

Report on Outstanding matters

Joint Select Committee of Parliament
appointed to inquire into and report on
Municipal Corporations
and Service Commissions

5th Session (2014-2015), 10th Parliament



Report of the Joint Select Committee of Parliament
appointed to inquire into and report on Municipal
Corporations and Service Commissions on outstanding
matters for the 10th Parliament

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**The Joint Select Committee appointed to inquire into and report to Parliament on
Municipal Corporations and Service Commissions**

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ENTITIES UNDER THE COMMITTEE'S PURVIEW

1. A total of eighteen (18) entities fall under the purview of the Committee. This includes the four (4) constitutionally established Service Commissions and fourteen (14) Municipal Corporations including; two (2) City Corporations, three (3) Borough Corporations and nine (9) Regional Corporations. The Committee conducted inquiries the operations of all entities during it purview during the 10th Parliament. Some entities were examined on more than one occasion, therefore in aggregate the Committee conducted twenty-six (26) inquiries/examinations.

MEETINGS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS CONVENED

2. During the Tenth Parliament (2010-2015) the Committee held a total of thirty-eight (38) meetings.
3. Twenty-five (25) meetings comprised public hearings with the various entities as stated in **Table 1** below.

Table 1

Number of Public hearings and in camera meetings held during the Tenth Parliament

10th Parliament					
Meeting no.	Date of meeting (dd.mm.yy)	Entity examined	Type of meeting	Session	Remarks
1 st	22.10.2010	-	In-camera	2010-2011	Election of the Chairman, Mr. Subhas Ramkhelawan, and Vice-Chairman, Mr. Elton Prescott S.C
2 nd	08.12.2010	-	In-camera	2010-2011	Work Program determined

3 rd	04.02.2011	-	In-camera	2010-2011	
4 th	25.02.2011	Teaching Service Commission	Public hearing	2010-2011	
5 th	25.03.2011	Police Service Commission	Public hearing	2010-2011	
6 th	29.04.2011	Public Service Commission	Public hearing	2010-2011	
7 th	08.04.2011	Statutory Authorities' Service Commission	Public hearing	2010-2011	
8 th	14.06.2011	Police Service Commission	Public hearing	2010-2011	
9 th	25.11.2011	Arima Borough Corporation	Public hearing	2011-2012	
10 th	14.12.2011	-	In-camera	2011-2012	
11 th	27.01.2012	Teaching Service Commission	Public hearing	2011-2012	
12 th	24.02.2012	Police Service Commission	Public hearing	2011-2012	
13 th	23.03.2012	Public Service Commission	Public hearing	2011-2012	
14 th	27.04.2012	Statutory Authorities' Service Commission	Public hearing	2011-2012	
15 th	25.05.2012	Chaguanas Borough Corporation	Public hearing	2011-2012	
16 th	23.11.2012	-	In-camera	2012-2013	
17 th	28.11.2012	-	In-camera	2012-2013	
18 th	25.01.2013	Police Service Commission	Public hearing	2012-2013	
19 th	22.02.2013	Teaching Service Commission	Public hearing	2012-2013	
20 th	22.03.2013	Port of Spain City Corporation	Public hearing	2012-2013	
21 st	12.04.2013	-	In-camera	2012-2013	
22 nd	26.04.2013	Public Service Commission	Public hearing	2012-2013	
23 rd	28.06.2013	Statutory Authorities'	Public	2012-	

		Service Commission	hearing	2013	
24 th	02.07.2013	-	In-camera	2012-2013	
25 th	27.09.2013	San Fernando City Corporation Point Fortin Borough Corporation	Public hearing	2013-2014	Mr. Anthony Vieira replaced Mr. Elton Prescott S.C. on the Committee with effect from 23.09.2013
26 th	11.10.2013	-	In-camera	2013-2014	
27 th	22.11.2013	-	In-camera	2013-2014	Mr. Anthony Vieira elected as Vice-Chairman
28 th	29.11.2013	-	In-camera	2013-2014	
29 th	07.03.2014	-	In-camera	2013-2014	
30 th	28.03.2014	San Juan/Laventille Regional Corporation; Tunapuna/Piarco Regional Corporation	Public hearing	2013-2014	
31 st	13.05.2014	Sangre Grande Regional Corporation; Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation	Public hearing	2013-2014	Mr. Anthony Vieira was elected Chairman and Mr. Hugh Russell Ian Roach was elected Vice-Chairman.
32 nd	25.07.2014	Penal/Debe Regional Corporation; Siparia Regional Corporation	Public hearing	2013-2014	
33 rd	31.10.2014	Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo Regional Corporation; Princes Town Regional Corporation	Public hearing	2014-2015	

34 th	05.12.2014	Diego Martin Regional Corporation	Public hearing	2014-2015	
35 th	27.02.2015	Teaching Service Commission Accompanied by: Ministry of Education	Public Hearing	2014-2015	
36 th	27.03.2015	Police Service Commission Accompanied by: Trinidad and Tobago Police Service	Public Hearing	2014-2015	
37 th	24.04.2015	Public Service Commission Accompanied by: Ministry of Public Administration and the Office of the Prime Minister	Public Hearing	2014-2015	
38 th	22.05.2015	-	In-camera	2014-2015	

4. The Committee presented twenty-one (21) reports and received sixteen (16) Ministerial Responses in the Tenth Parliament. **Table 2** below provides details on the reports presented.

Table 2
Reports presented to the Houses in the 10th Parliament

Report No.	Inquiry	Dated Presented		Response by Minister of Local Government / Service Commission	
		HOR	SEN.	HOR	SEN
First	An evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Service Commissions (with the exception of the	15.06.2012	05.06.2012	28.11.2014	18.11.2014

	Judicial and Legal Service Commission)				
Second	An evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Arima Borough Corporation	17.12.2013	19.12.2012	12.04.2013	30.04.2013
Third	A re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the of the Teaching Service Commission	17.12.2013	19.12.2012	28.11.2014	25.11.2014
Fourth	A re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Police Service Commission (with special focus on the Performance of the Commissioner of Police and the Deputy Commissioner of Police)	17.12.2012	19.12.2012	09.05.2014	06.05.2014
Fifth	A re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Service Commission	22.01.2013	25.01.2013	28.11.2014	18.11.2014
Sixth	A re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Statutory Authorities' Service Commission	22.01.2013	25.01.2013	28.03.2014	02.04.2014
Seventh	An evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Chaguanas Borough Corporation	22.02.2013	19.02.2013	12.04.2013	02.04.2013
Eighth	A review of the Police Service Commission	10.05.2013	14.05.2013	09.05.2014	06.05.2014
Ninth	A review of the Teaching Service Commission	03.06.2013	09.07.2013	06.12.2013	19.11.2013

Tenth	On the administration of the Port of Spain City Corporation	13.11.2013	19.11.2013	14.02.2014	18.02.2014
Eleventh	A re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Public Service Commission	13.11.2013	19.11.2013	07.02.2014	04.02.2014
Twelfth	A re-evaluation of the efficiency and effectiveness of the Statutory Authorities' Service Commission	13.12.2013	14.01.2014	28.03.2014	02.04.2014
Thirteenth	A review of the administration of the Point Fortin Borough Corporation	28.03.2014	02.04.2014	19.09.2014	27.08.2014
Fourteenth	A review of the administration of the San Fernando City Corporation	23.05.2014	20.05.2014	07.11.2014	18.11.2014
Fifteenth	A review of the administration of the San Juan/Laventille Regional Corporation	28.11.14	28.11.14	13.03.2015	24.03.2015
Sixteenth	A review of the administration and Operations of the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation.	28.11.2014	25.11.2014	13.03.2015	24.03.2015
Seventeenth	A review of the administration and operations of the Tunapuna/Piarco Regional Corporation.	08.05.2015	12.05.2015		
Eighteenth	An inquiry into the administration and operations of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation	08.05.2015	12.05.2015		

Nineteenth	A review of the administration and operations of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation.	08.06.2015	05.06.2015		
Twentieth	An inquiry into the administration and operations of the Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo Regional Corporation.	08.06.2015	05.06.2015		
Twenty-First	A review of the administration and operations of the Siparia Regional Corporation.	08.06.2015	05.06.2015		

Outstanding Reports and Ministerial Responses

5. Due to the imminent dissolution of the Tenth Parliament, the Committee is unable to present reports on five (5) inquiries that it undertook during the period October 2014 to April 2015. The entities which were the subject of these inquiries are as follows:

- i. Princes Town Regional Corporation;
- ii. Diego Martin Regional Corporation;
- iii. Teaching Service Commission;
- iv. Police Service Commission; and
- v. Public Service Commission.

6. With regards to Ministerial/Service Commission Responses, a total of five (5) Responses are pending. These responses and the due date for their submission are listed in **Table 3** below.

Table 3
Outstanding Ministerial Responses

Report no.	Inquiry	Due date for Ministerial Response
Seventeenth	A review of the administration and operations of the Tunapuna/Piarco Regional Corporation.	13.07.2015
Eighteenth	An inquiry into the administration and operations of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation	13.07.2015
Nineteenth	A review of the administration and operations of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation.	07.08.2015
Twentieth	An inquiry into the administration and operations of the Couva/Tabaquite/Talparo Regional Corporation.	07.08.2015
Twenty-First	A review of the administration and operations of the Siparia Regional Corporation.	07.08.2015

7. In general, the Committee is pleased with the number of inquiries it was able to undertake and complete during its 4 ½ year tenure. In particular the Committee is pleased that it was able to launch inquiries into all fourteen Municipal Corporations during its tenure. The Committee believes that the extensive amount of work done would have resulted in some improvements in the operations of the entities examined and would have increased the level of public awareness

about the myriad of challenges, successes, issues and externalities associated with the provision of public goods and services.

8. Although, the Committee was unable to complete the reports on the Princes Town and Diego Martin Regional Corporations, based on its examination of the 12 other City/Municipal Corporations, the Committee concluded that most of the shortcomings and challenges are common to most if not all of these local government bodies. Therefore, the Committee encourages the Ministry of Local Government and other stakeholders in Local Government to consider the issues highlighted and recommendations proposed in its reports particularly in advancement of the Local Government Reform agenda.
9. Likewise, the Committee identified common issues/challenges affecting the operations of the four Service Commissions under its purview. The major issues pertained to: an outdated regulatory framework; insufficient human resources; a lack of financial autonomy; inadequate accommodation. As a consequence of its extensive examination of these Commissions, the Committee concluded that a sustained and collaborative approach must be adopted to enhance the operations of these important these central Human Resource Management bodies.

Respectfully submitted,

Sen. Anthony Vieira
Chairman

June 09, 2015