



# SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

### ORDER PAPER

**No.9**

**18**

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**THURSDAY 16<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 2013**

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**PRAYERS**

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**OBITUARIES**

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**CONGRATULATORY REMARKS**

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**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTINGS HELD ON  
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**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

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**PETITIONS**

1. The humble petition of the Global Mission Church.  
(Honourable Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs)
2. The humble petition of the Redemption Christian Fellowship Church  
(Honourable Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs)

**PAPERS**

**House of Assembly Paper No. 3 of 2013**  
Central Water and Sewerage Authority  
Financial Statement for the year ended June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2012  
(Honourable Minister of Health and the Environment)

## **QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS**

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

Kindly give the fiscal out turn for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January to 31<sup>st</sup> March, 2013 as compared with the same period of 2012.

2. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace, (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation and Industry:

In the estimates of 2013 for the Ministry of Agriculture, it states that 1000 acres of bananas will be rehabilitated commencing April, 2013.

- a. Will the Minister please indicate whether the programme has started as planned.
- b. What is the cost and source of funding for the programme.

3. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace, (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

What is being done to the unfinished buildings at Walvaroo which were being constructed for use as Carnival Mass Tents.

4. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, National Security, Legal Affairs and Grenadines Affairs:

In his 2013 Budget Address the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, in relation to the Argyle Airport Project, indicated that the analysis of wind data collected from the wind stations in the airport zone over the first three and a half years of data collection showed the wind speed with an average intensity that does not exceed 15 knots. For greater clarity will the Prime Minister please:

- a. Give some indication, as best he could, of the fluctuations in wind speed shown over that period and in particular state the highest and lowest speeds recorded and when recorded; and
- b. State whether analysis of at least 5 years of wind data will be completed as intended during the construction phase of the airport project, given the projected 2013 completion date.

5. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, National Security, Legal Affairs and Grenadines Affairs:

In light of the concerns raised by the 2010 General Elections observers and other persons and organisations about the inaccuracy of the voters' list and given the urgent need to clean up the voters' list in an effective and transparent manner that would inspire public confidence in the integrity of the electoral registration process, will the Minister please state whether a facial recognition module will be implemented in the registration process and if so, how soon.

6. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Housing, Informal Human Settlements, Physical Planning, Lands and Surveys:

Regarding the land use plan that was prepared by the Planning Department for government lands at Paget Farm Bequia, near the J.F. Mitchell Airport, and the government's stated intention to proceed with the development of the lands in accordance with the plan, will the Honourable Minister please indicate the status of efforts to develop the lands in accordance with the plan and further indicate how and when persons who wish to use the lands in accordance with the plan might be able to do so.

7. The Honourable Terrence Ollivierre, (Southern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health and the Environment:

The people of Mayreau have been without the services of a nurse since the latter months of 2012, additionally, the Mayreau clinic is in a state of disrepair and the residents are forced to travel to Union Island at times for basic health care. Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. When will a nurse be sent to Mayreau to care for the people;
- b. When will work commence to repair the Mayreau Clinic so as to restore basic health care to the people of this island.

8. The Honourable Terrence Ollivierre, (Southern Grenadines), to ask the Minister of Transport and Works Urban Development and Local Government:

Restoration work was to commence in 2012 on three pieces of roads in Union Island, namely: (1) Top Road in Ashton Union from Mrs. Adella James's residence to Mrs. Norma Thomas's residence, (2) The Murray Village Road from Park East to Mr. Lambert Baptiste's residence, (3) The main road from Bajan Corner, Clifton to Cross Road, Ashton.

It was indicated in this Honourable House since October 2012 that these projects were listed in the maintenance programme for 2012 into 2013. Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. If work on these roads are included in the maintenance programme for 2013;
- b. If so when will work commence on these roads to ensure safety to commuters and pedestrians.

9. The Honourable St. Clair Leacock, (Central Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, National Security, Legal Affairs and Grenadines Affairs:

Would the Prime Minister please provide the following financial statements on the following companies: International Airport Development Company and National Properties Ltd:

- a. Their income statements, audited or unaudited for the years 2012, 2011 and 2010;
- b. Their Balance Sheets for the same period;
- c. The total amount of Government Investments in both companies for the same period;
- d. Please provide a breakdown to date of Government's contribution by way of grants, loans, equity, guarantees, etc.

10. The Honourable St. Clair Leacock, (Central Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sports and Culture.

- a. Would the Prime Minister please indicate whether the government is still committed to a system of annual National Awards;
- b. If the answer is in the affirmative, what is the cause of the delay.

11. The Honourable St. Clair Leacock, (Central Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

- a. While the Fenton Road rehabilitation is not in the approved work programme for 2013, is any consideration being given for the 2014 Estimates.

12. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sports and Culture:

The construction of the playing field in Troumaca has restarted after it was shelved in 2010. Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- a. What is the estimated cost of this facility;
- b. How much of the total cost has been expended thus far;
- c. Has there been any environmental impact study carried out on this project, bearing in mind the heavy erosion that took place when the project started in 2010;
- d. When would this sporting facility be ready for public usage.

13. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation and Industry:
- During the 2013 Budget debate it was indicated by the Minister of Agriculture of the introduction of a credit facility for farmers. Will the Minister please state:
- From which financial institution is this facility available.
  - How many farmers have so far benefitted from this facility;
  - What is the rate of interest available from this facility;
  - What method is being used to inform famers of the availability of this facility.
14. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation Social Development, the Family, Youth and Persons with Disabilities.
- The roof of the Campden Park Community Centre has collapsed for the past several years depriving the community of its intended purpose:
- Will the Honourable Minister please indicate whether or not there is any intention to restore the roof and if yes, when can the community of Campden Park be reasonably expected to have use of the facility.
15. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, Member of Parliament for South Leeward, to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:
- Please give an update of the status of the Leeward Highway with respect to plans for its rehabilitation.
16. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sports and Culture:
- The pavilion at the Campden Park Playing Field has been in a deplorable condition for years and many promises have been made to have it refurbished:
- Will the Honourable Minister please state definitely when work will begin on that facility.
17. Dr. The Honourable Linton Lewis, (Senator), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, National Security, Legal Affairs and Grenadines Affairs:
- Given the importance of Tourism as the main contributor to the economy of St. Vincent and the Grenadines and in the light of the unfortunate and in some instances alarming incidents of theft taking place aboard yachts being berth within our waters. Will the Honourable Minister please state:
- Whether any steps are being made to reduce substantially the incidents of theft on board yachts that are moored within our waters and if so;
  - What are the steps that are being taken.
18. Dr. The Honourable Linton Lewis, (Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:
- Prior to 2010 General Elections the construction of a road commenced on the borders of the Glen/Fairhall area and the Fountain/Villa area. The said road runs parallel to the Central Water and Sewage Authority Tank which is located at the crest of the hill in the Glen/Fairhall area over looking Fountain. Will the Honourable Minister please state:
- Whether there are plans for the completion of the construction of the said road and if so;
  - When will construction work resume on the road.
19. Dr. The Honourable Linton Lewis, (Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

For months the drain on the western and eastern sides of the Calliaqua Playing Field and in front of the Calliaqua Police Station have been terribly polluted and due to the stench and the relatively high levels of the water they are a health hazard to persons located in those areas. Will the Minister please state:

- a. Whether any action will be taken to effectively clean the gutters and if so;
- b. When would such action be taken.

## **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

(Government Orders are marked thus\*)

## **MOTIONS**

### 1. MOTION ON HOUSING

To be moved by Senator David Browne and seconded by Senator Elvis Charles.

**WHEREAS** the Unity Labour Party emphasised in its Manifesto for the 2001 General Elections that *“housing is a basic human need”* and accordingly elaborated its housing policy providing, or ensuring the provisions of, affordable housing of an acceptable quality to all Vincentians.

**AND WHEREAS** since 2001 the ULP Administration has implemented a veritable Housing Revolution through the following initiatives, among others:

- i. Restructuring and modernising the state-owned Housing and Land Development Corporation (HLDC) as the principal vehicle through which the nation’s housing policy is fashioned and implemented.
- ii. Turning “Dead Property into Live Property” through the legal transfer by way of deeds for persons in occupation of state-owned lands at very low prices.
- iii. Passing the Possessory Titles Act to simplify certain land transfers in the private sector for those in “adverse possession” in excess of 12 years.
- iv. Putting together a coordinated and well-staffed Ministry encompassing Housing, Lands, Surveys, Physical Planning, and Informal Human Settlements to elaborate and implement housing policy more officiously in conjunction with HLDC and the private sector.
- v. Building hundreds of low-income houses at several places, including Petit Bordel, Peter’s Hope, Ottley Hall, Green Hill, Byera, Clare Valley, Diamond, Brighton, San Souci, Colonarie and Langley Park.
- vi. Building a middle-income housing project at Clare Valley.
- vii. Instituting a “No Income Housing” Programme at several sites all over St. Vincent and the Grenadines.
- viii. Building houses at several places nation-wide for persons whose houses were destroyed or severely damaged by storms or hurricanes.
- ix. Increasing significantly the distribution of building materials to the poor.
- x. Enhancing the tax benefits available for companies engaged in the construction of homes.

- xi. Causing to be provided 100 percent mortgage through the former state-owned National Commercial Bank and now the Bank of St. Vincent and the Grenadines, for all public servants, teachers, nurses, policemen/women, to the extent of some \$50 million since October 2001.
- xii. Supporting the secondary mortgage market in the sub-region.
- xiii. Elaborating a Building Code and strengthening the Planning Laws on housing.
- xiv. Sorting out the NDP disaster at the Colonial Homes Project at Diamond and Gibson Corner, by way of the Joseph Commission of Enquiry and follow-up action at a cost in excess of \$8 million.
- xv. Devising special loan programmes through the former National Commercial Bank for housing repairs.
- xvi. Ensuring that the HLDC, the construction industry, and the Technical College work closely with each other to enhance quality training for technical construction employers.
- xvii. Engaging regionally through the Heart Trust of Jamaica the training and certification of skilled tradespersons so as to facilitate, among other things, the freedom of movement of skilled artisans within CARICOM.
- xviii. Providing water, electricity, roads, surveying and land-titling to several informal human settlements.
- xix. Implementing a strict aliens land-holding licence policy to ensure that the patrimony of St. Vincent and the Grenadines is not alienated willy-nilly to foreigners.
- xx. Providing such more opportunity for tertiary education to train young Vincentians in all fields which touch upon housing construction including architecture, land surveying, engineering, construction management, and quantity surveying.
- xxi. Assisting private entrepreneurs in sourcing building materials of quality at the lowest possible prices.
- xxii. Taking the lead in the sub-region to push for a more coordinated and scientific approach to the construction sector.

**AND WHEREAS** the ULP government is seeking ever more opportunities to enhance in practice its many-sided housing policy.

**BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House endorse the housing policy of the ULP government and its several laudable initiatives and urge the government to continue steadfastly its magnificent work in the area of housing for the benefit of Vincentians as a whole.

## **2.\* 2013 Supplementary Estimates for Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

To be moved by Dr. the Honourable Ralph Gonsalves, Prime Minister/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 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. 1 to 3 of 2013, have been prepared and laid in the House of Assembly;

**BE IT RESOLVED**, that this Honourable House do approve the Supplementary estimates Nos. 1 to 3 of 2013.

## **BILLS**

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|---|-------------------------|
| 1.* Supplementary Appropriation Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 2.* Supplementary Appropriation (No.2) Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 3.* Supplementary Appropriation (No.3) Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 4. Financial Intelligence Unit (Amendment) Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minster of Finance)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 5. Public Sector Projects (ALBA Bank) Loans (Amendment) Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minster of Finance)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 6.* Eastern Caribbean Magistrate Agreement Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 7.* Protocols for Eastern Supreme Court Between<br>the Government of the Member States and the<br>Eastern Caribbean Supreme Court Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance) | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 8.* Cluster Munitions Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 9.* Protection of Employment (Amendment) Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 10.* Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 11. St. Joseph Spiritual Baptist Church Incorporation Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Mr. Speaker)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 12. Immanuel Christ Gospel Church Incorporation Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Mr. Speaker)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 13. Grace Community Baptist Church Incorporation Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Mr. Speaker)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 14. Redeemed Christian Church of God Winners Sanctuary<br>Incorporation Bill, 2013<br>(Honourable Mr. Speaker)  | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |

## **ADJOURNMENT**