ORDER PAPER

MONDAY MAY 13, 2024 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

1. The ICC Men’s T20 Cricket World Cup 2024 Bill, 2024.
   (By the Attorney General who will move that the next stage of the Bill be taken later in the proceedings)

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Trinidad and Tobago Revenue Authority (Extension of Period) (No. 3) Order, 2024.
   (By the Minister of Finance)

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

   (By the Minister of Finance)

   (By the Minister of National Security)

   (By the Minister of Labour)
(By the Minister of Education)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

(By the Member for Oropouche West)

3. The Sixteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on an examination of the Reports of the Auditor General on the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago (AATT) for the financial years 2013 to 2019 and follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Eighteenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee from the Eleventh Parliament, Fourth Session (2023/2024), Twelfth Parliament.  
(By the Member for Oropouche West)

PRIME MINISTER’S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer appear in the Appendix

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 54 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries  
(By the Member for Naparima)  
Further to Prime Minister’s Question raised on March 06, 2024, will the Minister provide an update to the House on who is responsible for the oil spill off the coast of Tobago?

Question No. 58 to the Minister of Works and Transport:  
(By the Member for Princes Town)  
In light of the deteriorated road conditions along Piparo Road, Princes Town, will the Minister indicate:  
a) when will rehabilitation works begin;  
b) who are the contractors selected for these projects; and  
c) what was the process used in awarding these contracts?

Question No. 59 to the Minister of Education:  
(By the Member for Princes Town)  
Further to question raised in this House on June 05, 2023 regarding the reconstruction of the Princes Town
Presbyterian No. 1 School, will the Minister indicate:
   a) whether any contracts have been awarded;
   b) if the answer to (a) is in the affirmative, the names of the successful contractors; and
   c) when can reconstruction be expected to begin and be completed?

*Question No. 65 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:*
(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)
Given the recent statement by the CEO of Woodside Energy, that the company is seeking “improved fiscal terms” to develop the Calypso Gas project, will the Minister advise if the Government is considering revisiting the project with Woodside Energy?

*Question No. 66 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:*
(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)
Given reports of possible wind-up petitions against Niquan Energy Trinidad Limited, will the Minister advise on the Government’s efforts to recover the monies owed by Niquan Energy to state company Trinidad and Tobago Upstream Downstream Energy Operations Company Limited (TTUDEOCL)?

*Question No. 67 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:*
(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)
Based on the recent granting and publication of a license by the Venezuelan Government to Shell and the National Gas Company of Trinidad and Tobago (NGC) for the monetisation of the Dragon Gas Field, will the Minister indicate:
   a) what specific payments will the NGC be required to make to the Venezuelan Government before gas is produced, as required by the license; and
   b) when will these payments be made?

*Question No. 68 to the Minister of Finance:*
(By the Member for Couva South)
How many Notices of Assessment were issued by the Board of Inland Revenue as at April 02, 2024?

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

1. The Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) (Amendment) Bill, 2024.
   (By the Attorney General who will move that the next stage of the Bill be taken later in the proceedings)

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE HOUSE AND MOVED BY A MINISTER

PUBLIC BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

* Question Nos. 65, 66 and 67 were deferred for two (2) weeks on April 26, 2024.
Motions:

1. 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)

2. 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 Friday February 16, 2024 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)

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 April 26, 2024 will be resumed:

   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. The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday March 01, 2024 will be resumed:

   WHEREAS in accordance with the Education Act Chap. 39:01, the Government has the responsibility for managing the education system;

   AND WHEREAS the Government has overseen the deterioration of the educational sector and has failed to:
   a. maintain our school infrastructure;
   b. implement data driven measures to make the delivery of special education more equitable and accessible to the citizenry;
   c. optimize curriculum development to reflect our labour needs;

   AND WHEREAS the Government has limited access to technical vocational training and qualifications:

   BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn the Government for its failures and mismanagement of the education system;

   AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House call on the Government to immediately implement data driven measures to guarantee the successful future development of Trinidad and Tobago.

   (By the Member for Tabaquite)

3. 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

May 08, 2024
QUESTION No. 60 TO THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
(By the Member for Princes Town)

Will the Minister provide a detailed breakdown of the following for the period September 01, 2020 to March 31, 2024:

   a) the total indebtedness of State entities/agencies to the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA);
   b) the amount owed by each State entity/agency to the Authority;
   c) the total debt repaid to WASA, by each State entity/agency; and
   d) the measures that will be implemented by the Authority to avoid any future accumulation of debt by State entities/agencies?

(Answer due by 01.05.2024)

QUESTION No. 61 TO THE MINISTER OF PUBLIC UTILITIES
(By the Member for Princes Town)

In light of the Minister’s March 2022 statement of the Government’s intention to introduce Water Modulated Treatment Plants in Trinidad and Tobago, will the Minister indicate:

   a) what is the status of the ten (10) Water Modulated Treatment Plants that were promised; and
   b) what is the cost of each Water Modulated Treatment Plant?

(Answer due by 01.05.2024)
MONDAY MAY 13, 2024 1:30 P.M.
NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 27 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Ministers concerned.

1. To the Attorney General
   Given that the initial one year extension granted to the Commissioner of Police Erla Harewood Christopher by the Cabinet is due to expire very shortly, could the Attorney General inform this House if the Cabinet has advised the President to invoke Section 75 of the Police Service Act as it relates to a further extension of her continuing in the said office?
   (Member for Couva South)

2. To the Minister of National Security
   Based on the unprecedented and recent revelations that gang members have utilised CCTV cameras to monitor police officers, will the minister state what urgent action has been taken to address this concerning matter?
   (Member for Oropouche East)

3. To the Minister of Public Utilities
   In light of recent revelations that CCTV cameras and associated equipment were illegally erected on TTEC poles, will the Minister state whether an investigation has been launched into this matter?
   (Member for Barataria/San Juan)
4. To the Minister of National Security
With Tobago’s 8th murder and relatives of the victim threatening retaliation for her murder, will the Minister state what steps can be taken to prevent any further bloodshed?
(Member for Naparima)

Brian Caesar
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives’ Secretariat
The Red House
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May 13, 2024