



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 22
2021/2022

ORDER PAPER

WEDNESDAY MARCH 23, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

1. The Immigration (Caribbean Community Skilled Nationals) (Amendment) Bill, 2022.
(By the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs)

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2005.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
2. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Proceeds of Crime Act, Chap. 11:27 Seized Assets Fund Account for the years ended September 30, 2017 to September 30, 2021.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
3. The Report on the Management of the Seized Assets Fund for the financial years ended September 30, 2017 to September 30, 2021.
(By the Minister of Finance)
4. The Financial Institutions (Capital Adequacy) Regulations, 2020.
(By the Minister of Finance)

5. The Corporation Tax (Small and Medium Enterprises Loan Guarantee Programme) (Extension of Exemption) Order, 2022.
(By the Minister of Finance)
6. The Annual Report of the Trinidad and Tobago Postal Corporation for the period 01 October, 2011 to 30 September, 2012.
(By the Minister of Public Utilities)
7. The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Extension of Period for Payment of Fifty Percent of Fixed Penalty) Order, 2022.
(By the Minister of Works and Transport)
8. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Education to the First Report of the Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration on an inquiry into the effects of the hybrid learning system on student performance in government and government-assisted schools during the revised COVID-19 restrictions.
(By the Minister of Education)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

***Question No. 72 to the Prime Minister**

(By the Member for Mayaro)

In light of Trinidad and Tobago's score of 41/100 on the Corruption Perception Index, will the Prime Minister state what specific new measures will be taken to improve the country's global standing?

Question No. 82 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister state the number of tourist arrivals to Trinidad and to Tobago respectively since the opening of borders to January 31, 2022?

Question No. 88 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister indicate when resurfacing works on the following roads will commence and be completed:

- a. Rochard Douglas Road, Barrackpore;
- b. Cunjal North Road, Barrackpore; and
- c. Penal Rock Road in Moruga?

* Question No. 72 was deferred for two weeks on February 25, 2022

Question No. 90 to the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government**(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

Will the Minister provide the commencement date for repair works to the following roads in the Moruga/Tableland Constituency:

- a. Diamond Road, St. Croix, Princes Town;
- b. Sahadath Road, Princes Town;
- c. Third Company, Indian Walk; and
- d. Perry Young Road, Indian Walk?

Question No. 93 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Will the Minister state the sum of money paid by Phoenix Park Energy Marketing LLC to Keyera Energy Incorporated to acquire a Natural Gas Liquid Terminal in Hull, Texas?

Question No. 94 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Will the Minister provide an update on the status of any bid(s) for the Petrotrin Refinery?

Question No. 95 to the Minister of Public Utilities**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Given that Trinidad and Tobago currently has three major power plants supplying electricity to the national electricity grid, will the Minister state:

- a. how many megawatts of electricity are being produced by these three plants; and
- b. how many megawatts of electricity are being utilised?

Question No. 100 to the Minister of National Security**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister state why, despite the Anti-Gang Act, the Acting Police Commissioner stated in January, 2022 that there 'appears to be an escalation in gang violence'?

Question No. 101 to the Minister of Works and Transport**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Given that residents of Reform, Williamsville and environs are affected yearly by flooding, will the Minister advise as to when the dredging of the Guaracara River will commence?

Question No. 102 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Given the requirement under section 13 of the Heritage and Stabilisation Fund Act, that when revenues exceed 10% of the budgeted estimates for a quarter, it must be deposited in the HSF by the end of the next month, will the Minister state the value of deposits made to the HSF as at January 31, 2022, for the quarter October 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021?

Question No. 105 to the Minister of Trade and Industry**(By the Member for Mayaro)**

With regard to the funding provided to the Research and Development Facility for the non-energy, manufacturing and service sectors, will the Minister provide the House with a breakdown of the following for fiscal 2020:

- a) the number of grants created by said facility; and
- b) the names of the businesses that directly benefitted from said funding?

Question No. 106 to the Minister of Health**(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)**

Will the Minister advise this House on the efficacy of cloth masks against the new Omicron Variant?

Question No. 111 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Caroni East)

Will the Minister inform the House when dredging and bank reinforcement works will commence on the Caroni River?

Question No. 112 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Caroni East)

Will the Minister inform the House when remedial works will commence on the bridge located at Hercules Trace, Ravine Sable?

Question No. 113 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

Will the Minister state whether the request of the Supermarket Association of Trinidad and Tobago for an automated system for government assistance will be considered?

Question No. 114 to the Minister of Education

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

Will the Minister indicate what measures have been implemented to assist schools that are unable to complement in-person classes with online sessions?

Question No. 115 to the Minister of Education

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

Will the Minister indicate what monitoring and evaluation protocols are in place to evaluate the performance of schools with the rotation of in-person classes?

Question No. 116 to the Minister of Education

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

Will the Minister indicate whether there has been any adjustment to the curriculum to ensure complete delivery within the school year?

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE HOUSE ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER

PUBLIC BUSINESS

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee on the Miscellaneous Provisions (Local Government Reform) Bill, 2020.
(By the Member for Arouca/Maloney)

2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee on the Cannabis Control Bill, 2020.
(By the Member for San Fernando West)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

1. **The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday February 18, 2022 will be resumed:**
A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Judicial and Legal Service Act, Chap. 6:01, the Prison Service Act, Chap. 13:02, the Defence Act, Chap. 14:01, the Police Service Act, Chap. 15:01, the Civil Service Act, Chap. 23:01, the Fire Service Act, Chap. 35:50 and the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago Act, Chap. 72:01 to provide a regulatory framework for polygraph and drug testing and biometric identification for members of the Protective Services and certain offices in the Judicial and Legal Service and the Civil Service and for other related matters.”
(By the Minister of National Security)

2. **The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday February 04, 2022 will be resumed:**
A Bill entitled, “An Act to combat corruption and other wrongdoings by encouraging and facilitating disclosures of improper conduct in the public and private sector, to protect persons making those disclosures from detrimental action, to regulate the receiving, investigating or otherwise dealing with disclosures of improper conduct and to provide for other matters connected therewith.”
(By the Prime Minister)

3. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Municipal Corporations Act, Chap. 25:04 to establish the Borough of Diego Martin and the Borough of Siparia and to make consequential amendments to the Representation of the People Act, Chap. 2:01, the Interpretation Act, Chap. 3:01, the Elections and Boundaries Commission (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Act, Chap. 25:50, the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Regulations, Chap. 48:50, the Central Tenders Board Act, Chap. 71:91 and other written laws.”
(By the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government)

4. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28 and for other related matters.”
(By the Attorney General)

5. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Interpretation Act, Chap. 3:01, the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01, the Offences Against the Person Act, Chap. 11:08, the Criminal Procedure Act, Chap. 12:02 and for other related matters.”

(By the Attorney General)

6. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Proceeds of Crime Act, Chap. 11:27, the Anti-terrorism Act, Chap. 12:07, the Securities Act, Chap. 83:02, the Insurance Act, Chap. 84:01 and the Miscellaneous Provisions (FATF Compliance) Act, No. 25 of 2020.”

(By the Attorney General)

Committee Stage:

1. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago to accord self-government to Tobago and for related matters”.

(By the Prime Minister)

2. A Bill entitled, “An Act to repeal the Tobago House of Assembly Act, Chap. 25:03, and to provide for the powers and functions of the Tobago Island Government and the Tobago Legislature and for related matters”.

(By the Minister of Planning and Development)

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 4(3) of the Elections and Boundaries Commission (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Act, Chap.25:50 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that as soon as may be after the Elections and Boundaries Commission (hereinafter referred to as “the Commission”) has submitted a report under section 4(1)(a) of the Act, the Minister shall lay before the House of Representatives for its approval the draft of an Order by the President for giving effect, whether with or without modifications, to the recommendations contained in the report;

AND WHEREAS the Commission has submitted a report to the Minister in accordance with the provisions of section 4(1)(a) of the Act;

AND WHEREAS the draft of an Order entitled “the Elections and Boundaries Commission (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Order, 2021” giving effect to the recommendations of the Commission was laid before the House of Representatives on the 4th day of February, 2022:

BE IT RESOLVED that the draft of the “Elections and Boundaries Commission (Local Government and Tobago House of Assembly) Order, 2021” be approved.

(By the Prime Minister)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday February 25, 2022 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS it is the responsibility of the Government to provide equal and equitable opportunities for all citizens to access quality education;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to address the existing inequities in accessing education exacerbated by the shift to virtual learning;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to provide safe learning spaces following its sudden decision to institute in-person classes for some students;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to meet the varied requirements of teachers leaving many ill-equipped to execute quality online instruction;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to effectively manage resources to facilitate adequate funding to the GATE program, government sponsored scholarships and bursaries, school feeding programme, special education access and other school related services;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House take note of the increasing and unacceptable levels of disparity in equitable access to education and the failure of the Ministry of Education to deliver on its essential mandate;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House call on the Government to take all immediate and necessary steps to provide equitable access to all students.

(By the Member for Tabaquite)

2. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday December 10, 2021 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS the Government has consistently presented Budgets which are unrelated to the demonstrated needs of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to present a sustainable and viable plan to address job creation, investment or foreign exchange generation;

AND WHEREAS the cost of living continues to escalate, lowering the standard of living and quality of life of a significant segment of the population;

AND WHEREAS the Government continues to fund its wastage and corruption by engaging in increased domestic and foreign debt while depleting state resources:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn the Government for its neglect of the economy and failure to generate sustainable economic growth and development.

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

3. **WHEREAS** the House of Representatives, is the elected House of Parliament, where lawfully elected Members are entitled to the Constitutionally entrenched right to freedom of speech;

AND WHEREAS the Standing Orders are not intended to diminish, restrict or violate the rights, privileges and immunities of the House;

AND WHEREAS the Speaker must discharge her functions in an unbiased and impartial manner; free from political influence and in no manner to prevent or protect the Government from criticism;

AND WHEREAS the Speaker's lack of understanding of and/or disregard for her role as an impartial presiding officer, the application of, and at times, indifference to, the Standing Orders has impeded her judgment to perform her role free from bias and thereby unequivocally brought the Office of Speaker into disrepute;

AND WHEREAS the Speaker has oppressed and continues to oppress the voice and opinions of hundreds of thousands of constituents of the Members of the Opposition:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House express a lack of confidence in the Speaker.

(By the Member for Couva South)

4. **WHEREAS** section 76(2) of the Constitution provides that the Attorney General is responsible for the administration of legal affairs in Trinidad and Tobago and civil proceedings for and against the State;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General has shown his lack of knowledge, bias, incompetence and legal ineptitude to manage the administration of legal affairs in Trinidad and Tobago and civil proceedings for and against the State;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General having failed to properly execute his constitutional duties;

AND WHEREAS the conduct of the Attorney General has brought his office into odium and disrepute:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House express its loss of confidence in the Attorney General.

(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)

5. **WHEREAS** the Government has been unable to effectively prevent a surge in criminal activity resulting in rapid increases in murders, robberies and home invasions;
AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to set and operationalise a forceful and functional crime reduction plan with SMART (specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time bound) goals to curb the growing murder rate;

AND WHEREAS the Government has consistently ignored and, through their incompetence, added to the fundamental causes of crime, while focusing on punitive measures instead of preventative measures;

AND WHEREAS the failure to effectively address crime has created social, political, economic and cultural crises of immeasurable proportions:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House reprimand this Government for its failure to effectively prevent the surge in criminal activity in our country.

(By the Member for Naparima)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House (Ag.)

House of Representatives' Secretariat
The Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN

March 17, 2022

ORDER PAPER
WEDNESDAY MARCH 23, 2022

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

***Question No. 48 to the Minister of Digital Transformation:**

(By the Member for Mayaro)

With regard to the digitisation of Government services, will the Minister provide:

- a. a detailed breakdown of the extent to which Ministries' services have been digitised; and
- b. specify how the digitisation process improved efficiency in assisting citizens?

(Answer due by 19.02.2022)

***Question No. 61 to the Minister of Labour:**

(By the Member for Couva South)

Will the Minister provide the following information:

- a. the number of outstanding wage negotiations in the Public Service, State Enterprises and Statutory Authorities for the bargaining period September 7th, 2015 to present; and
- b. the list of recognised majority unions that are involved in these negotiations?

(Answer due by 25.02.2022)

Question No. 79 to the Prime Minister:

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister provide, for the period June 2020 to December 2021, the number and the total value of Tourism Accommodation Relief Grants awarded to hoteliers in Tobago?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)

Question No. 80 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts:

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister provide, for the period June 2020 to December 2021, the number and the total value of tourism relief grants awarded to hoteliers in Trinidad?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)

Question No. 81 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts:

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

With respect to the Cultural Relief Grants, will the Minister provide the following information for the period April 2020 to December 2021:

- a. the number and the total value of grants awarded to applicants in Tobago; and
- b. the number and the total value of grants awarded to applicants in Trinidad?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)

* Question Nos. 48 and 61 were deferred for two weeks on February 25, 2022

Question No. 83 to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development:**(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

Will the Minister inform this House as to the number of Moruga/Tableland constituents who have received the following grants for the period January 1, 2021 to December 31, 2021:

- a. the Emergency Shelter Relief Grant;
- b. the Home Improvement Grant;
- c. the Home Improvement Subsidy;
- d. the Government's Aided Self-Help Housing Programme;
- e. the Home Construction Subsidy; and
- f. the Housing and Village Improvement Programme?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)**Question No. 84 to the Minister of Education:****(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

As regard the allocation of laptop/tablet devices in the Moruga/Tableland Constituency, will the Minister provide:

- a. a listing of the schools which have been allocated devices; and
- b. the number of devices allocated to each school?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)**Question No. 85 to the Minister of Works and Transport:****(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of expenditure as of January 31, 2022 from the estimated \$178 Million allocated to the Moruga Road Rehabilitation Project in 2017?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)**Question No. 86 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services:****(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

Will the Minister inform this House on the standard procedures and the estimated time for processing and approving an application for the following:

- a. Minor House Repairs Grant;
- b. Senior Citizens Pension;
- c. Public Assistance Grant; and
- d. General Assistance Grant?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)**Question No. 87 to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development:****(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

Will the Minister inform this House on the standard procedures and the estimated time for processing and approving an application for the following:

- a. the Emergency Shelter Relief Grant;
- b. the Home Improvement Grant;
- c. the Home Improvement Subsidy;
- d. the Government's Aided Self-Help Housing Programme;
- e. the Home Construction Subsidy; and
- f. the Housing and Village Improvement Programme?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)

Question No. 89 to the Minister of Trade and Industry:**(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of revenue earned by the Agro-Processing and Light Industrial Park in Saunders Trace, Moruga, over the period July 14, 2020 to January 31, 2022?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)**Question No. 98 to the Minister of Public Utilities:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Given the request for Expressions of Interest by the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission for the supply of electrical power to the Grid from a floating power plant, will the Minister state:

- a. why is there a need for more power to be added to the national grid;
- b. why is there a need to utilise a floating power plant as opposed to the regular power plant; and
- c. what is the expected cost and timeline of this project?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)**Question No. 99 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of the monthly remuneration, inclusive of all benefits, for Board Appointees/Directors of all statutory authorities and state enterprises which fall under the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)**Question No. 104 to the Minister of Trade and Industry:****(By the Member for Mayaro)**

Will the Minister provide the House with a breakdown of the following:

- a) the total amount of relief funds allocated to the SMEs for fiscal 2021;
- b) the list of business organisations that benefited from such funding; and
- c) the criteria used by the relevant authorities to determine the allocation of relief funding to the SME sector?

(Answer due by 16.03.2022)



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

SITTING NO. 22
2021/2022

WEDNESDAY MARCH 23, 2022 10:00 A.M. NOTICE OF PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

1. Will the Prime Minister inform this House if the Cabinet has been advised when the investigation launched by the Occupational Safety and Health Agency into the accident which led to the deaths of four divers at Paria Fuel Trading Company on the 25th February, 2022, will be completed?
(By the Member for Couva South)
2. Will the Prime Minister inform this House if the Cabinet has been advised by State majority owned Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT) that it has taken a loan for the sum of TT\$ 476M to facilitate a retrenchment exercise at the said company?
(By the Member for Couva South)
3. Will the Prime Minister indicate whether the Government intends to implement any of the recommendations made by the Committee appointed to investigate the COVID-19 pandemic?
(By the Member for Fyzabad)
4. Will the Prime Minister state why he declined the invitation to attend the International Energy Conference and Expo in Guyana held over the period February 15 to 18, 2022?
(By the Member for Naparima)
5. Will the Prime Minister state what more must be done to remove Trinidad and Tobago from the EU blacklist given that Trinidad and Tobago remains the only CARICOM state listed as a “non-cooperative jurisdiction for tax purposes” as of February 24, 2022?
(By the Member for Naparima)
6. Will the Prime Minister state when the Commission of Enquiry will commence its investigation into the recent deaths of the four divers?
(By the Member for Naparima)
7. Will the Prime Minister identify, in measurable terms, the economic benefits derived from his recent visit to Qatar for the Sixth Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Gas Exporting Countries Forum?
(By the Member for Naparima)
8. Will the Prime Minister indicate whether the former Minister of Agriculture provided information to him regarding corruption in the transfer of State lands by senior public officials?
(By the Member for Naparima)

9. Will the Prime Minister inform this house on the status of investigations into the collapse of the roadway at Mosquito Creek?
(By the Member for Caroni Central)
10. Will the Prime Minister inform this house whether the complaint against the Chief Parliamentary Counsel to the Judicial and Legal Service Commission will be withdrawn by his Government?
(By the Member for Caroni Central)
11. Will the Prime Minister state what role, if any, Trinidad and Tobago intends to play in a regional food security initiative led by Guyana and Barbados.
(By the Member for Naparima)
12. Will the Prime Minister advise if he is in receipt of reports of land grabbing made by former Minister Clarence Rambharat?
(By the Member for Caroni Central)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House (Ag.)

House of Representatives' Secretariat
The Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN

March 23, 2022