SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

No.16 **40**

THURSDAY 15TH AUGUST, 2013

PRAYERS

OBITUARIES

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CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTINGS HELD ON 2ND and 3RD JULY, 2013

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PETITIONS

1. The Association for Children with Disability
   (Honourable Minister of Persons with Disabilities)

PAPERS

1. **House of Assembly Paper No. 4 of 2013**

   The Anti-Trafficking in Persons Unit
   (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of National Security)

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

1. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace, (Leader of the Opposition) to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Development. Airport and Seaport and Grenadines Affairs:

   Please give the fiscal outturn for the period January to June 2013 as compared with the same period of 2012.

2. The Honourable Arnhim Eustace, (Leader of the Opposition) to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of Finance, Economic Development. Airport and Seaport and Grenadines Affairs:

   Could the Honourable Prime Minister indicate the current situation with respect to the British American / CLICO situation in particular with regard to further payments on special annuities.

3. 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:

   It has now been two years since the formal commencement of the free movement of people within the OECS. Given the importance of this initiative to the OECS integration process and the potential

   benefits it may bring to the people of the member countries, will the Prime Minister please report on how this initiative has been implemented in our country and state whether the necessary administrative changes have been made here and in the other OECS countries and further state how the initiative has worked thus far in St. Vincent and the Grenadines and the wider OECS.

4. 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:

   What is the status of the St. Vincent and the Grenadines 2011 population census and, in particular, when will the report be completed.

5. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday (Northern Grenadines) to ask the Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation and Industry :
   The Minister recently announced the opening up of a new market for fish in New York, USA. In light of this will the Minister please state:

   a) The quantity and types of fish or other seafood that can be supplied to this market
   b) The level of readiness of our fishing industry to meet the demands of this and other markets; and
   c) What his government is doing to assist fishermen to obtain or upgrade their fishing boats and other equipment to ensure that they, and by extension this country, are able to take full advantage of the opportunities offered in this market.

6. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (West Kingstown) to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Energy, Grenadines and Legal Affairs:

   In my capacity as representative of West Kingstown, I wrote to the CEO of VINLEC, on April 25 2013, among other things enquiring "…what is your Company's policy on the placement of street

lights and one or two pole extensions for domestic electricity supply..." To date there has not even been an acknowledgement of the request by the CEO.

Would the Honourable Prime Minister please therefore give a fulsome explanation of the mechanisms available to Members of Parliament to have these basic amenities met and the costs to the potential electricity consumers.

7. The Honourable Daniel Cummings (West Kingstown) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

Since the heavy rains in the North Windward part of St. Vincent in 2011, there has been a large boulder on the bridge in Gorse Mangrove along the Windward highway. Painted yellow and remains an extreme hazard to unsuspecting motorists.

Would the Minister please explain why the stone has remained there so long, what has to be done to permit a free and safe flow of traffic and when it is expected to be removed.

8. The Honourable St. Clair Leacock (Central Kingstown) to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Energy, Grenadines and Legal Affairs:

Any increased use of renewable energy that results in an advantage to the consumer is clearly a welcomed initiative. In this regard VINLEC's recent announcement of a three million ($3,000,000) initiative into photovoltaic energy (solar) is welcomed. Will the Honourable Prime Minister please indicate:

a) Whether this will realize in any reduction in the basic cost of fifty cents per unit to the domestic consumer.
b) How soon will the photovoltaic initiative translate into a reduced energy surcharge to domestic consumers.
c) What is the minimum capital investment in plant that is necessary to realize a 5-10% reduced cost to consumers.
d) What is the earliest forecast of this government for the reduction in the electricity bill to consumers and what is the projected cost of the investment.

9. The Honourable St. Clair Leacock (Central Kingstown) to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Energy, Grenadines and Legal Affairs, Airports and Sea Ports.

Recent incidents of aircraft crashes, especially in the United States area remind us of the absolute imperative for an impeccable First Responders Regime (unit). As we contemplate completion of the Argyle International Airport, will the Honourable Prime Minister please advise the parliament of the following:

a) The number of professionals who will comprise such a unit of First Responders.
b) The chain of command and the agencies to be involved.
c) The amount of investment in the Coast Guard Service, including the new vessels and the types to be acquired and the number of dedicated personnel for search and rescue at the AIA.
d) The increase in size of the Fire Service and any change in the current administrative apparatus.
e) The location of the Trauma Centre(s) to service the Argyle International Airport and the provision of supporting ambulance services.
f) The budgeted cost for these ancillary yet essential services to our air safety.

10. The Honourable St. Clair Leacock (Central Kingstown) to ask the Honourable Prime Minister and Minister of Finance, Economic Development, Energy, Grenadines and Legal Affairs and Airport and Sea Port.

    Outfitting a child for school is expensive enough without excessive yet unofficial regulation. There is a growing complaint from some local producers of school uniforms that the policy of some schools are creating a virtual monopoly by insisting that the uniforms be bought at a specified supplier(s) often leading to increased cost for uniforms:

    a) What steps is the government taking to stop the unlawful practice at some schools.
    b) Is there a need to protect parents from unreasonable costs for the purchase of logos, school crests and other supplies in this increasingly monopoly situation of compulsory shopping.
    c) What actions if any is the government prepared to take on this matter.

11. The Honourable Roland Matthews (North Leeward) to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

    Regular ground crew and at least 6 cycles of aerial spraying have been set as a target for the control of Black Sigatoka by the Ministry of Agriculture for 2013. Will the Minister please state:

    a) If the Ministry is on course to achieve this objective
    b) How many aerial cycles have been completed to date;
    c) How many acres of bananas have been sprayed by aerial method to date;
    d) What are his Ministry's updated plans to contain the spread of the Black Sigatoka.

12. The Honourable Roland Matthews (North Leeward) to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture and Fisheries:

    The development of several committees including an audit committee has been listed as an objective of the Ministry of Agriculture for 2013. Will the Minister please state:

    a) The committees that have been developed to date;
    b) The functions of these committees;
    c) How are members selected or appointed to these committees;
    d) How many of these committees are operational.

13. The Honourable Roland Matthews (North Leeward) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works:

    The entire village road starting from the North leeward Highway to the cemetery in Gordon, Spring Village is in a deplorable condition. Will the Minister please state:

    a) If there are any plans to fix this road in 2013 and if so when will work commence.
    b) What is the estimated cost to fix this road in terms of material cost and workmanship.

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

    a) Will the Honourable Minister give a status report of the Vermount /Francois Bridge;
    b) State whether or not the government has finally seen the wisdom of repairing the Penniston Bridge which is an accident waiting to happen and if yes when will work begin.

15. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson Member of Parliament for South Leeward to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Youth and Social Development:

Given the fact that hundreds of young people have graduated from secondary schools, colleges and universities compounding an already high unemployment situation, Will the Honourable Minister please outline what plans the government has to offer hope to young people that gainful employment will be provided to ease the hardship currently endured by the Vincentian people?

16. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson (South Leeward) to ask the Minister of Tourism and Sports:

Will the Honourable Minister state unequivocally when the people of the Vermont Valley can expect work on the Penniston playing field to resume and give a clear time line as to when organised sports can be conducted on the facility.

17. Dr. the Honourable Linton A. Lewis, (Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

During the construction of the Fair Hall Primary School, which commenced classes on 15th September, 2008 preparations were made to concrete a road running alongside Justin's Woodwork Shop towards the Fair Hall Primary School. The said road is currently overgrown with tall grass, weeds and other shrubs making it virtually impassable during the dry season and especially whenever it rains. Will the Minister please state:

a) whether there are plans to improve and complete construction of that road and if so;
b) When is work scheduled to commence on that road.

18. Dr. the Honourable Linton A. Lewis (Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government:

For over a year the waste water from the Lewis Punnett Home runs onto the main road in Glen. The drain into which the said water is designated to flow is usually blocked which causes the water to constantly run across the main road digging it up and creating a health hazard for motorists and pedestrians alike. Will the Minister please state:

a) Whether there are any plans to improve that drain, and if so;
b) When is work scheduled to commence.

19. Dr. the Honourable Linton A. Lewis, (Senator) to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport and Works, Urban Development and Local Government

Mr. Carlyle Dougan has suffered damages to his property in excess of $100,000 as a result of heavy flooding caused by a blocked drain which was damaged following the construction of houses in the new housing development at Harmony Hall. The flooding still continues whenever there is torrential rainfall in that area of Ribishi. Will the Honourable Minister state;

a) whether there are any plans for the improvement of that drain and if so;
b) when will construction work commence.

ORDERS OF THE DAY

(Government Orders are marked thus*)

BILLS

1*. Insurance (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)	1st Reading
2*. Witness (Special Measures) Bill, 2013 (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)	1st Reading
3*. Patents (Amendment) Bill, 2013 (Honourable Prime Minister/Minister of Finance)	1st Reading
4. St. Joseph Spiritual Baptist Church Incorporation Bill, 2013 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	Select Committee Report
5. Immanuel Christ Gospel Church Incorporation Bill, 2013 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	Select Committee Report
6. Grace Community Baptist Church Incorporation Bill, 2013 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	Select Committee Report
7. Redeemed Christian Church of God Winners Sanctuary Incorporation Bill, 2013 (Honourable Mr. Speaker)	Select Committee Report

ADJOURNMENT