

**THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
OFFICIAL REPORT
IN THE THIRD SESSION OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WHICH OPENED
ON SEPTEMBER 29, 2017**

SESSION 2017—2018

VOLUME 1

SENATE

Friday, September 29, 2017

1.30 P.M.

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

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

No. 7 of 2017.

[L.S.]

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS
CARMONA, O.R.T.T., S.C., President and
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of
the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

ANTHONY T. A. CARMONA

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

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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, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, do hereby appoint Tower D, International Waterfront Centre, 1A, Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, as the place at which the Third Session of the Eleventh Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago shall be held and 1.30 p.m. on Friday the 29th day of September, 2017, 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 21st day of
September, 2017.

PRAYERS

[MADAM PRESIDENT *in the Chair*]

VACANT SEATS

Madam President: Hon. Senators, I have received the following correspondence from His Excellency the President Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona SC, ORTT:

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD
AND TOBAGO

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS
AQUINAS CARMONA, O.R.T.T., S.C.,
President and Commander-in-Chief of

the Armed Forces of the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago

/s/ Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.

President.

TO: MR. DANIEL SOLOMON

WHEREAS by the provisions of paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 43 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the President, in exercise of the power vested in him and acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, is empowered to declare the seat of a Senator to be vacant:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, in exercise of the power vested in me by the said paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 43 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby declare the seat of you, DANIEL SOLOMON, to be vacant, with effect from 29th September, 2017.

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 27th day of
September, 2017.”

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS
CARMONA, O.R.T.T., S.C., President and

UNREVISED

Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces
of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

/s/ Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.

President.

TO: MR. WAYNE STURGE

WHEREAS by the provisions of paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 43 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the President, in exercise of the power vested in him and acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, is empowered to declare the seat of a Senator to be vacant:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, in exercise of the power vested in me by the said paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 43 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby declare the seat of you, WAYNE STURGE, to be vacant, with effect from 29th September, 2017.

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 27th day of
September, 2017.”

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS
CARMONA, O.R.T.T., S.C., President and

UNREVISED

Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces
of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

/s/ Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.

President

TO: MR. RODGER DOMINIC SAMUEL

WHEREAS by the provisions of paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 43 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the President, in exercise of the power vested in him, and acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, is empowered to declare the seat of a Senator to be vacant:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, in exercise of the power vested in me by the said paragraph (e) of subsection (2) of section 43 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby declare the seat of you, RODGER DOMINIC SAMUEL, to be vacant, with effect from 29th September, 2017.

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 27th day of
September, 2017."

SENATORS' APPOINTMENT

Madam President:

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO

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Appointment of a Senator

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS
AQUINAS CARMONA, O.R.T.T.,
S.C., President and Commander-in-
Chief of the Armed Forces of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

/s/ Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.
President.

MS. ANITA HAYNES

In exercise of the power vested in me by section 40(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, do hereby appoint you, ANITA HAYNES, a Senator, with effect from 29th September, 2017.

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 27th day of
September, 2017.”

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO

Appointment of a Senator

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS
AQUINAS CARMONA, O.R.T.T.,
S.C., President and Commander-in-

Chief of the Armed Forces of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

/s/ Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.

President.

MR. SADDAM HOSEIN

In exercise of the power vested in me by section 40(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, do hereby appoint you, SADDAM HOSEIN, a Senator, with effect from 29th September, 2017.

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 27th day of
September, 2017.”

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO

Appointment of a Senator

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS
AQUINAS CARMONA, O.R.T.T.,
S.C., President and Commander-in-
Chief of the Armed Forces of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

/s/ Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.

President.

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MR. TAHARQA OBIKA

In exercise of the power vested in me by section 40(2)(b) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, acting in accordance with the advice of the Leader of the Opposition, do hereby appoint you, TAHARQA OBIKA, a Senator, with effect from 29th September, 2017.

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 27th day of September, 2017."

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Madam President: Hon. Senators, I have granted leave of absence to Sen. The Hon. Franklin Khan and to Sen. Dr. Dhanayshar Mahabir, both of whom are out of the country.

SENATORS' APPOINTMENT

Madam President: Hon. Senators, I have received the following correspondence from His Excellency the President, Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona:

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS
AQUINAS CARMONA, O.R.T.T.,
S.C., President of the Republic of

Trinidad and Tobago and Commander-
in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.

President.

TO: MR. RONALD HUGGINS

WHEREAS Senator the Honourable Franklin Khan is incapable of performing his duties as a Senator by reason of his absence from Trinidad and Tobago:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, in exercise of the power vested in me by section 44(1)(a) and section 44(4)(a) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby appoint you, RONALD HUGGINS, to be temporarily a member of the Senate, with effect from 29th September, 2017 and continuing during the absence from Trinidad and Tobago of the said Senator the Honourable Franklin Khan.

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 28th day of
September, 2017.”

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND
TOBAGO

By His Excellency ANTHONY THOMAS
AQUINAS CARMONA, O.R.T.T.,
S.C., President of the Republic of

Trinidad and Tobago and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/Anthony Thomas Aquinas Carmona O.R.T.T. S.C.

President.

TO: MR. NIKOLI EDWARDS

WHEREAS Senator DHANAYSHAR MAHABIR is incapable of performing his duties as a Senator by reason of his absence from Trinidad and Tobago:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, ANTHONY THOMAS AQUINAS CARMONA, President as aforesaid, in exercise of the power vested in me by section 44(4)(a) and section 44(4)(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby appoint you, NIKOLI EDWARDS, to be temporarily a member of the Senate, with effect from 29th September, 2017 and continuing during the absence from Trinidad and Tobago of the said Senator Dhanayshar Mahabir.

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 27th day of
September, 2017."

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

The following Senators took and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance as required by law:

Anita Haynes, Saddam Hosein, Taharqa Obika, Ronald Huggins and Nikoli Edwards.

PAPERS LAID

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1. Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Rural Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (RDC) for the financial year ended September 30, 2014. [*The Minister in the Ministry of Finance (Sen. The Hon. Allyson West)*]
2. Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Rural Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (RDC) for the financial year ended September 30, 2015. [*Sen. The Hon. A. West*]
3. Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Rural Development Company of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (RDC) for the financial year ended September 30, 2016. [*Sen. The Hon. A. West*]
4. Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Estate Management and Business Development Company Limited for the financial year ending September 30, 2011. [*Sen. The Hon. A. West*]
5. Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Estate Management and Business Development Company Limited for the financial year ending September 30, 2012. [*Sen. The Hon. A. West*]
6. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Princes Town Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2011. [*Sen. The Hon. A. West*]
7. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Statement of Recovery of Expenses of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries for the year ended December 31, 2016. [*Sen. The Hon. A. West*]

8. Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Siparia Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2011. [*Sen. The Hon. A. West*]
9. Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Works and Transport to the Eighth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Report of the Auditor General of Trinidad and Tobago on a Special Audit of the Public Transport Service Corporation (PTSC). [*The Minister of Works and Transport (Sen. The Hon. Rohan Sinanan)*]
10. Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Health to the Fourth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the THA), Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament, on an inquiry into the Regulation and Licensing of Medical Doctors by the Medical Board of Trinidad and Tobago. [*The Minister of Trade and Industry (Sen. The Hon. Paula Gopee-Scoon)*]
11. The Trinidad and Tobago Housing Development Corporation (Vesting) (Amendment to the First Schedule) (No.4) Order, 2017. [*Sen. The Hon. P. Gopee-Scoon*]

JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE REPORT

Human Rights, Equality and Diversity

Human Rights of Remandees at Remand Prison

(Presentation)

The Minister of Rural Development and Local Government (Sen. The Hon. Kazim Hosein): Madam President, I beg to present the following report:

Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity, Second Session (2016/2017), Eleventh Parliament on the Examination of the Human Rights of Remandees at Remand Prison.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion made and question proposed: That the Senate do now adjourn to a date to be fixed. [Hon. P. Gopee-Scoon]

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned accordingly.

Adjourned at 1.50 p.m.