HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST SESSION **NO. 18**
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT **2025/2026**

ORDER PAPER

FRIDAY JANUARY 23, 2026 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE
Questions for Written Answer appear in the Appendix
Questions for Oral Answer

[*]**Question No. 38 to the Minister of Culture and Community Development**
(By the Member for Diego Martin West)
Given the National Gas Company's withdrawal of support for Couva Joylanders, La Brea Nightingales and Steel Explosion, and given the withdrawal of support by Heritage Petroleum for Skiffle Bunch Steel Orchestra and Siparia Deltones, will the Minister confirm the transitional or immediate support measures being implemented to ensure the survival of these steelbands and their youth and community outreach programmes?

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

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

[*]**In accordance with S.O. 29(10), Question No. 38 remained unanswered on Friday January 16, 2026 and was postponed to the next sitting.**

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** it is the responsibility of the Government to safeguard the well-being of citizens and to promote conditions that enable a decent standard of living;

   AND WHEREAS recent reports of mass terminations and non-renewal of contracts across public bodies, state agencies and local government entities have resulted in a perceived marked increase in unemployment in several vulnerable and at risk communities;

   AND WHEREAS press reports indicate that these developments have disproportionately affected single mothers, female-headed households, youth, the elderly, and persons with disabilities, thereby intensifying food insecurity, school absenteeism, mental-health strain, and the risk of exploitation and social exclusion;

   AND WHEREAS increased unemployment and reduced community engagement correlate with heightened risks to public safety and social stability, and may adversely affect local commerce, micro-enterprise sustainability, and prospects for inclusive growth;

   AND WHEREAS sound public administration requires transparent decision-making, fairness in employment practices, and appropriate measures to cushion socio-economic shocks on vulnerable groups;

   BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House take note of the socio-economic impact of increased unemployment in communities—arising from mass terminations and non-renewal of contracts—and of the resulting breakdown in community and social life:

   BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this government urgently respond to this developing socio-economic crisis by immediately providing adequate and meaningful social relief measures. **(By the Member for Laventille West)**

2. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday November 28, 2025 will be resumed:**

   WHEREAS the conduct of the foreign relations of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is vested in the Executive and must be exercised in accordance with the Constitution, the United Nations Charter, and the principles of peaceful settlement of disputes, respect for sovereignty, non-intervention, and prudent diplomacy;

AND WHEREAS Trinidad and Tobago's national interests—including citizen safety, regional security, trade, aviation, fisheries, and energy cooperation—are directly affected by relations with the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela;

AND WHEREAS recent developments have given rise to an impasse between Trinidad and Tobago and Venezuela, risking adverse consequences for our economy, national security, and international standing;

AND WHEREAS public statements attributed to the Prime Minister regarding these developments have been viewed as inflammatory, and injurious to the reputation and interests of Trinidad and Tobago, generating public concern and diplomatic unease;

AND WHEREAS CARICOM has long advanced a collective approach to external relations, particularly security challenges, to ensure the region remains a zone of peace, which may be interpreted to be at variance with the Prime Minister's statements;

AND WHEREAS Trinidad and Tobago's foreign policy must be coherent, measured, and aligned with the long-standing traditions of Caribbean diplomacy and international law:

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn the inflammatory statements of the Prime Minister which have isolated Trinidad and Tobago and harmed its standing and interest.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House call upon the Government to reaffirm Trinidad and Tobago's commitment to CARICOM and to the upholding of international law.
(By the Member for Arima)

3. **WHEREAS** Trinidad and Tobago has ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child which affirms the right of every child to an education in an environment that is safe, inclusive, and conducive to learning;

AND WHEREAS the Government deployed armed police officers in fifty schools across Trinidad and Tobago as a measure to curb incidents of school violence;

AND WHEREAS the said deployment has not been accompanied by public sensitisation to provide specific details of the role and authority of the armed police officers within schools, the selection and training processes used to adequately choose and prepare police officers for this role, the criteria by which schools were selected for the initiative, the implementation strategy, nor the initiative's key performance indicators;

AND WHEREAS the initiative has not been linked with increased measures to address the root causes of school violence and transform student behaviour, such as psychosocial services, student counselling, family intervention programmes, restorative practitioners or other preventative initiatives;

AND WHEREAS the sensitisation, training and involvement of teachers, school safety officials, school administrators, student support services officials and parents are essential components in creating a safe and disciplined school environment;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call on the Government to clearly outline the details of its policy on the use of armed police officers in schools, including the role and authority of the officers, and the criteria by which schools have been chosen; and to indicate the key performance indicators of the initiative, with associated timelines.
(By the Member for St. Ann's East)

4. **WHEREAS** road safety is a matter of national concern and a critical component in safeguarding human life, reducing injury, and promoting responsible civic behaviour;

   AND WHEREAS the previous administration implemented a range of internationally recognised and commended road safety initiatives, legislative reforms, and enforcement measures which contributed to a significant reduction in road traffic fatalities across Trinidad and Tobago;

   AND WHEREAS the current Government has taken legislative and policy decisions which removed measures that had proven effective in saving lives;

   AND WHEREAS these decisions have coincided with an increase in serious road accidents and road traffic fatalities in Trinidad and Tobago;

   AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to present a comprehensive, modernised, and well-resourced national road safety strategy, supported by public education, effective enforcement, and international best practices;

   BE IT RESOLVED that this House take note of the increase in road traffic fatalities across Trinidad and Tobago;

   AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this House call on the Government to urgently establish and implement an adequate, evidence-based national road safety system, consistent with international best practice, to suppress the increase in road traffic fatalities and protect the lives of citizens.
   (By the Member for Arouca/Lopinot)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 5(1) of the Land Acquisition Act, Chap. 58:01 (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") that the President may by Order, declare that land is required for a public purpose;

   AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 5(2) of the Act that Parliament may by resolution approve an Order made under section 5(1);

   AND WHEREAS the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2025 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 388 dated the 24th day of October, 2025;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Order;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2025 be approved.
(By the Attorney General)

Brian B. Caesar
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives' Secretariat
The Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN
January 20, 2026

APPENDIX

ORDER PAPER
FRIDAY JANUARY 23, 2026
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 28 to the Minister of Public Utilities:
(By the Member for Arouca/Lopinot)
Can the Minister provide the following information with regard to persons employed at the Water and Sewerage Authority of Trinidad and Tobago from April 29 to November 2025:

a) the names, positions and salaries of all the persons hired during that period; and
b) the recruitment process utilised for each person?

(Answer due by 25.12.2025)

Question No. 29 to the Minister of Public Utilities:
(By the Member for Arouca/Lopinot)
Can the Minister provide the names and salaries of persons employed in the Secretariat of the following offices of the:

a) Minister of Public Utilities;
b) Minister in the Ministry of Public Utilities; and
c) Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Public Utilities?

(Answer due by 25.12.2025)

House of Representatives' Secretariat
The Red House
Abercromby Street
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January 20, 2026

HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIRST SESSION **SITTING NO. 18**
THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT **2025/2026**

FRIDAY JANUARY 23, 2026 1:30 P.M.
NOTICE OF PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Questions which have been accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 26 are hereby forwarded for the attention of the Prime Minister.

1. In light of reports of a shortage of urea and price increases associated with the shutdown of Nutrien, can the Prime Minister state what is being done to secure the increase in the supply of this critical fertiliser?
   (By the Member for Port of Spain North/St. Ann's West)

2. Can the Prime Minister explain why the Fair Trading Commission is without a Board and what is being done to prevent unfair trade practices?
   (By the Member for Malabar/Mausica)

Brian B. Caesar
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives' Secretariat
The Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN
January 23, 2026