



SENATE

11th Parliament

Friday

1st Session

May 5, 2023

No. 3 of 2023

at 9:00 a.m.

ORDER PAPER

(Pursuant to Standing Order No. 13)

1. Formal Entry of Madam President.

2. Prayers.

3. Oath of Allegiance or Affirmation of a new Senator.

4. Confirmation of Minutes:

- Confirmation of the Minutes of the proceedings of a Sitting of the Senate held at the Parliament Chamber, Mt. Wheldale, St. George's on Thursday April 6, 2023 at 9:00 a.m.

5. Messages from the Governor-General.

6. Announcements by Madam President.

7. Ministerial Statements.

8. Presentation of Papers and Reports from Select Committees:

- Annual Report, Audit Report and Financial Statements of the Grenada Development Bank (GDB) for the year ended 31st December, 2021.
- 2022 Annual Report on the Status of the Implementation of the Fiscal Responsibility Act (No. 29 of 2015).
- Fiscal Responsibility Oversight Committee (FROC) Annex to 2022 Annual Report.

9. Petitions.

10. Government Notices.

11. Unofficial Notices.

12. Questions:

(UNANSWERED AT THE SITTING OF APRIL 6, 2023)

Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair will ask the Leader of Government's Business, Senator the Honourable Adrian Thomas, the following questions:

- 1. Question pertaining to the Government-named Technical Working Group on the Marketing and National Importing Board (MNIB) and requiring written responses:** Please inform the Senate on the following:
 - (i) The full name of each member of the Government appointed Technical Working Group on the MNIB.
 - (ii) The qualifications and experience of each member of the Technical Working Group.
 - (iii) Terms of Reference that Government has provided to the Technical Working Group.
 - (iv) The criteria used to determine the composition of Technical working group on MNIB

- (v) Is there any form of remuneration or compensation that will be paid to members of the Technical Working Group on MNIB?

***2. Question pertaining to Grenada regaining market access to USA for fresh mangoes and requiring verbal answer. ***

- (1) Has Government embarked on a plan of action including strategies and resources to support our farmers and fresh produce exporters to recommence exports of mangoes to the USA?
- (2) If yes, please inform this Honourable House of the Senate, as to Government's plan.
- (3) If no, please provide the Senate with an approximate time that a plan would be available for sharing with the farmers, the public and members of this house.

***3. Question pertaining to the status of the establishment of the Praedial Larceny Fund as is under the existing Praedial Larceny Act since Government's last response to my question on the existence of the fund. This question seeks a written response.**

Please inform the Senate of the progress to date by the Government to have the Praedial Larceny Fund established within the Government's Accounts such that fines at the Magistrate's Court for offences under the Praedial Larceny Act can be deposited and become accessible to farmers who may request compensation under the Act by writing to the Minister of Agriculture.

13. Personal Explanations.

14. Motions.

15. Bills:

For First Reading and Remaining Stages:

- Tax Administration (Amendment) Bill, 2023
- Public Finance Management (Amendment) Bill, 2023

16. Public Business.

a) By Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair.

MOTION ON THE NEED FOR EFFECTIVE PRAEDIAL LARCENY ENFORCEMENT BY GOVERNMENT TO PROTECT OUR FARMERS AND OUR FOOD SECURITY

WHEREAS farmers continue to identify praedial larceny as a longstanding hindrance to their agriculture production;

AND WHEREAS the legislative and enforcement mechanisms have not been effective;

AND WHEREAS year after year, farmers continue to lose morale and money thus putting their livelihood, their safety and Grenada's food security at risk;

AND WHEREAS our farmers need an effective praedial larceny mechanism to protect their investment, protect their livelihood, and protect Grenada's food security;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Senate supports the following:

- (i) That the Government reviews the current state of praedial larceny enforcement measures and provide the Senate with key plans and recommendations it will implement to improve the current situation; and
- (ii) The formation of a committee of 3 to 5 Members of the Senate to provide Parliamentary support and oversight for the implementation of Government's proposed plans and recommendations.

b) By Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair.

MOTION REQUESTING GOVERNMENT TO LIFT THE RESTRICTIONS FOR YOUNG REGISTERED FARMERS AND FISHERFOLKS UNDER 25 YEARS TO OBTAIN A D-CLASS DRIVERS' LICENCE

WHEREAS to obtain a D-Class driver's licence one has to have at least one year experience driving with a B-Class driver's license and be over 25 years;

AND WHEREAS a young farmer or fisherfolk in Grenada between the ages of 18 to 24 is unable to get a D-Class drivers' licence to operate a pick-up truck which is most appropriate for their agricultural and fisher activities;

AND WHEREAS the Grenada National Sustainable Development Plan 2020 - 2035 has recommended to lift this age restriction as an incentive for young registered farmers under the age of 25 and who would have been driving on a B-Class licence for at least two years;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Senate supports the following:

That Government reviews the existing situation and appropriately implement the recommendations of the Grenada National Sustainable Development 2020-2035 to allow registered farmers and fisherfolks who are under the age of 25 and who has two years driving experience with a B-Class drivers' licence to be eligible for a D-Class drivers' licence.

c) By Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair.

MOTION SEEKING THE URGENT ACTION BY THE MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE TO ISSUE AN ORDER TO AMEND THE AGRICULTURE CROP COMPENSATION SCHEDULE WHICH DATE BACK TO 1995

WHEREAS crop damage from individuals and animals is a constant challenge and loss incurred by farmers;

AND WHEREAS the compensation for crop damage suffered by farmers is being valued using the 1995 price schedule;

AND WHEREAS according to Clause 4 of the Act, (Power to amend Schedule), "The Minister (for Agriculture) if he or she considers it expedient to do so, may by Order amend the Schedule";

AND WHEREAS amending the 1995 Crop Compensation Schedule will result in a more justified compensation or value to be awarded to a farmer when he or she suffers crop loss or damage;

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Senate supports this urgent call by our farmers for the Minister (for Agriculture) to issue an "Order to Amend the Schedule" acting in accordance with the powers vested in him (or her) under Clause 4 of the Agriculture Crop Compensation Act;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT should this Motion be passed, the House of Representatives be so informed by message from this House.

d) Private Member's Bill

By Senator the Honourable Roderick St. Clair.

For second reading and remaining stages

➤ Agriculture Crop Compensation (Amendment) Bill, 2022

17. Adjournment.