Parliament of Saint Lucia

HOUSE OF ASSEMBLY

Second Session
Thirteenth Parliament 2026/2027

TUESDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2026 AT 10:00 A.M.

ORDER PAPER

PRAYERS

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY MR. SPEAKER

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

PAPERS TO BE LAID

By the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Constituency Development, People Empowerment, Justice and National Security:-

Statutory Instrument No.216 of 2026
Alien Landholding (Licensing) (Exemption) (Lindon Martin Lovell) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 218 of 2026
International Organization and Overseas Countries (Immunities and Privileges) (Organization of Eastern Caribbean States) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 220 of 2026
Excise Tax (Amendment of Schedule 1) (No.15) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 221 of 2026
Public Finance Management Act - Resolution of Parliament to Authorize the Minister of Finance to Guarantee a Loan for the Low to Medium Income Infrastructural Development and Home Construction Project on behalf of the Saint Lucia Development Bank

Statutory Instrument No. 222 of 2026
Sovereign Wealth Fund of Saint Lucia (Appointment of the Sovereign Wealth Fund of Saint Lucia Board) Notice

Statutory Instrument No. 226 of 2026
Customs Duties (Amendment of Schedule 4) (No.2) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 227 of 2026
Customs (Control and Management) (Advance Rulings) Regulations

By the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Tourism, Commerce, Investment, Creative Industries, Culture and Heritage:-

Statutory Instrument No. 207 of 2026
Tourism Development (DTS Taxi Services) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 208 of 2026
Tourism Development (GOCAB Taxi) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 209 of 2026
Tourism Development (Sharler Tours and Transfers) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 210 of 2026
Tourism Development (Arthur Touring Services) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 211 of 2026
Tourism Development (Combie's Executive Taxi Service) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 212 of 2026
Tourism Development (Golden Ticket SLU) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 213 of 2026
Tourism Development (King James Luxury Services) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 214 of 2026
Tourism Development (P.A. Tours and Taxi Services) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 215 of 2026
Tourism Development (Welcome Taxi Service) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 217 of 2026
Tourism Development (BDSL Limited) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 223 of 2026
Tourism Development (Nico's Touring Services Limited) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 224 of 2026
Tourism Development (Thom C Taxi and Tours) Order

Statutory Instrument No. 225 of 2026
Tourism Development (Victory Taxi and Tours) Order

By Minister for Equity, Social Justice, Gender, Older Persons, Labour, Co- operatives and Consumer Affairs:-

Statutory Instrument No. 219 of 2026
Price Control (Amendment) (No.14) Order

MOTIONS

By the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Constituency Development, People Empowerment, Justice and National Security:-

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that Parliament by affirmative resolution approves the draft Value Added Tax (Amendment of Schedule 3) Order which amends Schedule 3 of the Act to —

(a) exempt imports of personal items, foods, clothing, toys and other household consumables, contained in barrels for the period commencing from the 1st day of November, 2026 and terminating on the 28th day of February, 2027

(b) exempt imports of toys, food supplies, care packages, Christmas lights and Christmas decorations by elected Parliamentarians for the period commencing from the 1st day of November, 2026 and terminating on the 28th day of February, 2027.

BILLS

By the Prime Minister and Minister for Finance, Constituency Development, People Empowerment, Justice and National Security:-

*Insolvency (Amendment) - First Reading

+Banking (Amendment) - Second Reading

By the Minister for Home Affairs, Crime Prevention, Conflict Resolution and Persons with Disabilities:-

*Child Justice (Amendment) - First Reading

*Firearms (Amendment) - First Reading

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

By the Honourable Member for Micoud South and Leader of the Opposition:-

1. **BE IT RESOLVED** that this Honourable House declares, as a matter of public financial policy, the principle that where a statutory body, statutory corporation, statutory authority or Government-owned entity has failed to prepare and submit its annual financial statements for audit, or to submit its annual audited accounts, within the period prescribed by section 83 of the Public Finance Management Act, or where any annual report or audited financial statements required by the relevant enactment to be laid before Parliament have not been so laid, no new discretionary appropriations, discretionary grants, discretionary capital allocations, discretionary project funding, subsidies, equity injections or other discretionary transfers of public funds shall be approved or released to that body until the outstanding reports required by law have been laid before Parliament, subject to such safeguards and exceptions as are set out in this Resolution, and urges that this principle be given statutory effect;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in considering any Estimates, Supplementary Estimates or Appropriation Bill, this Honourable House will have regard to compliance with statutory reporting obligations and will not approve any new discretionary appropriation for a body in default of those obligations, save where the exceptions set out in this Resolution apply;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House calls upon the Government to give effect to the said principle in the preparation of the Estimates and in the release of discretionary funds, pending the enactment of legislation, including by the use of such powers as are lawfully available within the existing public financial management framework in respect of discretionary transfers, grants and subsidies;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House urges the Government to introduce legislation which shall establish, having regard to the corrective-action power already conferred by section 82(3) of the Public Finance Management Act, a graduated system of compliance measures distinguishing between

(a)late submission;
(b)persistent non-compliance
(c)repeated willful refusal to comply; an

(d)deliberate concealment, falsification or fraudulent reporting,
and which shall provide reasonable notice, opportunities to remedy any default, appropriate due process safeguards and rights of appeal before more serious sanctions are imposed;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that such legislation shall provide for effective enforcement mechanisms, including administrative sanctions, financial consequences for persistent non-compliance, restrictions on discretionary funding, review of Board appointments where appropriate, and criminal sanctions reserved for deliberate concealment, fraud or repeated wilful refusal to comply with statutory reporting obligations;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said legislation shall provide that, where the annual accounts of a statutory body are audited otherwise than by the Director of Audit, the terms of reference for that audit shall be approved by the Director of Audit, and no auditor shall be appointed or engaged to conduct that audit without the prior written no-objection of the Director of Audit;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said legislation shall provide, and that such amendment be made to the Standing Orders as may be necessary to secure, that the Public Accounts Committee shall examine every annual report and audited financial statement of a statutory body laid before this Honourable House within six months after it is so laid, and shall report its findings and recommendations to the House;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said legislation shall provide that, where any statutory body remains in default for more than six months after the date by which its annual financial statements ought to have been submitted for audit, or its annual audited accounts submitted, under section 83 of the Public Finance Management Act, or after the date by which any report required by the relevant enactment ought to have been laid before Parliament, the Minister responsible shall lay before Parliament a written statement explaining—

(a) the reasons for the default;
(b) the measures taken to secure compliance;
(c) the expected date by which compliance will be achieved; and
(d) any interim measures implemented to safeguard public accountability;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said legislation shall provide that no request for new discretionary funding for any statutory body shall be submitted for approval unless accompanied by certification, in such manner and by such authority as may be prescribed by law, confirming whether that body is fully compliant with all statutory reporting obligations imposed by law, and that this Honourable House calls upon the Government to adopt that practice pending the enactment of such legislation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that any policy or legislation adopted pursuant to this Resolution shall preserve the uninterrupted delivery of essential public services, shall be consistent with the duty imposed by section 84(7) of the Public Finance Management Act to ensure that a statutory body is adequately resourced to enable it to operate effectively, and shall not operate to suspend or withhold—

(a) salaries, wages, pensions or other lawful emoluments;
(b) expenditure necessary for the continued provision of essential public services;
(c) statutory expenditure, debt charges charged upon the Consolidated Fund by section 83 of the Constitution, or other legally binding contractual obligations; or
(d) funding specifically authorised by Parliament where exceptional circumstances make such funding necessary in the public interest;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said legislation and the administrative arrangements made under it shall provide for—

(a) the annual preparation and laying before Parliament of a consolidated Statutory Bodies Compliance Report;
(b) the publication in the Gazette and on the official website of the Government of a Register of Compliance identifying statutory bodies in compliance and those in default of their statutory reporting obligations;
(c) the establishment of an early warning system to notify responsible Ministers and Boards before statutory reporting deadlines expire; and
(d) a requirement that the Board or controlling body of every statutory body shall certify annually that all statutory reporting obligations have been fulfilled;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, having regard to section 75(5)(j) of the Public Finance Management Act and to the power of the House of Assembly under section 75(5)(m) of that Act to require the inclusion of such other statements in the Public Accounts as it may determine, the consolidated Statutory Bodies Compliance Report shall identify—

(a) each body required by law to prepare and submit audited financial statements;
(b) the statutory deadline applicable to each such body;
(c) the financial year to which the most recently submitted audited financial statements relate;
(d) the date on which the audited financial statements were due and the date on which they were submitted and, where required by law, laid before Parliament;
(e) each body whose audited financial statements remain outstanding,

together with the period for which it has remained in default;

(f) any reasons provided for the delay or non-compliance;

(g) any compliance notice, administrative measure or enforcement action taken in respect of the default; and

(h) the status of any outstanding corrective action required to secure compliance;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the said Report shall be laid before this Honourable House annually and made readily accessible to the public;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this Honourable House calls upon the Government to adopt such of the foregoing measures as may be implemented without legislation, pending the enactment of the said legislation;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a Special Select Committee of this Honourable House be appointed, in accordance with the Standing Orders and without prejudice to the functions of the Public Accounts Committee, and without prejudice to the distinct functions of the Inquiry Committee established under section 87 of the Public Finance Management Act, to inquire into compliance by statutory bodies, statutory corporations, statutory authorities and Government-owned entities with their statutory reporting obligations under Part 13 of that Act and their respective enabling enactments; to identify the causes of persistent non-compliance; to assess the adequacy of existing enforcement mechanisms, including the application of the surcharge provisions of sections 92 to 98 to defaults in statutory financial reporting; to consider which reforms may be effected by regulations made under section 112 of that Act and which require primary legislation; and to recommend legislative and administrative reforms to strengthen accountability;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Select Committee shall, subject to the Standing Orders and the law relating to the powers and privileges of Parliament, have power to send for persons, papers and records; to examine accounting officers, Board Chairpersons, Chief Executive Officers, auditors and other relevant persons; to invite the attendance of Ministers; and to make recommendations for corrective action;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Special Select Committee shall report its findings and recommendations to this Honourable House within three months of its appointment, and that any extension of that period shall be granted only by resolution of this Honourable House and shall not exceed three months in the aggregate;

AND BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that this Honourable House urges the Government to consider the report of the Special Select Committee and to

introduce, within six months of the adoption by this Honourable House of that report and in any event not later than twelve months from the adoption of this Resolution, legislation to give effect to the principles contained in this Resolution and, where appropriate, to the recommendations of the Special Select Committee, so as to strengthen parliamentary oversight, improve public accountability and ensure timely compliance with statutory reporting obligations.

* It is the intention of the Honourable Minister to seek leave of the House to enable the Bills to go through all its stages at this Sitting.
+ previously circulated