ORDER PAPER

TUESDAY JUNE 20, 2023 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

   (By the Attorney General)

PETITIONS

PAPERS

   (By the Attorney General)

   (By the Deputy Speaker)

   (By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)

   (By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)

   (By the Minister of Trade and Industry)

   (By the Minister of Trade and Industry)

8. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries 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 Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

(By the Minister of Digital Transformation)

10. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Trade and Industry 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 Trade and Industry)

11. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Planning and Development 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 Planning and Development)

12. The Third Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Planning and Development to the Seventh Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on the examination into the implementation of the Public Sector Investment Programme (PSIP) for the fiscal year 2021.
(By the Minister of Planning and Development)

(By the Minister of Public Utilities)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(By the Member for Tunapuna)

2. The Thirteenth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on an examination of the Management and Operations of the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) including the restructuring of HDC into three distinct State Enterprises.
(By the Member for Fyzabad)

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

PRIME MINISTER’S QUESTIONS
URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer will appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 183 to the Minister of Public Utilities:
(By the Member for Fyzabad)
Further to the response to House of Representatives Question No. 80 on January 23, 2023, will the Minister provide a status update on when the following sections of the San Fernando to Point Fortin Highway will be illuminated by working streetlights:

a) the Southbound from South Oropouche LP #HH13-261 to LP #HH13-82, Delhi Road; and
b) the Northbound from Delhi Road LP #HH13-83 to LP# HH13-236, South Oropouche?

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 by section 4 of the Economic Sanctions Act, Chap. 81:05 (“the Act”) the President may for the purpose of implementing a decision, resolution or recommendation by a regional or an international organisation of States or association of States, of which Trinidad and Tobago is a member, that calls on its members to take economic measures against a foreign State make an Order with respect to–

(a) the restriction or prohibition of any of the activities referred to in section 5 in relation to a foreign State;

(b) the seizing, freezing or sequestration in the manner set out in the Order any property situated in Trinidad and Tobago that is held by or on behalf of–

(i) a foreign State;

(ii) any person in that foreign State; or

(iii) a national of that foreign State who does not ordinarily reside in Trinidad and Tobago.

(c) the exclusion of any person, property, goods, technical data, services, transactions, ships or aircraft or any class thereof from the application of the Order;

AND WHEREAS the United Nations Security Council Resolutions 2231 (2015) relative to Iran, United Nations Security Council Resolution 1540 (2004) and its successor resolution, Member Countries of the United Nations were called on to impose economic sanctions on the Islamic Republic of Iran;
AND WHEREAS Trinidad and Tobago is required to implement the Financial Action Task Force’s Recommendation 7 relative to the Islamic Republic of Iran which requires that countries implement target financial sanctions to comply with United Nations Security Council Resolutions (UNSCRs) relating to the prevention, suppression and disruption of proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and its financing;

AND WHEREAS the aforementioned resolutions require countries to freeze, without delay, the funds and other assets of and to ensure that no funds and other assets are made available, directly or indirectly, to or for the benefit of any person or entity designated by, or under the authority of, the United Nations Security Council under Chapter VII of the Charter of the United Nations;

AND WHEREAS the President, by Legal Notice No. 83 of March 27, 2023 signed the Economic Sanctions (Implementation of United Nations Resolutions on The Islamic Republic of Iran) Order, 2023 (“the Order”);

AND WHEREAS the President, in accordance with section 4(4) of the Act, did cause to be delivered on the 27th March, 2023 to the Speaker for presentation to the House of Representatives, a statement setting out the specific grounds on which the decision to make the Order was based;

AND WHEREAS the statement of Her Excellency the President, was debated in the House of Representatives on April 26, 2023 and approved and published as Legal Notice No. 111 of 2023;

AND WHEREAS section 4(3) of the Act provides that subject to section 4(5), an Order made under section 4(1) shall, unless previously revoked, remain in force for three months;

AND WHEREAS section 4(5) of the Act provides that before the expiration of an Order made under section 4(3), the Order may be extended, either indefinitely or for a specified period, by a resolution supported by a simple majority vote of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS it has become necessary to extend the life of the Order, until such time as it is revoked:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Order shall remain in force until such time as it is revoked.

(By the Attorney General)

4. WHEREAS by section 4 of the Economic Sanctions Act, Chap. 81:05 (“the Act”) the President may for the purpose of implementing a decision, resolution or recommendation by a regional or an international organisation of States or association of States, of which Trinidad and Tobago is a member, that calls on its members to take economic measures against a foreign State make an Order with respect to—

(a) the restriction or prohibition of any of the activities referred to in section 5 in relation to a foreign State;
(b) the seizing, freezing or sequestration in the manner set out in the Order any property situated in Trinidad and Tobago that is held by or on behalf of—
   (i) a foreign State;
   (ii) any person in that foreign State; or
   (iii) a national of that foreign State who does not ordinarily reside in Trinidad and Tobago.
(c) the exclusion of any person, property, goods, technical data, services, transactions, ships or aircraft or any class thereof from the application of the Order;

AND WHEREAS there is grave concern about the extremely high levels of gang violence and other criminal activities, including kidnappings, trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants, and
homicides, and sexual and gender-based violence including rape and sexual slavery, as well as ongoing impunity for perpetrators, corruption and recruitment of children by gangs and the implications of Haiti’s situation for the region;

**AND WHEREAS** the illicit trafficking and diversion of arms and related materiel of all types contributes to undermining the rule of law and respect for human rights, and can impede the provision of humanitarian assistance and have wide ranging negative humanitarian and socioeconomic consequences;

**AND WHEREAS** the need to prohibit the transfer of small arms, light weapons and ammunition to non-state actors engaged in or supporting gang violence, criminal activities, or human rights abuses in Haiti, as well as to prevent their illicit trafficking and diversion;

**AND WHEREAS** the situation in Haiti continues to constitute a threat to international peace and security in the region;

**AND WHEREAS** the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is required, by virtue of its international obligations to prevent and prohibit illicit financial flows, trafficking and diversion of arms and related materials of all types, illicit transfer, destabilizing accumulation and misuse of small arms and light weapons in all its aspects which pose threats to international peace and security, cause significant loss of life and contribute to instability and insecurity in the region;

**AND WHEREAS** the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is a member of the United Nations;

**AND WHEREAS** the United Nations Security Council has issued Resolution 2653(2022) requiring members of the United Nations to impose economic sanctions against entities and individuals listed pursuant to United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 2653(2022) concerning the Republic of Haiti;

**AND WHEREAS**, by virtue of its membership to the United Nations, the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is required to implement UNSCR 2653 (2022), issued by the United Nations Security Council concerning the Republic of Haiti;

**AND WHEREAS** it has become necessary to take measures to ensure compliance with our international obligations;

**AND WHEREAS** the President signed the Economic Sanctions (Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2653 (2022) on the Republic of Haiti) Order, 2023 on 6th June, 2023 and was published as Legal Notice No.168 of 2023 on 12th June, 2023;

**AND WHEREAS** the President, in accordance with section 4(4) of the Economic Sanctions Act, Chap. 81:05, did cause to be delivered on the 13th day of June, 2023 to the Speaker for presentation to the House of Representatives a statement setting out the specific grounds on which the decision to make the Order was based;

**AND WHEREAS** section 4(4) requires the statement of Her Excellency the President, be debated as soon as practicable but in any event not later than one month from the date of commencement of the Order:

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Statement of Her Excellency the President, pursuant to section 4(4) of the Economic Sanctions Act, Chap. 81:05, setting out the specific grounds on which the decision to make the Economic Sanctions (Implementation of United Nations Security Council Resolution 2653(2022) on the Republic of Haiti) Order, 2023 was based, be approved.

(By the Attorney General)
Bills Second Reading:

   (By the Minister of Sport and Community Development)

2. The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the House adjourned on Monday June 05, 2023 will be resumed:
   (By the Attorney General)

3. 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)

4. 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 May 26, 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 Barataria/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;
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)

   (The Speaker will propose the question that the Bill be read a Second time)

   (The Speaker will propose the question that the Bill be read a Second time)

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

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

June 14, 2023
ORDER PAPER

TUESDAY JUNE 20, 2023

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

*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 26.05.2023)

*Question No. 162 to the Minister of Public Utilities
(By the Member for Princes Town)
Will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the following:
  a) the amount owed by each State entity to the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC);
  b) the total debt repaid to T&TEC, by each State entity to date; and
  c) the measures that will be implemented by the authorities to avoid any future accumulation of debt to T&TEC by State entities?
(Answer due by 01.06.2023)

Question No. 180 to the Minister of Works and Transport
(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)
Will the Minister provide an update on the status of the construction of the Moruga Fishing Facility, including a detailed breakdown of:
  a) the total estimated cost for this project;
  b) the names of the contractors selected;
  c) the time frame for construction; and
  d) the proposed opening date of this facility?
(Answer due by 11.06.2023)

Question No. 182 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts
(By the Member for Moruga/Tableland)
With regard to the estimated expenditure of 147m allocated to assist with activities related to Carnival 2023, will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of:
  a) the total expenditure to date;
  b) the funds dispersed to each regional body or constituency;
  c) a list of all the service providers and contractors; and
  d) the amount paid to each service provider and contractor?
(Answer due by 11.06.2023)

*Question No. 147 was deferred for two (2) weeks on April 26, 2023, May 10, 2023 and May 24, 2023.
*Question No. 162 was deferred for two (2) weeks on June 05, 2023.
NOTICE OF PRIME MINISTER’S QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 26 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Prime Minister.

1. In light of the recent tragic death of a worker at the NiQuan plant, will the Prime Minister inform this House of the status of the investigation into the April 2021 explosion at the NiQuan plant inclusive of the findings of the main contents of the final report?
   (By the Member for Oropouche East)

2. Will the Prime Minister state if any of the concluding issues revealed by the investigation into the 2021 explosion at the NiQuan Plant were also responsible or linked to last week’s incident at the plant, which led to the death of an individual conducting maintenance work on the plant?
   (By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

3. Given that the Government's proclamation of Section 18 of the Trinidad and Tobago Revenue Authority Act came into effect on May 1, 2023, will the Prime Minister inform this House if all of the existing employees at the Board of Inland Revenue (BIR) and Customs and Excise Division, with their existing terms and conditions of employment, will be employed in the Trinidad and Tobago Revenue Authority?
   (By the Member for Couva South)

4. Given reports that only one in eleven of our large coast guard marine assets is operational, will the Prime Minister state the urgent steps being taken to make our Coast Guard vessels operational?
   (By the Member for Naparima)

5. Given recent very serious allegations of malfeasance in the issuing of awards of contracts by the former THA Administration, will the Prime Minister state whether he requested an investigation into these allegations given the government's commitment to the principles of good governance?
   (By the Member for Naparima)

6. In light of revelations regarding the former THA Administration’s decision to purchase thirteen acres of land from the Warner Group of Companies at the price of $43 million dollars, purportedly for the construction of a secondary school, will the Prime Minister advise the House whether he intends to order an independent probe into the purchase of the property?
   (By the Member for Oropouche East)
Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel  
Clerk of the House

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