



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 23
2021/2022

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY MARCH 25, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Public Transport Service Corporation for the year ended 30th September 2018.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
2. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Public Administration to the First Report of the Joint Select Committee on Finance and Legal Affairs on an inquiry into the Ease of Doing Business in Trinidad and Tobago, First Session (2020/2021), Twelfth Parliament.
(By the Minister of Public Administration)

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. 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 Nos. 112-116 were postponed on Wednesday March 23, 2022 pursuant to Standing Order 29(10)

***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?

Question No. 91 to the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister provide an update on the repair of the bridge on Edward Trace, Moruga, which collapsed on August 28, 2021?

Question No. 92 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister provide an update on works being conducted on the following roads in the Moruga/Tableland Constituency:

- a. Naparima Mayaro Road, Tableland;
- b. Hindustan Estate Road, New Grant; and
- c. Frederick Road, Hindustan, New Grant?

Question No. 96 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Will the Minister advise as to the following:

- a. how many illegal quarries and individuals engaged in illegal quarrying have been identified between the period January 1st 2021 to January 1st 2022; and
- b. how many of the illegal quarries identified have had their operations terminated?

Question No. 97 to the Minister of Finance

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

What is the Government's policy with regard to the privatisation of banking, rum manufacturing, and port operations?

* Question Nos. 112-116 were postponed on Wednesday March 23, 2022 pursuant to Standing Order 29(10)

Question No. 103 to the Minister of National Security**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister state when the approximately 380 Special Reserve Police Officers will receive their outstanding meal allowances and COLA since the \$8 million, which was budgeted for 2020, has not been paid?

Question No. 107 to the Minister of Health**(By the Member for Naparima)**

In light of calls by mental health experts for the Government to address the notable rise in mental illnesses arising out of the COVID-19 pandemic, will the Minister state what measures will be implemented to address said mental health challenges?

Question No. 108 to the Minister of National Security**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister inform the House whether there is a policy regarding members of the public taking photographs or video recordings of police officers in the execution of their duties?

Question No. 117 to the Minister of Education**(By the Member for Tabaquite)**

With regard to in-person classes, will the Minister indicate whether any additional resources have been allocated to the Student Support Services Division to address student absenteeism?

Question No. 118 to the Minister of Health**(By the Member for Tabaquite)**

Will the Minister provide an update on the procurement of COVID-19 vaccines for children between the ages of five and eleven?

Question No. 119 to the Minister of Finance**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Will the Minister provide an update on the current valuation of the Petrotrin Employees' Pension Plan?

Question No. 122 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

As regards the "Taste of Carnival" events for Carnival 2022, did consultations with the relevant stakeholders inform the Government's decisions that this particular option provided the best possible value for money?

Question No. 125 to the Minister of Public Utilities**(By the Member for St. Augustine)**

In light of reports that low water pressure hindered firefighting efforts at a fire which occurred at Bamboo Settlement No. 2, Valsayn on February 7, 2022, will the Minister state what measures will be taken to ensure that the issue is addressed to prevent future occurrence?

Question No. 126 to the Minister of National Security**(By the Member for St. Augustine)**

Will the Minister advise, as at February 28, 2022;

- a) how many CCTV cameras are installed in Trinidad and Tobago; and
- b) how many CCTV cameras are operational?

Question No. 127 to the Minister of National Security**(By the Member for St. Augustine)**

Will the Minister state whether there are plans to install CCTV cameras at the Heights of Aripo where the bodies of murder victims have been found?

Question No. 128 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries**(By the Member for Couva South)**

In light of the recent protest action by former employees of Caroni (1975) Limited, will the Minister state how many former employees are yet to receive their residential and agricultural leases?

Question No. 129 to the Minister of Public Utilities**(By the Member for Couva South)**

In light of the 2022 Dry Season Water Supply Schedule recently published by the Water and Sewerage Authority, will the Minister advise whether said schedule was approved by the Board of Commissioners of WASA?

Question No. 130 to the Minister of Health**(By the Member for Couva South)**

In light of the incident which occurred at the St. James Medical Complex where lye was used on a patient instead of distilled water, will the Minister indicate whether the internal investigation by the North West Regional Health Authority into this incident has been completed?

Question No. 131 to the Minister of Health**(By the Member for Caroni East)**

Will the Minister state what measures, if any, are being implemented to treat with patients suffering from “Long COVID”?

Question No. 132 to the Minister of Health**(By the Member for Caroni East)**

Will the Minister state what specific measures are being implemented to combat the illicit distribution of COVID-19 vaccination cards to the unvaccinated?

Question No. 133 to the Minister of Health**(By the Member for Caroni East)**

Will the Minister inform the House how many doses of the adult and adolescent Pfizer vaccine stock expired on February 28, 2022?

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **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)

2. **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)

3. **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)

4. **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)

5. **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)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

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)

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)

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Wednesday March 23, 2022 will be resumed:**
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)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House (Ag.)

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

March 23, 2022

ORDER PAPER
FRIDAY MARCH 25, 2022

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

¹Question 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)

²Question 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)

¹ Deferred for two weeks on February 25, 2022

² Deferred for two weeks on March 23, 2022