



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTH SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

NO. 22
2019/2020

ORDER PAPER

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25, 2020: 1:30 P.M.

PRAYERS

OATH OR AFFIRMATION

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

BILLS BROUGHT FROM THE SENATE

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. The Tobacco Control (Amendment) Regulations, 2019.
(By the Minister of Health)
2. The Audited Financial Statements of the Tourism Trinidad Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2019.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)
3. The Audited Financial Statements of the Caribbean New Media Group Limited for the financial year ended December 31, 2017.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)
4. The Audited Financial Statements of the National Schools Dietary Services Limited for the financial year ended September 30, 2019.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts [Enterprises] Committee)
5. The Annual Report and Audited Financial Statements of the Police Complaints Authority for the period October 1, 2018 to September 30, 2019.
(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the Report be referred to the Public Accounts Committee)
6. The Report of the Central Bank of Trinidad and Tobago with respect to the Progress of the Proposals to Restructure CLICO, BAT and CIB for the quarter ended December 31, 2019.
(By the Minister of Finance)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES

1. The Twenty-Second Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on an Examination of the Expenditure and Internal Controls of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service for the fiscal year 2018/2019.

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

2. The Twenty-Third Report of the Public Administration and Appropriations Committee on an Examination into the Expenditure and Internal Controls of the Ministry of Communications for the fiscal year 2018/2019.

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

3. The Fifteenth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Human Rights, Equality and Diversity on the Current Provisions for the Education of Children who require Special Education Programmes and Services in Public Primary and Secondary Schools.

(By the Member for St. Ann's East)

4. The Fourteenth Report of the Joint Select Committee on Local Authorities, Service Commissions and Statutory Authorities (including the THA) on the Inquiry into Financial Oversight and Financial Management Systems at Municipal Corporations.

(By the Member for Tunapuna)

PRIME MINISTER'S QUESTIONS

URGENT QUESTIONS

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Questions for Written Answer will appear in Appendix I**Questions for Oral Answer****Question No. 56 to the Prime Minister:**

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

Could the Prime Minister provide the details of the proposed new medical school in Tobago announced by the Secretary for the Division of Health, Wellness and Family Development, Tobago House of Assembly on February 16, 2020?

Question No. 57 to the Minister of National Security:

(By the Member for Fyzabad)

Could the Minister state whether he has considered extending the hours that lifeguards are stationed at the Maracas beach, in light of reports that a security guard rescued two bathers at that beach on February 16, 2020 due to the absence of lifeguards on duty?

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

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

1. The Miscellaneous Provisions (Heritage and Stabilisation Fund, Government Savings Bonds and Value Added Tax) Bill, 2020.

(By the Minister of Finance who will move that the next stage of the Bill be taken later in the proceedings)

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**Motions:**

1. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 3(1) of the Development Loans Act that the Government is authorized, for the purpose of –
 - (a) financing general development in Trinidad and Tobago;
 - (b) repayment of borrowings effected for such general development; or
 - (c) repayment of borrowings effected for general development–
 - i. by a statutory authority within the meaning of the Statutory Authorities Act;
 - ii. by an enterprise that is controlled by or on behalf of the State; or
 - iii. by the University of the West Indies,

to borrow from time to time money externally or internally in a sum or sums not exceeding in the aggregate forty five thousand million dollars in the currency of Trinidad and Tobago;

AND WHEREAS it is also provided in the said section 3(1), that thereafter such sum in such currency may from time to time be specified by Resolution passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary for the Government to borrow further sums of money for the purposes stated in the said section;

BE IT RESOLVED that for the purposes stated in the said section, the Government is hereby authorized to borrow money externally or internally in a further sum or in further sums not exceeding in the aggregate ten thousand million dollars in the currency of Trinidad and Tobago.

(By the Minister of Finance)

2. **WHEREAS** it is provided by section 38(1) of the Tobacco Control Act, Chap. 30:04 (hereinafter called “the Act”) that the Minister may make Regulations prescribing requirements and standards for tobacco product constituents, including emissions of smoked products, additives and product design and specifying methods for testing and measuring compliance with the performance prescribed and generally for carrying out the purpose of this Act;

AND WHEREAS it is also provided by section 38(1) of the Act that Regulations made under that section shall be subject to affirmative resolution of Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the Minister has on the 29th day of May, 2019 made the Tobacco Control (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 (hereinafter called “the Regulations”);

AND WHEREAS it is expedient that the Regulations now be affirmed:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Tobacco Control (Amendment) Regulations, 2019 be approved.

(By the Minister of Health)

3. **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, 2018 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 190 dated the 19th day of December, 2018;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Order:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2018 be approved.

(By the Attorney General)

4. **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, 2019 was made by the President under section 5(1) of the Act as Legal Notice No. 34 dated the 18th day of February, 2019;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the said Order:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Land Acquisition (Requisition) Order, 2019 be approved.

(By the Attorney General)

5. **WHEREAS** section 122(3) of the Constitution of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, Chap. 1:01 (“the Act”) provides that the President shall, after consultation with the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition nominate persons, who are qualified and experienced

in the disciplines of law, finance, sociology or management, to be appointed as members of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS section 122(4) of the Act provides that the President shall issue a Notification in respect of each person nominated for appointment under subsection (3) and the Notification shall be subject to affirmative resolution of the House of Representatives;

AND WHEREAS the President has nominated Dr. Simon Alexis to be appointed as a member of the Police Service Commission;

AND WHEREAS the President has on the 14th day of February, 2020 made a Notification in respect of the nomination;

AND WHEREAS it is expedient to approve the Notification:

BE IT RESOLVED that the Notification of the nomination of Dr. Simon Alexis as a member of the Police Service Commission be approved.

(By the Prime Minister)

6. **BE IT RESOLVED** that Senate amendments to the Miscellaneous Provisions (Age of Retirement of Judges, Interpretation and Chief Judicial Officers) Bill, 2019 listed in Appendix II be now considered.

(By the Attorney General)

Bills Second Reading:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday March 13, 2020 will be resumed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to provide for the registration and regulation of real estate agents in order to promote transparency, accountability and integrity in the real estate profession, to protect and assist persons engaged in transactions with real estate agents and to assist in the detection and prevention of money laundering and terrorist financing, and other related matters”.

(By the Attorney General)

2. **The Second Reading stage of the following Bill which was in progress on Wednesday November 27, 2019 will be completed:**

A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Bail Act, Chap. 4:60”.

(By the Attorney General)

3. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Supplemental Police Act, Chap. 15:02”.

(By the Minister in the Ministry of the Attorney General and Legal Affairs)

4. 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, to amend the Port Authority Act, Chap. 51:01 and the Coroners Act, Chap. 6:04 to provide for

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 Works and Transport)

5. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Interception of Communications Act, Chap. 15:08”.

(By the Attorney General)

6. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Administration of Justice (Electronic Monitoring) Act, 2012”.

(By the Ministry of National Security)

COMMITTEE BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday March 6, 2020 will be resumed:**

BE IT RESOLVED that this House adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Private Security Industry Bill, 2019 in the Fifth Session, Eleventh Parliament.

(By the Member for Laventille West)

2. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday February 7, 2020 will be resumed:**

BE IT RESOLVED that this House adopt the Report of the Joint Select Committee appointed to consider and report on the Gambling (Gaming and Betting) Control Bill, 2016 in the Fifth Session, Eleventh Parliament.

(By the Member for Diego Martin North/East)

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

Motions:

1. **The debate on the following Motion which was adjourned on Friday February 28, 2020 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS since 2015 this Government has been unable to provide for the safety and security of citizens resulting in increases in serious crimes particularly murder;

AND WHEREAS in 2019 Trinidad and Tobago has experienced two consecutive years with over 516 murders and witnessed in 2019 the second highest annual murder rate in its history;

AND WHEREAS the Government has been unwilling or unable to articulate specific, measurable, timely, and outputs-oriented crime-reduction targets;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to realize that an ‘Whole of Government Approach’ to solving crime is necessary;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemns this Government for its failure to deal with rampant crime.

(By the Member for Naparima)

2. **The debate on the following Motion which was in progress when the House adjourned on Friday November 22, 2019 will be resumed:**

WHEREAS Climate Change is a matter of global concern which threatens all nations;

AND WHEREAS small island states and coastal states are especially susceptible to the impact of climate change;

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean region has, from time to time, experienced cycles of drought, heavy rainfall, hurricanes and floods;

AND WHEREAS earthquakes and other natural disasters must be anticipated and prepared for;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House agree that the Government develop a holistic and sustainable national response to climate change inclusive of solutions to the perennial flooding in Trinidad and Tobago and the effective management of drought conditions and the impact of such disasters on the quality of human life.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

3. **WHEREAS** the prices of oil and natural gas on which the 2020 Budget was premised were too high and production of natural gas is likely to be lower than estimated yielding shortfalls in revenue targets;

AND WHEREAS business and consumer confidence in the economy continues to deteriorate, characterised by business closures, lack of investment and job losses;

AND WHEREAS the official debt is upward of one hundred billion, indebtedness is much higher and our foreign reserves, unsupported by export gains have been dwindling;

AND WHEREAS there has been little action with regard to diversification;

AND WHEREAS Government policy is yet to yield recovery, prompt a structural shift or transform the economy;

AND WHEREAS the fiscal, monetary and economic policies of the Government have been a collection of contradictions and a total failure;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House call on the Prime Minister to immediately dissolve Parliament and call for a General Election to facilitate the change needed to execute coherent and inclusive policies that will promote the recovery and renewal of confidence of the economy.

(By the Member for Caroni Central)

4. **WHEREAS** the public health sector of Trinidad and Tobago over the past four (4) years has deteriorated, with significantly increased morbidity and preventable deaths;

AND WHEREAS the collapse of the primary health care system has resulted in widespread suffering from chronic, non-communicable diseases;

AND WHEREAS there is overcrowding of Accident and Emergency Departments at public hospitals, with unacceptable waiting times for surgeries as a result of insufficient medical resources and non-functioning diagnostic equipment among other things;

AND WHEREAS numerous nationals were denied employment as doctors, nurses and technicians, despite the shortage of these professionals;

AND WHEREAS the closure of the Central Block of Port of Spain General Hospital has led to patients of North and West Trinidad being deprived of health care;

AND WHEREAS the Government has refused to put the modern Couva Hospital into optimum use and has terminated construction of the National Oncology Centre;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn this Government for its mismanagement of the health sector and call for the implementation of extensive remedial measures, policies and programmes.

(By the Member for Caroni East)

5. **WHEREAS** Trinidad and Tobago's energy sector has been a significant contributor to our nation's revenue, generating employment and promoting economic stability and infrastructural and national development;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed on its commitment to create an environment in which producer companies in the energy sector and aggressively seek new discoveries in oil and gas;

AND WHEREAS the Government has failed to deliver its promise of ensuring that we have an attractive, competitive and responsive fiscal and regulatory environment that will maximise recovery of our hydrocarbon resources;

AND WHEREAS over the last four years we have seen a reduction in oil and gas production and numerous closures of key operators, service providers and companies within the energy sector;

AND WHEREAS the state of our energy sector presents detrimental consequences for our economy;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn this Government's failure to stimulate, secure and sustainably grow our energy sector in a timely manner.

(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)

6. **WHEREAS** there has been a decline in the student participation rate in the tertiary education from 2016 to 2019;

AND WHEREAS the misguided GATE policies of the Ministry of Education have resulted in cuts in the allocations or late payments to tertiary level institutions creating financial cash flow challenges and job losses;

AND WHEREAS the introduction of the means test has affected the career aspirations of graduates;

AND WHEREAS significant numbers of graduates continue to be unemployed without any immediate hope for temporary or sustainable jobs;

AND WHEREAS a number of training providers have either been closed and/or their programmes discontinued;

BE IT RESOLVED that this House condemn this Government for its incompetence and inability to properly manage the Tertiary Education Sector.

(By the Member for Chaguanas East)

Bills Second Reading:

1. A Bill entitled, “An Act to amend the Kabir Association of Trinidad (Incorporation) Ordinance, 1932”.

(The Speaker will propose the question that the Bill be read a Second time)

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives’ Secretariat
Red House
Abercromby Street
PORT OF SPAIN

March 23, 2020

ORDER PAPER WEDNESDAY MARCH 25, 2020QUESTIONS FOR WRITTEN ANSWER***Question No. 37 to the Minister of Energy and Energy Industries:****(By the Member for Pointe-a-Pierre)**

With regard to the selection of Blue Ocean Marine by National Energy Corporation of Trinidad and Tobago for crewing and manning its vessels, could the Minister provide:

- a) the terms of reference of this contract; and
- b) the list of other tender applicants and their respective offers?

(Answer due by 03.03.2020)**Question No. 54 to the Minister of National Security:****(By the Member for Fyzabad)**

With regard to the recently established Gender-Based Violence Unit within the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, could the Minister state:

- a) the organizational structure and staff complement;
- b) the reporting structure;
- c) the proposed training for staff members; and
- d) the budgetary allocation for this Unit?

(Answer due by 20.03.2020)**Question No. 55 to the Minister of Social Development and Family Services:****(By the Member for Fyzabad)**

Could the Minister provide a list of all recipients of compensation due to the flooding in Akbar Trace, St John Trace and St John Branch Trace, Avocat Fyzabad for each of the years 2017, 2018 and 2019?

(Answer due by 20.03.2020)

* Question No. 37 was deferred for two (2) weeks on Wednesday March 4, 2020.

APPENDIX II**THE MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS (AGE OF RETIREMENT OF JUDGES,
INTERPRETATION AND CHIEF JUDICIAL OFFICERS) BILL, 2019**

List of Amendments made in the Senate during the Committee Stage of the above-named Bill on
Tuesday March 17, 2020

Clause	Extent of Amendments
4	In paragraph (a), delete the words “the Registrar and Marshal of the High Court” and substitute the words “Registrar and Marshal”

Senate Secretariat
March 18, 2020



HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FIFTH SESSION
ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT

No. 22
2019/2020

WEDNESDAY MARCH 25, 2020 1:30 P.M. NOTICE OF URGENT QUESTIONS

The under-mentioned Question which has been accepted by the Speaker in accordance with Standing Order 27 is hereby forwarded for the attention of the Minister concerned.

1. **To the Minister of Health:**

In view of reports suggesting that the anti-malarial drugs chloroquine and hydrochloroquine may be of value in the treatment of COVID-19 patients, can the Minister indicate whether the Ministry is giving consideration to making this drug available to COVID-19 patients in T&T?
(By the Member for Fyzabad)

2. **To the Minister of Labour and Small Enterprise Development:**

Could the Minister state whether the Pandemic Leave entitlement which was publicly announced on Sunday last was officially considered and approved by the Cabinet?
(By the Member for Couva South)

3. **To the Minister of Works and Transport:**

Does the Minister have any intention of stopping the ferry service between Trinidad and Tobago after a foreigner suspected of COVID-19 was allowed to travel?
(By the Member for Couva North)

4. **To the Minister of Health:**

Can the Minister advise whether ALL passengers on CAL flights which transported the “imported” cases have been contacted and screened/quarantined?
(By the Member for Couva North)

5. **To the Minister of National Security:**

Does the Government intend to implement a nationwide lockdown with full force of the law in light of the increasing numbers of COVID-19 patients and to prevent further spread?
(By the Member for Couva North)

Jacqui Sampson-Meiguel
Clerk of the House

House of Representatives' Secretariat
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March 25, 2020