



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION  
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 26  
2021/2022

## ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY APRIL 22, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Annual Report on the Freedom of Information Act, Chap. 22:02 for the year 2014.  
**(By the Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister)**
2. The Annual Report on the Freedom of Information Act, Chap. 22:02 for the year 2015.  
**(By the Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister)**
3. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Second Report of the Public Accounts Committee on an examination of the Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for Financial Year 2020.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

1. The Second Report of the Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration on an examination of unemployment during the COVID-19 pandemic and the State's capacity to provide support to persons who became unemployed as a result of the pandemic, Second Session (2021/2022), Twelfth Parliament.  
**(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Questions for Written Answer appear in the Appendix**

**Questions for Oral Answer**

**\*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?

**Question No. 159 to the Minister of National Security****(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

Will the Minister provide an update on the Joint Border Protection Agency?

**Question No. 160 to the Minister of National Security****(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

Will the Minister state how many persons have been affixed with electronic monitoring bracelets, for the period April 28, 2021 to March 15, 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's neglect of the agricultural and fisheries sectors has created a food and nutrition security crisis;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government continues to ignore the plight of farmers and fisher folk relating to praedial larceny and piracy;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to establish an appropriate strategy to address this food and nutrition security crisis and runaway food prices;

**AND WHEREAS** the global supply chain challenges pose a serious threat to food and nutrition security;

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\* Questions Nos. 143 and 144 were deferred for two (2) weeks on April 8, 2022.

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to reduce barriers and bureaucratic red tape to facilitate greater efficiencies in the agricultural and fisheries sectors;

**AND WHEREAS** this food and nutrition security crisis will lead to increased poverty, unemployment and widespread starvation:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House call on the Government to acknowledge the food and nutrition security crisis and to take immediate measures to prevent food insufficiency and starvation in the nation, particularly for poor, marginalized and vulnerable groups.

**(By the Member for Couva North)**

2. **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)**

3. **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)**

4. **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)**

5. **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)**

6. **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)

**Bills Second Reading:**

1. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Tobago Council for Handicapped Children (Incorporation) Act, 1975’.  
(The Speaker will propose the question that the Bill be read a Second time)

**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 4<sup>th</sup> 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)**

7. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Immigration (Caribbean Community Skilled Nationals) Act, Chap. 18:03.”

**(By the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs)**

### **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 adjourned on Wednesday April 20, 2022, will be resumed:**

**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)**

2. The debate on the following Motion which was adjourned on Friday April 08, 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)

*Brian Caesar*  
*Clerk of the House (Ag.)*

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

*April 21, 2022*

**ORDER PAPER**  
**FRIDAY APRIL 22, 2022**

**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**

**<sup>1</sup>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)**

**<sup>2</sup>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)**

**<sup>3</sup>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. 145 to the Minister of National Security**

**(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

Will the Minister provide the following, for the years September 2015 to February 2022:

- a) the total number of gangs per year;
- b) the total number of gang members per year;
- c) the total number of arrests made under the respective Anti-Gang Act per year;
- d) the total number of charges laid under the respective Anti-Gang Act per year; and
- e) the total number of convictions under the respective Anti-Gang Act per year?

**Question No. 146 to the Minister of Public Administration**

**(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

With respect to the buildings and office spaces rented by the State during the period September 2015 to February 2022, will the Minister provide the following:

- a) the buildings and addresses of the buildings and office spaces that were/are being rented;
- b) the names of the owners of the buildings or office spaces;
- c) the purpose for which the buildings or office spaces were/are being rented;
- d) the cost per month to rent each building or office space;
- e) the date on which each lease agreement was entered into; and
- f) the period of each lease agreement?

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<sup>1</sup> Question No. 61 was deferred on February 25, 2022.

<sup>2</sup> Question No. 79 was deferred on March 23, 2022.

<sup>3</sup> Question No. 123 was deferred for two (2) weeks on April 8, 2022.

**Question No. 147 to the Attorney General****(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

Will the Attorney General provide, for the period March 2020 to February 2022, the number of High Court trials that have been concluded and the nature of each matter in the following divisions:

- a) Civil Division;
- b) Family and Children Division; and
- c) Criminal Division?

**Question No. 148 to the Attorney General****(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

With regard to the District (Summary) Courts for both criminal and petty civil matters for the period March 2020 to November 2021, will the Attorney General provide the following:

- a) the number of matters that have been concluded; and
- b) the nature of each matter?

**Question No. 149 to the Attorney General****(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

Will the Attorney General, for the period September 2015 to February 2022:

- a) state the number of High Court matters filed against the State;
- b) as it pertains to the matters in which the State was unsuccessful;
  - i. state the total number;
  - ii. identify by case name, the attorneys-at-law who appeared in each matter;
  - iii. the damages awarded to the successful parties, where applicable; and
  - iv. the legal costs awarded to the successful parties, where applicable?

**Question No. 150 to the Minister of National Security****(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

With regard to ballistics testing and DNA analysis at the Trinidad and Tobago Forensic Science Centre during the period September 2015 to February 2022, will the Minister provide the following:

- a) the total number of ballistic tests for which Certificates of Analysis are outstanding;
- b) the total number of DNA samples for which Certificates of Analysis are outstanding;
- c) the total number of Certificates of Analysis that were processed for each year; and
- d) the average time period between the submission of a sample for ballistics and DNA analysis to the completion of a certificate of analysis?

**Question No. 151 to the Attorney General****(By the Member for Barataria/San Juan)**

With regard to the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions during the period January 2017 to February 2022, will the Attorney General provide the following:

- a) the total number of indictments filed per year; and
- b) the nature of the matter on each of the indictments?

***Brian Caesar***  
***Clerk of the House (Ag.)***

***House of Representatives' Secretariat***  
***The Red House***  
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***April 21, 2022***