SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

No. 7 **9**

TUESDAY 3RD FEBRUARY 2009

PRAYERS

OBITUARIES

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF SITTINGS HELD ON 26TH NOVEMBER, 1ST, 2ND, 3RD, 4TH AND 5TH DECEMBER 2008.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEES

PETITIONS

1. The Humble Petition of the Trustees of the Seventh Day Adventist Church St. Vincent and the Grenadines Region.
(Honourable Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs)

2. The Humble Petition of the Trustees of the Hope Evangelism Outreach Inc.
(Honourable Minister of Ecclesiastical Affairs)

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

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

   a. How many motor vehicles are presently owned by the Central Government; and

b. Of these, how many are cars and SUV's.

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

What is the reason for Vincentian Andrew Simmons' dismissal from the Agricultural Diversification Program.

3. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace (Leader of the Opposition), to ask the Honourable Minister of Tourism:

What specific proposal/program does the Ministry have to address the fall-off in stay-over arrivals and tourism generally, in light of the present world economic and financial crisis.

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

a. What is the status of the government's review of the basis on which property tax is assessed; and

b. Will the basis on which property tax is assessed be changed and, if so, in general terms how will the change affect the amount of money property owners will pay in property taxes.

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

The jetty at Paget Farm near to the fisheries complex and the jetty at Hamilton Bequia near to the Catholic Church road were badly damaged by a storm late last year and have not been repaired.

a. Why have these two important facilities not been repaired; and

b. When will these jetties be repaired.

6. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday (Northern Grenadines) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

The drain along the main road at Paget Farm, Bequia, like many drains elsewhere in the country, has been blocked for a long time and this has caused flooding in the main road when it rained:

Will the Honourable Minister give the assurance that urgent efforts will be made to clear this and other drains that are blocked and will he also state when this drain on the Paget Farm main road be cleared.

7. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre (Southern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Planning, Information, Sea and Airports, Grenadines and Legal Affairs:

The wharf at Canouan has over the years been gradually deteriorating and is now at a stage where it is difficult to use and is unsafe for use by ferry operators, local residents and the general public;

Can the Honourable Minister please state when will we have a solution to this continued wharf deterioration.

8. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre (Southern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

The road at Happy Hill next to the Sandy's residence up to the Seventh Day Adventist Church at Grand Bay, Canouan needs to be re-cut and surfaced to provide an amenity to the residents.

Can the Honourable Minister please state when will attention be given to this road.

9. The Honourable Terrance Ollivierre (Southern Grenadines), to ask the Honourable Minister of Education:

What is our status in regards to the provision of NVQ (National Vocational Qualification) Certification along the lines of labour market demands to in-school and out-of-school persons, so as to make education for all more meaningful, relevant and equitable.

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

When we name institutions and or other national assets in the name of outstanding Vincentians, we have an obligation to maintain those symbols in the most respectful of ways. In this regard the state of affairs of the Coast Guard vessel, the Captain Mulzac, like the discarded George Mc Intosh cries out for attention. Could the Honourable Prime Minister please indicate whether:

a. It is still the intention to restore the vessel Captain Mulzac to sea worthy stage;

b. Is there a value to keep the vessel solely for training purposes;

c. What is the current cost for its upkeep in its present condition; and

d. Are there medium term plans to replace the vessel with one of similar utility.

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

As the election nears and interest in Central Kingstown is highlighted. Will the Honourable Minister indicate if and when the following roads and embankments will be improved:

a. That piece of main road in Green Hill from on or around Ms. Millington's residence, past Ryan's shop and all the way to the Liberty Lodge Boys' Training Center;

b. The stretch of road from the area referred to as Hollywood i.e. on the corner of Cappy Laidlow's residence, to the turn off to Kingstown Park where a backwall and fenders are needed to protect the hundreds of passengers who commute on vans daily; and also

c. Trigger Ridge just near the Lewis residence, just a few yards from the steps and Estan DeFreitas residence.

12. Major the Honourable St. Clair Leacock (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries:

How can farmers in Green Hill, Redemption Sharpes/Trigger Ridge and Largo Heights access the fertilizer that has been donated to the Government either for free or at a reduced cost.

13. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Social Development, Youth Affairs, the Family and Gender Affairs, National Mobilisation;

Child rights advocates have long pointed to the need for a Juvenile Facility for minors charged with criminal offences.

Could the Honourable Minister kindly indicate if and when such a facility will be constructed for St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

14. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Education:

As a Government engaged in what it terms an "education revolution" and which touts itself as champion of the poor:

Would the Government state if any system exists for the identification of any assistance to primary school age children who are unable to go to school because their parents/guardians cannot afford to buy books and provide uniforms, food and transportation monies in order to send them to school.

15. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

Over the years, approximately 100 yards of the main road in Buddy Gutter was concreted. Since then, the residents have seen a total deterioration of the dirt road that they must use through sun and rain; in addition, the road at McIntosh Street, New Montrose has been identified by the public and acknowledged by a Government Minister to be in state of disrepair for over four (4) years:

a. Would the Honourable Minister please state when the residents of Buddy Gutter can expect to receive the basic amenity of a paved road in and out of the community;

b. When will the piece of road at Mc Intosh Street be repaired.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

(Government Orders of the day are marked thus*)

1*. Building Societies (Amendment) Bill, 2009.
(Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance and Planning) 1st Reading

2*. Banana Industry Bill, 2009.
(Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry and Fisheries) 1st Reading

RESOLUTIONS

NATIONAL INSURANCE (BENEFITS) (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 2008

To be moved by Dr. the Honourable Ralph E. Gonsalves, Prime Minister/Minister of Finance.

WHEREAS, the National Insurance Act Cap. 229 of the Laws of Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (Revised Edition) 1990 under section 28 provides for regulations regarding rates of benefits;

AND WHEREAS, such regulations shall provide for the rates or amounts of benefits and the variation thereof, the conditions subject to which these benefits may be granted and the date from which the benefits are provided;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that this Honourable House pass the **National Insurance (Benefits) (Amendment) Regulations 2008** by resolution of the House of Assembly pursuant to section 48 of the said Act.

ADJOURNMENT