



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

**ORDER PAPER**

SEVENTH SITTING, FIFTH SESSION (2024/2025)

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2024 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

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PAPERS

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

**Questions for Oral Answer**

**\*Question No. 22 to the Minister of Sport and Community Development**

**(By Senator Helon Francis)**

How does the Ministry plan to expand and further develop the Sport, Health, Athletic Performance & Empowerment (SHAPE) Programme to foster deeper community engagement and improve collaboration between sports organisations, government agencies, and non-governmental entities to create stronger support networks for athletes?

**\*Question No. 25 to the Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Prof. Gerard Hutchinson)**

Regarding the Ministry's Vacation Revision Programme offered to students who scored below 50% at the Secondary Entrance Assessment, can the Minister advise on the following:

- (i) is there a system in place to monitor the progress and development of students enrolled in this programme; and
- (ii) if the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, can the Minister provide any information or data that speaks to the success of this programme?

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\* Questions Nos. 22, 25, 26 and 27 were postponed on 26.11.2024 in accordance with Standing Order 27(12)

**\*Question No. 26 to the Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Prof. Gerard Hutchinson)**

Given the statements made by the Minister of Education during the Standing Finance Committee on October 19, 2024, regarding the responsibilities of the Student Support Services Division (SSSD) in providing psychosocial support systems to schools, can the Minister indicate the following:

- (i) whether the SSSD is sufficiently resourced to address the psychosocial problems at our Nation's schools;
- (ii) what services are outsourced and from which Division/Ministry; and
- (iii) what special provisions, if any, are made for schools located in vulnerable areas?

**\*Question No. 27 to the Minister of Education**

**(By Senator Prof. Gerard Hutchinson)**

Given the upsurge in violence and traumatic incidents in and around our Nation's schools, can the Minister provide the following:

- (i) the response protocols of the Student Support Services Division in treating with such incidents; and
- (ii) a list of the other agencies that may become involved and their role(s) in the protocol response?

**Question No. 4 to the Minister of Labour**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of the decision by Stork Technical Services T&T Limited to shut down its operations, potentially leaving 389 employees without jobs, can the Minister indicate what measures will be taken to ensure employees are adequately compensated in alignment with the Retrenchment and Severance Benefits Act?

**Question No. 5 to the Minister of National Security**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of the fatal stabbing of a fifteen-year-old by another youth on June 09, 2024, can the Minister outline the measures and support systems currently in place to deter at-risk youth from engaging in criminal activity and reduce the number of youth-related killings?

**Question No. 6 to the Minister of Public Utilities**

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

In light of the Occupational Health and Safety Authority identifying six (6) breaches of the OSH Act in its investigation of the circumstances surrounding the death of a WASA employee on a job site on October 22, 2023, can the Minister indicate what health and safety procedures were adopted since the completion of the investigation to ensure that such an incident does not reoccur?

**Question No. 23 to the Minister of Sport and Community Development**

**(By Senator Helon Francis)**

In light of the two studies conducted by the Ministry in 2023 on the success of sports development systems in Jamaica, can the Minister indicate:

- (i) the key findings from these studies;
- (ii) how these findings will inform the development of a more effective and sustainable sports system in Trinidad and Tobago; and
- (iii) whether the Ministry intends to examine the sports development programmes of other regional countries with high performing athletes such as Cuba?

**Question No. 24 to the Minister of Sport and Community Development**

**(By Senator Helon Francis)**

Can the Minister advise what measures were taken to monitor and evaluate the impact of the \$70 million allocated in fiscal 2023/2024 to national government bodies, individual athletes and community groups for hosting sporting activities at the national, regional and international levels?

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE SENATE ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS OR PARLIAMENTARY SECRETARIES

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS

### **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

#### **Bills Second Reading:**

1. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Proceeds of Crime Act, Chap. 11:27, the Anti-Terrorism Act, Chap. 12:07, the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago Act, Chap. 72:01, the Securities Act, Chap. 83:02, the Insurance Act, Chap. 84:01, the Non-Profit Organisations Act, No. 7 of 2019, the Civil Asset Recovery and Management and Unexplained Wealth, No. 8 of 2019 and the Miscellaneous Provisions (FATF Compliance) Act, No. 25 of 2020.’  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**
2. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to make provisions of a financial nature and other related matters.’  
**(By the Minister of Finance)**
3. 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)**
4. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Supplemental Police Act, Chap. 15:02.’  
**(By the Minister of National Security)**
5. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28.’  
**(By the Attorney General)**
6. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to make jurisdiction for matters of a civil nature exercisable in a division of the Judiciary to be known as the “Civil Division” and to make jurisdiction for specified civil matters exercisable in a sub-division of the Civil Division known as the “Civil Court”, to make jurisdiction for small-valued claims exercisable in a sub-division of the “Civil Division” to be known as the “Small Claims Courts”, to make jurisdiction for estates administration business exercisable in a sub-division of the Civil Division known as the “Estates Administration Office” and for related matters.’  
**(By the Attorney General)**

### **COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

#### **Motions:**

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this Senate adopt the Report of the Special Select Committee established to consider and report on the Miscellaneous Provisions (Trial by Judge Alone) Bill, 2023.  
**(By Senator the Hon. Reginald Armour, SC)**

## **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

### **Motions:**

1. **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)**

2. **WHEREAS** on April 24, 2018, the Senate unanimously approved a resolution calling on the Government “... to introduce legislation on parliamentary autonomy during the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report before the end of the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament”;

**AND WHEREAS** on February 12, 2019, in the Senate, the Attorney General committed to making best efforts to have legislation on Parliamentary Autonomy introduced in the Fourth Session of the Eleventh Parliament;

**AND WHEREAS** to date the Government has not presented to Parliament a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

**BE IT RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to reaffirm its commitment to introduce a legislative framework on Parliamentary Autonomy;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that the Senate call on the Government to introduce in Parliament, within three (3) months, a Bill on Parliamentary Autonomy and have same referred to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament for consideration and report.

**(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**

**November 26, 2024**



**SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO  
SEVENTH SITTING, FIFTH SESSION (2024/2025)**

**TWELFTH PARLIAMENT**

**FRIDAY NOVEMBER 29, 2024 AT 1:30 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 Ministers concerned.

1. **TO THE MINISTER OF HEALTH**

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

What is being done at the primary care level to stem the rapid spread of a virulent flu affecting a significant portion of the population, including several schools across the country?

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

**(By Senator Wade Mark)**

Given recent reports of a new online phishing scheme to retrieve personal banking information from customers, can the Minister advise what urgent steps are being taken by the Cybercrime Unit to address this matter?

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

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**November 29, 2024**