



SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
ORDER PAPER

No.3

4

WEDNESDAY 27th JANUARY, 2021

PRAYERS

OBITUARIES

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTING HELD ON
MONDAY 28TH DECEMBER, 2020**

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

PETITIONS

PAPERS

1. **House of Assembly Paper 1 of 2021**
2021 Estimates of St. Vincent and the Grenadines
(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)
2. **House of Assembly Paper 2 of 2021**
National Insurance Services
Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2019
(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF FINANCE, ECONOMIC PLANNING INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

1. **Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning Information Technology:

In Supplementary Estimates No.2 passed in this House in August 2020, Parliament allowed the government to borrow \$36 million as a short-term loan to finance the purchase of Buccament Bay Resort so that the Resort could be resold to Sandals Resorts later that year.

Will the Minister please state what is the status of the transaction with Sandals and say whether the \$36 million dollars loan has been repaid as promised.

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

- (a) How many businesses have been closed since the COVID 19 pandemic in 2020; and
- (b) What measures have been taken by the Government to reduce the impact on businesses since the Supplementary Estimates which were approved in April 2020.

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

There has been a rapid increase of COVID-19 in St. Vincent and the Grenadines in recent weeks with most of the positive cases involving persons with no recent travel history.

- a. Will the Minister agree that this situation means that there is community spread of the disease in this country; and
- b. Will the Minister further agree that the Government dropped the ball by failing to put in place and enforce effective measures to prevent the spread of the corona virus here.

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF HEALTH, WELLNESS AND THE ENVIRONMENT

4. **The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble, (Member for East Kingstown)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment:

Given the increase demand for our health services and facilities due to the COVID 19 pandemic, will the Honourable Minister please State:

- (a) What is the status of the Sion Hill clinic renovation; and
- (b) When can the people of East Kingstown expect to have the renovated clinic available for use.

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND RECONCILIATION

5. **The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre, (Member for the Southern Grenadines)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Reconciliation:

The delayed reopening of schools indefinitely has prompted the Ministry of Education to introduce E-learning throughout the school system.

Since the evaluation of phases 1 and 2 of the one laptop per child initiative stated that teachers were not adequately trained in the use of the technology, what measures have been put in place to ensure the effective delivery of the curriculum.

6. **The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre, (Member for the Southern Grenadines)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Reconciliation:

With the implementation of E- learning for the delivery of the curriculum, it has been proven that some students do not have access to a learning device, wifi-connectivity or electricity:

- (a) Has the Ministry conducted a survey to verify the number of household and students affected;
- (b) If so, what are the findings; and

- (c) What measures or initiatives have been put in place to assist the affected students throughout the various levels of the school system.

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF URBAN DEVELOPMENT, ENERGY, AIRPORTS, SEAPORTS, GRENADINES AFFAIRS AND LOCAL DEVELOPMENT

7. **The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre, (Member for the Southern Grenadines)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Urban Development, Energy, Airports, Seaports, Grenadines Affairs and Local Development:

The platform of the Mayreau jetty which is used by residents and visitors to the island has been damaged since 2017.

As this is an urgent matter, can the Honourable Minister indicate when will the platform be fixed to eliminate the risks faced by those who use it regularly.

8. **The Honourable Shevern John, (Opposition Senator)**, to ask of Honourable Minister of Urban Development, Energy, Airports, Seaports, Grenadines Affairs and Local Development:

(a) Is the Honourable Minister aware that the Owia Cemetery is either at or very close to full capacity; and

(b) If yes, are there any plans for a new cemetery to be provided for Owia.

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF NATIONAL MOBILIZATION, SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT, LOCAL GOVERNMENT, GENDER AFFAIRS, FAMILY AFFAIRS, HOUSING AND INFORMAL SETTLEMENT

9. **The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilization, Social Development, Local Government, Gender Affairs, Family Affairs, Housing and Informal Settlement:

The Campden Park community center was finally repaired after several years of advocacy by the elected representative. The center is still locked up since its completion.

Will the Honourable Minister please state when that facility will be available to the people of Campden Park.

10. **The Honourable Israel R. Bruce, (Opposition Senator)**, to ask of the Honourable Minister of National Mobilization, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Persons with Disabilities and Youth:

In the lead up to the November 2020 elections the Lauders Community Centre, with missing doors and windows, leaks in the roof and no electricity was nonetheless repainted by the government in such a state:

(a) Is the Honourable Minister aware that this is the current state of this facility;

(b) Will the Honourable Minister please give an undertaking that this facility will be assessed with the view of remedying its current poor state and if yes, how soon will this assessment be done; and

(c) Can the people of the Lauders Community have a decent community centre where residents can converge and socialize in aid of community building and crime fighting.

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, FISHERIES, RURAL TRANSFORMATION, INDUSTRY AND LABOUR

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

Recently, there has been a spike in the theft of farm produce and animals across the country and in particular South Central Windward.

- (a) What immediate plans are there in place by the Ministry to wrestle with this unfortunate incident of crime against our farmers; and
- (b) Are there any recommendations pending from the Ministry for the attention of tightening any loopholes in the current legislation relating to praedial larceny.

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF PUBLIC SERVICE, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND SPORTS

12. **The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble, (Member for East Kingstown)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Public Service, Consumer Affairs and Sports:

The Sion Hill Village Hard-court which has been in a state of disrepair and neglect for a long time was supposed to have been upgraded recently. Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- (a) What is the status of the upgrade;
- (b) What is the cost of the upgrade and how is the cost covered; and
- (c) What management structure is in place to ensure that the facility is available for use by all in the community.

THE HONOURABLE MINISTER OF TRANSPORT, WORKS, LANDS AND PHYSICAL PLANNING

13. **Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

The Paget Farm main road between Stonnie Hazell shop and Bluff Point continues to deteriorate, posing grave danger to the travelling public that may result in death or serious injury to motorists. I have raised this matter many times over the years. Yet, nothing has been done to fix the problem.

Will the Minister say whether instead of studying the problem once again he will actually fix the road and, if he intends to fix it, say when he will do so.

14. **The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands, and Physical Planning:

The road above the Bethel High School which exits above Vin Durham residence is very uncomfortable and almost impossible to use whenever it rains heavily.

- (a) Will the Honourable Minister please state when work will begin to fix that road; and
- (b) Is the Minister prepared to supply implements and materials if residents are willing to provide labour in order to fix the road.

15. **The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward)**, to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands, and Physical Planning:

Rillan Hill community has several unfinished concrete roads.

Will the Honourable Minister please state when the following roads will be completed:

- (a) Big Bush Road
- (b) Road above the Catholic Church; and
- (c) Footpath below the Catholic Church.

16. **The Honourable Israel R. Bruce, (Opposition Senator)**, to ask of the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Land and Physical Planning:

The road in Bottom Lowmans, from Bishop Roban's church to the Thomas' residence, has been in a deplorable condition for many years.

- (a) Will the Honourable Minister please give an undertaking to have a technical team visit this area with a view addressing this poor road at bottom Lowmans; and
- (b) If yes, will the Honourable Minister give a reasonable timeframe within which the visit and assessment will be done; and
- (c) Can the Honourable Minister examine his works programme and seek to find the resources to fix this road for the people of Bottom Lowmans in the year 2021.

17. **The Honourable Shevern John, (Opposition Senator)**, to ask of the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands, and Physical Planning:

The Sandy Bay main road is in need of extensive repairs. Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- (a) What plans his Ministry has, if any, to carry out repairs to that road; and
- (b) Within what time frame those repairs can be expected to be carried out.

18. **The Honourable Shevern John, (Opposition Senator)**, to ask of the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands, and Physical Planning:

Is the Honourable Minister aware that the embankment leading to the Tourama Government School has been in a hazardous condition for many years.

Can the Honourable Minister please state:

- (a) What plans his Ministry has, if any, to carry out repairs to that embankment; and
- (b) Within what time frame those repairs can be expected to be carried out.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

(GOVERNMENT ORDERS ARE MARKED THUS*)

MOTIONS

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

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

WHEREAS section 70(1) of the Constitution of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines provides that the Minister for the time being responsible for finance shall cause to be prepared and laid before the House of Assembly before, or not later than thirty days after, the commencement of each financial year Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines for that financial year;

AND WHEREAS section 70 (2) of the Constitution provides for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure by the House;

AND WHEREAS the Government had additionally decided to prepare Estimates on a triennial basis:

BE IT RESOLVED, that this Honourable House of Assembly do adopt the Estimates for the financial year ending 31st December, 2021;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House note the projections for the financial years ending 31st December, 2022 and 31st December, 2023.

BILLS

1*. Appropriation Bill, 2021
(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)

1st Reading

RESOLUTIONS

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

1*. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House do authorise the Minister of Finance to borrow by means of fluctuating overdraft or otherwise from First Caribbean Bank, or the RBTT Bank Limited, or the Republic Bank, or the Bank of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, money to an amount not exceeding in the aggregate fifty million dollars, during the period 1st January, 2021 to 31st December, 2021 for the purpose of meeting the liquidity requirements of the Government.

APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

ADJOURNMENT