



SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

No.14

41

THURSDAY 30th SEPTEMBER, 2021

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Financial Statements

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(In Eastern Caribbean dollars)

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(Honourable Minister of Finance)

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1. Dr the Honourable Godwin Friday (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment:

The long-standing Paget Farm health clinic building is in a state of disrepair and is no longer in use. Will the Minister please state:

- i. Whether it will be repaired or replaced; and
 - ii. What will be required to get the work done.
2. Dr the Honourable Godwin Friday (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Reconciliation:
- i. What is the extent of the repairs to be done on the Bequia Community High school;
 - ii. How will classes be accommodated during the work; and
 - iii. How long will the work take to complete.

3. Dr the Honourable Godwin Friday (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Urban Development, Airport, Seaport, Energy and the Grenadines Affairs:

The driveway at the main entrance to the Kingstown ferry terminal has been in a state of disrepair for years at great risk and inconvenience to the travelling public. Will the Minister please state:

- i. Why the damaged section has not been repaired and whether it will be repaired; and
 - ii. When will the work be done.
4. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre (Member of the Southern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Reconciliation:

The blended approach to learning has become essential and integral to effective education delivery in a global pandemic era, and small islands such as ours, have to keep up in order to produce a relevant human resource product: Will the minister please state:

- i. Has the Ministry of Education investigated the operational usability of the devices issued to students;
- ii. Has the Ministry of Education decided to use the blended approach in the teaching/learning process and if so at what levels; and

- iii. Will the Ministry of Education compile and make available to all stakeholders evidence of the above for the sake of making relevant decisions.

5. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson (Member for South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Land and Surveys and Physical Planning:

As climate change looms, island states become susceptible to rising sea levels which can inundate low lying coastal villages and towns. Will the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works please state:

- i. What are the Government's plans to protect residents and businesses between Calliaqua and Barrouallie from being flooded.

6. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson (Member for South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Land and Surveys and Physical Planning:

There are a number of roads in South Leeward that are in dire need of repair. These include Clare Valley village road between the Seventh Adventist Church and College Corner; between Culvert and the Malcolm family in Vermont and Franceways from the Baptist Church, to name a few. Will the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works please state:

- i. When those roads will be repaired.

7. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson (Member for South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Land and Surveys and Physical Planning:

River defence work has been done in two vicinities along the lower coast of the Buccament river. Currently work is underway on the Cane Grove side of the river. An artificial levee has been constructed on Pembroke side but most have been eroded recently by torrential rain. Will the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works please state:

- i. Why there is a concentration of work on one side of the river; and
- ii. When work will begin on the Pembroke side.

8. The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble (Member for East Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology:

In May 2021, the Parliament of St. Vincent and the Grenadines approved a Supplementary Budget of \$117,895,000 in response to the La Soufriere volcanic eruptions in April 2021. We have completed half (3 months) of the period covered by the Supplementary Budget. Will the Honourable Minister please indicate:

- i. The state of revenue and expenditure of the supplementary budget for the first three months;
- ii. Whether the implementation rate of the budget is on track for the budget to be fully implemented by the end of the budgeted period (December 2021); and
- iii. What factor(s) impact the scheduled implementation of the supplementary budget, and what strategies are employed to mitigate against or enhance these factors.

9. The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble (Member for East Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology:

The most recent report of the Director of Audit reflects Government's financial activities up to 2015. During the last five years of the period ending 2015, the Director of Audit's reports indicate that a total of approximately \$95 million has been unaccounted for. Will the Honourable Minister please indicate:

- i. Why hasn't there been an Audited Financial report of this Government since 2015 (six years ago);
- ii. Why isn't there any documented explanation of why \$95 million of the people of St. Vincent & the Grenadines money have been unaccounted for between 2010 and 2015; and
- iii. What efforts are being undertaken by the Government to ensure more timely audited reports are presented to the people of this country.

10. The Honourable Israel R. Bruce (Opposition Senator), to ask of the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry & Labour:

Over the last three years or so the Government significantly in the medicinal cannabis industry; The 2021 La Soufriere eruption impacted significantly many industries including the agricultural industry. Would the Honourable Minister please state:

- i. Whether or not the 2021 volcanic eruption has negatively impacted the production of medicinal cannabis;
- ii. To what extent, if any, would you say this eruption created setbacks in achieving deadlines set to be achieved in this industry; and
- iii. What are the economic implications in dollar terms, would you say this eruption has had on the medicinal cannabis industry.

11. The Honourable Israel R. Bruce (Opposition Senator), to ask of the Honourable Minister of Transport Works and Housing:

Earlier this year you gave an undertaking to this Honourable House to have a team of experts visit the Bottom Lowmans area in the Lowmans Windward District in South Central Windward, with a view to assess the road condition for possible road improvement. Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- i. Whether or not such visit has taken place as promised and if yes, when was this done and if not why;
- ii. Will the Honourable Minister make available to this Honourable House a copy of the report so submitted by the team of experts; and
- iii. Can the Honourable Minister now say, if some funds have been put aside to fix this road now.

12. The Honourable Israel R. Bruce (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport Works and Housing:

The bridge leading to the residence of Matilda Francis in Lauders when you go past Mrs Eden Baptiste residence is in a state of disrepair, therefore denying residents beyond the bridge any proper access to their homes.

- i. Will the Honourable Minister please dispatch a team of engineers with urgency to examine this bridge so as to determine the dangers that it poses to the users;
- ii. Will the Honourable Minister give an undertaking to this house that he will seek the needed funds to put in place a temporary alternative structure with immediacy, should the assessment deem the current bridge a hazard; and
- iii. Could the Honourable Minister please indicate to this Honourable House how soon he is minded to dispatch this engineering team to undertake this assessment.

13. The Honourable Shevern John (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment

The people north of the Rabacca Dry River have been asked to return to their homes, after approximately four months of living in public and private shelters. Honourable Minister please explain:

- i. The current conditions of the clinics in the areas above the river and state whether they are suitable to provide services to the residents; and
- ii. What plans the Government has in place to renovate or construct facilities in areas that are not suitable for providing clinical health services.

14. The Honourable Shevern John (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment

The various disasters that have affected our country have had serious repercussions on our indigenous people. Will the Honourable Minister please explain:

- i. What recent assessment has been made to determine the effects of mental health on the persons who stayed in private and public shelters; and
- ii. What intervention strategies are in place to help young people cope with mental health issues as they return to their homes.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

(Government Orders are marked thus*)

MOTIONS

1*. 2021 SUPPLEMENTARY ESTIMATES OF ST. VINCENT & THE GRENADINES

To be moved by the Honourable Camillo Gonsalves, Minister of Finance.

WHEREAS Section 70(3) of the Constitution of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines provides for the laying of Supplementary Estimates before the House of Assembly if in respect of any financial year it is found that the amount appropriated by the Appropriation Law to any purpose is insufficient or that a need has arisen for expenditure for a purpose to which no amount has been appropriated by that Law; or that any moneys have been expended for any purpose in excess of the amount appropriated to that purpose by the Appropriation Law or for a purpose to which no amount has been appropriated by that Law;

AND WHEREAS Supplementary Estimates (Nos. 2 to 5 of 2021) have been prepared and laid in the House of Assembly.

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House do approve the Supplementary Estimates (Nos. 2 to 5 of 2021).

BILLS

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| 1.* Supplementary Appropriation (No.2), Bill, 2021
(Honourable Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |
| 2.* Supplementary Appropriation (No.3), Bill, 2021
(Honourable Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |
| 3.* Supplementary Appropriation (No.4), Bill, 2021
(Honourable Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |
| 4.* Supplementary Appropriation (No.5), Bill, 2021
(Honourable Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |
| 5.* Courts of Justice Fees Bill, 2021
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Legal Affairs) | 1 st Reading |
| 6.* Business Names Registration Bill, 2021
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minster of Legal Affairs) | 1 st Reading |
| 7.* Janice May MacDonald Pension (Declaration) Bill, 2021
(Honourable Minister of the Public Service) | 1 st Reading |
| 8.* Public Service Management Bill, 2021
(Honourable Minister of the Public Service) | 1 st Reading |

ADJOURNMENT