



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 31
2021/2022

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY MAY 27, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

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PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer appear in Appendix I

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 185 to the Minister of Works and Transport:

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

Will the Minister indicate when the Mon Desir-Delhi Road, from Seeram Junction to Sparrow Junction, will be resurfaced?

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

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** there has been an overwhelming number of reports of children being abused during the current Government's administration;

AND WHEREAS children have the right to grow up in a safe, supportive environment devoid of abuse, exploitation, harassment, and neglect;

AND WHEREAS the State has a duty of care to protect all the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago especially the children to which their policies have not been effective on safety, security, health and education;

AND WHEREAS several State agencies have indicated that there is a work overload within the system to particularly address matters affecting children:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call on the Government to implement effective data driven policies, take all urgent steps to protect the children of this nation immediately and reprimand this Government for its failure to effectively protect and support our nation's children.

(By the Member for Princes Town)

2. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday April 22, 2022 will be resumed:**

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;

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)

3. **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)

4. **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)

5. **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)

6. **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)

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)
2. A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Sri Sathya Sai Baba Organisation of Trinidad and Tobago (Incorporation) Act, 1993 (Act No. 16 of 1993)'.
(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 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)

2. **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate amendments to the Cannabis Control Bill, 2020 listed in Appendix II be now considered.

(By the Attorney General)

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 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)

5. 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)

6. 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 Housing and Urban Development)

Jacqui Sampson-Miguel
Clerk of the House

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The Red House
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May 24, 2022

ORDER PAPER
FRIDAY MAY 27, 2022

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 180 to the Minister of Health

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

With regard to nursing staff for each of the four (4) Regional Health Authorities in Trinidad, will the Minister provide the following information as at March 31, 2022:

- a. a breakdown by category of the number of nursing staff positions on the establishment;
- b. the number of positions in each category currently filled; and
- c. the deployment of those employed by health facility.

(Answer due by 26.05.2022)

Question No. 181 to the Minister of Health

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

With regard to the use of the drug 'tocilizumab' for COVID-19 patients at public health facilities during the period March 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022, will the Minister indicate:

- a. the number of patients for whom tocilizumab was prescribed as part of their treatment regime;
- b. the number of patients who received tocilizumab as part of their treatment regime, listed by COVID-19 facility; and
- c. the total sum of money spent on the procurement of tocilizumab.

(Answer due by 26.05.2022)

THE CANNABIS CONTROL BILL, 2020

List of Amendments made in the Senate during the Committee Stage of the Cannabis Control Bill, 2020 on Wednesday, May 18, 2022

Clause	Proposed Amendment
3(1)	<p>A. In the definition of “analytical services”, after the word “cannabis”, insert the words “and compounds containing cannabis”.</p> <p>B. Delete the definition of “pharmacy” and substitute the following: “ “pharmacy” means any premises licensed as a pharmacy pursuant to section 27 of the Pharmacy Board Act;”.</p> <p>C. After the definition of “Regulations”, insert the following new definition: “ “religious organisation” means an organisation whose values are based on faith and beliefs, which has a mission based on social values of the particular religious organisation of faith, and which draws its leaders, followers, adherents, devotees or congregation from a particular faith group, and for the purposes of this Act, is registered as a non-profit organisation under the Non-Profit Organisations Act, 2019;”.</p>
5	<p>A. In subclause (1):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. in subparagraph (d), after the word “licence”, insert the words “and advise the Minister accordingly” ; ii. in subparagraph (g), after the words “register of”, insert the words “names, addresses and contact details of” ; iii. in subparagraph (l), delete the word “and” ; iv. after subparagraph (l), insert the following new subparagraph: “(m) identify mechanisms to protect the vulnerable, discourage use of cannabis for the vulnerable and ensure that prevention and rehabilitation treatment policies and measures for cannabis-use disorders are identified and implemented; and” ; and v. renumber subparagraph (m) as (n). <p>B. In subclause (2), after the word “functions”, insert the words “under this Act”.</p>

	<p>C. In subclause (3):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. in subparagraph (a), after the words “cannabis industry”, insert the words “which are internationally-comparable”; ii. at the end of subparagraph (b), delete the word “and”; iii. after subparagraph (b), insert the following new subparagraph: “(c) conduct research into the public health and social effects of cannabis; and”; and iv. renumber subparagraph (c) as (d).
6	<p>A. In subclause (2):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> i. delete the words “nine persons” and substitute the words “eleven persons”; ii. delete the word “years” and substitute the word “years’ ” ; and iii. delete subparagraphs (d) to (i) and substitute the following: “(d) medicine, other than psychiatry; (e) psychiatry; (f) scientific research; (g) agriculture; (h) law enforcement; (i) education; (j) drug rehabilitation; or (k) public health.” . <p>B. In subclause (3), delete the words “No person” and substitute the words “Subject to section 5(2) (f) and (g) of the Dangerous Drugs Act, no person”.</p>
7	<p>Delete subclauses (3) and (4) and substitute the following new subclauses:</p> <p>“(3) The Board shall take all reasonable steps to identify, and keep under review, any potential conflicts of interest.</p>

	<p>(4) A Member who has an actual or contingent pecuniary interest shall as soon as possible, after the relevant facts come to his knowledge, disclose in writing to the Board and to the President, the nature of that interest.</p> <p>(5) Subject to the following provisions of this paragraph, a Member of the Board shall vacate office –</p> <p>(a) if he is in any way directly or indirectly engaged or employed in the handling of cannabis; or</p> <p>(b) if he has acquired an actual or contingent pecuniary interest in any company, firm or other entity which is regulated by the Authority.</p> <p>(6) A Member who, without reasonable excuse, fails to comply with this section, commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for a term of two years.” .</p>
9	Insert after the word “Gazette”, the words “, and at least once in two daily newspapers of general circulation,”.
12	Delete the word “five” and substitute the word “seven”.
14	<p>A. In subclause (1), delete the words “Every Member” and substitute the words “Subject to section 5(2)(f) and (g) of the Dangerous Drugs Act, every Member”.</p> <p>B. In subclause (2), delete the words “one hundred and fifty thousand dollars” and substitute the words “two hundred and fifty thousand dollars”.</p> <p>C. Delete subclause (3).</p>
15	In subclause (2), delete the words “No person” and substitute the words “Subject to section 5(2) (f) and (g) of the Dangerous Drugs Act, no person”.
16	<p>A. In subclause (5), in the <i>chapeau</i>, delete the words “one month” and substitute the words “one week”.</p> <p>B. In subclause (7), in the <i>chaussure</i>, delete the words “one hundred and fifty thousand dollars” and substitute the words “two hundred and fifty thousand dollars”.</p>
21(1)	In subparagraph (e), after the words “public awareness”, insert the words “, drug rehabilitation”.

25(2)	Delete the words “ , which in the opinion of the Auditor General or the auditor is of sufficient importance to justify so doing” .
29	<p>A. In subclause (1), subparagraph (a), after the word “curing”, delete the words “or packaging” and substitute the words “ , packaging or storage” .</p> <p>B. In subclause (1), subparagraph (b), after the words “allow for the”, insert the words “storage of cannabis and the”.</p> <p>C. In subclause (1), subparagraph (c), after the words “allow for the” insert the words “storage of cannabis and the”.</p> <p>D. In subclause (1), subparagraph (d), after the words “allow for”, insert the words “the storage of cannabis and for”.</p> <p>E. In subclause (1), subparagraph (e), before the word “dispensary”, insert the words “pharmacy or”.</p> <p>F. In subclause (3), subparagraph (a), after the word “curing”, delete the words “or packaging” and substitute the words “ , packaging or storage”.</p> <p>G. In subclause (3), subparagraph (c), after the word “importation”, insert the words “and storage”.</p> <p>H. In subclause (3), subparagraph (d), after the words “ allow for the”, insert the words “storage and”.</p>
30	<p>Delete subclause (9) and substitute the following new subclause:</p> <p>“(9) An applicant for a licence who knowingly provides false or misleading information to the Authority commits an offence and is liable on summary conviction to a fine of two hundred and fifty thousand dollars and imprisonment for a term of two years.”.</p>
44	<p>A. In subclause (1):</p> <p>i. delete the <i>chapeau</i> and substitute the following:</p> <p>“(1) Subject to subsections (2) and (3), a patient may, with the consent of another, designate that other person his caregiver, and that designated caregiver shall be responsible for –”</p> <p>ii. delete subparagraph (c);</p> <p>iii. insert the word “or” at the end of subparagraph (a); and</p> <p>iv. in subparagraph (b), delete the words “safety; or” and substitute the</p>

	<p>words “safety.”.</p> <p>B. In subclause (7), insert after the word “shall”, the words “within one week of the change”.</p> <p>C. Insert after subclause (7), the following new subclause:</p> <p>“(8) A patient and his designated caregiver shall notify the Authority of the designation and give to the Authority such information as the Authority may require in respect of the new caregiver.” .</p>
47	In subparagraph (c), insert after the word “adherent”, the words “at a regulated frequency as may be prescribed” .
48	In subclause (1), in subparagraph (a), delete the words “an adherent” and substitute the words “a leader” .



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

No. 31
2021/2022

FRIDAY MAY 27, 2022 1:30 P.M. NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Question which was accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 27 is hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. **To the Minister of National Security**

Will the Minister inform this House on the status of the two Coast Guard Vessels TTCG41 and TTCG 42 given recent reports that they both suffered serious damages and are to be sent for urgent repair works overseas?

(By the Member for Naparima)

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

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May 27, 2022