Enquiry Act, Chap. 19:01 and the public inquiry process in Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Anthony Vieira)

- (ii) **WHEREAS** availability of foreign exchange is important for investment and competitiveness in the private sector and a shortage of foreign exchange can hamper prospects for diversification and economic recovery aspired to in the fiscal strategy outlined in Budget 2020/2021;

AND WHEREAS the revenue received from foreign energy companies has been on the decline since 2015 and is now exacerbated by the negative socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;

AND WHEREAS it is recognised that micro, small and medium-sized businesses and the wider population continue to experience the negative effects of decreasing levels of foreign exchange in Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to table, within three (3) months, a comprehensive strategy to address the negative socio-economic impacts being experienced by micro, small and medium sized businesses and the wider public owing to ongoing shortages in foreign exchange in this country.

(By Senator Amrita Deonarine)

- (iii) **WHEREAS** the Senate, as a House of Parliament, ought to afford Members such freedom of debate so as to allow full, frank and meaningful discussion within the constraints of the Standing Orders and well established parliamentary practice;

AND WHEREAS the position and authority of the President of the Senate ought not to be used in a partisan manner to prevent and or stymie criticism of the Government;

AND WHEREAS the Senate President is the servant of the Senate and not of the Government and as such ought to be impartial and unbiased at all times;

AND WHEREAS the President of the Senate by her rulings has demonstrated her bias in favor of the PNM Government and her lack of understanding of the nature and role of the Office of President of the Senate;

AND WHEREAS by her actions the Senate President has stifled the freedom of debate guaranteed by the Constitution and thus brought this Senate into disrepute;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate declare that it has lost confidence in the President of the Senate, Senator the Honourable Christine Kangaloo.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iv) **WHEREAS** on April 24, 2018 the Senate unanimously passed a resolution calling on the Government *“to introduce legislation on parliamentary autonomy during the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report before the end of the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament”*;

AND WHEREAS on February 12, 2019, in the Senate, the Attorney General committed to making best efforts to have legislation on Parliamentary Autonomy introduced in the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament;

AND WHEREAS to date the Government has not presented to Parliament a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Senate call on the Government to re-establish its commitment to introduce a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate call on the Government to table, within three (3) months, an implementation road map geared towards introducing legislation on Parliamentary Autonomy and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

Senate Secretariat
Office of the Parliament
The Parliamentary Complex
The Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN

July 06, 2021