



SENATE OF THE REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

ORDER PAPER

SEVENTH SITTING, SECOND SESSION (2026/2027)

THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT

TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2026 AT 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE PRESIDENT

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. 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, 2012.
(By the Minister of Finance)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER APPEAR IN THE APPENDIX

Questions for Oral Answer

Question No. 11 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Dr. Marlene Attzs)

Can the Minister advise whether the Government has undertaken any assessment of the cumulative annual foreign exchange demand arising from foreign franchise operations in Trinidad and Tobago and what were the findings of such an assessment?

Question No. 12 to the Minister of Finance

(By Senator Dr. Marlene Attzs)

With respect to the Government's policy for facilitating foreign franchise investment in Trinidad and Tobago, and its implications for the country's foreign exchange position, can the Minister state:

- (i) whether the Government has established a policy framework for assessing the foreign exchange implications of approving or facilitating the establishment or expansion of foreign franchise operations;

- (ii) if the answer to (i) is in the affirmative, whether such framework evaluates the anticipated foreign exchange outflows associated with franchise fees, royalties, imported goods and services, and profit repatriation; and
- (iii) whether such framework includes an assessment of the net economic benefits, including employment creation, tax revenues, local procurement, technology transfer and foreign direct investment?

Question No. 13 to the Minister of People, Social Development and Family Services
(By Senator Dr. Marlene Attzs)

Having regard to reported increases in socially displaced persons, can the Minister indicate what is the most updated national policy or strategy to address social displacement in Trinidad and Tobago and its the key elements and action items?

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

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** section 4 of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Chap. 1:01, affirms the principle of social justice including equality of opportunity and access to decent work;
AND WHEREAS the economic transformation and sustainable development of Trinidad and Tobago require coordinated and forward-looking national workforce planning;
AND WHEREAS persistent labour market mismatches, including skills gaps, youth unemployment, underemployment and misalignment between education and national economic priorities, continue to constrain productivity and economic participation;
AND WHEREAS international best practice among advanced economies demonstrates the value of integrated workforce development frameworks grounded in labour market intelligence and strong collaboration among government, industry, education and training institutions;
AND WHEREAS a National Workforce and Manpower Strategic Plan for Trinidad and Tobago should provide for coordinated labour market forecasting; alignment of education and technical and vocational training systems with national development priorities; strengthened industry-education partnerships and work-integrated learning opportunities; development of digital, critical-thinking, green economy and entrepreneurial skills; measures to address youth unemployment and participation disparities; and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluation, including periodic reporting to Parliament;
BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate calls upon the Government to prepare and table in Parliament, within twelve (12) months, a comprehensive National Workforce and Manpower Strategic Plan for Trinidad and Tobago, inclusive of a legislative and institutional framework.
(By Senator Dr. Marlene Attzs)

2. **WHEREAS** Trinidad and Tobago's healthcare system relies predominantly on paper-based records;

AND WHEREAS the fragmentation of patient health information across public and private medical institutions owing to the absence of a unified, interoperable Electronic Medical Records system contributes to duplication of diagnostic procedures, delays in treatment and inefficient use of limited health resources, even more so in emergency cases;

AND WHEREAS digital transformation of health services is a stated priority of the Government of Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Senate calls upon the Government to develop a comprehensive policy and legislative framework for the development of a National Electronic Medical Records system to manage medical records and health data governance, including standards for the recording, processing, storage, protection and secure sharing of health information, including appropriate cybersecurity and data protection safeguards, interoperability standards, and phased implementation across public and private healthcare institutions;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Government introduce into Parliament, within twelve (12) months, comprehensive legislation to give effect to a national framework for medical records and health data governance.

(By Senator Dr. Desirée Murray)

3. **WHEREAS** forests constitute a critical national asset that supports the environmental, economic and social development of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS Trinidad and Tobago has established a legislative and policy framework for the protection and management of forests, wildlife, protected areas, watersheds and the environment, including the Forest Act, Chap. 66:01, the Conservation of Wildlife Act, Chap. 67:01, the State Lands Act, Chap. 57:01, and the Environmental Management Act, Chap. 35:05 and multiple policies aimed at forest and wildlife protection, biodiversity and most recently climate change;

AND WHEREAS evidence presented at Parliamentary Committee inquiries, and other public consultations, has highlighted ongoing concerns regarding deforestation, , biodiversity loss, habitat fragmentation, and the increasing impact of climate change on the natural environment and communities throughout Trinidad and Tobago;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable Senate calls upon the Government to develop and table in Parliament, within twelve (12) months, an integrated, comprehensive National Forest Conservation and Reforestation Strategy for Trinidad and Tobago, including an implementation plan for the review and strengthening of existing legislation, policies and institutional arrangements relating to forests, protected areas, biodiversity conservation and watershed management.

(By Senator Alicia Lalite-Etienne)

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 76(1) of the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Act, 2021 (Act No. 8 of 2021) (hereinafter referred to as "the Act") that a person commits an offence if he does anything in Trinidad and Tobago or uses remote gambling equipment situated in Trinidad and Tobago for the purpose of inviting or enabling a person in a prohibited territory to participate in remote gambling;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 76(2) of the Act that the Minister may by Order, subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament, amend section 76 of the Act for the purposes of permitting remote gambling;

AND WHEREAS the Minister of Finance has, on the 15th day of September, 2026, made the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) (Remote Gambling) Order, 2026;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) (Remote Gambling) Order, 2026 now be affirmed;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) (Remote Gambling) Order, 2026 be approved.

(By the Minister of Finance)

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled ‘An Act to amend the Maternity Protection Act, Chap. 45:57.’
(By the Minister of Labour, Small and Micro Enterprise Development)
2. A Bill entitled ‘An Act to repeal and replace the Shipping Act, Chap. 50:10, the Harbours Act, Chap. 50:06, the Droghers Act, Chap. 50:07, the Motor Launches Act, Chap. 50:08, the Marking of Ships Act, Chap. 50:09, to amend the Port Authority Act, Chap. 51:01, the Pilotage Act, Chap. 51:02, the Customs Act, Chap. 78:01 and the Coroners Act, Chap. 6:04 to provide for the certification and registration of seafarers and the certification and registration of vessels and offshore installations, matters relating to crew safety and security of life at sea and matters incidental thereto.’
(By the Minister of Transport and Civil Aviation)

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**

September 18, 2026

ORDER PAPER TUESDAY SEPTEMBER 22, 2026
QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER

Question No. 10 to the Minister of Homeland Security
(By Senator Dr. Marlene Attzs)

With respect to the State's use of private security providers for the transportation of prisoners, can the Minister state:

- (i) how long has the State engaged private security providers for this purpose;
- (ii) what are the main reasons for the continued use of private security providers for this purpose;
- (iii) what is the total amount paid to private security providers for prisoner transportation during the last three (3) financial years, disaggregated by financial year and service provider;
- (iv) what assessments, if any, have been undertaken by the Ministry, to compare the continued use of private security providers with expanding the transport fleet and operational capacity of the Trinidad and Tobago Prison Service;
- (v) whether the Government intends to reduce its reliance on private security providers by expanding the transport fleet and operational capacity of the Prison Service; and
- (vi) if the answer to (v) is in the affirmative, the anticipated timeline for implementation?

(Answer due by September 24, 2026)

Question No. 14 to the Minister of the People, Social Development and Family Services
(By Senator Dr. Marlene Attzs)

With respect to the availability of social displacement statistics in Trinidad and Tobago, can the Minister state:

- (i) when was the last nationwide assessment of social displacement conducted;
- (ii) what is the estimated number of socially displaced persons nationwide, disaggregated by town/county/city;
- (iii) what are the principal causes of social displacement identified by the Ministry;
- (iv) how many State programmes are currently in place to provide emergency shelter, rehabilitation, and reintegration services to socially displaced persons; and
- (v) what measurable targets have been established by the Government to reduce social displacement over the next five (5) years?

(Answer due by September 24, 2026)

Question No. 16 to the Minister of Homeland Security
(By Senator Dr. Marlene Attzs)

With respect to derelict Trinidad and Tobago Police Service (TTPS) vehicles, can the Minister state:

- (i) how many TTPS vehicles have been classified as unserviceable or derelict in each of the last three (3) financial years;
- (ii) what is the current number of such vehicles located at police stations or other TTPS facilities; and
- (iii) what are the reasons for the non-disposal of the vehicles identified at (ii)

(Answer due by September 24, 2026)

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

September 18, 2026