



**PARLIAMENT
OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

H.O.R PAPER NO. 3/ 2008

MP PARL: NO.14/1/1

**FIRST INTERIM REPORT
OF THE
COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES
OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
(2007-2008)**

Ordered to be printed by the House of Representatives

ESTABLISHMENT OF COMMITTEE

At a sitting of the House of Representatives held on *Wednesday January 30, 2008*, the following Members were appointed to the Committee of Privileges of the House of Representatives for the 2007/2008 Session of the Ninth Parliament:

Mr. Barendra Sinanan, MP	-	Chairman
Miss Penelope Beckles, MP	-	Member
Mrs. Christine Kangaloo, MP	-	Member
Mr. Stanford Callender, MP	-	Member
Mr. Ramesh Lawrence Maharaj SC., MP	-	Member
Dr. Tim Gopeesingh, MP	-	Member

GENERAL TERMS OF REFERENCE

2. Standing Order No. 75 of the House of Representatives provides that any matter which appears to affect the powers or privilege of the House shall be referred to the Committee of Privileges, and it shall be the duty of the Committee to consider any matter referred to it and thereon report to the House.

MATTER FOR CONSIDERATION BY THE COMMITTEE

3. At a sitting of the House of Representatives held on *Friday April 18, 2008*, the matter of "*Statements reflecting negatively on the Chair in the performance of his duty*" was referred to your Committee for its consideration and report.

MEETINGS

4. To date, your Committee has held two (2) meetings as follows:

- *Friday May 09, 2008*
- *Friday June 27, 2008*

WITHDRAWAL OF A MEMBER

5. At the first meeting of the Committee, Mr. Barendra Sinanan withdrew as a Member of the Committee of Privileges for the duration of the consideration of the matter before it.

6. Your Committee accepted this decision.

7. The acceptance of this decision means that Committee, although it is still comprised of six (6) Members is operating *de facto* with five (5) Members. Standing Order 75(3) states that the Committee of Privileges shall consist of not less than six, and not more than ten Members, inclusive of the Chairman.

8. Your Committee is of the opinion that having regard to the said Standing Order, the Committee should not continue to function with less than six Members.

RECOMMENDATIONS

9. In the circumstances, your Committee is requesting that another Member of the House of Representatives be temporarily appointed to the Committee of Privileges to replace Mr. Barendra Sinanan for the duration of the deliberations on the matter referred to it.

Respectfully submitted,

Sgd.

Pennelope Beckles, MP
Chairman

August 08, 2008