



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 37
2021/2022

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2022 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Freedom of Information (Exemption) Order, 2022.
(By the Attorney General)
2. The Tax Information Exchange Agreements (United States of America) Act, Guidelines 2021
(By the Minister of Finance)
3. The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Securities and Exchange Commission for the year ended September 30, 2021.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
4. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2014.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
5. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Telecommunications Authority of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended September 30, 2017.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
6. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2011.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)

7. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Mayaro/Rio Claro Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2012.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
8. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Racing Authority for the year ended July 31, 2011.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
9. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2015.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
10. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Penal/Debe Regional Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
11. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Fifth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on the examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Schools Dietary Services Limited (NSDSL) for the financial years 2016 to 2019 and follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations in the Report of the Auditor General on a Special Audit of the School Nutrition Programme managed by NSDSL.
(By the Minister of Finance)
12. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Education to the Fifth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on the examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Schools Dietary Services Limited (NSDSL) for the financial years 2016 to 2019 and follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations in the Report of the Auditor General on a Special Audit of the School Nutrition Programme managed by NSDSL.
(By the Minister of Education)
13. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of National Security to 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 Minister of National Security)
14. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Health to the Second Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality & Diversity on the Human Rights of Socially Displaced Persons in Trinidad and Tobago with Specific Focus on their Treatment and Relocation from Port of Spain Public Spaces.
(By the Minister of Health)
15. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Trade and Industry to the Fourth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Fair Trading Commission (TTFTC) for the financial years 2014 to 2018.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)

16. The Response of the Office of the Prime Minister to the Fifth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on the examination of the Realignment of Ministries and Departments.
(By the Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister)
17. The Response of the Service Commissions Department to the Fifth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on the examination of the Realignment of Ministries & Departments.
(By the Minister of Public Administration)
18. The Annual Report of the Environmental Management Authority for the year 2021.
(By the Minister of Planning and Development)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

1. The Sixth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on an examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheets and other Financial Statements of the East Port of Spain Development Company Limited for the financial years 2012 and 2013, Second Session (2021/2022), Twelfth Parliament.
(By the Member for Mayaro)
2. The Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Shipping Bill, 2020, Second Session (2021/2022), Twelfth Parliament.
(By the Member for Lopinot/Bon Air West)
3. The Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Representation of the People (Amendment) (No.2) Bill, 2020, Second Session (2021/2022), Twelfth Parliament.
(By the Member for Arouca/ Maloney)
4. The Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on Finance and Legal Affairs on an inquiry into the impact of COVID-19 on the Micro and Small Enterprises Sector, Second Session (2021/2022), Twelfth Parliament.
(By the Member for Port of Spain South)

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer will appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 209 to the Minister of Education:

(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)

Will the Minister state when the Fifth Company Baptist School will be reopened?

¹Question No. 219 to the Minister of Housing and Urban Development:

¹ Question No. 219 was deferred for two (2) weeks on July 5, 2022.

(By the Member for Couva South)

Will the Minister advise whether three parcels of land belonging to the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) located at Southern Main Road, Couva and one at Ibis Avenue, Couva have been formally and lawfully leased or sold to any member of the current Cabinet?

Question No. 220 to the Minister of Public Utilities:**(By the Member for Couva South)**

Given the work currently being done by the Cabinet Sub Committee on the majority owned Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSTT), will the Minister inform this House whether TSTT has retrenched any of its managerial and security staff?

Question No. 225 to the Minister of Sport and Community Development:**(By the Member for Couva North)**

Given the Minister's overall responsibility for sport, will the Minister indicate what arrangements have been put in place to find alternative accommodation for Patrons Tennis Academy, the country's leading tennis academy that trains over 200 youth?

Question No. 226 to the Minister of Education:**(By the Member for Couva North)**

Will the Minister advise when the Waterloo ECCE Centre will be opened?

Question No. 227 to the Minister of Works and Transport:**(By the Member for Couva North)**

Will the Minister advise when paving works will commence on the old Southern Main Road, McBean?

Question No. 231 to the Minister of Works and Transport:**(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

Will the Minister state when phases four (4) and five (5) of the Chaguanas Traffic Alleviation Project are scheduled to commence?

Question No. 232 to the Minister of Works and Transport:**(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

Will the Minister provide a status of the S-Bend project at Endeavour Road, Chaguanas?

Question No. 233 to the Minister of Agriculture Land and Fisheries:**(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

Will the Minister advise what strategies have been adopted to combat the outbreak of African Snails nationwide?

Question No. 234 to the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government:**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Given that the Minister indicated on March 4, 2022, that works were anticipated to commence within two to three months, will the Minister state why repair works have not yet commenced on the landslips along Sahai Trace?

Question No. 235 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister state whether there are any immediate plans to improve the performance of the Praedial Larceny Unit?

Question No. 236 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:**(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Minister advise on the status of the Jagdeo Initiative?

Question No. 242 to the Minister of Health:

(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)

Will the Minister indicate:

- a) When will the Ministry's Pfizer Covid-19 vaccines expire; and
- b) How many donated doses currently remain?

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

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. **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 public purposes;

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, 2022 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 77 dated the 6th day of April, 2022;

AND WHEREAS the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2022 was laid in the House of Representatives on the 3rd day of June, 2022;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Order:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2022 be approved.
(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

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 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 Housing and Urban Development)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday June 24, 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 May 27, 2022 will be resumed:**

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)

3. **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)

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)

7. **WHEREAS** Section 76(2) of the Constitution provides that the Attorney General has conduct of all civil litigation within and outside of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General is required to uphold the Constitution, the Legal Profession Act including obeying the Code of Ethics and the rule of law to maintain public confidence, trust and integrity in the Office of the Attorney General;

AND WHEREAS a Miami Court disqualified the Attorney General from acting on behalf of Trinidad and Tobago due to a conflict of interest as the Defendants in the Miami matter were his former clients in relation to the criminal proceedings in the Piarco matters that were held in Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS in the matter the Attorney General has declared in an affidavit dated 24th April 2022 under the penalty of perjury in the US Court making several false statements and patently misrepresented facts of his deep involvement in criminal proceedings on behalf of his former clients;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General's conflict of interest, false statements made to the US Court and his conduct has embarrassed Trinidad and Tobago and 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)

Jacqui Sampson-Miguel
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives Secretariat
The Red House
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PORT OF SPAIN

August 26, 2022

ORDER PAPER
FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 9, 2022

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 221 to the Minister of Finance
(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Given the Minister's announcement in the 2021 Budget Statement that "it is proposed over the next two years, government grants will be available for start-up business" will the Minister state, for the period October 2020- May 31, 2022:

- a) whether grants have been disbursed to start-up businesses;
- b) if so, how many grants have been distributed; and
- c) the names of the start-ups and value of each grant disbursed?

(Answer due by 12.07.2022)

Question No. 222 to the Minister of Finance
(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

Given the Minister's announcement in the 2021 Budget Statement that "Finance and incentives where applicable will be provided to entrepreneurs engaged in software and mobile application development, user interface design, call center operations, quality assurance bug testers, animators, visual effects and electronic media" will the Minister state, for the period October 2020 to May 31, 2022:

- a) what incentives have been offered to the entrepreneurs in the fields outlined; and
- b) list the entrepreneurs and amount of financing each received under this initiative?

(Answer due by 12.07.2022)

Question No. 223 to the Minister of Youth Development and National Service
(By the Member for Couva North)

In light of the Government's \$28 million upgrade to the Chatham Youth Camp, will the Minister provide:

- (i) the name of the contractor and any sub-contractors working on this project;
- (ii) the amount tendered to each contractor;
- (iii) the scope of works for this project; and
- (iv) the Bill of quantities, inclusive of the cost of each line item?

(Answer due by 22.07.2022)

Question No. 224 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries:
(By the Member for Couva North)

With respect to the lands distributed to former Caroni (1975) Limited workers for the period 2016-2021, will the Minister provide:

- (a) how many residential plot leases were distributed for each calendar year; and
- (b) how many two-acre agricultural plot leases were distributed for each calendar year

(Answer due by 29.07.2022)

Question No. 240 to the Minister of Finance:
(By the Member for Naparima)

Will the Minister provide: -

- a) the names and designations of all persons from the Government who attended the Ninth Summit of the Americas and its subsidiary meetings in Los Angeles;
- b) the cost incurred by each delegate; and
- c) the benefits which will accrue to our country as a result of our attendance?

(Answer due by 12.08.2022)

Question No. 243 to the Minister of Health:

(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)

Will the Minister provide the maternal mortality rates for the period 2020-2022?

(Answer due by 31.08.2022)

*Jacqui Sampson-Miguel
Clerk of the House*

*House of Representatives Secretariat
The Red House
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PORT OF SPAIN*

August 26, 2022



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SECOND SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

No. 37
2021/2022

FRIDAY SEPTEMBER 09, 2022 1:30 P.M. NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which were accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 27 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. To the Prime Minister

In light of the recent statement made by the Chairman of the Commission of Enquiry into the Paria diving tragedy concerning the absence of basic resources, infrastructure, and human personnel necessary to conduct the Enquiry, will the Prime Minister inform the House what urgent measures, if any, will be taken to address the provision of these essential resources?

(By the Member for Couva South)

2. To the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries

Will the Minister state the reasons why the Commission of Enquiry into the Paria Fuel diving tragedy was not provided with adequate resources so that it could operate optimally, efficiently and on a timely basis.

(By the Member for Naparima)

3. To the Prime Minister

Will the Acting Prime Minister confirm or deny whether the substantive Prime Minister travelled by private jet from Switzerland to Proman's company office in Düsseldorf Germany to continue high level talks concerning the energy company's global projects with a view to exploring further opportunities in Trinidad and Tobago?

(By the Member for Naparima)

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives' Secretariat
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PORT OF SPAIN
September 9, 2022