



# SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

## HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

### ORDER PAPER

No.1

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**TUESDAY 29<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2019**

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#### **PRAYERS**

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#### **PROCLAMATION**

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#### **OATH/AFFIRMATION OF ALLEGIANCE**

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#### **OBITUARIES**

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#### **CONGRATULATORY REMARKS**

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#### **CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTING HELD ON 18<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2018; 10<sup>TH</sup>, 11<sup>TH</sup>, 19<sup>TH</sup>, 20<sup>TH</sup>, & 27<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2018**

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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 Wycliffe Bible Translators Caribbean (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines)  
(Honourable Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs)

#### **PAPERS**

1. **House of Assembly Paper 1 of 2019**  
2019 Estimates of St. Vincent and the Grenadines  
(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)
2. **House of Assembly Paper 2 of 2019**  
St. Vincent and the Grenadines Port Authority  
Financial Statements for the year ended  
December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2017  
(Dr. the Honourable Ralph Gonsalves/Minister of Port)

- 3. House of Assembly Paper 3 of 2019**  
Report on the Performance Audit of the  
School Feeding Programme 2016-2018  
(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)

### **QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS**

1. Dr the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, Legal Affairs, Grenadines Affairs and Energy:

The Ottley Hall shipyard is not properly maintained and is not operated fully. Will the Prime Minister please state:

- (a) Why most of the workers were released from the shipyard in early December 2018 and have not been recalled to work;
- (b) How much money the government earned in 2016, 2017 and 2018 in rent from the shipyard. And;
- (c) Whether the government plans to repair and develop the facility so that it might realize its full economic potential.
2. The Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sports and Culture :

Will the Honourable Minister please state under what financial arrangements, if any, do Air Canada, CAL and American Airlines provide air service to Saint Vincent and the Grenadines and, in particular, indicate whether and to what extent the government subsidizes the operation of the services.

3. The Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

On the inauguration of Mr. Maduro as President of Venezuela for a second term on January 10, 2019, the OAS, by a vote of 19 for, 6 against and 8 abstentions, adopted a Resolution that recognized the worsening political, economic, social and humanitarian crisis in Venezuela, rejected the new term of Mr. Maduro and called for new presidential elections with all necessary guarantees of a free, fair and legitimate process.

Why did the Government of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines vote against the Resolution.

4. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace, (Member for East Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning, Sustainable Development and Information Technology:

(a) What is the value of the land taken by the Government at Argyle which was used for the construction of the airport and still not yet paid for; and

(b) When will such payments be made.

5. The Honourable Major St. Clair Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Minister of Finance:

Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- (a) If any Special Warrants were issued in the year 2016, 2017 and 2018;
- (b) If in the affirmative what were the amounts for each of those years;
- (c) What was the expenditure by way of Special Warrant for legal fees attendant upon the election petitions before the court;
- (d) Were any Appropriation Bills brought before this Honourable House to approve those Warrants; if so name them.
- (e) What therefore is the sum of that monies spent by the administration without the approval of the Honourable House; and
- (f) Is the Government in any way operating outside of the Finance Act of the Constitution with special consideration to the issue of Special Warrants, Contingencies Funds and Supplementary Appropriation Act.

6. The Honourable Major St. Clair Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Minister of Finance:

The Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for the years 2016, 2017, and 2018, under Capital Expenditure identified the sums of \$104,233,561; \$162,235,165 and \$162,195,602 respectively.

- (a) How much of this was raised in each of these years? And how much is proposed for the 2019 Budget.
- (b) Largely as a result of these other receipts shortfalls, the audited reports of the Government show a negative variance of over half a billion dollars to be precise \$644,835,194.59 for the years 2007 and 2011, and an even greater figure between 2012 and 2013.

Does the Government intend to continue to mislead the Honourable House and the nation against the advice of the Director of Audit to reconsider such.

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

Embarrassing as it is; I raise again the conditions of the roads in

- (a) Old Montrose, Block 2000 specifically that from Mr. Trumpet's junction leading into Mother Barrow all the way to the St. Bethel Baptist Church and the road from Starlift Pan Yard to the dead end and the left turn into and leading to the bridge by Ms. Sarah's residence;
- (b) All the cross roads in Sharpesdale
- (c) The road across from the Prime Minister's Residence leading to Mother Rose and around the corner to the St. Peter Baptist Church;
- (d) In Green hill leading to Roberta Samuel (Tiny) residence;
- (e) The proverbial Fenton Road; and
- (f) The road in Dascent Cottage from Dam Wall to the main road.

Are these roads likely to receive attention in the 2019 Budget.

8. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (Member for West Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

The people who live in Largo Height have been suffering long because of the poor condition of the main road into the community. In 2018, the portion from the Leeward Highway to directly in front of the residence of the Prime Minister was completely surfaced.

Would the Honourable Minister please state when would the residents of this large community be given equal treatment with a properly surfaced road.

9. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (Member for West Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

Despite several self-help attempts, by residents of Great House to fix their only road access, beyond the concrete road put down by the NDP and which leads from the hill above the residence of the late Dick Lowe, down to the road to Campden Park, this road is in a state of serious disrepair.

Would the Honourable Minister please say what if any plans are in place for the fixing of this important link road.

10. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (Member for West Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

Would the Honourable Minister please state whether or not there has been any hydraulic or hydrologic input into the design of the work now being done on North River.

Further is it going to be a lined channel or simply gabion protection at the sides to a certain height.

11. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (Member for North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

Now that the wall in Couls Hill in North Leeward has been repaired. Will the Minister please state if the plans for the complete realigning of the road have been shelved and if so how soon will that plan be implemented.

12. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (Member for North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

Repairs to the jetty in Chateaubelair and the bridge at Sharps Park, also in Chateaubelair, are in dire need of repairs. Will the Minister state with certainty when work will begin on these two important infrastructures in this North Leeward town.

13. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (Member for North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

Feeder roads from Spring Village to Richmond in North Leeward are in deplorable conditions and this is making it impossible for farmers to access their lands. Will the Minister please state when work will begin to repair the feeder roads in North Leeward.

14. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

The road leading to the Campden Park Industrial Estate has been in a terrible state of disrepair for the longest while. The road can only be likened to the surface of the moon because of the large number of craters in it.

Will the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works please state when that road will be repaired.

15. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

The residents in the area of Pembroke referred to as Riverdale have for the entire life of the ULP regime expressed the need for the road to be paved and proper drains constructed. To date the Government has repeatedly ignored their request.

Will the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works state definitively when will work begin to concrete that road.

16. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

The banks along the Buccament River have been drastically eroded since the December 2013 flood. Settlements along the course of the river especially Vermont, Pembroke and Buccament Bay are vulnerable to flooding which can threaten properties and lives.

Will the Honourable Minister state when adequate river defense works will be constructed in order to mitigate the effects of future flooding.

17. The Honourable Kay Bacchus Baptiste, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of National Security, Air and Sea Port Development:

Will the Honourable Minister please say whether the illegal plastic boxes will be used at the next elections as ballot boxes or whether we will revert to the use of wooden boxes that can be locked with key as mandated by our Electoral Laws.

18. The Honourable Kay Bacchus Baptiste, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation:

Will the Honourable Minister please say whether marijuana seeds are being imported into St.Vincent to be used for medical marijuana?

Can the Honourable Minister say whether or not the seeds or seedlings being nurtured at the Tissue Culture Lab at Orange Hill are also imported; if so from where and at what cost.

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

**MOTIONS**

**1\*. 2019 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, 2019;

**AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that this Honourable House note the projections for the financial years ending 31st December, 2020 and 31st December, 2021.

**BILLS**

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| 1*. Appropriation Bill, 2019<br>(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)   | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 2*. Governor General's Emoluments and Pension (Amendment) Bill, 2019<br>(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance) | 1 <sup>st</sup> Reading |
| 3*. Public Sector Investment Loan Bill, 2019<br>(Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Finance)                         | 1 <sup>st</sup> 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 Bank of Nova Scotia, 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, 2019 to 31st December, 2019 for the purpose of meeting the current requirements of the Government.

**APPOINTMENT OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE**

**ADJOURNMENT**