



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ORDER PAPER**

TWENTY-FIRST SITTING, THIRD SESSION (2022/2023)

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

WEDNESDAY MAY 31, 2023 AT 1:30 P.M.

1. PRAYERS
2. OATH OR AFFIRMATION
3. ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT
4. BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
  - (i) The Miscellaneous Provisions (Establishment of the Borough of Diego Martin and the Borough of Siparia) Bill, 2021.  
**(By the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government)**
  - (ii) The Valuation of Land (Amendment) Bill, 2023.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
  - (i) The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2006.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**
  - (ii) The Second Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2007.  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**
  - (iii) The Ministerial Response of the Office of the Prime Minister to the First Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on the examination of Audited Financial Statements of the Urban Development Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago Limited (UDECOIT) for the financial years 2014 and 2015.  
**(By the Prime Minister)**
  - (iv) The Ministerial Response of the Office of the Prime Minister-Communications to the Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Finance and Legal Affairs on an inquiry into the implementation of a Regulatory Framework for the Development of Financial Technology (Fintech) and E-Payments.  
**(By the Prime Minister)**

- (v) The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Planning and Development to the Fifth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration on an inquiry into the State's Capacity to provide support for victims of Domestic Violence and Family Conflicts (with specific focus on the availability of support mechanisms during the COVID-19 pandemic).  
**(By the Minister of Planning and Development)**

7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

- (i) The Twelfth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on an examination into the Accessibility and Availability of Diagnostic Imaging Services at Public Health Institutions in Trinidad with specific reference to Regional Health Authorities under the purview of the Ministry of Health.  
**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

8. URGENT QUESTIONS

9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX**

**Questions for Oral Answer**

**Question No. 58 to the Minister of Public Utilities**  
**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Given January 2023 reports that residents of Las Alturas Housing Development are in urgent need of water owing to the lack of a potable supply for over one (1) year, can the Minister indicate what measures are being taken to remedy this situation?

**Question No. 59 to the Minister of Health**  
**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Given the number of COVID-19 related deaths in January 2023, can the Minister indicate whether the Government intends to order the antiviral therapy Paxlovid, which has been recommended for use by the World Health Organisation in its latest Protocol Advisory?

**Question No. 60 to the Minister of Health**  
**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Given the number of COVID-19 related deaths in January 2023, can the Minister indicate whether the Government has increased its stock of tocilizumab, methylprednisolone and propofol as recommended by the Report of the Committee Appointed to Investigate the Factors Contributing to Clinical Outcomes of COVID-19 Patients in Trinidad and Tobago?

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 repeal and replace the Arbitration Act, Chap. 5:01, to provide a modern legal framework to facilitate domestic and international trade and commerce by encouraging the use of arbitration as a means of resolving disputes and for related matters'.  
**(By the Attorney General)**
- (ii) 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)**
- (iii) 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 May 23, 2023 will be resumed:**

**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)**

- (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)**

**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 25, 2023

**ORDER PAPER WEDNESDAY MAY 31, 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)**

**Question No. 114 to the Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Dr. Paul Richards)**

As regard the children referred to the Student Support Services Division, can the Minister provide the following information for each year during the period January 2018 to April 2023:

- (i) how many children were diagnosed with special needs and disabilities;
- (ii) what were the categories of special needs and disabilities identified;
- (iii) what were the recommended courses of treatment; and
- (iv) how many of these children received treatment?

**(Answer due by 14.06.2023)**

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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)**

In light of claims of the illegal dumping of oil in the Caroni River, which would have a negative impact on the country's eco-system, can the Minister indicate what immediate measures are being taken to address this situation?

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

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