



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THIRD SESSION  
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 23  
2022/2023

## ORDER PAPER

WEDNESDAY MAY 10, 2023 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended September 30, 2022.  
**(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)**
2. The Public Accounts of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year 2022.  
**(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)**
3. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Ninth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on the Examination of the Implementation of the 2021 Budget with emphasis on the “Green Economy”.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**
4. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Planning and Development to the Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on Land and Physical Infrastructure on an Inquiry into the Management of the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) with specific reference to the 2020 Cabinet Sub-Committee Report on WASA and related recommendations.  
**(By the Minister of Planning and Development)**
5. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Public Utilities to the Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on Land and Physical Infrastructure on an Inquiry into the Management of the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) with specific reference to the 2020 Cabinet Sub-Committee Report on WASA and related recommendations.  
**(By the Minister of Public Utilities)**
6. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Public Utilities to the Eighth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on the examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the Telecommunications Services of Trinidad and Tobago (TSIT) for the years 2017 to 2021.

**(By the Minister of Public Utilities)**

7. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Tourism, Culture and the Arts to the Fourth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity on an Inquiry into the role of the State in preserving the Cultural Heritage of the Indigenous Peoples (First Peoples) of Trinidad and Tobago.

**(By the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts)**

8. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service to the Seventh Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on an examination of the Audited Financial Statements of the National Entrepreneurship Development Company Limited (NEDCO) for the financial year 2017 and follow-up on the implementation of recommendations in the Committee's Tenth Report from the 11<sup>th</sup> Parliament.

**(By the Minister of Youth Development and National Service)**

## REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

1. The Second Report of the Standing Finance Committee of the House of Representatives for the Third Session (2022/2023), Twelfth Parliament on the consideration of proposals for the Supplementation and Variation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2023.

**(By the Member for Diego Martin North/East)**

## PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

## URGENT QUESTIONS

## QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Questions for Written Answer will appear in the Appendix****Questions for Oral Answer****Question No. 146 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services:****(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

Given reports of numerous unsuccessful requests for wheelchairs from needy citizens, will the Minister advise whether the Ministry has sufficient funding to facilitate the necessary acquisition of wheelchairs to provide to disabled persons?

**Question No. 154 to the Minister of Finance:****(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

For the period 2015 to 2023, will the Minister provide a list of the entities in which the funds from the HSF are invested?

**Question No. 155 to the Minister of Finance:****(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

For the period 2015 to 2023, will the Minister provide the entities in which the funds of the Green Fund are invested?

**Question No. 158 to the Minister of Public Utilities:****(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

Further to the response provided to House of Representatives Question No. 232 on September 09, 2022, will the Minister provide an update on the status of the relocation exercise of the Water and Sewage Authority's water mains in and around the S-Bend project at Endeavor Road, Chaguanas?

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 Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) (Amendment) Bill, 2023.  
**(By the Attorney General)**
2. The Finance (Supplementation and Variation of Appropriation) (Financial Year 2023) Bill, 2023.  
**(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the next stage of the Bill be taken later in the proceedings)**

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**Motions:**

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House adopt the Second Report of the Standing Finance Committee of the House of Representatives for the Third Session (2022/2023), Twelfth Parliament on the consideration of proposals for the Supplementation and Variation of Appropriation for the fiscal year 2023.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**

**Bills Second Reading:**

1. **The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday April 21, 2023 will be resumed:**  
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)**
2. 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 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)**

**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 April 28, 2023 will be resumed:**

**WHEREAS** the Minister of National Security is responsible for ensuring public safety by the maintenance of law and order and the effective oversight of the national security infrastructure;

**AND WHEREAS** the Minister of National Security through his vast and continued incompetence has mismanaged the organs and departments of national security;

**AND WHEREAS** the Minister of National Security has unequivocally demonstrated his inability to competently execute his duties:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House express its lack of confidence in the Minister of National Security.

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

2. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday March 24, 2023 will be resumed:**

**WHEREAS** it is the responsibility of the Government to ensure the well-being of its citizens by facilitating a decent standard of living and quality of life;

**AND WHEREAS** the impending increase in utility rates and the imminent imposition of property taxes will further escalate cost of living and the inflation rate;

**AND WHEREAS** the consistent increases in fuel prices have further negatively impacted the cost of living;

**AND WHEREAS** this Government has failed to take proactive measures to cushion the economic fallouts brought about by the escalating prices of essential goods and services;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House call on the Government to outline its short, medium and long term strategies to systematically reduce the escalating and uncontrollable increase in the price of essential goods and services accessed by the population of Trinidad and Tobago:

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this House call on the Government to take the necessary urgent action to immediately remedy the negative effects upon those living below the poverty line.  
**(By the Member for Chaguanas East)**

**3. The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday February 24, 2023 will be resumed:**

**WHEREAS** it is the Government's responsibility to ensure the public safety and security of the citizenry;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed in its management of the organs responsible for national security, law and order and has been unable to provide for the safety and security of citizens resulting in massive increases in serious crimes;

**AND WHEREAS** the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service has been progressively under-resourced and not equipped to respond effectively to the threat of widespread crime;

**AND WHEREAS** there has been an astronomical and continuous increase in the murder toll with a corresponding breakdown in the criminal justice system;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to present a clear and effective anti-crime plan to deal with this perturbing crime situation;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has contributed to the disturbing crime situation as a result of 7 years of neglect in education, training opportunities, rising unemployment and a total breakdown of the social safety net;

**AND WHEREAS** thousands of citizens and businesses have been negatively affected by the high level of crime in Trinidad and Tobago:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House condemn the Government for its failure to effectively address the unacceptable and serious crime level affecting law-abiding citizens.  
**(By the Member for Baratavia/San Juan)**

**4. The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday January 27, 2023 will be resumed:**

**WHEREAS** it is the responsibility of the Ministry of Health to protect, promote and improve the health status of citizens;

**AND WHEREAS** there have been numerous complaints from citizens regarding drug shortages and long waiting times for healthcare services at public health institutions;

**AND WHEREAS** the Report of the Committee Appointed to Investigate the Factors Contributing to Clinical Outcomes of COVID-19 Patients in Trinidad and Tobago also highlighted the existence of multiple chronic non-communicable diseases in our population;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government's approach to healthcare has failed to adequately and effectively treat with these public health issues:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House take note of the failure of the Government to deliver on its health sector mandate.  
**(By the Member for Fyzabad)**

5. **WHEREAS** it is the duty of the Government to provide safe and reliable healthcare services for all citizens during a pandemic;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to address the existing inequities in accessing healthcare services and procedures exacerbated by the COVID-19 pandemic;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to provide well equipped, well stocked, and well secured spaces for healthcare workers during the COVID-19 pandemic;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to meet the international standards for patient care as highlighted in the Report of the Committee Appointed to Investigate the Factors contributing to COVID-19 Patients in Trinidad and Tobago;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has failed to effectively manage resources to facilitate the movement of critically ill patients to and from our nation's hospitals;

**AND WHEREAS** the Government has mismanaged our nation's medical specialists thereby denying the best clinical care to COVID-19 patients;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House take note of the unacceptable number of deaths from COVID-19 and the failure of the Ministry of Health to deliver on its essential mandate:

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this House call on the Government to take immediate and urgent steps to initiate a Commission of Inquiry into the Government's management of COVID-19 at our nation's healthcare institutions.

**(By the Member for Caroni East)**

6. **WHEREAS** the Regulated Industries Commission has signalled its intention to increase public utility rates on the advice and justification from the Government;

**AND WHEREAS** citizens should have access to affordable public utilities in light of prolonged unemployment, increasing crime and high food prices;

**AND WHEREAS** the State has a responsibility to ensure citizens of Trinidad and Tobago have a reliable and affordable supply of electricity and water;

**AND WHEREAS** both the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) and the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) are owed billions of dollars, mainly by the State:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this House call on the Government to settle the outstanding debts to T&TEC and WASA and halt attempts to increase public utility rates immediately.

**(By the Member for Princes Town)**

**Bills Second Reading:**

1. A Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Trinidad and Tobago Netball Association (Incorporation) Act, 1979."  
**(The Speaker will propose the question that the Bill be read a Second time)**
2. A Bill entitled, "An Act to amend the Pentecostal Assemblies of the West Indies Incorporation Act, 1965."  
**(The Speaker will propose the question that the Bill be read a Second time)**

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

*May 05, 2023*

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel  
Clerk of the House*

ORDER PAPERWEDNESDAY MAY 10, 2023QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER**\*Question No. 79 to the Minister of National Security**  
**(By the Member for Naparima)**

In light of numerous videos circulating on social media involving Coast Guard patrol vessels tied up on various occasions at Staubles Bay, will the Minister state what steps are being taken, if any, to guarantee a 24/7 coverage of our coastlines?

**(Answer due by 12.01.2023)**

**\*Question No. 97 to the Minister of Planning and Development**  
**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

- A. Will the Minister provide a list of all construction contractors and service providers hired by the Ministry per year during the period October 2015 to December 2022;
- B. For each contractor and service provider listed in part A, will the Minister state:
  - a) the selection process used to obtain each service;
  - b) the name of project (s) per contractor/ service provider;
  - c) the duration of each project;
  - d) the value of each contract; and
  - e) the value of any outstanding payments?

**(Answer due by 04.04.2023)**

**\*Question No. 99 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries**  
**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

- A. Will the Minister provide a list of all construction contractors and service providers hired by the Ministry per year during the period October 2015 to December 2022; and
- B. For each contractor and service provider listed in part A, will the Minister state:
  - a) the selection process used to obtain each service;
  - b) the name of project (s) per contractor/ service provider;
  - c) the duration of each project;
  - d) the value of each contract; and
  - e) the value of any outstanding payments?

**(Answer due by 04.04.2023)**

**\*Question No. 106 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries**  
**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

For the period October 2015 to November 2022, will the Minister provide:

- a) the number of farmers and fisher folk who were compensated per year;

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\*Question No. 79 was deferred for two (2) weeks on January 23, 2023, February 10, 2023, February 24, 2023, March 22, 2023 and April 21, 2023.

\*Question Nos. 97, 99 and 106 were deferred for two (2) weeks on April 21, 2023.



- b) the geographic areas; and
- c) the category of compensation provided to farmers and fisher folk?

**(Answer due by 04.04.2023)**

**\*Question No. 147 to the Minister of Communications**

**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

Will the Minister provide a breakdown of all broadcast aired by Trinidad and Tobago Television (TTT) for the People's National Movement (PNM) per year during the period 2015 to 2023, detailing the following:

- a) the number of broadcast;
- b) the number of hours of each broadcasts;
- c) the cost of each broadcast;
- d) the value of payments received by TTT per broadcast; and
- e) the name of the person or organisation who paid for each broadcast?

**(Answer due by 26.04.2023)**

**\*Question No. 148 to the Attorney General**

**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

Given the discontinuation of the prosecution of the Piarco 3 Court matter in relation to corruption in the construction of the Piarco International Airport, will the Attorney General provide a detailed breakdown of the following:

- a) the number and names of all the attorneys -at - law engaged by the State on this matter;
- b) the cost to the state to engage each lawyer; and
- c) the overall cost to the State on this matter?

**(Answer due by 26.04.2023)**

**\*Question No. 150 to the Minister of Works and Transport**

**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

With respect to infrastructural projects that are ongoing and scheduled to begin in the constituency of Oropouche West in fiscal years 2022 and 2023, will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the following per project:

- a) the cost;
- b) the scope of works,
- c) expected commencement date and the estimated timeframe for completion;
- d) the names of the contractors and sub -contractors; and
- e) the tendering process?

**(Answer due by 26.04.2023)**

**\*Question No. 151 to the Minister of Finance**

**(By the Member for Oropouche West)**

Will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of all existing loans for which the State, including statutory bodies/boards has incurred and is responsible for, per year during the period 2015 -2023 detailing the following:

- a) the value of each loan;
- b) the name of lending institution;
- c) the name of the borrower;
- d) the purpose of the loan; and

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\*Question Nos. 147, 148, 150 and 151 were deferred for two (2) weeks on April 26, 2023.

e) the terms and conditions?

**(Answer due by 26.04.2023)**



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THIRD SESSION

No. 23

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

2022/2023

## WEDNESDAY MAY 10, 2023 1:30 P.M. NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

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

1. **To the Prime Minister:**

Having regard to the Prime Minister's recent trip to Barbados and a Ministerial Statement delivered in the Barbados Parliament yesterday by the Attorney General of Barbados, will the Prime Minister state whether he met with any government officials in the Republic of Barbados to discuss the abduction of Brent Thomas?

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

2. **To the Prime Minister:**

In light of the recent appointment of 17 Senior Counsels by the President, will the Prime Minister provide a complete list of all of the persons who applied for silk?

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

3. **To the Prime Minister :**

Will the Prime Minister inform this House the date on which the final list of applicants to be appointed Senior Counsel was submitted to him by the Attorney General?

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

4. **To the Minister of Health:**

In light of the World Health Organization declaring the end to the Covid-19 Pandemic on the May 05, 2023, will the Minister state as to when the Couva Hospital and Mulit-Training facility will be opened for public use?

**(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)**

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel*  
*Clerk of the House*

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

May 10, 2023



# HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

THIRD SESSION

No. 23

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

2022/2023

## WEDNESDAY MAY 10, 2023 1:30 P.M. SUPPLEMENTAL NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

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

5. **To the Minister of National Security:**

Will the Minister update this House as to the contents of any and all reports received in relation to the raging controversy within CARICOM surrounding the “abduction” of Trinidad and Tobago citizen Brent Thomas in the Republic of Barbados?

**(By the Member for Oropouche East)**

6. **To the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs:**

Will the Minister indicate whether he or his Ministry participated in any joint collaboration with any agency of CARICOM and or the Republic of Barbados involving the controversial “abduction” of Trinidad and Tobago citizen Brent Thomas?

**(By the Member for Oropouche East)**

7. **To the Attorney General:**

In a release from the Law Association of Trinidad and Tobago (LATT) yesterday, which disputed that they had no discussions with the Attorney General on applicants for silk, will the Attorney General provide the date and name of the senior members of the LATT who he had discussions with?

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

8. **To the Minister of Education:**

Given recent reports that substitute teachers throughout Trinidad and Tobago were not paid for months and were facing severe hardship as a result of this occurrence, will the Minister state what urgent action is being taken to rectify this situation?

**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

9. **To the Minister of Education:**

In light of the World Health Organization declaring the end of the Covid-19 Pandemic on the May 05, 2023, will the Minister indicate if children in our nation’s schools are still required to wear masks?

**(By the Member for Cumuto/Manzanilla)**

*Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel*  
*Clerk of the House*

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

*May 10, 2023*