



SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

No.6

13

THURSDAY 29TH MAY, 2014

PRAVERS

OBITUARIES

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTINGS HELD ON
2ND AND 3RD APRIL, 2014

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

PETITIONS

1. The humble petition of the Trustees of the Triumph Covenant Ministries
(Honourable Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs)

PAPERS

1. House of Assembly Paper No. 4 of 2014

International Financial Services Authority
Financial Statements
Period January 1 to November 11, 2012 (Date of Dissolution)
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)

Questions for oral answers

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

What is the fiscal out turn as of March 31st 2014.

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

What is the total expenditure on the Argyle International Airport as of March 31st, 2014.

3. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sports and Culture:

For many years, Plantation House Hotel located at Belmont Beach in Bequia has been closed. It has deteriorated into a state of disrepair and presently appears to be abandoned by its owners in that it is or has been occupied by squatters: Will the Minister please state whether the government has any interest in seeing this once-thriving hotel return to business operation and provide employment for our people as it once did and, if so, what is being done to bring this about.

4. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Health, Wellness and the Environment: In light of the recent outbreak of Chikungunya disease in this country, particularly in Bequia, with the resultant pain and suffering brought to many people and loss of working hours to the economy, will the Minister please state:

- (a) when did the health authorities first suspect that there were cases of the disease in this country;
- (b) when and how did the health department respond to the disease threat;
- (c) what is the extent of the outbreak of the disease;
- (d) what impact has it had or is having on the people and economy country; and
- (e) does it pose any greater threat to the people and economy, particularly our tourism industry.

5. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Northern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Airport and Seaport Development, Grenadines and Legal Affairs:

Recently, a section of the runway at the Argyle International Airport project on which aggregate had been laid was dug up, causing concern among many people as to the cause of this action and the effect it might have on the completion of the airport. Will the Prime Minister please explain:

- (a) why the section of runway was dug up;
- (b) whether this will have any significant impact on the progress of the construction of the airport; and
- (c) whether the completion date for the project is still 2014.

6. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre, (Southern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, National Security, Grenadines Affairs and Legal Affairs:

The yachting sector is of paramount importance to the livelihood of the people of Mayreau and the economy of St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

- (a) Will the minister please explain why security personnel in Mayreau are left without a patrol boat to provide adequate and effective security on the water, in and around Mayreau and environs.

(b) Why two patrol boats at Saline Bay are left to rot on the beach and sea when the minister gave the assurance that these boats will be repaired soon so as to provide the security necessary to ensure that Mayreau and environs remain safe and welcoming to the yachting community.

7. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre, (Southern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation:
The fisheries complex at Clifton, Union Island is in such a state of disrepair that operations at the facility have halted.

(a) Is the minister aware of this situation; and
(b) When will work commence to repair this facility.

8. The Honourable Terrance 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 and health facility since the later months of 2012 due to the state of disrepairs of the Mayreau Clinic. As a result the residents are at times faced with adverse health challenges. Will the minister please state:

(a) When will work commence to repair the Mayreau Clinic;
(b) When will a nurse be provided so that regular health services can commence on the island so as to assist in minimizing the health challenges being experienced by the residents of Mayreau; and;
(c) Whether an alternative location can be utilize to provide the health services needed until the clinic is repaired

9. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (West Kingstown), to ask the Minister of Health and the Environment:

In relation to the destruction due to flooding at the Milton Cato Memorial Hospital (MCMH) of the CT Scan Machine, and the planned replacement, would the Hon. Minister please state;

(a) What is the total replacement cost and source of funding for same;
(b) When is it expected to be installed and in operation;
(c) Is the replacement of a similar type and would the old machine have any salvageable value; and,
(d) Has anyone been made accountable for the avoidable destruction of the first machine;

10. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (West Kingstown), to ask the Minister of Transport & Works:

Now that a contract has finally been signed and work is expected to begin in the month of June, would the Hon. Minister please give details of the alternative routing of vehicular traffic during the construction of the South Leeward highway, especially in areas where there are no alternative routes to accommodate the traffic?

11. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, Member of Parliament for West Kingstown, to ask the Minister of Transport & Works:

Persons living in West Kingstown have been repeatedly promised a Learning Resource Centre in the Budget presentations. To date, the very expensive retaining wall with no useful purpose, and

the undermining of the Highway at an alternative sight, where there were two attempts at construction is all there is to show.

Would the Hon. Minister please state if this Resource Center is included in the work program of his ministry for 2014, and if yes, when would construction begin? And what would be the estimated period for completion.

12. The Honourable Roland Matthews, Member of Parliament for North Leeward, to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation:

A substantial amount of livestock was lost during the December 2013 floods. Will the minister please state:

- a) The overall number and cost of livestock lost; and
- b) What efforts are being made to ensure that livestock farmers are adequately compensated or their stocks replenished.

13. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation:

Many fisher folks lost their livelihood during the December 2013 floods as their nets, equipment and boats have been damaged or lost. While mention has been made of plans to assist these fisher folks, will the minister please state:

- (a) If any assistance has been given to them in the interim to meet their daily expenses;
- (b) If there are any plans in place to provide or replace damaged or lost boats, nets and other equipment; and
- (c) How soon can fisher folks expect to receive assistance.

14. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation:

The result indicators of the Banana Service Unit and other programs of the Ministry of Agriculture for 2014 may have to be changed due to the impact of the 2013 floods. Will the minister please state:

- (a) What programs have been affected?
- (b) What impact will these changes, if any, have on the Banana Service Unit to meet its target for 2014?

15. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

The Hope/Peniston Bridge was badly damaged during the flood of December 24th, 2013, making it impassable to vehicular traffic.

Will the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works state definitively when will work begin on the old Buff Gut road in order to ease the frustration created by the inability to drive over the bridge.

16. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

Will the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works state when will river defence work commence to reduce the vulnerability of flooding along the banks of the Buccament River.

ORDERS OF THE DAY
(Government Orders are marked thus*)

MOTIONS

PRIVATE MEMBERS' MOTION

1* STATE OF REPARATIONS EFFORT IN ST VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

To be moved by the Honourable Senator Jomo Thomas seconded by the Honourable Senator Luke Browne.

WHEREAS before the advent of European colonialism, our indigenous population lived a very dignified and cultured existence with their own governance institutions;

AND WHEREAS the intrusion into our region by colonial powers, especially Britain led to the conquest, subjugation and genocide of our people where after the capture and assassination of Paramount Chief and National Hero Joseph Chatoyer in 1795, close to 5,000 of our Garifuna ancestors were first exiled onto the island of Balliceaux, where some one-half or 50 percent of them met their death, and then to Roatan Island in the Bay of Honduras.

AND WHEREAS the survivors of this genocide and forced deportation, who approximate over 600,000 are now living in Belize, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua and the United States of America;

AND WHEREAS all Garifuna people in exile recognise St Vincent and the Grenadines (Yurumein) as their ancestral homeland;

AND WHEREAS the conquest and genocide of our Garifuna ancestors were the precursor of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and slavery in St Vincent and the Grenadines, which brought unspeakable, pain, and suffering to our people, not to mention the loss of our culture, history and religion.

AND WHEREAS in the bulk of the Caribbean territories, the trading in, and enslavement of Africans were in train since the 16th and especially the 17th century onwards, until emancipation;

AND WHEREAS the economies and fortunes of Europe, including Britain, were in the 17th, 18th and 19th century largely built upon the slave trade and slave labour;

AND WHEREAS under the system of slavery, the British slave owners were guaranteed an abundant supply of free labour, which was critical to the productivity of their plantation agriculture, industry and commerce;

AND WHEREAS by further political action, the British Parliament paid to the British slave owners a sum of £20 million as economic compensation for the loss of the slaves who formed a major component of their production machinery;

AND WHEREAS no similar political action was taken by the British Parliament to compensate the former slaves or their descendants for their labour, which built the economies of Europe, including Great Britain, nor were the former slaves allowed to own land;

AND WHEREAS the former slaves and their descendants should have been paid for their labour, which built the economies of Europe, including Britain;

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean Community (CARICOM), of which St Vincent and the Grenadines is a member, took a decision to form a Prime Ministerial Committee of the Conference of Heads of State and Government to oversee the work of a CARICOM Reparation Commission on July 6, 2013 to pursue genocide and reparation claims against Britain and other former slave trading countries, including France and Holland;

BE IT RESOLVED that this Honourable House endorse the decision of the governments of CARICOM member-states to pursue actively a claim for appropriate reparations from the European nations, including Britain, France and Holland on behalf of the people of the individual nation-states of the Caribbean Community, including St Vincent and the Grenadines, for the said native genocide and enslavement of their ancestors.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the reparations claim be lodged within the framework of the Ten Point Reparation Agenda adopted by CARICOM at its International Heads of State and Government Conference, in March 2014, in St Vincent and the Grenadines.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House follows the lead of the Jamaican Parliament and enjoin other CARICOM countries to make similar political decisions on this matter, and that his Honourable House instructs the Government of St Vincent and the Grenadines:

1. To give all practical political, diplomatic and material support to the Caribbean Reparations Commission and the CARICOM Prime Ministerial Reparations Committee, whose Chair is the Prime Minister of Barbados, the right Honourable Freundel Stuart, in the quest to engage the former European slave holding nations in a developmental conversation, which will result in reparatory justice for the descendants of the Garifuna and those who endured and suffered through slavery.
2. To take this case of Genocide and Slavery to the International Court of Justice and any other juridical and political fora for reparatory justice on behalf of the people of St Vincent and the Grenadines within the framework of the Plan and Road Map for reparatory justice outlined by CARICOM;
3. To ensure proper funding of the St Vincent and the Grenadines Reparations Commission, which has already been established, to carry out the quest for reparatory justice;
4. To put on record its high regard and commendation to Prime Minister, Dr. The Honourable Ralph E. Gonsalves in St Vincent and the Grenadines for his commitment to, and determination, in initiating the reparations conversation at the highest level of regional governmental authority and for pushing forward the fight against European Conquest, Genocide, the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery, Colonialism and for reparations.

Dated the 19th day of May, 2014.

BILLS

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| 1*. | Passport (Amendment) Bill, 2014
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |
| 2.* | Stamp (Amendment) Bill, 2014
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |
| 3.* | Firearms (Amendment) Bill, 2014
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |
| 4* | Limited Liability Companies Act (Date of Commencement
And Validation) Bill, 2014
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance) | 1 st Reading |

5.*	Financial Laws (Miscellaneous Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)	1 st Reading
6.	Seventh-Day Adventist Church Saint Vincent and the Grenadines Region (Incorporation) (Amendment) Bill, 2014 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	2 nd Reading
7.	Redemption Christian Fellowship Incorporation Bill, 2014 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	2 nd Reading
8.	Global Missions Church Incorporation Bill, 2014 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	2 nd Reading
9.	Association for Children with Disability Incorporation Bill, 2014 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	2 nd Reading

ADJOURNMENT