



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

EIGHTH SITTING, FIFTH SESSION (2024/2025)

TWELFTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY JANUARY 21, 2025 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

1. The National Emblems of Trinidad and Tobago (Regulation) (Amendment) Bill, 2025.
(By the Minister of Tourism, Culture and the Arts who will move that the next stage of the Bill be taken later in the proceedings)
2. The Tobago Island Government Bill, 2021.
(By the Minister of Housing and Urban Development)

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Final Report of the Investigative Team appointed by the Honourable Attorney General to inquire and report into the facts and circumstances surrounding CV2020- 01243 Shervon Peters and Ors v The Attorney General of Trinidad and Tobago.
(By the Attorney General)
2. The Companies (Amendment) Regulations, 2024.
(By the Attorney General)
3. The Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters (Amendment to Schedule 1) Order, 2024.
(By the Minister of Finance)
4. The Value Added Tax (Amendment to Schedule 2) (No.2) Order, 2024.
(By the Minister of Finance)
5. The Trinidad and Tobago Revenue Authority (Extension of Period) (No. 5) Order, 2024.
(By the Minister of Finance)
6. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Committee for the financial year ended September 30, 2007.
(By the Minister of Finance)

7. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Eastern Regional Health Authority for the financial year ended September 30, 2016.
(By the Minister of Finance)
8. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Eastern Regional Health Authority for the financial year ended September 30, 2017.
(By the Minister of Finance)
9. The Report of the Auditor General of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago on the Financial Statements of the Port of Spain Corporation for the financial year ended September 30, 2013.
(By the Minister of Finance)
10. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the National Infrastructure Development Company Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2019.
(By the Minister of Finance)
11. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago Mortgage Finance Company Limited for the year ended December 31, 2023.
(By the Minister of Finance)
12. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of Trinidad and Tobago Tourism Business Development Limited for the year ended December 31, 2022.
(By the Minister of Finance)
13. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of Trinidad and Tobago Tourism Business Development Limited for the year ended December 31, 2023.
(By the Minister of Finance)
14. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the University of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended September 30, 2022.
(By the Minister of Finance)
15. The Annual Audited Financial Statements of the University of Trinidad and Tobago for the financial year ended September 30, 2023.
(By the Minister of Finance)
16. The Annual Administrative Report of National Enterprises Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2023.
(By the Minister of Finance)
17. The Annual Administrative Report of the National Investment Fund Holding Company Limited for the year ended December 31, 2023.
(By the Minister of Finance)
18. The Annual Administrative Report of East Port of Spain Development Company Limited for the fiscal year 2022 - 2023.
(By the Minister of Housing and Urban Development)

19. The Annual Administrative Report of the Trinidad and Tobago Fair Trading Commission for the financial year ended September 30, 2020.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)
20. The Annual Administrative Report of the National Schools Dietary Services Limited for the fiscal year 2021 - 2022.
(By the Minister of Education)
21. The Annual Report of the Trinidad and Tobago Civil Aviation Authority for the financial year ended September 30, 2024.
(By the Minister of Works and Transport)
22. The Annual Report of the Statutory Authorities Service Commission for the year ended December 31, 2023.
(By the Vice-President)
23. The Annual Report of the Ministry of Public Administration and Digital Transformation for the fiscal year 2019 - 2020.
(By the Minister of Public Administration)
24. The Annual Report on the Exercise of the Functions and Powers of the Ministry of Health for the fiscal year 2021.
(By the Minister of Health)
25. The Annual Report on the Exercise of the Functions and Powers of the Ministry of Health for the fiscal year 2022.
(By the Minister of Health)
26. The Annual Report on the Exercise of the Functions and Powers of the Ministry of Health for the fiscal year 2023.
(By the Minister of Health)
27. The Annual Report of the Registration, Recognition and Certification Board for the fiscal year 2022.
(By the Minister of Labour)
28. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Finance to the Sixteenth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on an Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheet and other Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago National Petroleum Marketing Company Limited and its Subsidiaries (NP) for the financial years 2018 and 2019 and follow up on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Committee's Sixteenth Report, Eleventh Parliament.
(By the Minister of Finance)
29. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Energy and Energy Industries to the Sixteenth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on an Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheets and other Financial Statements of the Trinidad and Tobago National Petroleum Marketing Company Limited and its Subsidiaries (NP) for the financial years 2018 and 2019 and follow up on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Committee's Sixteenth Report, Eleventh Parliament.
(By the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries)

30. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Trade and Industry to the Seventeenth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on an Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheets and other Financial Statements of the National Export Facilitation Organization of Trinidad and Tobago (exporTT) for the financial years 2017 and 2018 and follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Committee's Twenty-Eighth Report, Eleventh Parliament.
(By the Minister of Trade and Industry)
31. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Works and Transport to the Eighteenth Report of the Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee on an Examination of the Audited Accounts, Balance Sheets and other Financial Statements of the Vehicle Management Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago (VMCO'TT) for the financial years 2015 and 2016 and follow up on the implementation of the recommendations contained in the Committee's Second Report, 12th Parliament.
(By the Minister of Works and Transport)
32. The Ministerial Response of the Ministry of Public Utilities to the Seventeenth Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Examination of the Reports of the Auditor General on the Financial Statements of the Regulated Industries Commission (RIC) for Financial Years 2014 to 2018.
(By the Minister of Public Utilities)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

1. The Third Report of the Joint Select Committee on Foreign Affairs, Fifth Session (2024/2025), Twelfth Parliament, on an inquiry into deepening existing ties and facilitating new linkages between the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago and the Co-operative Republic of Guyana.
(By Senator the Hon. Paula Gopee-Scoon)
2. The Nineteenth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Fourth Session (2023/2024), Twelfth Parliament, on an examination into the role of the National Carnival Commission's management of Carnival 2023 activities and follow-up on the implementation of the recommendations made in the Public Accounts Committee's Twenty-Seventh Report, Eleventh Parliament.
(By Senator Laurence Hislop)
3. The Twentieth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Fourth Session (2023/2024), Twelfth Parliament, on an examination into the adequacy of pharmaceutical and non-pharmaceutical and other supplies by the Ministry of Health.
(By Senator the Hon. Randall Mitchell)
4. The Twenty-First Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee, Fourth Session (2023/2024), Twelfth Parliament, on a follow-up inquiry on the implementation of the recommendations made in the Seventeenth Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on the Management and Operations of the Secondary Road Rehabilitation and Improvement Company Limited (SRRIC).
(By Senator the Hon. Randall Mitchell)
5. The Twelfth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the THA), Third Session (2022/2023), Twelfth Parliament, on an inquiry into the operations of the Environmental Management Authority (with a specific focus on noise pollution).
(By Senator Sunity Maharaj)

6. The Thirteenth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the THA), Fourth Session (2023/2024), Twelfth Parliament on an inquiry into the operations of the Adoption Unit of the Children's Authority of Trinidad and Tobago as it relates to the efficiency and effectiveness of the adoption procedures in Trinidad and Tobago.
(By Senator Sunity Maharaj)

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

*Question No. 1 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Given that the two (2) Austal Cape class patrol vessels and six (6) Damen Stan patrol vessels used by the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard are currently out of service, can the Minister indicate what alternative border control mechanisms have been operationalised to maintain safety and security within this country's maritime boundaries?

*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. 7 to the Minister of Education

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister clarify the policy on access to education for children under the age of 18 whose parents did not register with the Ministry of National Security's Migrant Registration Framework in 2019?

Question No. 8 to the Minister of Rural Development and Local Government

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister indicate whether an investigation has been launched into the complaints made by residents within the Sangre Grande Regional Corporation regarding an alleged illegal water trucking scheme involving employees of the Corporation?

Question No. 9 to the Minister of National Security

(By Senator Wade Mark)

Can the Minister indicate whether the Government intends to implement any of the recommendations outlined in the 2024 Trafficking in Persons Report published by the United States Department of State?

Question No. 28 to the Minister of Health

(By Senator Prof. Gerard Hutchinson)

Given the increased demand for mental health services and recent complaints by the Trinidad and Tobago National Nursing Association about conditions at the St. Ann's Hospital, can the Minister indicate:

- (i) what are the Government's plans, if any, to decentralise mental health care in this country;
- (ii) what is the timeline for the decentralisation of mental health care services; and
- (iii) what are the Government's plans for the St. Ann's Hospital in the context of the proposed decentralisation?

* Question No. 1 was deferred for two weeks on 26.11.2024

* Question No. 4 was deferred for two weeks on 29.11.2024

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 establish the Private Security Service Authority and to regulate the private security industry and for other related matters.’
(By the Minister of National Security)
2. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Supplemental Police Act, Chap. 15:02.’
(By the Minister of National Security)
3. A Bill entitled, ‘An Act to amend the Sexual Offences Act, Chap. 11:28.’
(By the Attorney General)
4. 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

January 15, 2025

ORDER PAPER TUESDAY JANUARY 21, 2025
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 29 to the Minister of Planning and Development

(By Senator Wade Mark)

In relation to the persons who represented the Government of Trinidad and Tobago at the COP29 event held in Baku, Azerbaijan from November 11 – 22, 2024, can the Minister provide the following:

- (i) a list of these persons, including state enterprises and other institutions that they represented;
and
- (ii) the cost incurred by the State for each individual?

(Answer due by 04.01.2025)

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

January 15, 2025