

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
OFFICIAL REPORT

IN THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO WHICH OPENED ON NOVEMBER 27, 1995

SESSION 1999—2000

VOLUME 17

SENATE

Friday, October 08, 1999

1.30 p.m.

The Senate having assembled, and it being the first meeting of the Fifth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the Clerk of the Senate read the following Proclamation:

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

No. 33 of 1999.

By His Excellency ARTHUR N. R. ROBINSON, T.C., O.C.C.,
S.C., President and Commander-in-Chief of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

ARTHUR N. R. ROBINSON
President

A PROCLAMATION

Whereas it is provided by subsection (1) of section 67 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago that each session of Parliament shall be held at such place within Trinidad and Tobago and shall commence at such time as the President may by Proclamation appoint:

Now, therefore, I, ARTHUR NAPOLEON RAYMOND ROBINSON, President as aforesaid, do hereby appoint the Red House, Port of Spain, Trinidad as the place at which the Fifth Session of the Fifth Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago shall be held and 1.30 p.m. on Friday the 8th day of October, 1999 as the time at which the said Session shall commence.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the President
of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, at the
Office of the President, St. Ann's, this 5th day of
October, 1999.

Leave of Absence

Friday, October 08, 1999

PRAYERS

[MR. PRESIDENT *in the Chair*]

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Mr. President: Hon. Senators, leave of absence has been granted to the following Senators: Sen. Diana Mahabir-Wyatt from today's sitting and Sen. Dr. The Hon. Daphne Phillips for the period October 02—11, 1999.

SENATOR'S APPOINTMENT

Mr. President: Hon. Senators, I have received the following correspondence from His Excellency the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago:

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By His Excellency ARTHUR N. R. ROBINSON, T.C., O.C.C., S.C.
President and Commander-in-Chief of the Republic
of Trinidad and Tobago.

\s\ Arthur N. R. Robinson
President.

TO: MR. VINCENT CABRERA

WHEREAS Senator Dr. Daphne Phillips is incapable of performing her functions as a Senator by reason of her absence from Trinidad and Tobago:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ARTHUR N. R. ROBINSON, President as aforesaid, acting in accordance with the advice of the Prime Minister, in exercise of the power vested in me by section 44 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby appoint you, VINCENT CABRERA, to be temporarily a member of the Senate, with effect from 8th October, 1999 and continuing during the absence from Trinidad and Tobago of the said Senator Dr. Daphne Phillips.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago at the Office of the President, St. Ann's, this 7th day of October, 1999.”

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

Vincent Cabrera took and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance as required by law.

PAPERS LAID

1. Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts of the Caroni County Council for the year ended December 31, 1985. [*The Minister of Finance (Sen. The Hon. Brian Kuei Tung)*]
2. Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts of the Caroni County Council for the year ended December 31, 1986. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
3. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts and Financial Statements of the Tobago House of Assembly for the year ended December 31, 1992. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
4. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts and Financial Statements of the Tobago House of Assembly for the year ended December 31, 1993. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
5. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended December 31, 1993. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
6. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended December 31, 1994. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
7. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended December 31, 1995. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
8. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended December 31, 1996. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
9. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Accounts of the Government Employees' Provident Fund for the period of account January 01, 1998 to September 30, 1998. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
10. Draft Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1999/2000. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
10. Draft Estimates—Details of Estimates of Recurrent Expenditure for the financial year 1999/2000. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]

Papers Laid

Friday, October 08, 1999

11. Draft Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure of the Statutory Boards and Similar Bodies and of the Tobago House of Assembly for the financial year 1999/2000. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
12. Draft Estimates of Development Programme for the financial year 1999/2000. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
13. Draft Estimates of Revenue for the financial year 1999/2000. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
14. Public Sector Investment Programme—1999/2000. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
15. The Medium Term Policy Framework—2000—2002. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
16. Review of the Economy—October 1998 to September 1999. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]
17. Annual Audited Financial Statement for the Tourism and Industrial Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited for the financial year 1998. [*Hon. B. Kuei Tung*]

TOURISM DEVELOPMENT (No. 2) BILL

Bill to facilitate the development of the Tourism Industry by providing to investors incentives and concessions and to make provision for matters incidental thereto, [*The Minister of Trade & Industry and Consumer Affairs and Minister of Tourism*]; read the first time.

Motion made, That the next stage of the Bill be taken at the next sitting of the Senate. [*Hon. W. Mark*]

Question put and agreed to.

**MAINTENANCE ORDERS (FACILITIES FOR ENFORCEMENT)
(NO. 2) BILL**

Bill to consolidate and revise the law and to make new provisions to facilitate the enforcement of maintenance orders abroad, [*The Attorney General*]; read the first time.

Motion made, That the next stage of the Bill be taken at the next sitting of the Senate. [*Hon. W. Mark*]

Question put and agreed to.

Sexual Offences (Amdt.) Bill

Friday, October 08, 1999

SEXUAL OFFENCES (AMDT.) (NO. 2) BILL

Bill to amend the Sexual Offences Act, 1986, [*The Attorney General*]; read the first time.

Motion made, That the next stage of the Bill be taken at the next sitting of the Senate. [*Hon. W. Mark*]

Question put and agreed to.

ADJOURNMENT

The Minister of Public Administration (Sen. The Hon. Wade Mark): Mr. President, I beg to move that this Senate do now adjourn to a date to be fixed.

Mr. President: Hon. Members, I want to advise, before putting the Motion, that arrangements have been made for Senators wishing to hear the reading of the Appropriation Bill to be accommodated at both the north and south end of the Speaker's distinguished gallery.

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned accordingly.

Adjourned at 1.48 p.m.