



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ORDER PAPER**

TWENTY-FIFTH SITTING, FOURTH SESSION (2023/2024)

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY JULY 04, 2024 AT 2:00 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
8. URGENT QUESTIONS
9. QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
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

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**Motions:**

- (i) **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 24<sup>th</sup> 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)**

### **Bills Second Reading:**

- (i) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Bail Act, Chap. 4:60.'  
**(By the Attorney General)**
- (ii) 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)**
- (iii) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Supplemental Police Act, Chap. 15:02.'  
**(By the Minister of National Security)**
- (iv) A Bill entitled, 'An Act to amend the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28.'  
**(By the Attorney General)**

### **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

#### **Motions:**

- (i) **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the Senate adjourned on Tuesday June 25, 2024, 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-Ramdial)**

- (ii) **WHEREAS** the Steelpan was inspired into creation in Trinidad and Tobago, which was recognised in the United Nations General Assembly's proclamation of August 11<sup>th</sup> as World Steelpan Day;

**AND WHEREAS** through the inventiveness, dedication and intelligence of generations of citizens, the Steelpan now stands as a powerful symbol of cultural identity and a source of national pride for

citizens resident within and outside of Trinidad and Tobago, and occupies a distinctive place among the musical instruments of the world;

**AND WHEREAS** citizens widely revere the Steelpan as the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago yet the recognition of the Steelpan as the national musical instrument of Trinidad and Tobago has not been codified in law;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Steelpan be declared the national instrument of Trinidad and Tobago;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a Joint Select Committee of Parliament be established to determine the best mechanism for giving meaningful effect to the declaration of the Steelpan as the national instrument of Trinidad and Tobago.

**(By Senator Sunity Maharaj)**

- (iii) **WHEREAS** the Central Bank's CLICO Resolution Plan, 2015 identified the sale of the Colonial Life Insurance Company's ("CLICO") shareholding in Methanol Holdings (International) Limited ("MHIL") as a means of settling the Company's outstanding debt to the State, which totals approximately TT\$1.1B as at December 2023;

**AND WHEREAS** MHIL was jointly owned by CLICO and Consolidated Energy Limited (CEL), whereby CEL held the right of first refusal to purchase the MHIL shares, pursuant to the Shareholders' Agreement;

**AND WHEREAS** CEL initially refused offers by CLICO to purchase said shares in 2017, 2018 and 2022, and the shares were subsequently sold to CEL in the last quarter of 2023 at approximately US\$337M;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to table, within fourteen (14) days, all relevant documents to the agreement between CLICO and CEL for the sale of the MHIL shares, including, but not limited to, any acquisition agreements, valuations and legal opinions;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to commission an independent forensic audit into said sale agreement, should these documents not be provided within the above stated period.

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

- (iv) **WHEREAS** the 2018 Green Paper on the National Policy on Gender and Development provides a framework for the inclusion of gender perspectives in all activities of Government and civil society aimed at promoting the full and equal participation of men and women in the development process;

**AND WHEREAS** the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development recognises the centrality of gender equality to development and as a prerequisite for progress across all its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of which SDG 5: Gender Equality, includes a specific indicator (5.c.1) that commits countries to developing systems to track and make public, budgetary allocations for gender equality;

**AND WHEREAS** there is a fragmented implementation of gender mainstreaming across policy areas and Government institutions resulting in a gender blind budgetary processes;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to adopt and strengthen policies and legislation for the promotion of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls at all levels;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to table legislative proposals that provide for the elimination of gender inequalities among adults, adolescents and children in the national budgetary process.

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

**Chantal La Roche**  
**Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)**

**Senate Secretariat**  
**Office of the Parliament**  
**The Parliamentary Complex**  
**The Red House**  
**Abercromby Street**  
**PORT OF SPAIN**

**July 03, 2024**



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TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

THURSDAY JULY 04, 2024 AT 2:00 P.M.

## NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the President in accordance with Standing Order 25 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. **TO THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

**(By Senator Dr. Paul Richards)**

Given the Prime Minister's Statement on the audit of the Strategic Services Agency (SSA)'s operations, can the Minister indicate what additional oversight mechanisms have been initiated to prevent the recurrence of this type of breach in the national security apparatus?

2. **TO THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

**(By Senator Dr. Paul Richards)**

Given the Prime Minister's recent statement on the Strategic Services Agency (SSA)'s operations, can the Minister indicate what urgent measures the Government intends to pursue to prevent any potential compromise of national security agencies that routinely interface with the SSA?

3. **TO THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

**(By Senator Dr. Paul Richards)**

Can the Minister indicate what strategies have been implemented to mitigate the potential carnage that can result from 70,000 rounds of missing ammunition that was purchased by the SSA ending up in the hands of criminals?

4. **TO THE MINISTER OF NATIONAL SECURITY**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of the alarming revelation that 70,000 rounds of ammunition purchased by the SSA are now unrecorded and unaccounted for, can the Minister indicate whether the Government has sought the assistance from our foreign counterparts to aid their retrieval?

**Chantal La Roche**  
Clerk of the Senate (Ag.)

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