

**THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
OFFICIAL REPORT
IN THE FOURTH SESSION OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF THE
REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO WHICH OPENED ON
AUGUST 28, 2020**

SESSION 2023—2024

VOLUME 1

SENATE

Monday, September 11, 2023

1.30 P.M.

[MR. PRESIDENT *in the Chair*]

The Senate having assembled, and it being the first meeting of the Fourth Session of the Twelfth Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the Clerk of the Senate read the following Proclamation:

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

No. 28 of 2023.

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO,
O.R.T.T., President of the Republic of Trinidad
and Tobago and Commander-in-Chief of the
Armed Forces.

[L.S.]

CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO
President

A PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS it is provided by subsection (1) of section 67 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago that each session of Parliament shall be

held at such place within Trinidad and Tobago and shall commence at such time as the President may by Proclamation appoint:

Now, therefore, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, do hereby appoint the Red House, Port-of-Spain, Trinidad, as the place at which the Fourth Session of the Twelfth Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago shall be held, at 1.30 p.m. on Monday the 11th day of September, 2023, as the time at which the said Session shall commence, with any Member, if necessary, attending a sitting virtually, while in Trinidad and Tobago, with the prior approval of the Speaker of the House of Representatives or the President of the Senate in accordance with guidelines to be established.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the
President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago, at the Office of the President, St.
Ann's, this 30th day of August, 2023.

Mr. President: Hon. Senators, I now invite you to please remain standing for the prayer of the Senate.

PRAYERS

REVOCATION OF APPOINTMENTS

Mr. President: Hon. Senators, I have received the following correspondence from Her Excellency the President Christine Carla Kangaloo, ORTT.

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO
By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO,
O.R.T.T., President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

TO: DR. VARMA DEYALSINGH, H.B.M.

UNREVISED

WHEREAS by the provisions of Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the President, in exercise of the power vested in her, is empowered to declare the seat of a Senator to be vacant:

NOW, THEREFORE I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, in exercise of the power vested in me by the said Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby declare the seat of you, VARMA DEYALSINGH, to be vacant, with effect from the 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the
President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago, at the Office of the President, St.
Ann's, this 30th day of August, 2023.

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA
KANGALOO, O.R.T.T., President of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

TO: MS AMRITA DEONARINE

WHEREAS by the provisions of Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the President, in exercise of the power vested in her, is empowered to declare the seat of a Senator to be vacant:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, in exercise of the power vested in me by the said Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby declare the seat of

you, AMRITA DEONARINE, to be vacant, with effect from the 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago at the Office of the President, St. Ann's, this 7th day of September, 2023.”

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, O.R.T.T., President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

TO: MS CHARRISE SEEPERSAD

WHEREAS by the provisions of Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the President, in exercise of the power vested in her, is empowered to declare the seat of a Senator to be vacant:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, in exercise of the power vested in me by the said Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby declare the seat of you, CHARRISE SEEPERSAD, to be vacant, with effect from the 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago at the Office of the President, St. Ann's, this 7th day of September, 2023.”

UNREVISED

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO,
O.R.T.T., President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago and Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

TO: MR. EVANS WELCH

WHEREAS by the provisions of Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, the President, in exercise of the power vested in her, is empowered to declare the seat of a Senator to be vacant:

NOW, THEREFORE, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, in exercise of the power vested in me by the said Section 43(2)(e) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, do hereby declare the seat of you, EVANS WELCH, to be vacant, with effect from the 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the
President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago at the Office of the President, St.
Ann's, this 7th day of September, 2023.”

SENATORS' APPOINTMENT

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA
KANGALOO, O.R.T.T., President of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

UNREVISED

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

TO: PROFESSOR GERARD HUTCHINSON

In exercise of the power vested in me by section 40(2)(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, do hereby appoint you, GERARD HUTCHINSON, Senator with effect from 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the
President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago at the Office of the President, St.
Ann's, this 7th day of September, 2023."

"THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA
KANGALOO, O.R.T.T., President of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

TO: DR. SHARDA PATASAR

In exercise of the power vested in me by section 40(2)(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, do hereby appoint you, SHARDA PATASAR, Senator with effect from 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the
President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago at the Office of the President, St.
Ann's, this 7th day of September, 2023."

UNREVISED

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA
KANGALOO, O.R.T.T., President of the
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and
Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces.

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

TO: MS SUNITY MAHARAJ

In exercise of the power vested in me by section 40(2)(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, do hereby appoint you, SUNITY MAHARAJ, Senator with effect from 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of the
President of the Republic of Trinidad and
Tobago at the Office of the President, St.
Ann's, this 7th day of September, 2023.”

1:40 p.m.

“THE CONSTITUTION OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

By Her Excellency CHRISTINE CARLA
KANGALOO, President of the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago and Commander-in-Chief
of the Armed Forces.

/s/ Christine Kangaloo
President.

UNREVISED

TO: MR. HELON FRANCIS

In exercise of the power vested in me by section 40 (2)(c) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, I, CHRISTINE CARLA KANGALOO, President as aforesaid, do hereby appoint you, HELON FRANCIS, a Senator with effect from 11th September, 2023.

Given under my Hand and the Seal of
the President of the Republic of
Trinidad and Tobago at the Office of
the President, St. Ann's, this 7th day of
September, 2023."

OATH OF ALLEGIANCE

The following Senators took and subscribed the Oath of Allegiance as required by law:

Prof. Gerard Hutchinson, Dr. Sharda Patasar and Sunity Maharaj.

AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE

Senator Helon Francis took and subscribed the Affirmation of Allegiance as required by law.

ASSEMBLY OF BOTH HOUSES

Mr. President: Hon. Senators, Her Excellency the President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago desires to address all Members of Parliament assembled together in the House of Representatives chamber, in this regard Senators will be ushered to the House chamber where Her Excellency will deliver her address. This sitting is now suspended.

1.45 p.m.: *Sitting suspended.*

3.05 p.m.: *Sitting resumed.*

Mr. President: Leader of Government Business.

PAPER LAID

Address by Her Excellency the President on the occasion of the opening of the Fourth Session of the Twelfth Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago. [*The Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs (Sen. The Hon. Dr. Amery Browne)*]

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. President: Leader of Government Business.

The Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs (Sen. The Hon. Dr. Amery Browne): Mr. President, I beg to move that this Senate do now adjourn to a date to be fixed.

Mr. President: Hon. Senators, before I put the question I wish to inform that the reception for the occasion of the opening of the Fourth Session, Twelfth Parliament, will be held in the Rotunda. All Members are invited to attend.

Question put and agreed to.

Senate adjourned accordingly.

Adjourned at 3.06 p.m.