



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOURTH SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 10
2023/2024

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY JANUARY 19, 2024 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Minimum Wages (Amendment) Order, 2023.
(By the Minister of Labour)
2. The Criminal Procedure Rules, 2023.
(By the Attorney General)
3. The Annual Report of the Anti-Terrorism Unit for the period 2022 to 2023.
(By the Attorney General)
4. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the San Fernando City Corporation for the year ended September 30, 2009.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
5. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended September 30, 2019.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
6. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Non- Receipt of Financial Statements of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2012.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)

7. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Non-Receipt of Financial Statements of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
8. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Non- Receipt of Financial Statements of the Agricultural Society of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2014.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
9. The Thirty-Sixth Annual Report of the Integrity Commission of Trinidad and Tobago for the year ended December 31, 2023.
(By the Deputy Speaker)
10. The Forty-Fifth Annual Report of the Ombudsman for the period January 2022 to December 2022.
(By the Deputy Speaker)
11. The Administrative Report of the University of Trinidad and Tobago for the period October 2017 to September 2018.
(By the Minister of Education)
12. The Administrative Report of the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago for the period October 1 2020 to September 30, 2021.
(By the Minister of Education)
13. The Administrative Report of the Accreditation Council of Trinidad and Tobago for the period October 1 2021 to September 30 2022.
(By the Minister of Education)
14. The Annual Administrative Report of InvesTT Limited for the year ended September 30, 2021.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)
15. The Administrative Report of the Trinidad and Tobago Bureau of Standards for the year ended September 30, 2021.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)
16. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Labour to the Sixth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Social Services and Public Administration on an examination of the state of technical or vocational programmes and their contribution to achieving the developmental goals of Trinidad and Tobago.
(By the Minister of Labour)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer will appear in the Appendix**Questions for Oral Answer****Question No. 11 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

As it relates to the Trinidad and Tobago Upstream Downstream Energy Operations Company Limited (TTUDEOCL), will the Minister state:

- a) the amount of money owed to the TTUDEOCL by NiQuan Energy Trinidad Limited as at October 31, 2023;
- b) the amount of money owed to the TTUDEOCL by the National Gas Company as at October 31, 2023; and
- c) the actions that have been undertaken by the TTUDEOCL to recover the debts incurred by NiQuan Energy Trinidad Limited?

Question No. 12 to the Minister of Finance:**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

Given the acquisition of the CL Marine Limited in 2020, will the Minister state:

- a) the profits earned and taxes paid to the State by CL Marine Limited for the fiscal years ended December 31, 2021 and December 31 2022; and
- b) the names of the current members of the Board of CL Marine Limited as at October 31, 2023?

Question No. 13 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:**(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

As it relates to the fuel subsidy for the period October 01, 2022 to September 30, 2023, will the Minister state:

- a) what fuels attract a subsidy at the pump;
- b) the value of the subsidy paid for diesel fuel;
- c) the value of the subsidy paid for super gasoline;
- d) the value of the subsidy paid for premium gasoline;
- e) the value of the surplus earned from the sale of diesel fuel;
- f) the value of the surplus earned from the sale of super fuel; and
- g) the value of the surplus earned from the sale of premium fuel?

Question No. 18 to the Prime Minister:*(By the Member for Naparima)**

Will the Prime Minister provide an update on the status of the Report of the Commission of Enquiry into the February 25, 2022 Paria diving tragedy?

Question No. 23 to the Minister of Works and Transport:**(By the Member for Caroni East)**

When will the construction of the northern and southern retaining walls on the banks of the Cunupia River, in the vicinity of the Old Southern Main Road, be completed?

Question No. 24 to the Minister of Works and Transport:**(By the Member for Caroni East)**

When will the pedestrian railing on the eastern side of the Cunupia River Bridge on the Old Southern Main Road be repaired?

*Question No. 18 was deferred for two (2) weeks on December 13, 2023.

Question No. 25 to the Minister of Public Utilities:**(By the Member for Couva South)**

Further to the response provided to an Urgent Question on November 01, 2023 regarding the death of Kern Ettienne, a worker of the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (WASA), will the Minister provide an update on the status of WASA's investigation into Mr. Ettienne's death?

Question No. 26 to the Minister of Labour:**(By the Member for Couva South)**

Further to the response provided to an Urgent Question on November 01, 2023 regarding the death of Kern Ettienne, a worker of the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (WASA), will the Minister provide an update on the status of the Occupational Health and Safety Agency (OSHA)'s investigation into Mr. Ettienne's death?

Question No. 27 to the Minister of Labour:**(By the Member for Couva South)**

Given that workplace accidents at Paria Fuel Trading Company Limited, NiQuan Energy Trinidad Limited and the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (WASA) have claimed the lives of six (6) workers while on the job, will the Minister inform this House of the steps being taken by the Occupational Safety and Health Agency (OSHA) to enforce workplace safety protocols in keeping with the Occupational Safety and Health Act, Chap. 88:08?

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** section 123(1)(a) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago ("the Constitution") provides that the Police Service Commission shall have the power to appoint persons to hold or act in the office of Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS section 123(3) of the Constitution provides that the Police Service Commission shall submit to the President a list of the names of the persons nominated for appointment to the office of Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS section 123(4) of the Constitution provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the Police Service Commission has submitted to the President the name **Mr. Wendell Lucas** for appointment to the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 4th day of December, 2023 issued a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the President of the nomination by the Police Service Commission of **Mr. Wendell Lucas** to the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police be approved.

(By the Prime Minister)

2. **WHEREAS** section 123(1)(a) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (“the Constitution”) provides that the Police Service Commission shall have the power to appoint persons to hold or act in the office of Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS section 123(3) of the Constitution provides that the Police Service Commission shall submit to the President a list of the names of the persons nominated for appointment to the office of Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS section 123(4) of the Constitution provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the Police Service Commission has submitted to the President the name **Mr. Junior Benjamin** for appointment to the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 4th day of December, 2023 issued a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the President of the nomination by the Police Service Commission of **Mr. Junior Benjamin** to the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police be approved.

(By the Prime Minister)

3. **WHEREAS** section 123(1)(a) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago (“the Constitution”) provides that the Police Service Commission shall have the power to appoint persons to hold or act in the office of Commissioner and Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS section 123(3) of the Constitution provides that the Police Service Commission shall submit to the President a list of the names of the persons nominated for appointment to the office of Commissioner or Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS section 123(4) of the Constitution provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the Police Service Commission has submitted to the President the name **Ms. Natasha George**, as the person nominated for appointment to the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 4th day of December, 2023 issued a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the President of the nomination by the Police Service Commission of **Ms. Natasha George**, to the office of Deputy Commissioner of Police be approved.

(By the Prime Minister)

4. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 9 of the Beekeeping and Bee Products Act, Chap. 67:53 (hereinafter referred to as “the Act”) that the Minister may make Regulations, *inter alia*, restricting and regulating the importation or exportation of bees, bee products and bee supplies into or out of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS it is also provided by section 9 of the Act that Regulations made under that section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries has on the 24th day of November, 2023 made the Beekeeping and Bee Products (Amendment) Regulations, 2023;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the Beekeeping and Bee Products (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 now be affirmed:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Beekeeping and Bee Products (Amendment) Regulations, 2023 be approved.

(By the Minister of Agriculture, Land and Fisheries)

5. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this House consider the findings and recommendations of the Forty-Fifth Annual Report of the Ombudsman.

(By the Leader of the House)

Bills Second Reading:

1. **The debate on the Second Reading of the following Bill which was in progress when the House adjourned on Wednesday November 01, 2023 will be resumed:**

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)

2. 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)

3. A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Supreme Court of Judicature Act, Chap. 4:01 and the Criminal Procedure Act, Chap. 12:02 in relation to the place and time for sittings of a court and to provide for related matters”.

(By the Attorney General)

4. A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Trustees Ordinance, Chap. 4 of 1939, Exchequer and Audit Act, Chap. 69:01, the Minister of Finance (Incorporation) Act, Chap 69:03, Proceeds of Crime Act, Chap.11:27, Income Tax Act, Chap. 75:01, the Companies Act, Chap 81:01, the Partnerships Act, Chap. 81:02, the Securities Act, Chap.83:02, the Tax Information Exchange Agreements Act, No.5 of 2020, the Non-Profit Organisations Act, No.7 of 2019 and the Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters Act, No. 7 of 2020”.

(By the Minister of Finance)

5. A Bill entitled “An Act to amend the Registrar General’s Act, Chap. 19:03, the Companies Act, Chap. 81:01, the Registration of Business Names Act, Chap. 82:85, and the Non-Profit Organisations Act, No.7 of 2019”.

(By the Attorney General)

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

AND WHEREAS the provision of human resources has not adequately met the demands for public health care resulting in patients being subjected to long waiting times and the postponement of clinic visits and surgeries;

AND WHEREAS healthcare professionals do not have access to modern information technology systems, lack access to suitable drugs, equipment, and facilities to deliver modern and advanced healthcare;

AND WHEREAS health care workers have endured physical and mental stress in the delivery of public healthcare services:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call on Government to implement measures to immediately improve the delivery of healthcare services to the people of Trinidad and Tobago and to address mismanagement in the healthcare Sector.

(By the Member for Caroni East)

2. **WHEREAS** the Government has signalled that electricity and water rates are set to be increased;

AND WHEREAS citizens should have access to affordable public utilities given the rate of unemployment, increase in crime and high food prices;

AND WHEREAS the state has a responsibility to ensure citizens of Trinidad and Tobago have a reliable and affordable supply of electricity and water;

AND WHEREAS both the Trinidad and Tobago Electricity Commission (T&TEC) and the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) are owed billions of dollars in debt mainly by the State:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call upon Government to settle its indebtedness to T&TEC and WASA and immediately halt increases to public utility rates.

(By the Member for Princes Town)

*Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House*

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

January 13, 2024

ORDER PAPER**FRIDAY JANUARY 19, 2024****QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER*****Question No. 15 to the Minister of Foreign and CARICOM Affairs**
(By the Member for Naparima)

With respect to the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly in New York during the period September 19 to 26, 2023, will the Minister provide:

- a) the total cost incurred by the Government of Trinidad and Tobago inclusive of the value of per diems paid to each member of the delegation who attended the Session;
- b) the names of all officials who comprised the delegation, both Government and non-Government, who attended the Session; and
- c) an itemised list of individual official expenses incurred by all officials listed in (b)?

(Answer due by 30.11.2023)**Question No. 21 to the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government**
(By the Member for Fyzabad)

Will the Minister indicate for each of the fourteen (14) Municipal Corporations:

- a) the number of Public Health Inspectors on each establishment; and
- b) the number of vacant positions?

(Answer due by 21.12.2023)**Question No. 22 to the Prime Minister**
(By the Member for Naparima)

With respect to the Prime Minister's visit to Saudi Arabia to attend the CARICOM-Saudi Arabia Summit in November 2023, will the Prime Minister:

- a) list the names and designations of each official who accompanied the Prime Minister;
- b) provide the cost of airfare, accommodation, per diem and any other benefits paid to the Prime Minister and each individual listed in part (a);
- c) identify all the Agencies/Departments of the State that participated in or contributed to the visit of the Prime Minister to Saudi Arabia; and
- d) state the total expenses incurred by each entity listed in part (c) and the specific purpose for which the expenditure was incurred in each case?

(Answer due by 21.12.2023)*House of Representatives Secretariat*



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FOURTH SESSION
TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

No. 10
2023/2024

FRIDAY JANUARY 19, 2024 1:30 P.M. NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Question which has been accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 27 is hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. **To the Minister of Health:**

Given the increase in COVID-19 cases, what measures does the Ministry intend to implement, to treat Covid-19 infections, with the influx of Carnival visitors?

(Member for Caroni East)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House

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

January 19, 2024