



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

TWENTY-NINTH SITTING, FIRST SESSION (2020/2021)

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY JUNE 22, 2021 AT 1:30 P.M.

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OR AFFIRMATION
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
  - (i) The Corporation Tax (Small and Medium Enterprises Loan Guarantee Programme) (Extension of Exemption) Order, 2021.  
(By the Minister of Finance)
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Questions for Oral Answer**

**Question No. 120 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Can the Minister indicate whether the Government is reconsidering its policy of phasing out the use of super gasoline?

**Question No. 121 to the Minister of Works and Transport**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Given the danger posed to motorists using the stretch of road in Craignish Village, Princes Town, can the Minister indicate when said road will be repaired?

**Question No. 122 to the Minister of Finance**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of reports that the TTPS has amassed a debt of approximately \$185M because of the slow pace of the disbursement of releases from the Ministry, can the Minister advise as to if and when this situation will be addressed?

10. REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE
11. STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES
12. PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS
13. INTRODUCTION OF BILLS
14. MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE SENATE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER
15. PUBLIC BUSINESS

### **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

#### **Motions:**

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday April 27, 2021 will be resumed:**

**WHEREAS** the statistics on violent crimes against women and girls have been widely reported by the TTPS from late 2020 to present;

**AND WHEREAS** said reports have garnered nationwide focus and given rise to several accounts of similar experiences by women, whose cases have not been followed-up and solved by Police;

**AND WHEREAS** the public has consistently called for the passage of legislation and improvements to the service delivery of public agencies in relation to, *inter alia*, non-lethal weapons, transportation and judicial process, to support the protection of women and girls against violent crimes;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Senate call on the Government to critically assess the deficiencies in the current systems to deal with the incidence of violent crimes against women and girls;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Government present to the Parliament, within three (3) months, a legislative agenda and policy implementation plan to more effectively address the rising incidence of violence against women and girls.

**(By Senator Paul Richards)**
- (ii) **WHEREAS** the Commissions of Enquiry Act, Chap. 19:01 provides for the establishment of commissions to manage the conduct of enquiries into public officers, departments and matters of public welfare;

**AND WHEREAS** Commissions of Enquiry are recognized as an important tool for social investigation in contemporary society, an effective mechanism for delivering truth, justice and social or organizational reform, and a device for inquiring into and ameliorating matters of public concern;

**AND WHEREAS** successive Government administrations have failed to adequately address public concerns which have arisen from time to time on whether the Commissions of Enquiry in Trinidad and Tobago have been effectively and efficiently carrying out their mandate;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Senate call on the Government to review the Commissions of Enquiry Act, Chap. 19:01 and the public inquiry process in Trinidad and Tobago.

**(By Senator Anthony Vieira)**

- (iii) **WHEREAS** availability of foreign exchange is important for investment and competitiveness in the private sector and a shortage of foreign exchange can hamper prospects for diversification and economic recovery aspired to in the fiscal strategy outlined in Budget 2020/2021;

**AND WHEREAS** the revenue received from foreign energy companies has been on the decline since 2015 and is now exacerbated by the negative socio-economic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic;

**AND WHEREAS** it is recognised that micro, small and medium-sized businesses and the wider population continue to experience the negative effects of decreasing levels of foreign exchange in Trinidad and Tobago;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Senate call on the Government to table, within three (3) months, a comprehensive strategy to address the negative socio-economic impacts being experienced by micro, small and medium sized businesses and the wider public owing to ongoing shortages in foreign exchange in this country.

**(By Senator Amrita Deonarine)**

- (iv) **WHEREAS** the Senate, as a House of Parliament, ought to afford Members such freedom of debate so as to allow full, frank and meaningful discussion within the constraints of the Standing Orders and well established parliamentary practice;

**AND WHEREAS** the position and authority of the President of the Senate ought not to be used in a partisan manner to prevent and or stymie criticism of the Government;

**AND WHEREAS** the Senate President is the servant of the Senate and not of the Government and as such ought to be impartial and unbiased at all times;

**AND WHEREAS** the President of the Senate by her rulings has demonstrated her bias in favor of the PNM Government and her lack of understanding of the nature and role of the Office of President of the Senate;

**AND WHEREAS** by her actions the Senate President has stifled the freedom of debate guaranteed by the Constitution and thus brought this Senate into disrepute;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Senate declare that it has lost confidence in the President of the Senate, Senator the Honourable Christine Kangaloo.

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

- (v) **WHEREAS** on April 24, 2018 the Senate unanimously passed a resolution calling on the Government *“to introduce legislation on parliamentary autonomy during the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report before the end of the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament”*;

**AND WHEREAS** on February 12, 2019, in the Senate, the Attorney General committed to making best efforts to have legislation on Parliamentary Autonomy introduced in the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament;

**AND WHEREAS** to date the Government has not presented to Parliament a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to re-establish its commitment to introduce a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to table, within three (3) months, an implementation road map geared towards introducing legislation on Parliamentary Autonomy and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report.

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

### **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

#### **Motions:**

**WHEREAS** it is provided by section 5(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, Chap. 58:01 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the President may by Order declare that land is required for a public purpose;

**AND WHEREAS** it is provided by section 5(2) of the Act that Parliament may by resolution approve an Order made under section 5(1);

**AND WHEREAS** the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2020 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 399 dated the 15th day of December, 2020;

**AND WHEREAS** it is expedient to approve the said Order;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2020 be approved.

**(By the Attorney General)**

#### **Bills Second Reading:**

(i) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Special Reserve Police Act, Chap. 15:03 and the Police Complaints Authority Act, Chap. 15:05’.

**(By the Attorney General)**

(ii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Mutual Assistance in Criminal Matters Act, Chap. 11:24’.

**(By the Attorney General)**

(iii) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to repeal the Livestock and Livestock Products Board Act, Chap. 67:05’.

**(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)**

(iv) A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to repeal the Foreign Labour Contracts Act, Chap. 88:11’.

**(By the Minister of Labour)**

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

**Senate Secretariat  
Office of the Parliament  
The Parliamentary Complex  
The Red House  
Abercromby Street  
PORT OF SPAIN**

**June 21, 2021**



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**TWENTY-NINTH SITTING, FIRST SESSION (2020/2021)**

**TWELFTH PARLIAMENT**

**TUESDAY JUNE 22, 2021 AT 1:30 P.M.**

**NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS**

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the President in accordance with Standing Order 25 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Ministers concerned.

1. **TO THE MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of reports that CAL has taken the decision to reduce its staff by approximately 450 employees, can the Minister indicate what support systems will be made available to said employees?

2. **TO THE MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Can the Minister indicate how the retrenchment and severance packages of the approximately 450 CAL workers, who are earmarked for retrenchment, will be financed?

3. **TO THE MINISTER OF FINANCE**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Can the Minister indicate how will the retrenchment of approximately 450 CAL workers impact the airline's operations when the borders are reopened in mid-July?

4. **TO THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AND CARICOM AFFAIRS**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Given the announcement of the Government of Barbados to establish "*a travel bubble for specific Caribbean countries with a low incidence of COVID -19 cases*", can the Minister indicate the effect this decision will have on travellers from Trinidad to Barbados?

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