



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

NINETEENTH SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2022/2023)

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY MAY 16, 2023 AT 10:00 A.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 Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Youth Development and National Service to the Seventh Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on the 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 11th Parliament.
(By the Minister of Youth Development and National Service)
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEARS IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 52 to the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister provide the names of the Cabinet Ministers and public officials who represented Trinidad and Tobago as part of the delegation that attended the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP27) in Egypt?

Question No. 53 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given the November 2022 reports which highlighted the need for better flood gates to protect the crops of Orange Grove Farmers, can the Minister advise as to the measures being taken to address this issue?

Question No. 54 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given the excessive flooding experienced in November 2022, which caused significant infrastructural damage throughout this country, can the Minister indicate whether it is the Government's intention to conduct a national drainage study involving all stakeholders?

Question No. 104 to the Minister of Trade and Industry

(By Senator Amrita Deonarine)

Can the Minister advise as to the timeline for the proclamation and implementation of The Trinidad and Tobago Special Economic Zones Act, 2022?

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

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to supplement and vary the appropriation of the sum the issue of which was authorised by the Appropriation (Financial Year 2023) Act, 2022.
(By the Minister of Finance)
- (ii) **The debate on the Second reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Friday May 12, 2023 will be resumed:**
A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Jury Act, Chap. 6:53 and the Criminal Procedure Act, Chap. 12:02 and for related matters'.
(By the Attorney General)
- (iii) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to establish the Private Security Service Authority and to regulate the private security industry and for other related matters'.
(By the Minister of National Security)
- (iv) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Supplemental Police Act, Chap. 15:02'.
(By the Minister of National Security)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday April 25, 2023 will be resumed:**
WHEREAS on April 24, 2018 the Senate unanimously approved 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 reaffirm its commitment to introduce a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Senate call on the Government to introduce in Parliament, within three (3) months, a Bill on Parliamentary Autonomy and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (ii) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday November 29, 2022 will be resumed:**

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

AND WHEREAS during the COVID-19 pandemic the Government has failed to address the inequities in accessing healthcare services;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to meet the international standards for patient care, as is stated in the Report of the Committee Appointed to Investigate the Factors Contributing to Clinical Outcomes of 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;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate take note of the unacceptable number of deaths from COVID-19;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Senate call on the Government to take immediate steps to initiate a Commission of Enquiry into the Government's management of the COVID-19 pandemic at our nation’s healthcare institutions.

(By Senator David Nakhid)

- (iii) **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 WHEREAS the Attorney General is required to uphold the Constitution and adhere to the Code of Ethics of the Legal Profession Act, Chap. 90:03, and maintain the rule of law to engender public confidence and trust in the office of the Attorney General;

AND WHEREAS a Miami Court has 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;

AND WHEREAS in said matter the Attorney General swore an affidavit dated April 24, 2022, wherein, he made several patently false statements and manifestly misrepresented the facts of his involvement with his former clients;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General’s conduct has embarrassed Trinidad and Tobago and brought his office into odium and disrepute;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate declare that it has lost confidence in the Attorney General, Senator the Honourable Reginald Armour, SC.

(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iv) **WHEREAS** the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Chap. 1:01 entrenches the principle of the separation of powers between the Legislature, the Executive and the Judiciary, which ensures the protection of citizens and a system of checks and balances in the exercise of power;

AND WHEREAS the Constitution provides protection to all constitutionally enshrined offices and institutions;

AND WHEREAS the actions of the Government in its engagement with constitutionally enshrined offices and institutions have caused public unease and concerns;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate calls on the Government to reaffirm its commitment to the principles and the practice of democracy in Trinidad and Tobago.

(By Senator Jayanti Lutchmedial)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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

May 12, 2023

ORDER PAPER TUESDAY MAY 16, 2023

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 108 to the Minister of Works and Transport

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister provide a breakdown of each of the five hundred (500) desilting and river embankment projects undertaken by the Ministry, including their respective geographical locations, costs and completion dates, for the period October 01, 2021 to April 27, 2023?

(Answer due by 27.05.2023)

Question No. 113 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Wade Mark)

As regard the Trinidad and Tobago Revenue Authority (TTRA), can the Minister advise as to the following:

- (i) the names of the Director General and the Deputy Directors General of the TTRA;
- (ii) the qualifications of the respective office holders; and
- (iii) the terms and conditions of employment, including the salaries and contract periods of the respective office holders?

(Answer due by 03.06.2023)

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NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Question which has been accepted by the President in accordance with Standing Order 25 is hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. **TO THE MINISTER OF ENERGY AND ENERGY INDUSTRIES**
(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given reports of a ruptured Heritage Petroleum oil pipeline resulting in a major oil spill and the emergency evacuation of four (4) families in Fyzabad, what measures are being taken to treat with the oil spill and prevent future incidents?

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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