



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
ORDER PAPER

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

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY JUNE 27, 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
5. PETITIONS
6. PAPERS
7. REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES
 - (i) The Report of the Special Select Committee of the Senate appointed to consider and report on the Miscellaneous Provisions (Trial By Judge Alone) Bill, 2023, Third Session (2022/2023), Twelfth Parliament.
(By Senator the Hon. Reginald Armour, SC)
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 77 to the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts

(By Senator Wade Mark)

As regard the Dimanche Gras 2023 production, can the Minister advise as to the following:

- (i) whether the show was produced by the Deputy Chairman of the National Carnival Commission (NCC);
- (ii) if the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, was the Deputy Chairman paid any special fees for the services provided;
- (iii) if the answer to (ii) is in the affirmative, what was the quantum paid;
- (iv) what was the tendering process used to select the producer of the show;
- (v) when was the tender in respect of the production of the show advertised; and
- (vi) who comprised the Tenders Committee?

Question No. 78 to the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In light of the impending closure of the bank account of this country's Embassy in Belgium in May 2023, as part of the European Union's measures to mitigate money laundering risks, can the Minister advise as to the following:

- (i) whether a forensic investigation has been launched into the Embassy's financial operations;
- (ii) what are the implications, if any, of said closure on the Embassy's operations;

- (iii) whether any other bank accounts of this country's Embassies and Missions overseas have been closed or face impending closure; and
- (iv) if the answer to (iii) is in the affirmative, what measures, if any, are being taken by the Government to prevent this such action?

Question No. 79 to the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries
(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister provide the reason(s) for the failure of the Praedial Larceny Unit to provide urgent assistance to a livestock farmer whose animals were stolen from his farm located a few metres from its offices at Carlsen Field, Chaguanas?

- 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

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) **BE IT RESOLVED** that the Industrial Relations (Amendment to the Second Schedule) Order, 2023 be annulled.
(By Senator Wade Mark)

- (iii) **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)

- (iv) **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)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Bills Second Reading:

- (i) 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)

- (ii) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Supplemental Police Act, Chap. 15:02'.

(By the Minister of National Security)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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June 26, 2023