

SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

No.1134
THURSDAY 7 TH SEPTEMBER, 2023
PRAYERS
DECLARATION OF QUALIFICATION
OATH/ AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE
OBITUARIES
CONGRATULATORY REMARKS
CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTINGS HELD ON
THURSDAY 13 TH JULY 2023 AND FRIDAY 14 TH JULY 2023
ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER
STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS
REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

PAPERS

1. House of Assembly Paper No. 8 of 2023

Director of Audit of Saint Vincent And the Grenadines Bureau of Standards For the year ended December 31st, 2018 (Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)

2. House of Assembly Paper No.9 of 2023

Central Water and Sewerage Authority Financial Statements Year Ended December 31st, 2022 (In Eastern Caribbean Dollars) (Honourable St. Clair Prince/Minister of Health)

3. House of Assembly Paper No.10 of 2023

Zero Hunger Trust fund St Vincent and the Grenadines Annual Report 2020 (Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance) No.11______35

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1. The Honourable Dr. Godwin Friday, Member of Parliament for Northern Grenadines to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture:

Does the government have a plan for the development of the Bequia Easter Regatta and if so what is the plan?

2. The Honourable Dr. Godwin Friday, Member of Parliament for Northern Grenadines to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture:

Years after work started and despite repeated assurances from the minister regarding its progress, the Black Sands Hotel project at Peter's Hope is still not complete.

Will the Minister please state:

- a. What efforts have been taken to ensure the completion of the project, and
- b. When the project will be completed?
- 3. The Honourable Dr. Godwin Friday, Member of Parliament for Northern Grenadines to ask the Honourable Minister of Education and Reconciliation:

The book loan program was instituted by the NDP government many years ago to relieve families of part of the cost of education and ensure that all secondary school students have access to the textbooks necessary for their education.

Can the Minister give this House the assurance that the required textbooks will be available for the upcoming school year and, more specifically, indicate what percentage of the textbooks needed by students will be provided?

4. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre, Member of Parliament for Southern Grenadines, to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry & Labour:

The Fisheries Complex located at Friendship Canouan is without electricity for several years. The fishermen who use the facility for accommodation and other purposes often find it a difficult task.

Will the Minister please state:

- a. Government's intention with regards to upgrading the facility for proper use by the fisherfolk?
- b. How soon can work commence to correct this long-standing problem?
- c. What is the estimated cost to fix the problem?
- 5. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre, Member of Parliament for Southern Grenadines, to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry & Labour:

The government has said it has a plan for growth in the fisheries sector now and in the near future. In light of this will the Minister please state:

- a. What role the Owia Fisheries Centre will play in the growth of the fisheries sector and
- b. What will be done to repair and enhance the facility to implement the new fisheries sector initiative?

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6. The Honourable Major St. Claire Leacock, Member of Parliament for Central Kingstown, to ask the Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, Airport, Legal Affairs and Information:

VINLEC this country's lone power company; apart from generation and distribution of electricity also has environmental and safety responsibilities. Consistent with its Environmental Mandate and recognizing the importance of trees in now a 'Climate Change' world;

Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. When will Vinlec commence a national tree planting exercise to replace the displaced trees?
- b. Compensate owners of trees that have to be "cut down" by the economic value of their fruit trees rather than the current practice of the accounting value which has not been revised for many years.
- 7. The Honourable Major St. Claire Leacock, Member of Parliament for Central Kingstown, to ask the Minister of Tourism, Civil Aviation, Sustainable Development and Culture:

Recently there was a dismantling of fixtures at the Brighton beach that had been erected by one Mr. Huffles. The Honourable Minister of Finance and the Minister of Tourism respectively denied any knowledge of the exercise or any lawful authority for the destruction.

Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. What are the facts of the case?
- b. Who was really negligent in this matter?
- c. What if any were the reasons for the misunderstanding?
- 8. The Honourable Major St. Claire Leacock, Member of Parliament for Central Kingstown, to ask the Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

Many areas of the country including the city of Kingstown cry out for attention to roads and retaining walls, drains, etc.

Among those requiring urgent attention are the following:

- a) The portion of road in front the main road to De Freitas and Associates in Beachmont.
- b) The entrance road to the Office of the Leader of the Opposition which is frequently visited by Ambassadors and Foreign Delegations.
- c) The road above the Prisons which was previously raised in the House.
- d) The Sion Hill to Dorsetshire Hill Road all the way to SVG TV Station and
- e) That portion of Largo Height road from the Old Police Station to the area called Big Yard but specifically that piece of road by the garage for Morris Bibby.

Will the Minister arrange a visit to these cases and plan a course of action in the Budget 2024?

9. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, Member of Parliament for South Leeward to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Youth, Housing, and Informal Settlement:

The Campden Park Community Center was renovated after years of pleading. Since then it was used as a warehouse for the distribution of 'love boxes'.

Will the Honourable Minister please state definitively when the center will be made available to the people of Campden Park?

10. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, Member of Parliament for South Leeward to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

During the 2023 budgetary exercise the York River in Campden Park was the slated for the construction of river defense for the third quarter of this year.

Will the Honourable Minister please state when work on that project will commence?

11. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, Member of Parliament for South Leeward to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

The road in Vermont between Culvert and the Malcolm family is the only motorway to the tourist destination called The Vermont Nature Trail.

Will the Honourable Minister please state when that road will be finally fixed?

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

The Parliament of St. Vincent and the Grenadines approved, in the 2023 Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure, \$200,000 for the Sports against Crime project.

Would the Honourable Minister kindly highlight what activities have been, are being and will be implemented under this project for 2023?

13. The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble, Member of Parliament for East Kingstown, to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2023 reflect an allocation of \$2,154,700 for the project "Improvement to access road-Beaches Resort Buccament".

Can the Honourable Minister please provide a progress report on the implementation of that project?

14. The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble, Member of Parliament for East Kingstown, to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

Every year the government undertakes periodic road cleaning programs where road 'gangs' are temporarily employed.

Can the Honourable Minister please explain how the program works; particularly outlining how are people hired to be on the road gangs?

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

Most recently, the Hon Minister signed with his counterpart Minister of Grenada a bilateral agreement between both St Vincent & the Grenadines and Grenada, Carriacou & Petit Martinique. Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. Inform this House as to the central pillars of the agreement so signed?
- b. Identify what are the major benefits to be had for St Vincent and the Grenadines from this agreement.
- c. Make available a copy of the said agreement to this side of the House and or make it a document of this Honourable House?

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16. The Honourable Israel Bruce, Opposition Senator to ask the Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Gender Affairs, Family Affairs, Housing and Informal Settlement:

Will the Minister please:

- State the factors that are considered by his ministry in order to determine if someone is qualified to receive public assistance from the government of St Vincent and the Grenadines;
- b. Give a breakdown by constituency, how many persons are on the public assistance programme as at July 30th 2023;
- c. Outline the process that is currently in place to facilitate the smooth and seamless registration of persons who are both entitled and desirous to receive public assistance from the Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines.
- 17. The Honourable Israel Bruce, Opposition Senator to ask the Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Gender Affairs, Family Affairs, Housing and Informal Settlement:

Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. Is the ministry in a position to provide material assistance to the 30 most needy constituents so that their homes can have some semblance of respectable habitation.?
- b. If yes, will the Ministry be willing to receive information from constituency entities to assist in the assessment to determine the 30 most needy persons in the South Central Windward Constituency?
- c. Will the ministry be willing to work with constituency entities and groupings to assist some of these vulnerable residents mindful of the hurricane season, to provide self-help work in meeting the needs of these selected people?
- d. If the answer, how soon can this programme be practically rolled out, if not now then what are the immediate plans to assist such persons in South Central Windward?
- 18. The Honourable Shevern John Opposition Senator to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Youth, Housing, and Informal Settlement:
 - a. Please state whether there has been an increase in juvenile delinquency over the past two years?
 - b. Please state what actions the government is taking to combat the problem of juvenile delinquency in this country?
- 19. The Honourable Shevern John Opposition Senator to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs, Youth, Housing, and Informal Settlement:
 - a. What type of financial support is given to parents of students attending the school for children with special needs.
 - b. Is this support given to every student attending the school? If not, please give reasons.
 - c. How often do parents receive this support?
 - d. When does this support stop?

ORDERS OF THE DAY

(Government Orders are marked thus*)

BILLS

1* Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Citizenship (Amendment) Bill, 2023 (Honourable Prime Minister)

Select Committee Report

2* Pension for Members of the House Of Assembly (Amendment), Bill 2023 (Honourable Prime Minister)

1st Reading

3* Eastern Caribbean Telecommunication Authority Bill, 2023 (Honourable Minister of Finance)

1st Reading

3* Lotier Rose Pension (Declaration) Bill, 2023 (Minister of the Public Service)

1st Reading

4* Lyda Dale Ollivierre (Declaration) Bill, 2023 (Minister of the Public Service)

1st Reading

ADJOURNMENT