

# SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

### **ORDER PAPER**

<u>No.817</u>
THURSDAY 9 <sup>th</sup> MAY, 2019
PRAYERS
OBITUARIES
CONGRATULATORY REMARKS
CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTINGS HELD ON 11th MARCH, 2019 AND 1st APRIL, 2019
ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER
STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS
REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES
PETITIONS

#### **PAPERS**

1. House of Assembly Paper 4 of 2019

NTRC Universal Service Fund (USF) Annual Report 2018 (Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Information Technology

2. House of Assembly Paper 5 of 2019

NTRC Annual Report 2018 (Honourable Camillo Gonsalves/Minister of Information Technology

3. House of Assembly Paper 6 of 2019

Annual Report in Trafficking in Persons 2018 (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of National Security

#### **QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS**

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

Considering the environmental benefits and increasing affordability of using solar power to generate electricity and the possibility that private home-owners and businesses engaging in solar power generation will produce more electricity than they need.

Will the Minister say whether it is desirable for VINLEC to purchase such excess power and to what extent it is economically feasible to do so.

2. The Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Minister of Finance, Economic Planning, Sustainable Development and Information Technology:

The Government has announced that it plans to build a hotel at Diamond as a joint venture with National Insurances Services and that it will be operated as a Holiday Inn Express and Suites.

- a) Will the Minister state whether the Government has entered into an agreement or has engaged in talks with the Holiday Inn to operate the hotel at Diamond; and
- b) If so, what is the nature of the relationship agreed to or expected between Holiday Inn and the Government.
- 3. The Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Minister of Transport and Works:

Through erosion, the gutter along the main road to Spring Bequia has moved perilously close to the paved road and seriously threatens it in at least two places such that urgent action is needed to prevent further erosion and damage to the road when the rainy season starts.

Does the Minister agree that the problem needs attention and, if so, what does he intend to do to fix it.

4. The Honourable Major St. Clair Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, Legal Affairs, Grenadines Affairs and Energy:

To the extent that I repeat myself in quick timing, will the Honourable Prime Minister please indicate how soon relief can be brought to the residents of Old Montrose (New Town Village) Block 2000 in the area of Starlift Pan yard to the dead end and the left turn to

- a) The bridge by Ms. Sayers residence and shop
- b) Are any plans in place for the area from the bridge by Mr. Trumpet into Mother Barrows residence all the way to the Baptist Church
- c) The retaining wall around Ms. Deidree Joseph's residence in the area close to the bridge just past Sharpes Gate
- d) The provision of a river crossing across dam wall in Lodge Village to lead into Dascent Cottage.

5. The Honourable Major St. Clair Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, Legal Affairs, Grenadines Affairs and Energy:

The Green Hill area and in particular that area of the Housing Project referred to as the Plan has been ignored for some time now. The drains are in a deplorable state and in need of cleaning, some road repair is also required since the vans are not using that portion of the road. In addition all of the watercourse requires debushing and in some cases cleaning and retaining walls improvement.

How soon can the neglected community of Green Hill receive attention.

6. The Honourable Major St. Clair Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation:

To the extent that we agreed on the importance of organic agriculture and agri-products to our Growth and Export Strategy; will the Honourable Minister provide and or clarify the very specific Constitutional, Marketing and Regulatory steps and procedure for our Entrepreneurs to obtain FDA and other Agency approval for the export of our "Vincy" products to the North American, European and Canadian Markets.

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

Will the Minister please give an update on the status of the Medical Marijuana Industry with specific reference to:

- a) The amnesty to traditional farmers;
- b) The licensing process/application;
- c) Lands allocation to farmers who squat on crown lands; and
- d) Investors foreign and domestics.
- 8. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (Member for North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries and Rural Transformation:

The fisheries Complex at Chateaubelair was left to deteriorate after many years of neglect and inactivity. Will the Minister please state:

- a) If there are any plans by the ministry to repair the building;
- b) How soon will work begin on the repairs; and
- c) If there is any interest by any organisation to lease the facility.
- 9. The Honourable Roland Matthews, (Member for North Leeward), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of National Security, Legal Affairs, Grenadines Affairs and Energy:

The police station in Spring Village, North Leeward was relocated due to the need for urgent repairs to the building. Will the Minister please state:

- a) If there are any plans by the government to repair or rebuild the building; and
- b) If so, how soon will work commence.

10. The Honourable Kay Bacchus Baptiste, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sports & Culture:

- a) Considering the need to encourage and promote our young sportsmen and women in West St. George; will the Honorable Minister of Sports please say when the playing fields will be lighted to enable the residents to use the sporting facilities in the night; and
- b) In particular, are there plans to light the Dauphne Playing Field.
- 11. The Honourable Kay Bacchus Baptiste, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Housing, Informal Human Settlements, Land and Surveys, and Physical Planning:

Unbelievably, the residents at Poll Yard in the year 2019 do not have electricity. Will the Hon. Minister please say when the Government plans to put electricity there notwithstanding the residents may be relocated in the future.

12. The Honourable Kay Bacchus Baptiste, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

Further to my many questions highlighting the deplorable roads in West St. George will the Honourable Minister please say how soon the roads at Welcome and the Fenton Road will be fixed?

13. The Honourable Israel Bruce, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sport and Culture:

The Lauders Development Organisation commenced its annual softball cricket tournament on April 14th, 2019. Mindful of the use of the Lauders Playing Field, and spectators and players pavilions by students of the Lauders Primary School, Greggs Government School, Lowmans Windward Anglican School, Deliverance Baptist Church Pre-school among others, the roofs of the spectators and players pavilions at the Lauders Playing Field has been in a state of dilapidation for the longest while now. Persons who gather and use the pavilion get wet constantly whilst seated under this facility trying to enjoy cricket and other sports. The roof of this facility has been leaking for too long now and its wooden structure is also woodlice infected. This is in need for urgent repairs.

- a) Has this situation with the players and spectators pavilion at the Lauders Playing Field been brought to the attention of the Honorable Minister;
- b) Will the Honourable Minister give an undertaking to look into this problem and seek to have it resolved;
- c) Can the Hon Minister give an indication as to how soon can he look into this problem and how soon can the residents of Lauders, Lowmans, Greggs and surrounding areas who use this facility expect to have this facility repaired.
- 14. The Honourable Israel Bruce, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sport and Culture:

The Organizers of the Diamond Football League are in the preparatory stages of hosting the 2019 version of the league. Persons who come out to see the games do not have an area where they can sit and enjoy the games as they support their respective teams.

 a) Would the Honorable Minister please state if there are any immediate plans to construct a spectators pavilion at the Diamond Playing Field in support of sports development in the village of Diamonds;

b) If no, would he give an undertaking to the residents of Diamond to consider the construction of a spectators pavilion at the Diamond Playing Field.

15. The Honourable Israel Bruce, (Opposition Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism, Sport and Culture:

In 2018 the Government made an announcement which it dubbed a "Sports Against Crime" initiative. With an awareness of the key roles; sports has and will continue to play in community and crime fighting. On this premise the young people of Mt Grenan have been asking for a multipurpose hard court to facilitate the playing of netball and basketball among other sports and for the immediate repairs to the washroom facility at the Mt Grenan Playing field.

- a) Would the Honourable Minister tell the young people of Mt Grenan of its plans to deliver a multi- purpose hard court to the residents of Mt. Grenan;
- b) Would the Honourable Minister let the young people of Mt Grenan know when work will be done to refurbish the washroom facility at the Mt Grenan Playing field.

#### **MOTIONS**

#### 1. Motion on Electoral Reform

Moved by Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday and seconded by Major the Honourable St. Clair Leacock

#### PRIVATE MEMBER'S MOTION ON ELECTORAL REFORM

WHEREAS public confidence in the electoral to deliver free and fair elections is vital to democracy:

**AND WHEREAS** the electoral system in our country has revealed serious problems over the years and most recently in the 2015 general elections that have shaken public confidence in it;

**AND WHEREAS** the Special Voter Registration Period and the lack of impartiality among election officials-have been highlighted as being among such problems;

**AND WHEREAS** election Observers, including those from the OAS and the Commonwealth Secretariat, have noted Some Of the problems and recommended changes to improve the elections process;

**AND WHEREAS** in 2017 the Leader of the Opposition wrote to the Prime Minister to seek to address these serious problems in bipartisan manner;

**AND WHEREAS** general elections in this country are approaching;

**AND WHEREAS** it is necessary and desirable that the serious problems in the electoral including those specifically noted herein be addressed before the next general elections by, among other things, amending The Representation of the People Act;

**BE RESOLVED** that this Honourable House Support a motion to bring about necessary and desirable changes to the elections process in our country by amending The Representation Of the People Act and by adopting other practical and effective measures to ensure free and fair elections and restore public confidence in our electoral system.

Dated this 23rd day of April \_2019

Proposed by:

Seconded by

Dr. the Hon. Godwin Friday

Major the Hon. St. Clair Leaeock

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#### **ORDERS OF THE DAY**

(Government Orders are marked thus\*)

1\*. Edford Davis Pension (Declaration) Bill 2019 (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Public Sector)

1st Reading

2.\* The Drug (Prevention of Misuse) (Amendment) Bill, 2019 (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of National Security)

Select Committee Report

3.\* Child Justice Bill, 2019 (Hon. Frederick Stephenson/Minister of Social Development)

Select Committee

## **ADJOURNMENT**