



# SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

### ORDER PAPER

No. 13

39

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MONDAY 30<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST 2010

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PRAYERS

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OBITUARIES

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CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SITTING HELD ON 5<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST  
2010.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

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STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

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REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

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#### PETITIONS

1. The humble petition of the Trustees of the Green Hill Pentecostal Church.  
(Honourable Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs)

#### QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health and the Environment:

Could the Honourable Minister please indicate what action so far has been taken by the Ministry with reference to the auditor's report on the Cuban Health Integrated Program.

2. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Information, Grenadines and Legal Affairs:

With reference to the \$100 million dollars loan from the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB) to the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Government:

What are the main terms and conditions associated with that loan.

3. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Planning, National Security, Legal and Grenadines Affairs:

Could the Honourable Prime Minister please indicate why it was necessary for the St. Vincent and the Grenadines Port Authority to give up revenue from container storage and heavy-lift charges in order to settle the issue of the Tug Service surcharge.

4. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Education:

- a. What is the overall percentage of passes in the 2010 Common Entrance examinations;
- b. are you satisfied with the results and;
- c. what do you intend to do to improve the primary schools that performed poorly or below the national average.

5. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Education:

For several years now there have been requests by school officials for the fencing the Bequia Anglican High School grounds and fencing wire was even procured for the purpose some years ago, yet the project has not been done:

Does the government intend to follow through on this project of fencing and securing the Bequia Anglican High School compound and, if so, when.

6. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism:

In remarks recently made in this House, the Honourable Minister noted that his government plans to repair and develop the waterfront walkway at Belmont Bequia (in the area of Green Boley and Mac's Pizzeria restaurants):

- a. will the Minister please state what specifically the government intends to do; and
- b. when the project will commence and in particular whether it will be done soon (given the danger to the public now posed by the existing broken walkway), before the start of the upcoming tourist season.

7. Major the Honourable St. Clair Leacock (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

The road in Green Hill from the hard court leading into residences of Albert Foster, Cauldric Fraser Sr., Uncle Frank Da Silva and others is in a terrible state of repairs almost becoming unmotorable.

When can motorist and pedestrians in this area expect some relief.

8. Major the Honourable St. Clair Leacock (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Information, Legal and Grenadines Affairs:

The Ministry of Finance voted \$2,500,000.00 for the further payment of the Ju-C building:

- a. how much of this has been paid;
- b. how much of the capital budget has been spent to date;
- c. how much is projected to be spent by November 30<sup>th</sup> 2010.

9. Major the Honourable St. Clair Leacock (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Planning and National Security:

It has been reported that the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) advised that the policeman involved in the shooting of his colleague Kingsley John be arrested for murder. It is also claimed that the said police was taken into custody by the CID only to be removed by members of the SSU who threatened the regular Force with retaliatory action.

What intervention did you as Minister of National Security make in this matter to save further feuding between elements of the Royal St. Vincent and the Grenadines Police Force.

10. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health and the Environment:

There has been a lack of CAT scanner for the use of the population for quite some time. Would the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. how much has been invested by government directly and/or through a state agency for the procurement of this equipment;
- b. which state agency or agencies have or will be investing in same; and
- c. what is the level of investment of each.

11. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health and the Environment:

Would the Honourable Minister please indicate:

- a. if the government has invested in a CAT scanner;
- b. is there a private sector partner involved;
- c. if in the affirmative, which private sector partner;
- d. how was this partner selected; and
- e. were any other local or foreign partners consulted or invited to participate

12. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health and the Environment:

Would the Honourable Minister please indicate:

- a. what are the arrangements in place to ensure that in the event of a private /public partnership in the provision of CAT scanner the public will have access to the use of this facility;
- b. that members of the public who are indigent or are from low income households will also have access to the use of the facility;
- c. that quality assurance is kept at a satisfactory level with consequences for failure to deliver to agreed standards; and
- d. that the terms of engagement bind the private sector partner to the delivery of service at a predetermined level with consequential penalties for failure to deliver.

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

Government Orders are marked thus\*

### **1. Motion on Poverty Reduction in St. Vincent and the Grenadines. (Continuation of Debate)**

To be moved by the Honourable Julian Francis and seconded by the Honourable Conrad Sayers.

**WHEREAS** the Unity Labour Party government has placed poverty reduction at the centre of its public policy formulation and implementation since 2001.

**AND WHEREAS** at the time of the ULP's election to office on March 28, 2001, the general poverty level in St. Vincent and the Grenadines was at least 37.5 percent of the population and indigence or "dirt poor" poverty was 25.7 percent of the population.

**AND WHEREAS** the Unity Labour Party administration has, over the past eight years, made a most serious dent in both the general level of poverty and the level of indigence through policies, generally favourably to the poor, including targeted strategic interventions.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House endorse the general and specific policies of the Unity Labour Party government in the priority area of poverty reduction.

## 2. Motion on the Special Registration Period for Voters

To be moved by the Honourable Arnhim Eustace, Leader of the Opposition and seconded by Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, Member of Parliament for the Northern Grenadines.

**Whereas** the Supervisor of Elections of St. Vincent and the Grenadines operates a continuous process of registration which enfranchises all persons;

**And Whereas** the late special registration period for voters has created many difficulties for the democratic process and the Office of the Supervisor of Elections;

**And Whereas** the former Supervisor of Elections Mr. Selwyn Jones in his report on the 1998 elections recommended that “the special 15-day registration period be abolished;”

**And Whereas** the former Supervisor of Elections Mr. Selwyn Jones in his report on the 2001 elections again recommended that “the 15-day registration period be revisited so that there wouldn’t be so much confusion days before polling;”

**And Whereas** the former Supervisor of Elections Mr. Rodney Adams in his report on the 2005 elections called for “a revisit of the special registration period” and referred to that period as “nerve wrecking” and went on to call for “a cut-off period during which registration will be suspended prior to the polls being taken;”

**And Whereas** the National Monitoring and Consultative Mechanism (NMCM) chaired by Archdeacon Sylvannus Regisford in his report on the 2005 elections also recommended that “serious consideration be given to the abolition of the 15-day registration period;”

**Be It Resolved** that the House expresses its disapproval of this special registration period to ensure that registration will not take place during the period in which Parliament is dissolved and that registration take place after Parliament is reconvened;

**Be It Further Resolved** that the Representation of the People Act be amended forthwith to give effect to the abolition of the special registration period.

## 3. Motion on Economic Citizenship

To be moved by the Honourable Julian Francis and seconded by the Honourable Conrad Sayers.

**WHEREAS** the former New Democratic Party (NDP) administration introduced in 1998 a programme of selling our citizenship and passports under the so-called honorary or economic citizenship scheme.

**AND WHEREAS** in 2001, shortly after the Unity Labour Party (ULP) was elected to office, the government revoked the NDP programme of selling our citizenship and passports and the very scheme of honorary citizenship itself.

**AND WHEREAS** the ULP government holds that the highest office in the land is that of being a citizen, which office and our country’s passports are not for sale.

**AND WHEREAS** the Opposition NDP has indicated its intention to reintroduce the repugnant programme of selling our citizenship and passports.

**BE IT RESOLVED** (i) that this Honourable House denounce the practice of selling our citizenship and passports and the very idea of economic citizenship itself.

(ii) That this Honourable House endorse the policy position of the ULP government in this matter as outlined in the Preamble hereto.

## **BILLS**

1. Children (Care and Adoption) Bill, 2010.  
(Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development,  
Gender Affairs, Non-Governmental Organisations’ Relations,  
Persons with Disabilities and Youth and Sports.)

1<sup>st</sup> Reading

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| 2. | Public Sector Projects (ALBA Bank) Loans Bill, 2010.<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 3. | Status of Children Bill, 2010.<br>(Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development,<br>Gender Affairs, Non-Governmental Organisations' Relations,<br>Persons with Disabilities and Youth and Sports.) | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 4. | Community Baptist Church Incorporation Bill, 2010.<br>(Honourable Mr. Speaker)   | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading |
| 5. | Full in the Spirit Pentecostal Church Incorporation Bill, 2010.<br>(Honourable Mr. Speaker)  | 3 <sup>rd</sup> Reading |

## **ADJOURNMENT**