



SAINT VINCENT AND THE GRENADINES
HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY
ORDER PAPER

No.9

23

MONDAY 28TH APRIL, 2025

PRAYERS

OBITUARIES

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS

**CONFIRMATION OF MINUTES OF THE SITTINGS HELD ON
THURSDAY 6th MARCH, 2025**

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

REPORTS FROM SELECT COMMITTEE

PAPERS

1* House of Assembly Paper No. 5 of 2025

Roads Buildings and General Service Authority
Financial Statements
For the year ended December 31, 2021
(Honourable Minister of Transport and Works)

2* House of Assembly Paper No. 6 of 2025

SR&O No.2 of 2025
National Insurance (Pensions Abroad and Voluntary Contributors)
Regulations 2025
(Honourable Minister of Finance)

3* House of Assembly Paper No. 7 of 2025

National Telecommunications Regulatory Commission (NTRC)
Annual Report 2024
(Honourable Minister of Finance)

QUESTIONS FOR ORAL ANSWERS

- 1. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition) to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, Airports, Legal Affairs and Information:**

- (i) What has been the annual cost of operating Argyle International Airport (AIA) since it opened; and
- (ii) How much of that annual operating cost was paid from revenue earned by AIA's?

- 2. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition) to ask the Honourable Minister of Urban Development, Energy, Seaports, Grenadines Affairs, and Local Government:**

In repeated budget addresses, the government indicated that efforts were being made to get investors to repair and operate the Ottley Hall dry dock. Given that the dry dock remains in a state of disrepair and is still not operating, will the Minister update this Honourable House as to the estimated cost of repairing the facility to make it fully operational and the discussions held and other initiatives undertaken to attract investors for the project.

- 3. Dr. the Honourable Godwin Friday, (Leader of the Opposition) to ask the Honourable Minister of Education and National Reconciliation:**

Given that many students and their families find it difficult to pay the registration fees required to write CSEC exams and resort to various means to raise money required, will the Minister say whether the government will adopt a policy of paying for students to register to write CSEC examinations, as has been urged by the Opposition for many years and was recently adopted by the government in Guyana, and if not, why not.

- 4. The Honourable Major St. Claire Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, Airports, Legal Affairs and Information:**

- (i) How soon would the signage on the Old Montrose Police Station be repaired and or repainted;
- (ii) How soon can the Police at Largo Height expect repairs to their living quarters, bathrooms and general amenities; and
- (iii) What is the hold up in commencing repairs to the roof of the Largo Height Police Station.

- 5. The Honourable Major St. Claire Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, Airports, Legal Affairs and Information:**

- (i) How many fire appliances are at the disposal of the Kingstown branch of the Fire Service;
- (ii) What is the total complement of "firemen" at the Kingstown branch of the Fire Service;
- (iii) How many fires can the Fire Service attend to competently in the city of Kingstown; and
- (iv) What kinds of fires are they equipped to extinguish.

- 6. The Honourable Major St. Claire Leacock, (Member for Central Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs:**

When would repairs and or reconstruction begin on the - Largo Height Community Centre.

7. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (Member for West Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour:

Rainforest was granted duty free concessions to establish a processing plant at Calliaqua for fish and shellfish. Recently Rainforest was granted permission from the Physical Planning Department to construct a retail outlet on its compound at Calliaqua. In fact, construction has already started on the building.

Can the Honourable Minister please state:

- (i) What exactly will Rainforest be offering for sale from this outlet and will they be directly competing with the Calliaqua fish market a few hundred yards away;
- (ii) If in the affirmative, what protection is the ministry offering to local fisherfolk who depend on fishing for their livelihoods, and who can be put out of business by potentially unfair competition; and
- (iii) Will Rainforest be required to separate the proposed retail outlet from the original processing plant so that the duty-free concessions are not extended to the new entity or have they been granted additional duty-free concessions to accommodate the proposed outlet.

8. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (Member for West Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Housing, Informal Human Settlement, Youth and Sports:

There was a lighted hard court at the top of Edinboro on the site of an old stone quarry. The concrete floor needs refurbishment, the perimeter block work has been demolished and the high perimeter chain link fence has disappeared. The supporting infrastructure for the flood lights has vanished.

Given the high demands for sporting facilities in the area of Ottley Hall and Edinboro and as an aid to reducing the incidents of crime in the area, would the Honourable Minister please state:

- (i) Are there any plans in train for the restoration of this vital sporting facility;
- (ii) If in the affirmative, when can this be done; and
- (iii) If not why not.

9. The Honourable Daniel Cummings, (Member for West Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

There is a foot path leading from Cemetery Hill to the entrance of the cemetery on the south side. This foot path follows the fence of the cemetery and is a much-needed access for many persons living in Cemetery Hill.

The retaining wall and fence of the cemetery is broken and in danger of collapsing for quite some time. In addition, the narrow foot path is reducing due to the frequent collapse of the supporting embankment.

Would the Honourable Minister please state:

- (i) Is the ministry aware of the state of this footpath;
- (ii) Has an assessment been done of it;
- (iii) Is there any plan in hand to repair the collapsing fence walls of the cemetery and to build a proper concrete footpath for the residents;
- (iv) If not why not? and
- (v) if yes when will this vital work be done?

10. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- (i) When will Big Bush Road in Rillan Hill be repaired and
- (ii) Whether the government will ensure that the road is extended into the Low-Income area and if so when?

11. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs:

During the presentation of the 2025 budget, a number of Community centres were listed for repairs:

Will the Honourable Minister please state:

- (i) When the Clare Valley and Penniston Community Centres will be repaired; and
- (ii) When will the Campden Park Community Centre be made available to the people of that community.

12. The Honourable Nigel Stephenson, (Member for South Leeward), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

The road leading to the Buccament Government School in Du Bois is steep and narrow and is paralleled by a deep embankment. Pedestrians and motorists encounter challenges traversing that dangerous piece of road.

Will the Honourable Minister please state:

When that road will be widened to ease the flow of traffic?

13. The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble, (Member for East Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, Airports, Legal Affairs and Information:

Recently, United States President Donald Trump announced the imposition of a baseline 10% tariff on goods entering the United States from all countries around the world including St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

Will the Honourable Minister please:

- (i) State the government's response to President Trump's tariff policy;
- (ii) Indicate how this policy will affect Vincentians; and
- (iii) Say what the government plans to do to cushion the impact of this tariff imposition on St. Vincent and the Grenadines.

14. The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble, (Member for East Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Finance, Economic Planning and Information Technology:

In July 2024, this Honourable House approved a supplementary budget of \$136,446,00 in response to the passage of hurricane Beryl on July 1st 2024. Will the Honourable Minister please:

- (i) Tell us how much of the \$136,446,000 was spent; and

- (ii) Highlight what factors/issues, if any, prevented the full implementation of the supplementary budget.

15. The Honourable Fitzgerald Bramble, (Member for East Kingstown), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

Budget 2025, allocates money for the implementation of two projects in Kingstown, namely rehabilitation of the Thomas Saunders Secondary School and rehabilitation of the Girls High School.

Will the Honourable Minister please:

- (i) Indicate what works would be done on these two projects this year;
- (ii) What factors, if any, are delaying the completion of these two projects;
- (iii) When can we reasonably expect these projects to be completed?

16. The Honourable Israel Bruce, (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

Much needed rehabilitative work has commenced on the road that leads from Diamonds to Mt Grenan in the South Central Windward Constituency.

Can the Honourable Minister give this House an update on this project in relation to the following:

- (i) What is the extent of rehabilitation work which is completed as of April 1st 2025;
- (ii) What is the extent of the rehabilitative work which remains to be completed;
- (iii) When is it expected that these works will be completed;
- (iv) What is the overall cost associated with this rehabilitation exercise?

17. The Honourable Israel Bruce, (Opposition Senator), to ask Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, Airports, Legal Affairs and Information:

Auxiliary Officers and Traffic Wardens have been raising the concerns of the issue of pensions after many years working for the government and people of St Vincent & the Grenadines.

Will the Honourable Minister please state whether these categories of workers are pensionable or not:

- (i) If they are not, can you explain why is it that they are not treated as a category of workers eligible for pensions; and
- (ii) Provided that they are not pensionable will the Honourable Minister state whether or not this government is willing to review relevant financial and policy provisions to make them pensionable.

18. The Honourable Israel Bruce, (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Prime Minister, Minister of National Security, Airports, Legal Affairs and Information:

In your capacity as Minister of Citizenship and Immigration, the Immigration Act Cap 115, requires that persons born abroad to Vincentian parents who are desirous of being holders of Vincentian passports are required to come before an immigration officer, when making their first application and being mindful of the advancement technology in litigation fora.

- i) Is the Immigration Department authorised to facilitate these applicants appearing before Immigration officials via audio-visual means?
- ii) If not why not?

19. The Honourable Shevern John, (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of Agriculture, Forestry, Fisheries, Rural Transformation, Industry and Labour:

Recently a number of farmers were given irrigation kit under the UBEC Programme.

Could the Honourable Minister please state:

- (i) What training programmes are in place to assist farmers with the setting up of these irrigation systems;
- (ii) If there are plans to provide farmers on the Rabacca farm lands in the Orange hill, Waterloo areas with water to irrigate their farms; and
- (iii) Whether or not continuous assessment will be done on those farms with irrigation system to assess production improvements and whether this will be reported regularly.

20. The Honourable Shevern John, (Opposition Senator), to ask the Minister of Transport, Works, Lands and Physical Planning:

Could the Honourable Minister state:

- (i) How many days are tires burnt at the Rabacca Site as a means of disposal;
- (ii) What is the status of the construction of the shredding facility.

21. The Honourable Shevern John, (Opposition Senator), to ask the Honourable Minister of National Mobilisation, Social Development, Family, Gender Affairs:

Could the Honourable Minister:

- (i) Give an update of the monthly assistance given to a foster parent over the past two years and whether there will be an increase in this allowance in light of rising cost of living;
- (ii) Give an update of the problems the ministry experiences with foster care retention; and
- (ii) Give an update of the criteria for returning foster care children to their original families.

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

BILLS

1* Legal Profession Bill, 2025 (Honourable Prime Minister/ Minister of National Security)	Reports from Select Committee
2* Eastern Caribbean Asset Management Corporation (Amendment) Bill 2025 (Honourable Minister of Finance)	1 st Reading
3* Virtual Assets (Amendment) Bill 2025 (Honourable Minister of Finance)	1 st Reading
4* Garvin Jackson Pension (Declaration) Bill 2025 (Honourable Prime Minister/ Minister of National Security)	1 st Reading
5* Marla Mulraine Pension (Declaration) Bill 2025 (Honourable Prime Minister/ Minister of National Security)	1 st Reading

ADJOURNMENT