



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 24
2021/2022

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY APRIL 08, 2022 AT 10:00 A.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Health to the Interim Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on the Response of the Public Authorities to the Covid-19 Pandemic in Trinidad and Tobago.
(By the Minister of Health)
2. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Education to the Fourth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the THA) on an Inquiry into the role of NIHERST as it pertains to the development of the Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) sector in Trinidad and Tobago, First Session (2020/2021), Twelfth Parliament.
(By the Minister of Education)
3. The Administrative Report of the Occupational Safety and Health Authority and Agency for the period October 2017 to September 2018.
(By the Minister of Labour)
4. The Annual Report of the Environmental Management Authority for the year 2020.
(By the Minister of Planning and Development)
5. The Administrative Report of the San Fernando City Corporation for the year October 2016 to September 2017.
(By the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government)
6. The Annual Report on the Freedom of Information Act, Chap. 22:02 for the year 2019.
(By the Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister)
7. The Annual Report on the Freedom of Information Act, Chap. 22:02 for the year 2020.
(By the Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

1. The Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the THA) on an Inquiry into the Efficiency and Effectiveness of the Criminal Injuries Compensation Board.
(By the Member for Tunapuna)

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

***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?

Question No. 109 to the Minister of Finance**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister inform the House as to the measures being taken by the Government to settle the approximately \$600 million owed by the state to the National Maintenance, Training and Security Company (MTS)?

Question No. 110 to the Minister of Works and Transport**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister inform the House whether the Government is actively pursuing a policy aimed at regulating "PH" drivers in Trinidad and Tobago?

Question No. 120 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

In light of NiQuan Energy's decision to commence operations by the end of the first quarter of 2022, after the closure of its plant due to an explosion on April 7, 2021, will the Minister provide the following:

- a) whether the plant has received permission from the Environmental Management Authority to restart operations; and
- b) whether the investigation into the April 7, 2021, explosion has been completed?

Question No. 135 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts**(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)**

Will the Minister advise as to the revenue realised by the state from the hosting of Taste of Carnival 2022?

Question No. 136 to the Minister of Education**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister state when works on the Reform Hindu school will be completed?

Question No. 138 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Given the recent downgrade of Trinidad Petroleum Holdings Limited's international credit rating by Standard and Poor's due to the company's failure to submit its 2019 Audited Financial Statements, will the Minister provide a timeline for completion and publication of these statements?

Question No. 139 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Given the statements attributed to the Trinidad Petroleum Holdings Limited that one of the reasons for the non-submission of its 2019 financials was an "asset valuation that was not represented in previous audits", will the Minister advise as to the following:

- a) whether an asset valuation has been conducted; and
- b) when will it be made public?

Question No. 143 to the Minister of National Security**(By the Member for Tabaquite)**

Will the Minister state how many of the fire stations servicing Trinidad and Tobago have inoperable fire trucks and equipment?

Question No. 144 to the Minister of National Security**(By the Member for Tabaquite)**

Will the Minister indicate what is the Government's policy with regard to the use of airspace and territorial waters for transshipment and/or refuelling of vessels carrying military equipment and weapons to or from Venezuela?

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

1. The Companies (Amendment) Bill, 2022.
(By the Attorney General who will move that the next stage of the Bill be taken later in the proceedings)
2. The Tobago Council for Handicapped Children (Incorporation)(Amendment) Bill, 2022
(The Speaker will put the question that the Bill be read a First time*)

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS

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:**

* Pursuant to Standing Order 75(5)(c).

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

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)**PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS****Motions:**

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

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)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House (Ag.)

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

April 5, 2022

ORDER PAPER
FRIDAY APRIL 08, 2022

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 47 to the Minister of Health

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

With respect to COVID-19 related deaths from May 24th, 2021 to present, will the Minister provide the following:

- a) the number of unvaccinated persons who have died at healthcare institutions, disaggregated by institution;
- b) the number of fully vaccinated persons who have died at healthcare institutions, disaggregated by institution; and
- c) a breakdown of the number of deaths in ICU/ High Dependency Unit for each institution?

(Answer due by 29.03.2022)

***Question No. 61 to the Prime Minister**

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

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 16.03.2022)

***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. 121 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

With respect to infrastructural and operational arrangements related to the facilitation of the "Taste of Carnival" events for Carnival 2022, will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the following:

- a) a list of all contractors, vendors and/or service providers selected for said events and
- b) the process by which the contractors, vendors and/or service providers referred to in a) were selected, including the date of their selection and the persons who selected them.

Question No. 123 to the Minister of Finance

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

Will the Minister furnish this House with the salary and remuneration benefits of the following office holders:

- a) the Governor of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago;
- b) the Deputy Governors of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago;
- c) the Chief Executive Officer and General Managers of First Citizens Bank; and
- d) the Chief Executive Officer of the National Insurance Board?

Question No. 124 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

*Deferred for two weeks on February 25, 2022

*Deferred for two weeks on March 23, 2022

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

Will the Minister furnish this House with the salary and remuneration benefits of the Chief Executive Officer and General Managers of the Agricultural Development Bank?

Question No. 134 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the total expenditure for the hosting of Taste of Carnival 2022?

Question No. 140 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

As it pertains to contracts for the supply of gas between downstream industries at Point Lisas and the National Gas Company for the period September 7, 2015 to February 1, 2022, will the Minister indicate:

- a) how many long-term contracts have expired;
- b) how many long-term contracts are pending renewal;
- c) how many long-term contracts have expired and have been replaced with interim short-term or month-to-month contracts;
- d) how many long-term contracts have been renewed or executed; and
- e) the names of the entities which have received, renewed or executed long term contracts?

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House (Ag.)

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