REASONS TO REMEMBER

Of Lies, Deceptions, Blunders, and MISSTEPS

CONFIDENTIAL
SECTION 34
Of Lies, Deceptions, Blunders, and Missteps
A Reason to Remember

May 24th, 2010 deserves to be remembered, but not the way some would blithely expect all of Trinidad and Tobago to do. That date heralds the beginning of the most impacting of all man-made disasters that we, the people of this blessed nation have ever had the misfortune to experience.

That the advent of the government of Kamla Persad Bissessar and her “People’s Partnership” has turned out to be one of the darkest chapters in our nation’s history, did not really come as a surprise to some observers; however, the depth of her administration’s utter disregard for proper procedures, the violation of the sanctity of High Office and institutions, and the penchant for insisting that all is well and above board, when it clearly is not, have shocked most of us to the core.

More astonishingly, is the frequency with which these “missteps” (to quote the Prime Minister herself) have taken place - the word “scandalous” is very much in danger of losing its relevance as a suitable adjective, so frequent have these incidents been. There have been so many shameful and disgraceful occurrences unbecoming of a democratic government, that there is a real risk of forgetting all the mischief has taken place since May 2010, when, by whom and why.

From the deliberate destruction of our national security apparatus; to the use of friends’ employees to siphon hundreds of millions of taxpayers’ dollars out of the treasury; to abetting the theft of national resources; to the wanton abuse of office; the kleptocratic actions of this government will have far-reaching consequences for future generations, who will have to battle lower standards of living, currency devaluation and international debt even as members of the Partnership and their friends live happily abroad with loot stolen from our land. And not content with launching Trinidad and Tobago on the path to destitution, they want more - more power; more time in office; more access to the Treasury and our national resources; so much so, that they have already changed the Constitution and the rules about how we vote - hoping that the tweaks to the rules will help them win seats in the so-called marginal constituencies.

And that is just one more thing to remember - because ideally, the People’s Partnership would prefer that you not remember anything that they have done wrong, which is almost everything that they have done since May 2010.
We Were Warned!!!

Prime Minister Patrick Manning warns Trinidad and Tobago that Kamla Persad Bissessar is “a disaster waiting to happen”.

May 2010

Improper and Unfit Appointments

First Warnings Fall on Deaf Ears

PNM Political Leader, Keith Rowley objects to the appointment of Jack Warner as a Minister of Government. Attorney General Anand Ramlogan and Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar defend Warner, citing legal advice.

May 2010 – Present Day

Breach of Procedure • Cloud of Corruption

Spendermania and Squandermania

Billions of dollars worth of State contracts are awarded without following proper procedures.

July 10th 2010

Improper Appointments

Nizam’s the Man

Opposition Leader Keith Rowley protests against Nizam Mohammed’s appointment to the Police Service Commission, citing the potential for political bias, and improper procedure. Mohammed is eventually removed almost 2 years later for offensive statements on the racial composition of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service.

August – November 2010

Victimisation • Breach of Procedure • Broken Promises

URP Workers Put on the Breadline

In spite of Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar’s promises to the contrary, termination letters are issued to URP workers, whose replacements assume duties without letters of appointment.

August 2010

Lies • Broken Promises • Negligence

Election promise of $3,000 pensions for 60 year olds withdrawn.

Initially, the Government denies ever making such a claim. When Opposition Leader Keith Rowley presents documentary proof from the UNC’s election advertisements and its manifesto, its election advertising agency, Ross Advertising, issues a statement blaming an unnamed Art Director for the “error”.

Question: Who were the UNC officers who approved the publication of the Manifesto and its advertisements?

August 7th, 2010

Lack of Tact • Arrogance • Ignorance

Kamla Riles CARICOM

On her first ever appearance at the CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar tells her fellow heads of government that Trinidad and Tobago is not the ATM of the Caribbean, implying that their countries have been sponging off Trinidad and Tobago.
August 18th 2010
Political Victimisation • Abuse of Office
Litter Wardens Get It Too

28 litter wardens at the UNC-controlled Tunapuna/Piarco Corporation dismissed from their jobs, because they were hired when the PNM controlled the Corporation.

August 27th 2010
Abuse of Office • Political Interference
Attack on Institutions of the State
Police Commissioner Pushed Out

Acting Commissioner of Police James Philbert’s contract is terminated before it is completed, following threats from Attorney General Anand Ramlogan.

September 8th 2010
Broken Promises • Political Victimisation for voting
PNM Nothing for You!

People’s Partnership announces cancellation of the Smelter Project, citing environmental concerns. Thousands of residents of southwest Trinidad are thereby denied access to direct and indirect employment in the Smelter Project. Energy minister Carolyn Seepersad-Bachan assures that plastic, glass, and solar panel manufacturers are lined up to take the place of the smelter project. This never happened.

September 8th 2010
Abuse of Trust • Insensitivity
No to the Rapid Rail –
You Don’t Need It!

People’s Partnership announces cancellation of Rapid Rail project, confirming its intention to make life harder for citizens of Trinidad and Tobago - another major project of national importance that has been curtailed or abandoned, simply because it was started by the previous PNM government. The needs of 350,000 people are ignored, just for spite.

September 20th 2010
A Question of Ethics
Government Buys The Media

The People’s Partnership attempts to silence media criticism by appointing several senior private-sector journalists to positions in the Government and Government Information Services Limited.

Those first in line to go are,
• Andy Johnson of the Express • Sacha Mohammed of TV6 • Francis Joseph of the Guardian and about 20 others.

And if that was not enough gave National Awards to Cleon Raphael (Columnist), Charmaine Baboolal of 96.1 and Therese Mills of Newsday among others.

September 16th 2010
Attack on Institutions of the State
Spite • Mischief in High Office • Defamation
Defamation of the Chief Justice

Justice minister Herbert Volney launches defamatory attack on the Chief Justice, during his contribution to the 2010/2011 Budget Debate. Volney criticizes the housing afforded the Chief Justice by the State at taxpayers’ expense, alleging collusion with former Attorney General John Jeremie over the residence. Subsequent investigations show that Jeremie was not responsible for the acquisition of the residence, and that the Chief Justice is legally entitled to occupy such a residence as part of his compensation package.
September 29th, 2010

**Attack on the National Security Apparatus**

**Invitation to Drug Dealers • Ineptitude**

**Partnership Says “No” to OPVs for Fighting the Drug Trade**

People’s Partnership announces cancellation of the project to acquire three 90-metre Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPV’s) to target drug running, gun running, and people trafficking in Trinidad and Tobago’s waters. Sailors from the Trinidad and Tobago Coast Guard are already in training on the vessels in Britain when the announcement is made.

According to Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, “The country is not at war out in the seas; the country is at war on the ground, in our streets and in the towns within Trinidad and Tobago.”

She clearly fails to understand that the drugs and guns enter Trinidad and Tobago by sea, in spite of all the evidence to indicate this.

The result: more drugs in our society; more guns on the streets; more violence.

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September 2010

**Attack on the National Security Apparatus**

• **Invitation to Drug Dealers**

• **Ineptitude**

**SAUT Head Fired**

The People’s Partnership continues its assault on the security of the State seemingly on behalf of criminals and drug dealers, with the removal of Brigadier Peter Joseph as head of the Special Anti-crime Unit of Trinidad and Tobago.
October 2010

Cloud of Corruption • Lack of Ethics • Breach of Procedure

**Happy landings?**

Works and Transport minister, Jack Warner unilaterally awards a contract valued at $47 MILLION for the provision of lighting at Piarco Airport, without any tendering – a clear violation of the rules governing the procurement process.

October 13th 2010

**Political Interference • Lunacy**

**You Don’t Need a Modern Market**

Local Government minister Chandresh Sharma halts San Juan Market modernisation project, claiming vendors only require sheds and stalls. Later reverses decision.

October 27th 2010

**Political Interference • Bullying**

**Ingrid Isaac Forced Out of CNMG**

Following a visit by two People’s Partnership ministers from the Office of the Prime Minister (Colin Partap and Rodger Samuel) to the government-owned Caribbean New Media Group, CEO Ingrid Isaac “resigns” with over 3 years left on her contract. She subsequently sues CNMG and is awarded $2.1 million. CNMG has appealed.

October 2010

**Abuse of Office • Lack of Consideration**

Private Cars on the Bus Route

Maxi Taxi Operators protest Transport minister Jack Warner’s decision to extend the opening of the restricted Priority Bus Route to private vehicles for a further 3 months.

October 27th 2010

**Political Interference • Cloud of Corruption • Lack of Ethics • Breach of Procedure**

**CNMG Gets New Head Via Flawed Process**

UNC activist, Ken Ali, is appointed as CEO of government-owned Caribbean New Media Group (CNMG) without a Board of Directors in place to vet his appointment. The position was not advertised, breaking statutory requirements.

November 1st 2010

**Lack of Tact • Insensitivity • Ignorance**

Kamla Disgusts T&T and CARICOM (again)

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar provokes strong criticism across all of CARICOM following her insensitive and tasteless remarks, following the impact of Tropical Storm Thomas.

In the wake of death and destruction wrought by the storm, she tactlessly asserts that any storm relief aid provided by Trinidad and Tobago to its CARICOM neighbours must benefit Trinidad and Tobago companies and businesses.

Her insensitivity results in a boycott campaign against T&T-produced goods.
November 6th 2010

Foot in Mouth • Ignorance
Warner – “Take Bonds; We Have No Money”

Works and Transport minister Jack Warner says contractors should accept Government Bonds as payment for what they are owed by the Government, because there is no money to pay them.

November 10th 2010

Mixed Signals • Confused Government
Dookeran – “We Have Money”

Finance minister Winston Dookeran says the TT$7 billion owed to contractors is to be paid in cash. Warner says he was not aware that the Government has the money.

November 19th 2010

Political Interference • Cloud of Corruption
• Lack of Ethics • Breach of Procedure
Crooked Appointments at Airports Authority

Communications, Property and Human Resource Managers at the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago are appointed without a Board of Directors to approve their appointments, and without the statutorily-required advertisements announcing the vacancies to be filled.

November 20th 2010

Incompetence
Government Doesn’t Understand the Concept of “Secret”?

Confidential files of the Security Intelligence Agency (SIA) are revealed in House of Representatives by People’s Partnership government of Kamla Persad-Bissessar in a bid to vilify the national security apparatus.

November 20th 2010

Victimisation
How Dare You Stand on Principle? You Are Fired!

Regional Managers with the Unemployment Relief Programme are fired, following their complaints about phantom gangs, weak auditing and security concerns.

November 7th 2010

Political Interference • Bullying • Abuse of Office
Get Fazeer Off the Air!

TV talk-show host, Fazeer Mohammed is fired after an interview with Foreign Affairs minister, Sunraj Rambachan. Mohammed had refused to be bullied by Rambachan during the interview.

December 4th 2010

Lunacy?
Believe It or Not!

Justice minister Herbert Volney claims that files belonging to the Security Intelligence Agency were erased by two Israeli men. No proof has ever been offered that the men existed.
December 7th 2010
Abuse of Funds
X-rated Showtime
Youth and Sports minister Anil Roberts fails to account for expenditure on the fiasco called the NikiMinaj Show. The show exposed under-age children to explicit lyrics. Roberts denies in Parliament that explicit lyrics were featured in the show and refuses to have an audit performed on his Ministry’s expenditure.

December 15th 2010
Improper Appointment
Murky Waters
Ganga Singh is appointed Chief Executive Officer at the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) without a Board of Directors in place to vet his appointment, and without the vacancy being advertised.

December 21st 2010
Violation of Trust • Irresponsibility
Jack’s Crazy Road Rules
Works and Transport minister Jack Warner, announces regularisation of “PH” Drivers (drivers of registered private vehicles who operate illegally as taxis) - thereby condoning illegal activity (in the absence of supporting legislation) and compromising the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service.

December 2010
A Storm Begins
Jack In a Box
FIFA Vice President and Works and Transport minister, Jack Warner, is accused of betraying England and USA in their 2018 and 2022 World Cup bids.

December 2010
Priority to Their Supporters?
People’s Partnership pays $13 Million in flood relief to farmers. Claims paid within one month - a record for a process that involves claim registration, claim audits, site visits, claim processing and the accounts department.

December 2010
Immoral Payments
Questions Arise about the Partnership’s Payments to Contractors.
Finance minister Winston Dookeran says payments amounting to $2.7 billion have been made to contractors.
The T&T Contractors Association says payments were not made to its members, but instead, to contractors who are friends of the People’s Partnership. The Association threatens legal action.

December 2010
In-fighting
Jack vs CAL Board – My Way or Highway
Works and Transport “Super Minister” Jack Warner declares that either he goes, or the People’s Partnership-appointed Board of Caribbean Airlines goes, following the Board’s decision to fire CEO Ian Brunton, and re-evaluate the purchase of aircrafts to which the airline has already made a deposit payment (a transaction started under the previous Board).
January 12th 2011

Musical Madness • Maliciousness

Disappearing Reappearing Piano

Attorney General Anand Ramlogan announces in Parliament that a Bosendorfer Grand Piano is missing from the Prime Minister’s Official Residence. He implies that former Prime Minister Patrick Manning knows where it disappeared to. The piano is subsequently discovered to be in the same place it supposedly disappeared from, 2 days later.

January 17th 2011

Influence Peddling

Jobs for MY Boys

Minister of Arts and Multiculturalism, Winston “Gypsy” Peters, claims that his supporters are not getting jobs in the Unemployment Relief Programme (URP). Raises the matter in Cabinet. Rudy Indarsingh is moved from the Energy ministry to the Ministry of Labour to ensure UNC supporters get URP jobs.

January 20th 2011

Incompetence • Destruction of State Security Apparatus

Reshmi’s “Friends” In High Places

Reshmi Ramarine, a junior office clerk is promoted 22 positions, to be appointed by Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar, as the Head of the Special Intelligence Agency. The Minister of National Security vouches for her in Parliament, citing non-existent qualifications.

February 2011

Victimisation?

Go Home – Nothing for You

Thousands of Government workers are sent home because their contracts of employment are not renewed.

February 11th 2011

Abuse of Office • Violation of the Constitution

• Improper Appointment

After Reshmi… Susan!

Registrar General, Susan Francois, is appointed Acting Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago by Cabinet. Opposition Leader Keith Rowley objects, reminding Cabinet that it has no legal authority to make such an appointment, which falls under the purview of the Public Service Commission.

February 15th 2011

Improper Appointment • Favouritism

CEPEP Contract Orgy

65 new CEPEP contracts are issued, without the statutorily-required Board approval or advertisements.

February 2011

In-fighting • Breaches of Protocol

“Nicholas Must Go!”, says CAL Board; Jack Sidestepped; Kamla Ignores Them

Jack Warner, line minister for Caribbean Airlines, is left in the dark, as the CAL Board meets with Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar to ask for the removal of Chairman, George Nicholas. Board members previously approached Warner with their concerns. The Prime Minister does nothing.
February 2, 2011

Fiscal Unawareness • Carelessness • Spendermania

Financial Promises Made On Empty Pockets?

Multiculturalism Minister, Winston “Gypsy” Peters announces increases in first-place prize money for all major Carnival competitions to $2 Million and causes a furore by saying the prize structure is for 1 year (2011) only. The Prime Minister defends Peters, saying that when she made the promise to increase prize money, she had no idea what the state of the Treasury was.

March 10th 2011

King Gets the Axe

Planning, Economic and Social Restructuring minister, Mary King, is fired for her role in the award of a contract for her Ministry’s website to a company owned by her family. King requests that the Integrity Commission clear her name, stating that the Attorney General (who conducted the investigation that recommended her removal) usurped the role of the Integrity Commission.

March 2011

Prime Ministerial Incompetence

Jack Acts Decisively on CAL; Kamla Pussyfoot (As Usual)

Works and Transport minister, Jack Warner, makes recommendations to the Prime Minister, re the CAL Board. Prime Minister does nothing. Warner suspends CAL Board. Prime Minister refers the matter to Cabinet’s “F and GP” – Finance and General Purposes Committee.

March 2011

Broken Promises • Victimisation: Nothing for You

Keep Your Mouth Shut

Food Production minister, Vasant Bharath scolds sugar cane farmers for demanding that the People’s Partnership keep their election promise to pay the farmers money received from the European Union (which was paid to the State).

March 24th 2011

Broken Promises • Victimisation

27 CEPEP Contractors fired in spite of earlier People’s Partnership promises that no one would be victimised.

March 25th 2011

Racism

Nizam Mohammed’s Racist Statements

Nizam Mohammed, appointed Chairman of the Police Service Commission by the People’s Partnership, alleges during a meeting with Parliament’s Municipal and Service Commissions joint select committee (JSC), that there are too many officers of African descent in the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service. He announces his intention to adjust the “imbalance”.

March 2011

Political Interference • Lack of Due Process • Victimisation

Medical Staff at San Fernando General Hospital Sanctioned Without Due Process

5 doctors and 4 nurses are suspended by the Board of the Southwest Regional Health Authority pending investigation into the death of 29-year-old Crystal Booddeo-Ramsoomair, who died hours after a Caesarean section. Days later, SWRHA CEO, Paula Chester-Cumberbatch is fired for attempting to follow proper procedure and not immediately suspending the medical staff as ordered by the Board.
April 2011

Flights of Fancy
PM’s Trips…too many?

Questions arise in Parliament about Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar’s fondness for foreign travel.

April 4th 2011

Foot In Mouth
• Irresponsibility in Public Office

Goodbye Nizam!

Nizam Mohammed is dismissed as Chairman of the Police Service Commission, following his statements to a Joint Select Committee of Parliament, expressing concern about the ethnic composition of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service. Mohammed had expressed concern about the numbers of Afro-Trinidadian and Indo-Trinidadian officers, claiming that there were more Afro-Trinidadians, especially in senior positions, and pledging as the PSC Chairman, to deal with the imbalance “with the assistance of Parliament”. Nizam eventually wins wrongful dismissal case against the President in February 2013.

April 2011

Zero Sense of Priorities • Dereliction of Duty
Eleven Months on, People’s Partnership Still Appointing Boards.

In spite of her ability to travel wherever she wants, and frequently too, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and her government have not found the time to complete the appointments of Boards to oversee State-owned companies and organisations.

April 8, 2011

Exactly What Kamla Said
Kamla - No More than 5%

Prime Minister, Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces that the People’s Partnership does not intend to deviate from offering more than a 5% wage increase for public servants. Her exact words: “I do not intend to deviate from the five percent.”

April 16, 2011

Prime Ministerial Incompetence

Kamla Stalls (Again) on CAL Board

Finance Minister, Winston Dookeran recommends dissolution of the CAL Board to the Prime Minister, citing a lack of knowledge and competence in aviation matters amongst the People’s Partnership-appointed Board. The Prime Minister claims (one month since her referral) that she is still awaiting a report from the “F and GP” Committee of which she is a part.

April 2011

T&T Out in the Cold • Poor Leadership • Poor International Image
No invitation to Royal Wedding

In a clear indication that the People’s Partnership administration has tainted the international image and reputation of Trinidad and Tobago, no invitation is issued to the Prime Minister or to the President, to attend the wedding of Prince William to Kate Middleton at Westminster Abbey in London.

April 25th 2011

Broken Election Promises • Malicious Destructiveness
People’s Partnership Bulldozing Farmers Crops

175 acres of crops on farmland are bulldozed over the Easter weekend by the People’s Partnership to make way for Housing Development Company (HDC) houses. No warning was given to farmers, who have occupied the land since 1979. The Partnership’s election manifesto speaks of “respect for farmers”.

April 8, 2014

Assessing the Last 4 Years

Understanding the Challenges and Options

In this review of the last 4 years, we assess the challenges faced by the People’s Partnership, and explore the options available for the next 5 years.
April 25th 2011
Spendermania • Questionable Relationships
True cost of Aircraft lease for Brazil Trip

The cost of chartering a 154-seater aircraft for Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar’s visit to Brazil is revealed: TT$500,000 (US$85,000). Amongst the Prime Minister’s delegation of 40, is a suspended policeman facing charges of extortion and corruption in a case where three of the witnesses have disappeared, with two confirmed dead.

April 26th 2011
Improper Appointments • Untruth? • Disinformation
Was Reshmi Pushed?

Minister in the Ministry of National Security, Subhas Panday, claims in Parliament that former office clerk, Reshmi Ramnarine was fired as head of the SIA.

May 3rd 2011
Improper Appointments • Untruth? • Disinformation
Or Did She Jump?

Minister of National Security, Brig. John Sandy (rtd.) claims in Parliament that former office clerk, Reshmi Ramnarine resigned as head of the SIA.

May 20th 2011
Storm Clouds Gather • Hapless Leadership
Jack Warner Bribery Scandal

Minister of Works and Transport, Jack Warner is implicated in a scandal involving bribing members of the Caribbean Football Union (CFU) to vote for Mohammed Bin Hammam in his bid to head FIFA. Packets of US$40,000 were distributed to delegates. It subsequently emerges that Warner used his ministerial position to flout the law by facilitating the undeclared entry of millions of US dollars into Trinidad and Tobago, bypassing the Customs Division. The Prime Minister says nothing.

May 17th 2011
Collusion? • Corruption? • Lack of Transparency
NP Gopaul Scandal

Government-owned National Petroleum Marketing Company Ltd. awards a $40 million contract to a company owned by personal friends of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, Ralph and Monica Gopaul, in spite of the company not having any fuel trucking experience or fuel tankers in its fleet, and submitting a bid well above that submitted by the company that holds the current contract (with 10 years’ experience). Initially, the Prime Minister tries to evade questions, but is eventually forced to admit knowing the Gopauls, in whose home she stayed for approximately 3 months as a guest.

June 2011
Maliciousness • Spite • Incompetence • Abuse of Office
Deliberate Delays to Infrastructure Projects

The People’s Partnership continues to play games with the citizens of Trinidad and Tobago, spitefully refusing to complete projects initiated by the previous government, to the disadvantage of the nation. Examples of delayed projects:
Tarouba Stadium – demonised by the PP, which is still unable to show what is wrong with the structure or its construction

Carenage Fishing Depot – deliberately delayed to spite fishermen in the village which lies in Opposition Leader Dr. Keith Rowley’s constituency

Government Campus, Port of Spain – intended to house all government offices and save hundreds of millions of dollars that is currently paid out annually as rent for government offices

Numerous Pavillons at recreation grounds across the nation.

June 18th 2011

CYBERCRIME! • Threats to Physical Wellbeing • Interference in the Legal Process • Obstruction of Police Investigation

Sacha as Janice

Threatening email messages sent to Express Editor-in-Chief, Omatie Lyder, and Reporter, Anna Ramkissoon, are traced to former colleague and current Adviser to the Prime Minister, Sacha Mohammed. The Express broke the story about Mohammed’s friend, Resmi Ramnarine. Surprisingly (or not), the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service opts to ignore existing cybercrime legislation, giving Mohammed a “strong warning” instead of laying charges.

June 19th 2011

Red Card • Lack of Leadership

Jack Warner Resigns from Football

Rather than subject himself to an international inquiry to clear his name over bribery allegations, People’s Partnership Minister of Works and Transport, Jack Warner resigns as Vice President of FIFA, as well as the presidency of CONCACAF and the Caribbean Football Union. He however continues in the People’s Partnership, which is silent on this national embarrassment.

June 27th, 2011

Blood Thicker Than Campaign Financing?

Kamla Settles Warner - Nicholas Dispute

Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar, resolves the impasse between Works and Transport minister Jack Warner and the Board of Caribbean Airlines, by splitting the Ministry – Jack Warner is demoted in favour of a “family friend”.

July 12th 2011

Hypocrisy

Mega Farms

After criticising the farms project initiated by the previous administration, the People’s Partnership re-launches the project after over a year of dormancy.

July 16th, 2011

Lack of Transparency • Abuse of Privilege

Cabinet Meets in Private Residence

Following the Prime Minister’s refusal to occupy her Official Residence, Cabinet is convened at her private residence in Philippines.

July 21st 2011

Kamla’s Volte-face!

I Didn’t Order 5% Wage Cap

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar distances herself from any wage cap placed on negotiations with the Unions. Speaking to the Media at the Diplomatic Centre, she says, “I am not aware that any cap has been set. Certainly I have set no cap.” She claims to have no recollection of a statement that she made to the Media on April 8th, when she said, “I do not intend to deviate from the five percent.”
Among the allegations are that:

- The minister made very inappropriate suggestions on three instances (dates and locations given)
- The minister grabbed and squeezed his wife’s breast on one occasion
- The minister threatened to “fire” Mrs. Annamnuthudo if she told her husband anything
- A Cabinet decision is taken on August 4, to revoke Annamnuthudo’s appointment.

The Prime Minister’s secretary responds to Annamnuthudo’s husband in a letter dated August 8th, 2011 stating inter alia “Please be advised that since the police are in possession of a report on the alleged sexual assault on your wife (Mrs Dawn Annamnuthodo), it would be inappropriate for the Honourable Prime Minister to become involved in this aspect of your complaint.”

On the same day, Minister of Finance, Winston Dookeran writes Annamnuthudo, informing her that her “services on the board of National Schools Dietary Services Limited are no longer required with immediate effect.”

August 19, 2011

Comedy and Farce

Nicholas Resigns (Part 1)

George Nicholas resigns as Chairman of Caribbean Airlines following disagreement with line minister, Devant Maharaj. His resignation was rejected by the minister.

August 22nd 2011

Breach of Protocol • Inability to Govern

“Limited” State of Emergency Declared

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces a limited State of Emergency even before it receives Presidential assent. Police Commis-
sioner Dwayne Gibbs learns about the State of Emergency while in Brazil, where he is attending an international crime conference. The Prime Minister cites a wave of 11 murders as the reason for the State of Emergency, failing again, to recognize the proliferation of illegal weapons on the streets as one consequence of the People’s Partnership’s dismantling of the national security apparatus.

August – December 2011

Violation of Human Rights • Abuse of Office
Waste of Productive Time

Arrest of Persons without Evidence

Law enforcement agents and the military go on an orgy of reckless detentions, violating human rights and arresting citizens without any evidence. In some cases, the State of Emergency is used by law enforcement agents to settle love vendettas.

NOBODY ARRESTED UNDER THE STATE OF EMERGENCY IS EVER CHARGED WITH ANY OFFENSE.

August – December 2011

Unions Claim SoE is to Suppress Them

Trade Unions contend that the “limited” State of Emergency is a ploy by the People’s Partnership to curtail their activities in support of their wage increase demands.

August – December 2011

Economic Sabotage • Gross Insensitivity

Continued SoE-induced Economic Deterioration

Various sectors of the economy, such as the informal and entertainment sectors, are severely affected by the State of Emergency, resulting in reduced earnings and job losses for thousands of citizens.

September 2011

Political Interference • Lack of Leadership

Kamla Vetoes FIU Top Candidate

Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar vetoes the top-ranked candidate for the post of Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit of Trinidad and Tobago, insisting that Susan Francois who ranked second, remain in the position for which there is a better-qualified candidate.

Sinister Moves

WASA Land Grab

The Water and Sewerage Authority attempts to appropriate 33 acres of land at West Moorings, opposite West Mall. The Port of Spain City Corporation subsequently sues and wins the case against WASA in January, 2013.

October 2011

Nepotism? • Abuse of Office • Improper Appointments

Devant Maharaj hires Girlfriend and Her Mother

Revelations in the Media that Transport minister Devant Maharaj had hired his girlfriend, Kristal RamroopSingh, as his Executive Administration Assistant, and her mother as a Supervisor, when he was the Chairman of the Government-owned Public Transport Service Company.

October 2011

Brainlessness • Ignorance

Bogus Tourism Award

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar hosts the unknown, Romanian-based European Council on Tourism and Trade at the Hyatt Hotel, to receive a bogus award proclaiming Trinidad and Tobago as the World’s
Best Tourist Destination. Other contenders for the title included Nigeria and Cuba.

October 18th 2011 (– Present)

Abuse of Resources • Waste of National Security Assets
PM’s Personal Helicopter Taxi Service

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar’s abuse of military helicopters for personal transport is raised during the Parliamentary budget debate. The hourly operating costs for these helicopters are between $1,000 and $5,000. To date, the abuse continues.

October 11th 2011

Favouritism, or Discrimination?
$1,000 Allowance for Security Personnel

The People’s Partnership announces a tax-free monthly allowance of $1,000 for members of the protective services, EXCEPT municipal officers, transit officers and special reserve police officers.

November 6th 2011

Assault on the Senses
Ish and Steve win extradition hearing.
To remain in Trinidad and Tobago to stand trial.

November 14th, 2011

Lies and MORE Lies
False Profits

CAL’s People’s Partnership-appointed Chairman, George Nicholas, claims Caribbean Airlines makes $200 MILLION profit – soon exposed as untrue, and in fact, as a nearly $300 MILLION LOSS.

November 23rd 2011

Big People, Bigger Lies • Abuse of Office
• Gross Misuse of Public Office
Bogus Assassination Plot

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces the uncovering of an assassination plot against her. Citing treason, she aims for the death penalty against the suspects. It is later revealed that she knew the charges were false even before she went public with her bogus claims – she was prepared to demand the death penalty for innocent citizens of Trinidad and Tobago.

November 30th 2011

Growing Corruption
Lowest Corruption Ranking

Trinidad and Tobago scores its lowest-ever ranking on Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index. This continues to be the case, scoring even lower in 2012 and 2013.

2011–2012

Attack on the City of Port of Spain
Ministerial Interference in City Affairs

Port of Spain mayor, Louis Lee Sing publicly decry the actions of Local Government minister Chandresh Sharma as amounting to political interference outside of the remit of his office. He says the Minister is
using his office to stifle the growth of the City by unjustifiably withholding necessary approvals.

2011 – Present

CSO Statistics not being released

December 7th, 2011

Friends in High Places

Robocop Assisted Cadiz Election Campaign

Selwyn “Robocop” Alexis, a person of keen police interest, and State of Emergency detainee, claims to have assisted Trade Minister Stephen Cadiz during his election campaigns.

December 11th, 2011

Collusion? • Abuse of Process • Lack of Transparency

Blows for Boxing

Sports minister, Anil Roberts, his Special Adviser, Buxo Potts, and Ashwin Creed, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Sports are reported to the Integrity Commission, over the approval of $1.9 million for a boxing card being promoted by Potts’ son. The card was not approved by the Boxing Board.

December 2011

Lack of Transparency • Bullying? • Questions of Ethics and Morality • Abuse of Office?

PM’s Toy Drive. Who is sponsoring the toys?

Amidst a shroud of secrecy around the donors to the initiative, allegations arise that contractors are being bullied into funding the Prime Minister’s Christmas toy drive.

December 2011

Hopelessness

PM Meddling in Security

In spite of concern about the State of Emergency fiasco and the effect of political interference on the credibility of the national security apparatus, the Prime Minister moves the National Security Operations Centre under her direct control.

December 29th 2011

Tactlessness • Questions of Ethics • Devaluation of Award

Shaky Silks – PM and AG Award Themselves

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and Attorney General Anand Ramlogan nominate and approve themselves for the award of the title of Senior Counsel, usually reserved for legal practitioners who have distinguished themselves through professional excellence and eminence in the practice of the law, with outstanding records as advocates before the Bar.

Also inappropriately, the award is conferred on Chief Justice Ivor Archie, and Appeal Court judge, Wendell Kangaloo, causing furor about political interference in the Judiciary.

January 2012

Flight of Fancy

Gibbs’s Aircraft Purchase

The Police Commissioner authorises the lease of a light airplane at a cost of $900,000, well above a bid from another provider. The People’s Partnership distances itself from the purchase, “suddenly” recognising the autonomy of the Commissioner of Police to run the Service.
January 2012

**Taxpayers Pay for Government Foolishness**

The People’s Partnership loses to Brigadier Peter Joseph over his wrongful dismissal as head of SAUTT. The cost to the taxpayer is reported to be well over $1,000,000.00

January 3rd 2012

**Political Interference • Dismantling the National Security Apparatus**

**US$15 Million “Blimp” Sold for $50,000**

Continuing its assault on every facet of the national security apparatus, the People’s Partnership disposes of “the blimp” – the airship with sophisticated monitoring capabilities.

January 9th 2012

**Questionable Ethics**

**Tewarie and his Clico Testimony**

Planning minister Bhoe Tewarie omits his membership of the CLICO Financial Board’s Audit Committee from his testimony at the Commission of Enquiry into the collapse of CL Financial. His membership of the Audit Committee, a position entrusted with oversight of the Board and the Conglomerate, is only revealed under cross-examination. Tewarie was a CL Financial Director for 14 years.

January 9th 2012

**Spendermania • Joyriding • Misallocation of Management Resources**

**Tricky Trip to India**

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar embarks on a two-week visit to India with a delegation of including 100 private individuals.

In spite of assurances by Foreign Affairs minister, Suruj Rambachan, that the Government of India paid for the Prime Minister’s visit, she presents in Parliament, expenses totalling $233,000 to be paid by Trinidad and Tobago for her sister’s travel with her. Caribbean Airlines is also shown to have paid almost $400,000 for expenses inclusive of first-class airfare, hotels and per diem allowances for Board member, Pundit Abhedanand Sharma Perdad and his wife to travel separately and join the Trinidad and Tobago delegation in India. Airline chairman George Nicholas says the Pundit (with no aviation management experience) is in India to negotiate code sharing with Air India; airline sources say a senior, experienced official is already in India for the same purpose.

January 9th 2012

**Dubious Ethics**

**Keeping My Silk – PM Clings to Self-awarded Honour**

Even as Chief Justice Ivor Archie, and Appeal Court judge, Wendell Kangaroo, rethink their acceptance and subsequently decline the award of Senior Counsel honours, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar (with no claim to fame as a legal practitioner) refuses to give her “silk” up, claiming it is “the crowning glory of her career”.

Of Lies, Deceptions, Blunders and Missteps 35
January 17th 2012

Spendermania • Joyriding
Ministerial Motoring

Food Production minister Vasant Barath blames the Permanent Secretary in his Ministry for choosing to purchase a $400,000 Porsche Cayenne SUV for his official use.

On the same day, Housing minister, Roodal Moonilal denies that his Ministry has purchased a Range Rover for his personal use.

January 20th 2012

Spendermania • Poor Fiscal Management
$10.4 Billion Budgetting Banditry

People’s Partnership asks the House of Representatives for an extra $2.7 BILLION on top of the $49 BILLION 2011 – 2012 Budget, itself in deficit to the tune of $7.7 BILLION

February 12th 2012

Kleptomania • Prime Ministerial Incompetence
It’s Voodoo - Haiti Football Money Disappears

The Trinidad and Tobago Football Federation says funds donated for Haiti’s earthquake-relief efforts, were paid into accounts controlled by former Special Adviser and current Minister of National Security, Jack Warner. The Federation says Warner refuses to account for the money totalling an estimated £440,000 (TT$4.4 million). The Prime Minister is silent on the matter.

March 9, 2012

Lies • Cowardice • Blatant Dishonesty
Cowardice in Parliament

Attorney General Anand Ramlogan, hides behind Parliamentary Privilege to make dishonest and untrue statements about the reasons for the dismissal of SAUTT Director, Brigadier Peter Joseph. He alleges inter alia, that Joseph was fired for “mismanagement, lack of performance, and financial irregularities”.

March 18th, 2012

Prime Ministerial Fantasy
Silly Season - Tobago Carnival in October

Even as the Tobago House of Assembly sets up Committees to examine the possibility of an October Carnival in Tobago, the Prime Minister declares that there will be an October Carnival in the sister isle.

March 21st 2012

Abuse of Office • Violation of Human Rights • Ministerial Incompetence

Ministry Madness

Government employee Cheryl Miller, is forcibly committed to St Ann’s Mental Hospital, for protesting against victimisation in the workplace. During her illegal 2-week detention, she is forced to take medication against her will. Over one week later, Health minister Fuad Khan claims to be unaware of a case that is dominating national headlines, requesting through the media that Miller’s family write him a letter explaining the circumstances of her illegal detention.
April 15th, 2012

**Corruption • Lack of Transparency**

**Highway Bobol? $600 Million (more) for Gopaul!**

Revelations that a dummy company run by employees of Gopaul and Company (owned by Ralph and Maureen Gopaul, friends of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar) has been awarded a $600 Million contract to supply aggregate for the $7.2 Billion Point Fortin Highway project.

The employees, Bhim Deosaran, Rajesh Teemal and Mukesh Jagroop, are listed as Directors of Raldon Construction, which has been hired by another company, Sanjo Construction, to provide the aggregate to Constructora OAS, the Brazilian company building the highway.

April 25th, 2012

**Gross Abuse • Joyriding • Spendermania**

**Have Sister, Will Travel**

Taxpayers of Trinidad and Tobago learn that they have paid $868,268.11 to fund luxury travel for the Prime Minister’s sister, Vedwatie Newton. The Prime Minister has described her as a personal nurse, but no evidence of nursing credentials can be located.

May 7th, 2012

**Political Interference**

**Kamla’s Woman Gets It Finally**

Susan Francois is appointed Director of the Financial Intelligence Unit, in spite of not being the top-qualified candidate for the job. She is the preferred choice of Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar, who vetoed the top qualified candidate for the job.

June 17th, 2012

**Poor Governance**

**MSJ Pulls Out of Partnership**

The Movement for Social Justice withdraws from the coalition, citing poor governance of Trinidad and Tobago by the People’s Partnership, and a repeated refusal to change course for the good of the nation.

June 24th, 2012

**Cluelessness • Poor Governance**

**Kamla Appoints Largest Cabinet Ever**

Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar appoints Trinidad and Tobago’s largest Cabinet ever, with 33 members. Trinidad and Tobago now has a Cabinet larger than that of China (27) or the USA (23).

June 24th, 2012

**Cluelessness • Disingenuousness**

**Kamla Defends Jack**

Speaking about her appointment of Jack Warner as Minister of National Security (following his resignation from FIFA amidst allegations of corruption), Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar (Senior Counsel) defends Warner, saying: “Allegations are allegations and will forever be allegations. Should they not have been allegations, somebody would have been in jail”.

June 27th, 2012

**Questions of Ethics**

**$10 Million Dollar Golden Handshake**

Revelations in the media, that Larry Howai received a $10-million retirement “thank you” from the board of First Citizens, two days before he took up the position of Minister of Finance – a job that gives him oversight of all state-owned companies, including First Citizens.
June 27th 2012

Violation of Human Rights • Bullying
• Physical Abuse Intimidation

Reroute Movement Camp Destroyed by Soldiers on Jack Warner’s Orders

Soldiers of the Trinidad and Tobago Defence Force, acting under illegal orders from National Security minister, Jack Warner, and subverting Presidential authority, attack unarmed members of the Highway Reroute Movement. The Trinidad and Tobago military becomes an armed wing of the People’s Partnership.

June 28th 2012

Cluelessness • National Embarrassment

She Said What?!!!

People’s Partnership-appointed Trinidad and Tobago Ambassador to the United Nations and former Health minister, Therese Baptiste Cornelis, causes an international sensation and national embarrassment with her off-the-cuff address in Geneva.

July 7th 2012

Cheap Talk

They Didn’t Really Mean It – ACIB Stays With AG

After publicly pledging to move the Anti-Corruption Investigations Bureau from under the Ministry of the Attorney General, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar quietly reneges on her pledge, even as the Attorney General seeks to distance himself from the controvertial body.

July 17th 2012

Political Interference

To Hell With Merit – The Central Bank Doesn’t Need It

The appointment of Jwala Rambarran over at least 2 better qualified seniors to the post of Central Bank Governor raises questions about his qualifications for such a post, and the real objectives of the People’s Partnership.

July 31st 2012

Political Interference

COP Quits – Not Allowed to Succeed?

Police Commissioner Dwayne Gibbs and his deputy, Jack Ewatski resign, following criticism from National Security minister, Jack Warner, and persistent media reports of their imminent dismissal.

August 1st 2012

CoPs’ $2.5 Million Reward for Failure

The People’s Partnership pays resigned Police Commissioner Dwayne Gibbs and his deputy, Jack Ewatski $2.5 million in spite of their quitting the job. Allegations arise that the payment is compensation for agreeing to leave the job quietly.
August 2nd, 2012

Poor Protocol • National Embarrassment
Diplomatically Disrespectful
Disappearance

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar fails to show at Piarco Airport for the 8:00 a.m. departure of visiting Nigerian president, Good Luck Ebele Jonathan, although her Cabinet colleagues are present at the airport. The excuse offered by Communications minister, Jamal Mohammed, is that she has a Cabinet meeting (although her Cabinet colleagues with whom she is supposedly meeting, are at the airport).

Subsequent media reports indicate that following the State Dinner for the Nigerian President the previous evening, the Prime Minister attended the Yuma carnival band launch at Queen’s Royal College, Port of Spain.

August 26th, 2012

Irresponsibility
Take a Deep Breath...Blown Away!

Minister in the Ministry of National Security, Colin Partap is fired by the Prime Minister after reports that he refused to take a breathalyser test when asked to do so by Police officers, upon leaving a night club.

August 31st, 2012

Collusion? • Corruption? • Treason?
Section 34 Subversion

The Prime Minister and the Attorney General, both Senior Counsels, claim innocence in the People’s Partnership’s introduction of the Administration of Justice (Indictable Proceedings) Act, and the early proclamation of parts of the Act, which in effect subverts years of prosecution work against two UNC financiers, Ishwar Galbaransingh and Steve Ferguson, allowing both men to file for dismissal of the charges against them.

The Attorney General shifts blame to the Minister of Justice, claiming that he (the AG) is not versed in Constitutional Law (in spite of having nominated and endorsed himself for Senior Counsel honours) and that Justice minister Volney is to blame for all the mistakes and misdeeds surrounding the affair. He ignores the fact that he is Constitutionally responsible for ALL legislation introduced by government.

The Prime Minister seeks to defend the People’s Partnership from the fiasco, by claiming that both the Opposition and Independents voted in favour of the Act. She conveniently ignores the fact that her government sought early proclamation of Section 34, and that her Attorney General was fully aware of the implications of such a proclamation.

September 21st, 2012

Cover Up?
Volney Fired – Why Him Alone?

Following public outcry over the Section 34 Fiasco, Herbert Volney is fired as Minister of Justice. He is seen as a sacrificial offering, to protect others in Cabinet who are just as guilty.

September 2012

Bullying • Unfitness for Office
Carry Our Message...Or Else.....!

Communications minister Jamal Mohammed announces plans to force private media houses to carry the message of the People’s Partnership for 5 minutes out of every hour of broadcast time.

October 2012

Cyberbullying
What Press Freedom? Smear Their Names!

Members of the People’s Partnership led by Jack Warner and Anand Ramlogan launch a smear campaign against two journalists, Denise Renne and Ahsa Javed, following their coverage and exposure of the
Section 34 scandal. In a (not-so) shocking absence of scruples, the campaign includes circulation of “poison pen” emails delving into the private lives of the journalists.

October 24th 2012

Manipulation

Missed Communication - Inappropriate Race Remarks

Minister of Communication Jamal Mohammed writes a media house in his personal capacity, claiming bias, while referring to himself deprecatingly as “an insignificant, Muslim coolie from San Juan”. The choice of a word widely understood to be racist, generates a storm of criticism outside of government.

November 14th 2012

Doubtful Mathematics

OPV Arbitration “Win”

Attorney General Anand Ramlogan claims that Trinidad and Tobago has won in arbitration proceedings against British Aerospace Systems re the cancelled Offshore Patrol Vessels for the Coast Guard.

His claim is soon called into question, because his mathematics does not add up.

November 15th - Dec. 6th 2012

Striking for Justice - KUbalsingh Goes On Hunger Strike

Dr. Wayne KUbalsingh embarks on a 3-week hunger strike to protest the disputed Debe to Mon Desir extension of the Solomon Hocchoy Highway. The strike ends after the Joint Consultative Council for the Construction Industry (JCC) and other civil society groups release the Terms of Reference for the Independent Review Committee to examine matters surrounding the construction of the highway.

Dec 8th 2012

Lack of Transparency • Dishonesty

The Multi-Million Dollar House that Jack Built

Tobago Minority Leader and member of the People’s Partnership, Ashworth Jack Million, claims that he has financed his multi-million dollar home by himself from the proceeds of vegetable sales. He further claims that the house is being constructed by his brother’s company. Media revelations show that the house has been built (at least in part) by United National Congress (UNC) financier Super Industrial Services (SIS) which has provided both material and labour.

December 22, 2012

Bill for THA Internal Self Government – Taking Tobagonians for Fools

One month before Tobago House of Assembly Polls, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar talks about introducing legislation on self-government for the sister isle. As usual, the timing is suspect, and widely seen as an election “sweetener” to aid her political ally, the Tobago Organisation of the People (TOP).

December – January 2013

Bearing Gifts – TOP Money and Gifts for Votes in THA Elections

The TOP engages in a multi-million-dollar campaign, with advertising estimated at $20 million. Allegations arise of the inappropriate use of State resources such as Special Housing Grants and Food Cards to woo voters.
January 27th 2013

Falsification of Documents
Qualifications of 1990 Commissioner Come Under Scrutiny.

People’s Partnership nominee to the Commission of Enquiry into 1990 Coup, Haizool Mohammed, is revealed to have filed bogus qualifications. His references include a deceased President of Trinidad and Tobago, and a non-existent former president of Turkey.

First Few Months of 2013

Failed Campaign Promises • Incompetence • Cluelessness
Escalating Crime – 91 Murders in 77 Days

With an average of more than one murder taking place every day, the detection rate is less than 10%.

Almost 2 years after its election to office, the People’s Partnership is unable to deliver on its election campaign promise to deal with crime in 120 days.

Early Feb. 2013

Hypocrisy • Abuse of Office • Constitutional Violation
Flying Squad Resurrected – Lies and More Lies

Security minister Jack Warner’s insistence that the infamous Flying Squad is not to be resurrected, is contradicted by former Flying Squad member Mervyn Cordner, who reveals meetings with Warner and spy boss Gavin Heera to establish and operationalise the Unit, this as he claims $24 MILLION for operational expenses associated with running the new (and illegal) Flying Squad.

March – April 2013

Incompetence
Preception Perplexion – Partnership Wants to Turn 1,000 Soldiers into Cops

The People’s Partnership introduces legislation to give soldiers powers of arrest – stirring debate over the potential for abuse by members of the Partnership, as evidenced by the use of soldiers to attack and destroy the Reroute Camp. The Trinidad and Tobago Police Service makes its objections known.

March 24th 2013

Haplessness • Cluelessness
Prime Minister Attacks the Media

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar claims that there are rogue elements in the media preventing the “reporting on the achievements and successes of the Government”.

April 19th 2013

Poor Choice of Association
Jack Warner Committed Fraud

CONCACAF’s Integrity Committee delivers a 113-page report detailing acts of fraud against the organisation (and against FIFA) committed by National Security Minister and UNC Chairman, Jack Warner and others.

The revelations include Warner fraudulently presenting that the Center of Excellence (COE), Macoys, belonged to CONCACAF, when it in fact belongs to his companies, and that Warner induced FIFA to transfer funds meant for the development of the COE into his personal accounts by purporting that those accounts belonged to the COE. Warner is also revealed to have obtained and misappropriated US$462,000 provided to CONCACAF by Football Federation Australia.
**April 21st 2013**

**National Embarrassment • Disgrace**

**Hit the Road! - Jack Warner Resigns as Minister and UNC Chairman**

Almost 3 years to the day after she was warned publicly about Jack Warner tarnishing the image of the nation, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces that she has accepted his resignation as Minister of National Security.

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**April 25th 2013**

**National Embarrassment • Disgrace**

**Hit the Road! - Jack Warner Resigns as MP**

Jack Warner, the Kamla Persad-Bissessar-proclaimed “man of action”, resigns his seat in Parliament, under a cloud of revelations about fraudulent activity. He states his desire to re-contest the seat on the UNC ticket and claims that the Prime Minister supports his idea – she does not deny it.

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**April 29th 2013**

**Dereliction of Duty**

**Pt. Fortin Highway Work Stopped**

Locals working on the $7.2 Billion highway, down tools claiming exploitation, below-standard facilities, and unsafe working conditions on the project. They also claim that the Contractor, Brazilian firm Construtora OAS Ltd. is in violation of local laws. Kamla Persad-Bissessar and her government maintain their silence.

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**May 8th 2013**

**Abuse of Office • Abuse of Trust • Spendermainia • Lack of Ethics**

**Tickets to Ride (for Free)**

People’s Partnership-appointed Caribbean Airlines Vice-chairman, Mohan Jaikaran instructs via e-mail that the airline give 19 free tickets for Mother’s Day shows (for which he is a promoter) in New York and Toronto.

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**May 14th 2013**

**Incompetence • Political Interference**

**What a Loss!**

Caribbean Airlines Reports over $700 Million Losses in the 2012 calendar year, in spite of a TT$257 Million fuel subsidy.

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**May 20th 2013**

**High Crime**

**Emailgate Begins**

Opposition Leader, Keith Rowley discloses the contents of 31 emails suggesting conspiracy between members of Cabinet to harm a journalist, plant spy devices in the office of the Director of Public Prosecution, and to accept payment in exchange for the freedom of persons involved in the Section 34 fiasco.

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**May 30th 2013**

**Cluelessness • National Embarrassment**

**International Embarrassment - Poor Protocol for Chinese V.P.**

In a shocking breach of protocol, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar pushes ahead of President Anthony Carmona to accompany visiting Chinese Vice President Xi Jingping along the red carpet upon his arrival at Piarco Airport.

The Head of State is forced to trail behind the Prime Minister, our official visitor, and other lesser dignitaries.
June 6th, 2013

Lack of Accountability
Monetary Madness!

The Auditor General’s 2012 Report reveals that millions of dollars have been overpaid to contract employees without proper documentation or accountability. Financial regulations, financial instructions, and financial directives from Permanent Secretaries are not being complied with. The Ministry of Sport is highlighted.

June 10, 2013

Kamla’s Firetruck Fiasco

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar publicly admits to the media that the situation surrounding the award of a $6.8 million contract to recover a 7-year-old fire truck bought for $2.2 million, is “a fiasco”.

As the head of Cabinet, she was present when the initial $10.1 million bill was presented, and she presided over meetings during which Cabinet agreed to pay $6.8 million.

June 20, 2013

Irresponsibility
Firetruck Fiction

Sports minister, Anil Roberts blames the Chief Fire Officer for the fire truck fiasco. Roberts claims that the CFO has the authority to incur expenses, and authorised Sammy’s Multilift Services to undertake the work after getting an estimate. Work He claims the bill was presented to Cabinet after the work had been done, and that the Cabinet was forced to approve the payment in order to avoid litigation.

Fact: The CFO does NOT have the authority to award a contract of more than $1 million without tender.

June 27th, 2013

PP Prepares a Firetruck Scapegoat

Attorney General Anand Ramlogan says the People’s Partnership is ready to take action against the former Chief Fire Officer if an audit reveals that he acted improperly in the award of a $6.8 million contract to recover a 7-year-old firetruck valued bought for $2.2 million.

June 28th, 2013

Another Dose of Corruption
Bitter Medicine – Unhealthy Couva Hospital Fees

Revelations in Parliament that the consultancy fees for the Couva Hospital are $400 million – 40% of the construction cost!

The inflated cost of the contract is therefore $1.5 Billion – to be paid by tax payers.

June 28th, 2013

Lies by Prime Minister and Her Cabinet
Firetrucking Falsehoods – PP Exposed!

Opposition Leader, Dr. Keith Rowley tells Parliament that the People’s Partnership Cabinet presided over by the Prime Minister, issued a Cabinet Note distorting the official report of the Chief Fire Officer (CFO) about the condition of the crashed fire truck.

• The CFO’s report indicates that the truck was 15 metres down the hillside
• The Cabinet Note claims the fire truck is 150 metres down the hillside
June 2013

Falsification of Documents
Fake It to Make It!

The People’s Partnership-appointed Deputy Chairman of the Airports Authority of Trinidad and Tobago is alleged to have false qualifications.

June – July 2013

Lack of Ethics and Integrity
Secrets Revealed!

Allegations of Corruption fly back and forth between the UNC and the ILP - the party of its former Chairman, Jack Warner - during Chaguanas West Bye Election.

July 11th 2013

Victimisation • Violation of Constitutional Rights
Fired for Association

21 Litter wardens at the UNC-controlled Tunapuna/Piarco Corporation are dismissed from their job (after being made to unwittingly train their replacements) for joining a trade union (NUGFW) - a constitutional right covered under “Freedom of Association”.

July 24th, 2013

Bribery • Corruption • Rottenness
Ministerial Mansions

Revelations that one minister in the People’s Partnership now owns six multimillion-dollar mansions, all acquired in return for favours.

July 29th 2013

Electoral Rejection
Another Defeat for the PM’s Partnership

Running on the platform of the ILP, former UNC Chairman, Jack Warner Wins the Chaguanas West Bye Elections, beating the People’s Partnership Candidate by a ratio of almost than 2.5 : 1

July 30th 2013

Conviction
Every Breath You (Don’t) Take

Former Minister in the Ministry of National Security, Colin Partap is found guilty of charges relating to refusal to take a breathalyser test, and fined $5,000.00

July 30th 2013

Hypocrisy
I’m Gone – Thanks for Using Me!

Former Justice minister, Herbert Volney resigns his membership of the UNC, claiming that the party used him for his integrity during its 2010 election campaign. In his resignation letter, he also admits that he was recruited into politics while he was a sitting Judge.

August 13th 2013

Hypocrisy • Abdication of Responsibility
Return of Land and Building Taxes?

Leader of Government Business, Dr. Roodal Moonilal, hints at the return of Land and Building Taxes in the 2013 – 2014 budget, 3 years after the People’s Partnership repealed the taxes in a popularity-seeking move.
August 14th 2013

Corruption
Whose Houses?
The Integrity Commission announces that it is probing reports of a Cabinet minister acquiring 6 houses.

August 18th 2013

Victimisation
Lock down and arrests of over 100 persons in East Port of Spain, most released soon after.

August 26th, 2013

Corruption • Collusion
Crooked Deal for Buses
Former Justice minister Herbert Volney announces that the $36 Million contract awarded to Super Industrial Services for the supply of buses to the Public Transport Service Corporation is not above board, and should be halted. The Prime Minister says nothing.

September 6th 2013

Reckless Appointment
From (army) Captain to Security Minister
Gary Griffith is appointed National Security minister, the fourth in four years under the People’s Partnership.

September 9th 2013

Spendermania
Spending Spree: 2014 Budget – Largest in Nation’s History
The People’s Partnership presents a budget of $61.298 BILLION… and projects a deficit of $6.357 BILLION

September 9th 2013

Baseless Optimism
St. Joseph Seat Declared Vacant; Kamla Confident
Speaker Wade Mark declares the St Joseph seat held by Herbert Volney vacant. Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar says her Government does not fear any bye-election in St Joseph.

September 26th 2013

Collusion • Conspiracy • Corruption
Gopaul Dredged Up – Again!
Revelations in Parliament that Raldon Construction, a company fronting for Gopaul and Company Limited (owned by friends of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar) is one of three companies awarded a $60 million contract on June 30th, 2012. to clear three rivers. Revelations include:

- One of the Directors, Bhim Deosaran is also the accountant at Gopaul and Company
- Raldon Construction operates out of Gopaul and Company
- The marine equipment listed by Raldon Construction is registered to Ralph Gopaul
Raldon Construction was preselected without having the equipment to execute the project that it was eventually awarded.

The marine vessels used by Raldon Construction arrived in Trinidad and Tobago without proper documentation.

**October 14th 2013**

Comedy

**(Pappy) Show Time!**

The UNC selects comical crusader, Ian Alleyne as its candidate for the St Joseph Bye Election.

**October 25th 2013**

Rejection by Electorate

**Plummeted Popularity**

The PP loses Local Government Elections, losing 5 – 8 to the PNM (with Chaguanas undecided). The mood of Trinidad and Tobago is clear.

**October 2013**

Criminal Activity

**Digging Up the Fraud**

National Quarries CEO reports to the Fraud Squad that letters have been falsified in her name, to cover up the acquisition of a bulldozer paid for by National Quarries, but undisclosed to the company, and discovered to be in use by Gopaul and Company (a company owned by very close friends of the Prime Minister).

**November 3rd 2013**

Rejection by Electorate

**Wetting After Wetting After Wetting!**

The UNC Loses St Joseph Bye Election to the PNM, a fourth successive election defeat in four years.

**November 11th 2013**

**Bribery**

**Local Government Lottery Millionaire?**

Allegations arise that an ILP Councillor received a $5 Million bribe to vote with the UNC in the Chaguanas Borough Corporation.

**December 8th, 2013**

**Cluelessness**

**Shuffling the Deck**

The National Security Operations Centre is removed from the Ministry of National Security to the Office of Prime Minister.

**January 10th, 2014**

**Abdication of Responsibility**

**Shirking Responsibility**

In a clear attempt to distance himself from the “firetruck fiasco”, National Security minister, Gary Griffith refers a question about the cost of salvaging the firetruck, to his predecessor, Jack Warner, who is no longer in Cabinet.

**January 2014**

**Failed Campaign Promises • Incompetence**

**Cluelessness**

**Crime Continues Escalating**

Revelations that a US$100 MILLION, 332 Kg cocaine bust in the US originated in Trinidad and Tobago. Despite a lot of huffing and puffing from National Security minister, Gary Griffith, the local investigations appear to quietly fizzle out.
January 2014

Collusion • Corruption • Hypocrisy

Business as Usual at FCB

Revelations that an Executive of State-owned bank, First Citizens, sold shares obtained during the IPO at preferential rates, for a profit of $12.7 MILLION. The Chairperson of the Board of Directors sees nothing unethical about the transaction.

March 11th 2014

Collusion • Corruption

Wastewater Stench

Allegations arise, of bid rigging in $1.6 BILLION WASA Waste Water Treatment Plant at Beetham, awarded to Super Industrial Services (SIS) Limited by the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA) and the National Gas Company (NGC). The Chairman of the National Gas Company, Chan ChadeeSingh is a former Chairman of SIS, and sitting attorney for SIS. The timeframe required for submission of bids means that SIS is only one of two respondents from an initial field of 15 invited bidders.

March 25th 2014

Unfitness for Public Office

Another One Bites the Dust!

Minister of the People, Glen Ramdarsingh is fired, following disorderly conduct on a Caribbean Airlines aircraft, including fondling of a flight attendant and threatening to have her fired for calling him to order.

March 26th 2014

Infantile Silliness

He’s Barking Nonsense

Food Production minister, Devant Maharaj tries to blame the Opposition PNM for a pitbull attack that left an elderly woman dead. The 84-year-old was mauled by her son’s dogs. The allegations are dismissed as “idiotic”.

March 28th, 2014

Collusion • Corruption • Spendermania

• Waste of Funds

Stop the Wastewater Stench – $1 Billion Mess

Beetham Wastewater Treatment Plant is described as “outrage and rape” of the Treasury in Parliament.

Revelations by Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Keith Rowley include:

• A cost per gallon that is 6 times higher than other similar projects around the world (US$15.18 per gallon in T&T; US$2.60 per gallon in the United States)

• Commencement of the project without the completion of the necessary approvals by the Environmental Management Authority (EMA)

• Commencement of the project without the necessary Certificate of Environmental Clearance (CEC)

• Award of the contract to the highest bidder – with the winning bid more than TT$400 Million higher than the only other bidder
March 31st 2014

Unfitness for Public Office • Violence Against Women “Domestic” Violence - Yet Another Minister Goes Home!

Tourism minister Chandresh Sharma resigns after reports alleging his physical abuse of his ex-girlfriend at a shopping mall, following her confronting him over a little girl accompanied by another woman.

March 2014

Inappropriate Behaviour • Unwanted Sexual Advances
Gentle Manly Conduct

Allegations of sexual misconduct are raised against Tobago Development minister, Delmon Baker. His accuser claims that Baker abused his trust and sexually assaulted him twice.

April 2, 2014

Spendermania • Squaldermania • Collusion • Corruption
SIS’ $400 Million Overpriced Project

Revelations that the People’s Partnership insists on awarding a contract for the Beetham Wastewater Treatment Plant to Super Industrial Services Limited (SIS), in spite of the SIS bid being US$72.5 Million (TT$400 Million) more than that of the other qualifying bidder.

Energy minister, Kevin Ramnarine describes the competing bid from Atlace as being “ridiculously low”, in spite of it being US$6 Million less than the estimates by the Water and Sewerage Authority (WASA).

April 7th 2014

Inappropriate Behaviour • Abuse of Office • Abuse of Trust • Violation of Oath of Office
Housing “Benefits”

Allegations emerge that former Minister of the People, Glen Ramadarshingh, promised a state-constructed HDC house to women, for oral sex while he was a minister.

April 2014

Procrastination • Vacillation
No “Permanent” Commissioner

18 months after Police Commissioner Gibbs resigned, a permanent CoP is yet to be appointed.

April 24th 2014

Incompetence • Cluelessness
J’accuse!

Attorney General Anand Ramlogan appears to blame Police Complaints Authority Chairman, Gillian Lucky for an alleged leak of the report into the illegal “Flying Squad”. He does not offer any evidence to back his claim up.

April 2014

Collusion • Corruption
Prisongate!

Attorney General, Anand Ramlogan calls on former Solicitor General, Eleanor Donaldson-Honeywell to clarify her authorship of a confidential letter to the Prime Minister on August 30th, 2013, requesting a probe into the dubious practice of attorneys colluding with
prisoners to sue the State for non-existent injuries allegedly sustained at the hands of Prison officers, and defraud the State of millions of dollars. The AG claims that the former SG withdrew her call for an investigation. The former SG’s statement calls the AG’s contention into question. The Prime Minister (as usual) is silent.

April 29th 2014

Violation of Process • Lack of Leadership • Failure of Accountability

BILLION$$$ Spent Without Documentation!

The 2013 Auditor General’s Report reveals that several ministries and departments of government are failing to comply with existing financial regulations for the public service, and cannot provide documentation for billions of dollars in expenditure. Examples of these failings include failure to secure Cabinet approval (when required), failure to show contracts for the supply of services, failure to provide Lease documents for buildings rented, and failure to supply invoices for payments made. The Report also mentions the failure of officials in Ministries to respond to requests for expenditure information.

May 4th 2014

Dana Seetahan Murdered

Senior Counsel, Dana Seetahan is ambushed and murdered in Port of Spain. Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar responds with an offer of a $3.5 Million reward.

May 9th, 2014

Spendermania • Cluelessness

Game of Drones

The People’s Partnership continues its reckless spending spree with National Security minister Gary Griffith announcing plans to acquire six helicopters and four drones to fight crime, at a cost of TT$800 MILLION.

May 20th 2014

Hypocrisy • Untruths

Former Justice minister, Herbert Volney apologises to Attorney General, Anand Ramlogan over allegations that the AG had a role in the Section 34 fiasco.

May 19th 2014

Hypocrisy • Blindness • Insanity? • Criminal Conduct

Two Pull – The Video!

Minister of Sport and Youth Affairs, Anil Roberts appears in a video rolling a marijuana joint in a hotel room, with unknown women. He denies he is the person in the video, and (as usual) the Prime Minister does nothing, claiming that she has weighed a report by Roberts against the evidence in the public domain, and sees “no evidence to corroborate any of the allegations made against Minister Roberts”.
By failing to act and/or condemn the theft of State resources, the Government of Kamla Persad-Bissessar is aiding and abetting the disposal of stolen property.

May 31st, 2014

Incompetence • Spendermania • Abuse of Public Trust
• Stupidity • Collusion?
Bitter Taste for Taxpayers – NIB Buys Apsara Building for more than TWICE the Market Value

Revelations that the National Insurance Board (with the support of its People’s Partnership-appointed Board of Directors) has paid $37 Million to acquire a property valued at $16.6 Million Dollars. In addition, the NIB is spending $5 Million to refurbish the property which houses the Apsara and Thamnak Thai restaurants at Queen’s Park East, Port of Spain.

Furthermore, the NIB agrees to lease the buildings to the former owners, for a period of 10 years, at a rent of $96,000 (+VAT) per month, with the option to buy the building back. The NIB is therefore spending $42 Million to earn an income of $13,248,000 ($11,520,000 +VAT).

June 6th, 2014

Hatred • Conspiracy to Cause Hatred
Let’s Attack Rowley

Leaked email messages reveal a plot by UNC Deputy Political Leader, Roodal Moonilal and others, both local and foreign, to launch a campaign with the sole objective of discrediting PNM Opposition Leader, Keith Rowley.
A Nation in Shock
@ Life Sport Revelations

Trinidad and Tobago reels from revelations of MASSIVE fraud in the hundreds of millions in the Life Sport programme - payments without invoices; payments for work not done; payments for work, cleaning and catering at non-existent venues; $34 MILLION paid for a project that never took off - non-refundable; payments in brown paper bags, without documentation;

Favouritism • Collusion • Corruption
SIS – From Bankruptcy to Billions

Revelations in Parliament that Super Industrial Services (SIS), a firm reputed to be a financial supporter of the People’s Partnership, went from bankruptcy in 2010, to receiving over $2 BILLION in contracts awarded by the People’s Partnership in 4 years.

It is also revealed that SIS personnel sit on the boards of several State-owned companies and agencies that have awarded contracts to the SIS and its 52 subsidiaries. Contracts include:

• $1.2 billion Beetham Waste Water Treatment Plant from WASA
• $1.6 million for 59 hydrological stations from WASA
• $15 million for the design/supply/installation of pre-engineering buildings at Febeau Primary School
• $15 million for the New Grant Primary School, awarded by the EFCL
• $24 million for Kanhai Presbyterian Primary School
• $12 million for design-build services for the Centre for Persons with Disabilities, from The Community Improvement Services Ltd (CISL)
• $1.7 million to SIS for works on Malick Secondary School
• $3.5 million for waste water services at the Sangre Grande Hospital
• $202 million for works on the Motor Vehicle Authority from NIP-DEC
• $100,000 to SIS subsidiary Phoenix Welding and Fabrication Limited (PWFL) for an upgrade of Irvine Park Recreation Ground from The Sports Company of TT (SPORTT)
• $6.8 million for Lange Park Waste Water Plant from WASA
• $130 million to SIS subsidiary, Point Lisas Construction Limited (PLCL), to upgrade the Penal Recreation Ground
• $8.4 million for the Arima Wastewater Plant
• $25 million from the National Gas Company (NGC) for landscaping work to the Couva/Preysal interchange
• $9.5 million contract to SIS subsidiary, Phoenix Project Management and Design Ltd (PPMDL), for the Lower Cumuto Recreation Ground
• $3.2 million from NGC for the Gasparillo Park Recreation Grounds
• $5 million for NGC’s Corporate Campus
• $5 million from Nipdec for SIS subsidiary, Midway Construction Limited, for California Youth Facility
• $2 million from Nipdec for Midway, for the Los Bajos Beach Facility
July 28th 2014

Incompetence? • Lack of Maintenance?
Another Petrotrin Oil Spill

Petrotrin records yet another oil spill at its Pointe-a-Pierre Refinery.

July 29th 2014

Incompetence? • Lack of Maintenance?
Spilling Season – Yet Another Petrotrin Spill

Oil and gas spewed into the air in Penal, from Petrotrin’s Wilson Well 78.

July 31st 2014

Corruption • Maladministration • Gross Incompetence • Theft
No Video Necessary – Anil Roberts Fired

Anil Roberts is axed as Sport and Youth Affairs minister, because of massive corruption in the Life Sport and his failings in overseeing the programme which was his brainchild. Public pressure leaves the Prime Minister unable to manoeuvre as she did with his marijuana video.

August 11th 2014

Abuse of Office • Abuse of Trust • Bastardisation of the Constitution
When You’re Beaten, Change the Rules!

Following 4 consecutive election defeats, the People’s Partnership introduces a Constitution Amendment Bill to change the rules governing vote counting and winners – rules that have stood and been observed without problem since Independence.

August 21st 2014

National Embarrassment • Incompetence
• Shameless Politicking
Kamla, Learn to do Protocol Right

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces the award of the Nation’s Highest Honours to two previous Prime Ministers - Patrick Manning and Basdeo Panday. In an embarrassing turn of events, both men reject the awards, publicly scolding the Prime Minister for not first consulting them, before announcing the awards.

August 25th 2014

Haplessness • Hypocrisy
He Clears Himself

In a clear breach of the legal principle, nemo judex in causa sua (“one cannot be a judge in his own cause”) AND in spite of the fact that the official investigation into allegations of a conspiracy is ongoing, Attorney General Anand Ramlogan, one of the parties alleged to be involved in Emailgate, calls a press conference to declare himself cleared by Google, and as such, the case is over. He states his intention to sue PNM leader, Dr. Keith Rowley over the allegations.

August 25th 2014

Unethical Poll Conduct • Collusion
He Who Pays the Pollster, Dictates the Outcome

The People’s Partnership produces results of a poll conducted by MORI, its paid polling consultants, that claims that 55% of the national population is in favour of the Constitution Amendment Bill to eliminate the first-past-the-post system.

This is in direct contrast to a poll by Market Facts and Opinions that reveals that 85% of the population feels that more consultation is required.
September 8th, 2014

Spendermania
$65 Billion Budget of Shame

The People’s Partnership presents a deficit budget of wanton spending, putting the nation further into debt with populist election-gimmick measures, including a $500-a-month Baby Grant, applicable only for one year – a period that expires around elections in 2015. As noted in various quarters, the 2014/2015 Budget presentation rehashes initiatives that were promised in previous years, and not delivered upon – the business sector notes that it does “not provide any new avenues for truly taking the country to ‘Sustained Economic Growth and Prosperity’.”

September 10th, 2014

Spendermania • Haplessness • Cluelessness • Incompetence
Battle Vehicles for T&T’s Streets

In the clearest admission yet that its malicious dismantling of the national intelligence apparatus ruined the nation’s border security, the People’s Partnership’s announces its intention to acquire 52 armoured vehicles for use by the TTPS and the Defence Force. It admits that criminals in Trinidad and Tobago now have access to advanced weaponry that it failed to prevent from arriving on our shores. Skeptics see a plan to intimidate and brutalise sections of society discontented with the pathetic administrative record of the Partnership.

September 14th, 2014

Outright Lies from the PM
More Lies from the Office of the Prime Minister

The Office of the Prime Minister makes public a letter it claims was written by the Chief State Solicitor, Christophe Grant, to environmental activist Wayne Kublalsingh. Grant denies that he wrote or even saw the letter which was penned in his name by an attorney in his office, seemingly acting on directives from Attorney General Anand Ramlogan.

September 19th, 2014

The Probes That T&T Really Wants

Dr. Keith Rowley lists probes that the national population wants the People’s Partnership to conduct:

- How $36 million of “cold hard liquid cash” was passed to persons known and unknown in the Life Sport scandal
- How the Office of the Attorney General spent $400 million in legal fees
- How the Beetham Waste Water Treatment Plant contract was awarded to someone whose bid was $400 million more than the other qualifying contractor
- How and why the Housing Development Corporation (HDC) would purchase land at Couva for $175 million when it was professionally valuated at $52 million.

October 18th, 2014

Shameless Politicking with Religion
Divali Gimmicks

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces a 2-day, 20% discount on flour and oil products distributed by the National Flour Mills just for Divali.

October 19th, 2014

Dereliction of Duty
Slippery Slope – Oil Prices Decline Further

As oil prices drop to a 5-year low of US$84.47/barrel, finance minister Larry Howai discloses, “We have already begun an exercise to address expenditure and that process will be accelerated if prices do fall below $80 for an extended period and if gas prices also follow suit.”

This is NOT borne out by the Prime Minister’s subsequent statements.
October 22, 2014

Diplomatic Embarrassment • Gross Incompetence
Ebola About Turn – Ban Lifted on Nigerian Entry

The People’s Partnership is forced to lift a ban on Nigerians entering Trinidad and Tobago, after the Nigerian government threatens to expel Trinidad and Tobago’s diplomats and shut down its High Commission in Abuja. This follows the discovery by the Nigerian Foreign Affairs minister that contrary to what he had been led to believe, the ban on Nigerians entering Trinidad and Tobago had not been lifted. The Partnership is forced to act hastily following the declaration by the World Health Organisation that Nigeria is ebola-free.

November 1, 2014

Dereliction of Duty • Sabotaging Democracy
Absent Government, Anti-People Partnership

The People’s Partnership is called out for sidestepping important parliamentary accountability proceedings, such as Prime Minister’s question time, and Opposition private members’ day – cornerstones of our democratic system of government. The Partnership is also criticised for failing to provide funding in a timely manner to Opposition-controlled local government bodies, thereby affecting service delivery to citizens.

November 5, 2014

Official Xenophobia • Bogus Statistics
Xenophobic Government vs Phantom Illegal Immigrants

With no evidence to back his wild claims, National Security minister Gary Griffith says there are an estimated 110,000 illegal immigrants in Trinidad and Tobago. He announces the Partnership’s intention to go from door to door “like a parang side” hunting for illegal immigrants.

He further claims there is a correlation between the escalation in gang activity between 2004 and 2006, and the presence of illegal immigrants, claiming that, “it shows there is a relationship between illegal immigrants and serious crimes”.

What the minister fails to do, is disclose how many illegal immigrants have ever been arrested as part of gangs or for involvement in serious crimes, and what percentage they represent of the total number of arrested suspects.

November 19, 2014

Collusion? • Corruption?
Stacy’s Email Comes to Light – Questions Arise About Curepe Interchange Affair

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar is forced to admit to Parliament that she has received correspondence from Minister of State in the Ministry of Works, Stacy Roopnarine, over her (Roopnarine’s) concerns about interference in the award of the contract to build the Curepe Interchange. The project, originally valued at $187 million is now valued $308 million.

Roopnarine alleges interference by Works minister, Sunraj Rambachan to award the contract to the second-ranked bidder.

November 20, 2014

Collusion? • Corruption? • Deceit?
Curepe Interchange – Minister Misleading… Maliciously?

Works minister, Sunraj Rambachan publicly claims that the difference in bids evaluations for the first and second-ranked contractors for the Curepe Interchange, is just one point.

Investigations reveal that the difference is actually more than four points – Vinci Construction (builders of the Aranguez Overpass) 94.98 points; Lutchmeesingh Transport Contractors 90.75 points.

Lutchmeesingh is shown to have a very poor track record, with at least two of the projects it has worked on, showing collapse due to defective workmanship.
December 4, 2014

Corruption Rising

T&T Drops Lower on Corruption Chart

Trinidad and Tobago drops to 85th from 83rd place, on Transparency International’s Corruption Perception Index, maintaining the same score (38) as in 2013.

December 5th, 2014

Shameless Politicking with Religion • Prostituting Christianity • Abuse of Funds • Haplessness • Cluelessness

$55 MILLION to Buy the Conscience of the Churches

In spite of falling oil prices, and her government’s pretending to reduce expenditure, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces a $55 MILLION gift to churches in Trinidad and Tobago, “for the benefit of the Christian community and indeed for all those of our land as we celebrate a most generous giving and holy time”.

The Prime Minister does not identify the source from which the funds will be paid, in the last Christmas season before elections are due. She does not announce plans to make similar gifts to mosques and mandirs.

December 12th, 2014

Fiscal Irresponsibility • Gross Negligence

Save Money... The Partyng Continues to be Priority!

In the face of falling oil prices and declining government revenues, Finance minister Larry Howai reveals that his ministry has saved over $500,000... by combining the various Christmas parties hosted by different arms of his Ministry, into one big event.

December 2014

Bribery from the Office of the Prime Minister

Glad Bribings I Bring...

Selected journalists are surreptitiously handed Massy Store vouchers worth $1,000 at the Prime Minister’s annual media Christmas function. The vouchers are presented along with a pamphlet conveying compliments of the season, and featuring the Prime Minister’s photograph and signature.

December 11, 2014

Lies from the Prime Minister

From Me, But Not From Me – Magic Money, Merry Christmas!

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar denies that selected journalists were handed $1,000 Massy Store vouchers during the media Christmas function she hosted. She claims that if it was done, it was done without her knowledge or authority. She further claims that no money has been used for that purpose from either her Office, or the Ministry of the People and Social Development.

She does not offer to investigate the illegal use of her signature (based on her claim), neither does she state categorically that the vouchers were not funded by any other arm of her government.

December 12, 2014

Spendermania

$5 MILLION for Chutney Soca Monarch

In a clear statement of its priorities under the pressures of declining oil revenues, the People’s Partnership donates $5 MILLION to the 2015 Chutney Soca Monarch competition, including a $2 MILLION first prize.
December 14, 2014

Corruption • Theft • Incompetence • Ineptitude • Abuse of Office

Squandermania as a SporTT

A Special Audit by the Office of the Auditor General into the operations of the Sports Company of Trinidad and Tobago (SporTT) reveals waste, lack of accountability, unjustified costs and expensive litigation, all involving hundreds of millions of dollars. This includes:

- $411 MILLION of sporting facilities to provide “sport for all” – not achieved
- $2.3 BILLION in projects under management by SporTT, with no means of measurement of performance
- $7.5 MILLION in legal costs associated with mass dismissal of staff. In five of nine cases, SporTT has no record of its contracts with the litigants, although all the terminated staff have their contracts in their possession.
- $90,000 for an award of unfair dismissal to an employee who worked with SporTT for LESS THAN ONE DAY
- $2.5 MILLION paid to contractors/consultants for a recreation facility at Grand Riviere – a project that is incomplete and already deteriorating.

December 23, 2014

Megalomania • Haplessness • Cluelessness

Kamla Billboards

Deluded into a sense of popularity, the Prime Minister appears on billboards across the nation, extending Christmas greetings at a cost estimated to be in the hundreds of thousands of dollars.

December 30, 2014

Fiscal Irresponsibility • Dereliction of Duty • Cluelessness

Kamla’s Economic Formula – Don’t Panic

Forced to speak up in the face of plummeting revenues, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar tells the nation “don’t panic”; pledging to outline comprehensive measures early in the new year.

January 3, 2015

Fiscal Irresponsibility • Spendermania • Squandermania

To Hell with Austerity – PM’s $410 Million Spending Spree to Continue with Constituency Development Fund

In spite of the absence of legislation permitting government to devolve its authority to sitting MPS, and in spite of her repeated failure to comprehensively address falling oil revenues, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar recklessly assures that her plans to allocate $10 million to every Member of Parliament for them to spend as they see fit in their constituencies, totalling $410 Million, will continue.

She describes the Constituency Development Fund as “urgently necessary”, directly contradicting her Planning and Sustainable Development Minister, Bhoie Tewarie, who has publicly said it is “not a priority, given the economic challenges facing the country… it can wait”.

January 4, 2015

Dereliction of Duty • Cluelessness • Destruction of National Security Apparatus

Bloody Start to the New Year – 10 in 4 Days

With 10 murders in the first 4 days of 2015, the haplessness of the People’s Partnership in addressing security and preventing illegal weapons from entering the country, has never been clearer.
The People’s Partnership announces through the Ministry of National Security, that it is placing the security services on “high alert” in response to the murders... another case of “too little, too late”.

January 6, 2015

The Bloodletting Continues – 14 in 6 Days

Despite the People’s Partnership placing the security services on “high alert”, murders continue, with 4 more in 2 days.

January 8th – 2015

Cluelessness

The Prime Minister (Finally) Speaks – and Says Nothing!

After months of pressure from concerned citizens and stakeholder groups, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar gives in and addresses the nation on the issue of declining government revenues due to falling oil prices.

Apart from refusing to make any substantial cuts to spending, her address is full of empty rhetoric and fails to tell citizens how her government plans to adjust to the reality of declining revenues.

The Trinidad and Tobago Chamber of Industry and Commerce describes the address as “lacking economic substance” and calls on her to “be more open and transparent in sharing the key underlying assumptions and their likely impact on balance of payments as well as inter alia, foreign exchange availability, the exchange rate, interest and wages. These are the details that businesses and households need to make informed decisions for their sustainability. The Prime Minister also missed the opportunity to impress upon the population the need for restraint in these uncertain times”.

January 13, 2015

Lack of Transparency

Larry, The Public Needs Some Share Answers!

Finance minister, Larry Howai is asked to come clean on allegations of insider trading regarding the sale of Trinidad Cement Limited shares. He is also challenged to make public the Price Waterhouse Cooper (PWC) Report that he commissioned into the FCB Initial Public Offering.

January 23, 2015

Lies • Lack of Integrity • Collusion to Deceive

Evil Conspiracy? Speaker Misleads House On Motion Against Finance Minister!

Speaker of the House, Wade Mark, prevents the debate of a motion of no confidence against Finance minister Larry Howai, brought by Chaguanas West MP, Jack Warner, by announcing to the House that he has been informed that the matter is before the High Court. He says, “I received only a few hours ago, a notice from the High Court dated January 16, 2015, a matter involving Larry Howai andAzard Ali of the Sunshine Publishing Company Limited. I would like to remind honourable members of the sub judice rule.”

January 24, 2015

Criminal Activity • Bribery • Perversion of the Course of Justice • Immorality in Public Office

Witness This! AG Accused of Witness Tampering!

Attorney General Anand Ramlogan becomes the first Attorney General in the history of Trinidad and Tobago to be accused of witness tampering. He is accused of offering David West Directorship of the Police Complaint Authority, if he (West) withdraws a witness statement filed in a defamation lawsuit involving the Attorney general, and Opposition leader, Dr. Keith Rowley.
January 26, 2015

Blatant Dishonesty in Public Office
Speaker Confesses – There Was No Notice From the Judiciary

Speaker of the House, Wade Mark admits that he blocked a motion of no confidence against Finance minister Larry Howai, not because of a notice from the Judiciary as he had told the House, but based on correspondence from the minister himself the subject of the motion.

The Speaker only admits this after the Judiciary declares that it has not sent the Speaker any notice that would prevent the motion from going ahead.

January 29th, 2015

Criminal Activity • Bribery • Perversion of the Course of Justice • Immorality in Public Office

AG Sets Another Record – With the Police

Anand Ramlogan becomes the first Attorney General in the history of Trinidad and Tobago to be the subject of a Police investigation – this, for “an attempt to pervert the course of justice”. Acting Police Commissioner, Stephen Williams announces that he has ordered an investigation into the allegations contained in the report by Director of the Police Complaints Authority, David West, that Ramlogan tried to influence him to withdraw a witness statement in exchange for the position he currently holds.

January 29th, 2015

PM Admits Another Minister Involved in the West Affair

On her return to Trinidad and Tobago, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces that she is advised that a senior-ranking minister may be involved in the West/Ramlogan affair, and that she intends to meet with this person.

January 31st, 2015

Collusion to Deceive the Nation • Immorality in Public Office

Cabinet Members Want Minister to Lie, to Save AG!

Media reports surface alleging pressure by some members of Cabinet on National Security minister Gary Griffith, to deny being requested by Attorney General Ramlogan to approach Police Complaints Authority Director, David West and inquire if he (West) had withdraw his testimony against the AG. Griffith is reported to say he is, “willing and ready to testify”.

February 2, 2015

Immorality in Public Office • Unethical Conduct • Illogical and Delusional Behaviour • Tantrum

AG Fired – Another Record!; PM Blames Everyone But Him!

Wildly swinging her axe at anyone she can, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces that she has accepted the resignations of the Attorney General, Anand Ramlogan, and the Minister of National Security, Gary Griffith (who later tells the media that he did not resign). She blames Griffith for not informing her that Ramlogan had tried to influence David West to withdraw a witness statement against Ramlogan. She seems to suggest that given the opportunity, she would have swept the matter under the carpet, when she announces, “The situation would have been very different had such a request not been made and this matter been brought to my earlier attention”. She also announces the removal of Senate President, Timothy Hamey-Smith; Minister in the Ministry of National Security, Embau Mohini; and Minister of Justice Emmanuel George. The Prime Minister also attacks the complainant in the matter, David West, as if he is to blame for her AG’s alleged conduct. She says she should have disclosed that he was a witness in a defamation suit between the Attorney General and the Leader of the Opposition Keith Rowley. In an incredible twist of logic, she says that Rowley ought to have informed her and the President that West was a witness in the case between himself and the Attorney General, when she nominated West for the position of Director of the Police Complaints Authority.
February 3, 2015

P.M. Must Have Known West Was a Witness

Leader of the Opposition, Keith Rowley reminds the Prime Minister that it is the Attorney General’s duty to advise her Office and the Government of legal matters (something that she ought to know, as a Senior Counsel). Recalling the history of the “West Affair” Rowley recounts that the former Attorney General, Anand Ramlogan, had as far back as June 2014, gone to court to block West from testifying as a witness in the case of defamation that he had filed against Rowley. In October, the Appeal Court gave a judgement allowing West to proceed as a witness in the case. West’s affidavit in the matter was a matter of public record since that time.

He contends he was under no obligation to tell the Prime Minister anything when she brought her nomination of David West to him for consultation, because that is not a requirement for the job. Furthermore, her Attorney General would have been aware of the nomination, raised approximately one month after West issued his affidavit.

February 5, 2015

Guilty as Charged • Deception in High Office

Griffith – P.M. Not Being Straight

Former National Security minister, Gary Griffith, reacting to the Prime Minister’s tantrum, reminds the nation that in attacking him, she is criticizing her own personal policy on reporting unsavory behaviour in public office. In a media statement, he says, “But more importantly, if we can all recall, this is the same Prime Minister who has constantly said that anytime, anyone who has any knowledge of any wrong doing must take it straight to the police. Never to her. So if I was aware of any wrongdoing, my obligation was to forward it to the police and not her, which I have done. I am not perfect. But I know when the line must be drawn.”

February 20, 2015

P.M. Announces Intention to Sue Rowley Over Emailgate

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces in Parliament that she may “soon” sue Opposition leader Keith Rowley “with respect to the ‘emailgate’ matter”.

February 26, 2015

More Lies from the Office of the Prime Minister

P.M. Misses Opening of CARICOM heads of Government Meeting – Blames Airline….but WHICH ONE?

Two conflicting statements from the Office of the Prime Minister raise questions about the real reason why she is absent from the opening ceremony of the CARICOM Heads of Government Meeting in the Bahamas. Her press secretary tells the media that a mechanical problem with a Caribbean Airlines flight resulted in her being unable to catch the connecting flight from Miami to the Bahamas.
A subsequent statement from the Office of the Prime Minister says the Bahamas Air aircraft developed a problem and as such, “the Prime Minister and her delegation remained in Fort Lauderdale for the night”, because the problem had not been resolved. The Prime Minister has previously missed or been notably late for appointments internationally, once due to an undisclosed illness in Barbados.

February 27, 2015

Disgusting, Unethical Conduct • Immorality • Dereliction of Duty
He Who Saves the Speaker, Dictates....?

21 UNC and COP Members of Parliament vote against a Motion of No Confidence in the Speaker of the House, deciding that the Speaker did not mislead the House when he claimed to have received documents from the High Court, that the Judiciary denied ever sending to him.

February 28, 2015

Corruption • Abuse of Office • Theft • Collusion to Steal National Gas Leak Stinks!

A leaked Auditors’ report into the affairs of the National Gas Company reveals concerns by the company’s internal audit team, about fraud and misappropriation of public funds in the company that generated profits of $6.5 BILLION.

Among the shocking revelations are:

• Escalation of the budget of the Corporate Communications Department from $67 Million to $200 Million

• Expenditure of $1,073,497.80 on Carnival fete tickets

• Blatant disregard for Company rules governing expenditure

• Failure to follow established procedures

• Failure to obtain approvals for increased expenditure

• 50% - 114% increases in expenditure for various categories of the Department’s operations

March 2, 2015

Absence of records to support the Department’s risk management of community-related projects that are impacted by the Environmental Management Agency (EMA) and the Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) Act, can be viewed as breaches of the legislations, especially as NGC’s published Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) statement indicates that the company maintains these records.

March 2, 2015

Corruption • Theft • Collusion to Defraud
More Gas Leaks – Blatant Fraud at NGC

Revelations emerge that the NGC inflated the cost of a community project by 100%, from $4.5 Million, to $9,045,285.

Kanhai Road Environmental Sports and Cultural Organisation (KRESCO) had written to NGC Corporate Communications Manager, Charmaine Mohammed in February 2014, requesting the sum of $4.5 million to construct a pavilion/activity centre for its recreational facility. The NGC Board of Directors approved the amount upon the endorsement of NGC’s President, Indar Maharaj.

Subsequently, the Board was presented with a note saying that the revised cost of the project was $9,045,285 — an increase of 100%. Furthermore, the note specified that the money for the project would come from – the NGC Community Economic Development Budget.

The NGC told KRESCO that it would get a contractor through the tendering process, but never indicated that the cost would double.

March 2, 2015

Insanity
P.M.’s “No Confidence” Announcement

Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar announces to her party supporters in Brazil Village, that she will file a no-confidence motion against the Leader of the Opposition in Parliament, because he failed to say that David West was his witness in a libel case by her dismissed former Attorney General.
March 2, 2015

Ignorance (of Legal Process)
P.M. Calls on CoP and DPP to Talk About Emailgate

Speaking at a public meeting in Brazil village, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar calls on the Commissioner of Police (Acting) and the Director of Public Prosecutions, to tell the nation about the status of the “Emailgate” investigation, claiming that she read a newspaper article that said that information requested from Google had recently been provided to the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service. She says, “I therefore call upon the acting Commissioner of Police and the Director of Public Prosecutions to indicate what the position is in this regard and I have asked my lawyers to make such representation on my behalf to these offices.”

March 3, 2015

Deliberate Dereliction of Duty
Rowley Responds

Describing the Prime Minister as “reckless and folly-driv- en”, the Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Keith Rowley accuses the Prime Minister of attempting to distract the national population from the real issues, which include a blatant attempt by her former Attorney General, Anand Ramlogan to block the extradition of two of her party’s financiers, Ishwar Calbaransingh and Steve Ferguson.

Rowley recalls that David West’s testimony, which is a matter of public record, states that the then Attorney General, Ramlogan, countermanded his directives for the arrest of the two UNC financiers in preparation for deportation. Rowley also points to the Prime Minister’s inaction on “Prisongate”, in which she did “absolutely nothing”, in spite of her attention being drawn to a situation in which lawyers in the Office of the Attorney General were duplicating prisoners’ claims of abuse suffered while in custody.

Despite the matter being raised with the Prime Minister by former Solicitor General, Eleanor Donaldson-Honeywell (who wrote her directly and bypassed the Attorney General), all the Prime Minister did, was to refer the matter to the Attorney General.

The ongoing Police probe was ordered by the Director of Public Prosecutions.

March 3, 2015

Lies ● Disinformation
NGC Responds – Something Smells Funny

The NGC response to initial revelations of financial mismanagement, is a full-page advertisement that denies that there has been an audit. The NGC further attempts to question the competence of its internal auditors.

March 3, 2015

Collusion ● Cover-up
NGC Protected By People’s Partnership MPs

Chairman of Parliament’s Public Accounts Enterprises Committee, Camille Robinson-Regis says People’s Partnership members of the Committee refuse to allow the NGC crisis to be brought forward for discussion. She discloses that both Opposition and Independent members of the Committee are in favour of immediate discussions.

March 3, 2015

Abuse of Parliament
Voter Padding Alert!

The People’s Partnership is accused of sitting on an Elections and Boundaries Commission report that changes the boundaries of San Fernando East and San Fernando West constituencies, but has failed to obey the law and lay the report in Parliament, even though the report is over a year old.

The report is said to shift three polling districts which traditionally vote for the UNC, from Oropouche East to San Fernando East. Two small polling districts are also being moved from San Fernando East to San Fernando West.
March 7, 2015

Abuse of Public Funds • Discrimination for Political Gain
Gas Masks – NGC In UNC Campaign Mode: Spending by Electoral Constituency

Revelations that the National Gas Company contributed almost $95 Million to groups and organisations based on the electoral constituencies where they are located.

Constituencies held by the Opposition are discovered to receive far less funding donations from the NGC than those constituencies that are held by the People’s Partnership.

Highlights of the Spending:

- Couva South Constituency: $18,780,142.11
- Tabaquite: $11,173,658.85
- Toco/Sangre Grande: $9,653,298.50
- Port-of-Spain North and Port of Spain South: $10,000,000 approx.
- St Ann’s East: $0
- Comuto/Manzanilla: $0
- Laventille East/Morvant and Laventille West: $80,000

March 7, 2015

Abuse of Process • Disrespect for Parliament
EBC Report Laid in Parliament Almost 1 Year Later!

Parliament is finally presented with a report by the Elections and Boundaries Commission, that will adjust the boundaries of 10 constituencies in upcoming elections. By its own admission, the People’s Part-
nership has had the report since April 2014, and sat on it for 9 months before sending it to Cabinet.

March 8, 2015

Dereliction of Duty • Conspiracy to Defraud • Corruption • Abuse of Office • Misbehaviour in Public Office
NGC Alert! Is the Audit Team Safe?

Following the NGC’s statement denying that there has been an audit, and questioning the competence of its own internal auditors, it’s former senior audit executive, Claire Gomez-Miller who initiated the audits into NGC’s Corporate Communications Management, and NGC’s Procurement, recommends that members of the audit team “stand prepared to take any and every action in the interest of their professional safety and professional reputation, including seeking legal advice and taking legal action”.

In a widely-circulated 13-point email message, she points out that:

- The NGC’s advertisement, “seeks to disclaim that an official audit report was issued to management and that the quality, process and issuance was not in accordance with auditing standards, leaving the reader to interpret that the Audit Team was unprofessional at best”.
- “It is a fact that the Final Draft Audit Report on Corporate Communications Management was issued last year to the Manager, Corporate Communications (Charmaine Mohammed) for her review and comments, and this was done under the directive and approval of the Internal Audit Manager, in accordance with the Internal Audit Charter and the approved Terms of Reference (TOR).”
- “A Final Draft Audit Report that has been issued to the responsible manager for action (be it for their review and comments or for implementation) is an OFFICIAL DOCUMENT BE IT A FINAL DRAFT AUDIT REPORT”.
- “The Final Draft Audit Report will only be revised when the responsible manager responds to the request for comments, providing any outstanding information, documents and clarification for the audit team’s consideration.”
- Up to four months after the Final Draft Audit Report had been passed to the responsible Manager, no response has been received from her.
• During the audits, her authority as Chief Audit Executive “was wrong-
fully removed from me and transferred to another manager who used
this authority to promptly stop the completion of these two audits”.

• The audits resumed nearly two months later, only after she sent a
registered letter to the board Chairman and the Company Secretary
about the matter.

March 11, 2015

Bulling • Threats • Collusion to Obscure Corruption
NGC Tries to Force Silence With Threats

The National Gas company through its lawyers, writes former senior
audit executive, Claire Gomez-Miller who initiated the audits into
NGC’s Corporate Communications Management, and NGC’s Procure-
ment, threatening potential liability “for civil or criminal proceedings”.
The Company demands that she hand over to the Company any notes,
memos and documents she may have retained when she exited the com-
pnany in September 2014. It also demands she gives a written undertak-
ing within 48 hours, that she will “not make use of” and also “prevent publica-
tion or disclosure of (sic) any confidential information which would have
been received or made by” her in the course of her work by the NGC”.

March 12, 2015

Deceitfulness • Defence of the Indefensible • Dereliction of Duty
We Must Be “Dotish”, P.M.

In spite of statements from the Commissioner of State Lands that Super
Industrial Services (SIS) does not have tenancy for all of the land it is oc-
cupying at Perseverance, Couva, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar
insists in Parliament that the company is not squatting on State land.

March 13, 2015

P.M. Speaks (Finally) on NGC Crisis

After dancing around the issue in Parliament, Prime Minister Kamla Per-
sad-Bissessar finally agrees that she will take action if there are any find-
ings of wrongdoing at the National Gas Company.
knowing about, or ever having anything to do with the company. The million-dollar-plus payment was made to the company 6 days after it was restarted, following a period of 5 years of inactivity. The official address of the company, 16B McInroy Street, Curepe, is an empty plot of land.

March 17, 2015

Unethical Behaviour • Abuse of Office

NGC – More Rules Broken

Revelations that the People’s Partnership-appointed Chairman of the National Gas Company, Roop Chan Chadeesingh violated the rules of the State Enterprise Performance Manual, by serving as a member of the Board’s audit committee while sitting as the Board’s Chairman.

This is in direct contravention of a specific recommendation of the Uff Enquiry.

March 19, 2015

Police Reject Wage Offer After

The months long “back and forth” fails to find resolution - members of the Police Service Social and Welfare Association reject Chief Personnel Officer (CPO) Stephanie Lewis’ offer of a 9.84 percent increase, standing firm on their demand for 19 percent.

March 23, 2015

Day of Total Policing

Police “Coup” Shuts Country Down

Trinidad is brought to a standstill as officers of the Trinidad and Tobago Police Service, in order to force their wage demands, stage a day of “Total Policing” that creates havoc, mayhem and frustration for citizens.

The Police officers are demanding a 19% wage increase, while the People’s Partnership is offering only 9.84%.

Hundreds of thousands of commuters are trapped - unable to move for hours, resulting in missed work and lost wages, missed flights, missed hospital appointments, missed classes and school examinations, and general frustration. The People’s Partnership is unable and/or unwilling to condemn the wickedness of those behind the “coup”.

March 24, 2015

Gross Irresponsibility • Lackadaisical Attitude
• Unfitness for Public Office

Say Nothing, Do Nothing, Hope It Goes Away: P.M. Says She Can’t Comment on Ex-A.G.’s Spending

In her typical fashion, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar says she cannot comment on the expenditure by her former Attorney General, Anand Ramlogan, of $343 MILLION on the services of private attorneys for his Office. The Reason: She says she has not studied the figures, NINE DAYS AFTER THEY ARE REVEALED TO THE PUBLIC. She says that as far as she is aware, no investigation has been launched into the allegations.

March 25, 2015

Spectacular Failure
Government Hit For 6

The People’s Partnership’s motion of “no confidence” in Leader of the Opposition, Dr. Keith Rowley, backfires spectacularly, as the Opposition PNM walks out, followed by the ILP. The motion is discribed as “frivolous, vexatious, childish, vacuous, tenuous, absurd and having no basis and purpose”.

A Reason to Remember

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Of Lies, Deceptions, Blunders and Missteps

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March 25, 2015

Crassness • Classlessness • Conspiracy and Collusion
• Abuse of Parliament

(Lack of) Class Confirmed – Tasteless Toppin

In a move that shocks the nation to the core, the People’s Partnership authorises Member of Parliament for Tobago East, Vernella Alleyne-Toppin, to allege in Parliament, that Leader of the Opposition, Keith Rowley is the product of a rape, and that he is also a rapist - This is the central premise of the Partnership’s “No Confidence” motion in the Leader of the Opposition.

March 26, 2015

Abuse of Office • Unfitness for Public Office

Range Rover Questions for Ex AG

Calls for former Attorney General Anand Ramlogan to tell Trinidad and Tobago whether his office paid lawyers fees for a personal matter. In 2012 the Office of the Attorney General paid Sir fenton Ramsahoye, QC for advice related to “exemption from taxes on purchases of motor vehicles.” The invoice for the advice is dated September 28, 2012, two days after approval was given for a tax exemption of Ramlogan’s Range Rover TDV Vogue. The approval was granted on the same day documents were submitted to the Department of Customs and Excise for another Range Rover purchased by Ramlogan, a Range Rover Autobiography. One of the vehicles was subsequently sold to a businessman, Dev Debideaen, whose son, Varun Debideaen, also received briefs from the Office of the Attorney General and was named in the 2014’s Prissongate scandal.

March 27th, 2015

Disgusting Conduct • Conspiracy to Defame • Bribery
• Corruption • Hatred

Setup – UNC/COP/TOP Plot Unmasked!!!

Roselyn Alleyne, mother of the son of PNM Leader, Dr. Keith Rowley, and alluded to as victim of a rape by Dr. Rowley, reveals that attempts have been made by a group of people, to pay her through close family members, as much as $25,000, to sign an affidavit saying that she was raped by Keith Rowley. She names Member of Parliament for Tobago East, Vernella Alleyne-Toppin as part of that group.

April 24, 2015

Senior civil servant takes legal action against government minister

A senior public servant is demanding that a junior government minister issue a public apology as well as pay her damages for the injury she suffered following the broadcast of an interview given by the minister on television last month.

April 21, 2015

Trinidad opposition claims ruling party stole PNM idea to build causeway

Prime Minister Kamla Persad Bissessar said that her coalition People’s Partnership administration will construct a causeway from Chaguaramas, west of here, to the capital if it is re-elected in the general election that must be held here no later than September this year.
April 27, 2015

Kamla calls for Rowley’s suspension from Parliament over “Emailgate” scandal

The coalition People’s Partnership government says it is moving towards having Opposition Leader Dr. Keith Rowley suspended from the Parliament after accusing him of providing false information to legislators in the so-called “Emailgate” scandal.

May 5, 2015

Union questions hiring of foreign labour on T&T highway project

The National Workers Union (NWU) is calling on Government and others to explain why a Brazilian firm building the Point Fortin Highway is being allowed to import hundreds of South American workers to operate as truck drivers, excavator operators, graders and even masons and carpenters.

May 6, 2015

Trinidad & Tobago Opposition Leader faces suspension

The House of Representatives is expected to debate a motion of no confidence today against Opposition Leader Dr Keith Rowley that would see him being suspended from Parliament.

May 12, 2015

Trinidadians promised $100 houses under People’s Partnership government

People who have been living in Housing Development Corporation (HDC) units for over 30 years are being promised they will get the chance to buy those houses for just TT$100 (US$15.89) if the People’s Partnership (PP) wins the next general election.

May 20, 2015

Integrity Commission discontinues Emailgate probe in Trinidad

Almost exactly two years after Opposition Leader Dr. Keith Rowley went to Parliament with emails alleging a murder, wiretapping and bribery conspir-
acy involving top government officials, the Integrity Commission has declared it has terminated the so-called “Emailgate” probe, saying it was satisfied there were “no or insufficient grounds” for continuing the investigation. And while Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar is declaring the decision a major victory, the police investigation continues.

May 22, 2015

Deputy chairman of Integrity Commission in Trinidad resigns over Emailgate affair

The deputy chairman of the Integrity Commission has resigned over the commission’s decision to terminate its probe into “Emailgate”, saying that he was “totally flabbergasted” by the announcement and could not be part of a body that misleads the country.

May 27, 2015

Trinidad politician Jack Warner facing racketeering and bribery charges in US

Trinidadian politician and former FIFA official Jack Warner as well as FIFA vice president Jeffrey Webb of the Cayman Islands are among 14 people, including other high ranking officials of football’s world governing body, indicted by a United States court for racketeering and bribery.

May 29, 2015

Warner released from jail; promises to expose Kamla

Just hours after being released from jail yesterday, Jack Warner attended a meeting of his Independent Liberal Party (ILP) where he accused government of trying to get rid of him and warned Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar that his “gloves were off” and he intended to reveal everything he has on her.

May 31, 2015

Kamla says Jack Warner has nothing on her and puts matter in lawyer’s hands

Insisting that her hands are clean, Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar has put the matter of Jack Warner’s “slanderous” statements against her, following his release from jail, in the hands of her lawyers. But she says she is not worried about any of the revelations which Warner says he will make about her.

June 2, 2015

Trinidad public servant Cheryl Miller wins almost $1 million in unlawful imprisonment lawsuit

A public servant who was forcibly removed from her desk three years ago and taken to a psychiatric hospital where she was kept for just over two weeks has been awarded TT$835,000 (US$131,896) by a High Court.

June 3, 2015

Trinidad’s Jack Warner now on Interpol’s wanted persons list

Interpol has issued an international wanted persons alert for Trinidadian Jack Warner and five others who are facing corruption charges related to their roles at FIFA.
June 8, 2015

**Egypt accuses Jack Warner of asking for $7 million to secure votes in World Cup bid**

The allegations against former FIFA vice-president Jack Warner continue to mount, with Egypt now claiming that he asked for US$7 million to secure votes for that country in its 2010 World Cup bid.

June 10, 2015

**Jack Warner publishes more evidence showing he spent money on prime minister and UNC**

His secrets about FIFA are yet to be disclosed, but Jack Warner continues to dish out the evidence to support his claim that he spent money on Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar and her 2010 election campaign.

June 15, 2015

**Trinidad PM dismisses Warner’s claim that ganja was found at her house**

Another allegation by Jack Warner – this time that marijuana was found at the home of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar two years ago – has been dismissed.

June 17, 2015

**Ganja probe begins, as Jack Warner releases recordings of conversation about drugs at PM’s home**

Trinidad’s top cop yesterday ordered a probe into the alleged 2013 ganja find at the private residence of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar on the same day that Jack Warner released recordings of conversations with former national security adviser Gary Griffith about the discovery.

June 18, 2015

**Trinidad police being investigated in alleged ganja cover-up at PM’s house**

On the heels of the police chief announcing a probe into the alleged discovery of marijuana at the private residence of Prime Minister Kamla Persad-Bissessar, the Police Complaints Authority (PCA) has launched its own investigation to determine whether there was any criminal misconduct by police officers involved in that matter.

August 5, 2015

**Political Interference • Ineptitude • Victimization • Attack on the National Security Apparatus**

**Taxpayers pay for Government Foolishness**

Much like the payment of over one million dollars to Brigadier Peter Joseph (former Head of SAUTT) in 2012, ex-spy chief Nigel Clement (former director of Strategic Services Agency), is set to receive millions of dollars as compensation for wrongful dismissal.
MAJOR INVESTIGATIONS STILL PENDING

Police Investigations
- Emailgate Probe
- Probe into Anand Ramlogan Witness tampering
- Dana Seetahal’s Murder Investigations
- Investigation into High Court Files in private attorney’s chambers.
- Police Probe into LifeSport
- Investigation into FCB Initial Public Offering
- Racist Placards during PNM march
- Prisongate investigations (Solicitor General)
- Investigation into Glen Ramadharshigh for possible breach of the Civil Aviation Act.

Police Investigation into Fraud and cover up over purchase of a Bulldozer at National Quarries.

Flying Squad Investigation - File sent to DPP

Integrity Commission Investigations
- Emailgate Issue
- Award of Contract – Mary King Affair
- Bid rigging allegations at Beetham Waste Water Treatment Plant
- Anand Ramlogan importation of two Range Rovers
- Impropriety in award of contracts at Cipriani Labour College
- Allegations of Minister with 6 Houses raised by Jack Warner
- Officials involved with Lifesport Program
- Conspiracy to defraud National Quarries Limited (Bulldozer Issue)
- Facilitation of Projects in St Joseph Constituency during Bye Election
- Payment to Farmers in Aranguez and Bamboo by a Senator (Food Production Minister Devant Maharaj?)
You’re Fired...

List of resigned or fired PP officials

Over the 5-year period of the PP government the Prime Minister has had to either fire, reassign or receive resignations from 24 Ministers. It was a clear demonstration of her lack of judgement, poor oversight of her Ministers and failure to do proper background character checks before appointing some of these individuals. To date, there has been no evaluation of the true cost to taxpayers for maintaining the biggest cabinet in our small island’s recorded political history.

Anand Ramlogan

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
Congress of the People (COP)

PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator

LAST PORTFOLIO:
Attorney General

START DATE:
26/05/2010

END DATE:
02/02/2015

TERM (DAYS):
1713

TERMINATION:
Resigned
List of resigned or fired PP officials

Emmanuel George

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
LAST PORTFOLIO:
Minister of Justice
START DATE:
28/05/2010
END DATE:
02/02/2015
TERM (DAYS):
1711
TERMINATION:
Replaced

List of resigned or fired PP officials

Timothy Hamel-Smith

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
Congress of the People (COP)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Senate President
START DATE:
18/06/2010
END DATE:
02/02/2015
TERM (DAYS):
1690
TERMINATION:
Replaced

Embau Moheni

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
National Joint Action Committee (NJAC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Minister in the Ministry of National Security
START DATE:
28/05/2010
END DATE:
02/02/2015
TERM (DAYS):
1711
TERMINATION:
Replaced

Gary Griffith

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
Congress of the People (COP)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Minister of National Security
START DATE:
06/09/2013
END DATE:
02/02/2015
TERM (DAYS):
514
TERMINATION:
Fired
List of resigned or fired PP officials

**Anil Roberts**

**POLITICAL AFFILIATION:** Congress of the People (COP)
**PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:** MP D’Abadie/O’neara
**Minister of Sport**
**START DATE:** 27 July 2010
**END DATE:** 31/07/2014
**TERM (DAYS):** 1465
**TERMINATION:** Resigned

**Chandresh Sharma**

**POLITICAL AFFILIATION:** United National Congress (UNC)
**PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:** MP Fyzabad
**Minister of Tourism**
**START DATE:** 28 May 2010
**END DATE:** 31 March 2014
**TERM (DAYS):** 1403
**TERMINATION:** Resigned

**Glenn Ramadharsingh**

**POLITICAL AFFILIATION:** United National Congress (UNC)
**PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:** MP Caroni Central
**Minister of the People and Social Development**
**START DATE:** 28 May 2010
**END DATE:** 25 March 2014
**TERM (DAYS):** 1397
**TERMINATION:** Fired

**Jamal Mohammed**

**POLITICAL AFFILIATION:** Congress of the People (COP)
**PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:** Government Senator
**Minister of Communication**
**START DATE:** 25 June 2012
**END DATE:** 5 September 2013
**TERM (DAYS):** 437
**TERMINATION:** Replaced
List of resigned or fired PP officials

Christlyn Moore

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: Tobago Organisation for the People (TOP)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: Government Senator
Minister of Justice
START DATE: 26 September 2012
END DATE: 5 September 2013
TERM (DAYS): 344
TERMINATION: Replaced

Terance Baynes

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: Tobago Organisation for the People (TOP)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: Government Senator
Senator without portfolio
START DATE: 27 June 2011
END DATE: 25 September 2012
TERM (DAYS): 456
TERMINATION: Resigned

Jack Warner

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: MP Chaguana West
Minister of National Security
START DATE: 28 May 2010
END DATE: 26 April 2013
TERM (DAYS): 1064
TERMINATION: Resigned

Herbert Volney

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: Independent
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: MP St Joseph
Minister of Justice
START DATE: 28 May 2010
END DATE: 20 September 2012
TERM (DAYS): 846
TERMINATION: Fired
List of resigned or fired PP officials

Collin Partap

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
MP Toco/Manzanilla
Minister of National Security
START DATE:
27 June 2011
END DATE:
27 August 2012
TERM (DAYS):
427
TERMINATION:
Fired

Dhanny Maharaj

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Senator without portfolio
START DATE:
18 June 2010
END DATE:
24 June 2012
TERM (DAYS):
737
TERMINATION:
Replaced

John Sandy

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Minister of National Security
START DATE:
28 May 2010
END DATE:
24 June 2012
TERM (DAYS):
758
TERMINATION:
Replaced

Verna St Rose-Greaves

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Minister of Gender Affairs
START DATE:
27 June 2011
END DATE:
24 June 2012
TERM (DAYS):
363
TERMINATION:
Replaced
List of resigned or fired PP officials

Nicole Dyer-Griffith

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: Congress of the People (COP)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: Government Senator
Minister of Communication
START DATE: 27 June 2011
END DATE: 24 June 2012
TERM (DAYS): 363
TERMINATION: Replaced

David Abdullah

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: Movement for Social Justice (MSJ)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: Government Senator
Senator without portfolio
START DATE: 18 June 2010
END DATE: 18 June 2012
TERM (DAYS): 731
TERMINATION: Resigned

Therese Baptiste-Cornelis

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: Government Senator
Minister of Health
START DATE: 28 May 2010
END DATE: 26 June 2011
TERM (DAYS): 394
TERMINATION: Replaced

Rudrawatee Nan Gosine-Ramgoolam

POLITICAL AFFILIATION: United National Congress (UNC)
PARLIAMENTARY STATUS: Government Senator
Minister of Public Administration
START DATE: 28 May 2010
END DATE: 26 June 2011
TERM (DAYS): 394
TERMINATION: Replaced
List of resigned or fired PP officials

Subhas Panday

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
United National Congress (UNC)

PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator, Senate Leader
Minister in the Ministry of National Security

START DATE:
17 June 2010

END DATE:
26 June 2011

TERM (DAYS):
374

TERMINATION:
Replaced

Mary King

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
Congress of the People (COP)

PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Minister of Planning, Restructuring and Gender Affairs

START DATE:
28 May 2010

END DATE:
10 May 2011

TERM (DAYS):
347

TERMINATION:
Fired

Patrick Watson

POLITICAL AFFILIATION:
Congress of the People (COP)

PARLIAMENTARY STATUS:
Government Senator
Minister in the Ministry of Finance

START DATE:
18 June 2010

END DATE:
26 June 2011

TERM (DAYS):
373

TERMINATION:
Replaced
The great deception

why you must vote

Closing Arguments

Your Verdict

The one defining quality of a good book, or a good movie, is its ability to stimulate your mind.

Whether you read this book from cover to cover, or just looked at a few pages, everything that you have read in this book, as implausible as it may seem, is true.

This book is not a work of fiction, concocted by someone with a wild imagination. Far from it; this book is compiled from the information made available in the newspapers of Trinidad and Tobago, from 2010 all the way to 2015.

A Reason to Remember 118

Of Lies, Deceptions, Blunders and Missteps 119
The contents may seem farcical, incredible, impossible, or downright ridiculous. But they are all true. The lies, the “missteps”, the deliberate steps, the deterioration of morality in public office, the dismantling of our national security apparatus, the attack on institutions of the State, the abuse of process and principle, the bastardisation of our Constitution, the cheap tricks and dirty underhandedness – it all happened.

Are you shocked? Well, remember the very first entry in this book – “We were warned”.

Having read this book, or parts of it, you may say to yourself, “all of these people are all the same, so, I am not going to vote”. It is your right to decide not to vote, but it will also be your big mistake.

“How?” you ask.

Look at Greece today. Look at Venezuela today. One, the home of democracy; the other, with the largest petroleum deposits in the world. Both their economies are in a state of collapse. Their citizens are suffering more and more hardship every day.

Q: What do they have in common?
A: Bad, irresponsible, corrupt governments.

Not voting, means there is one less vote against the People’s Partnership; it also means there is one more vote FOR the Partnership – and if enough people refuse to vote, then we end up with a frightening scenario, where the People’s Partnership of the UNC, the COP, and other like-minded entities continue to feast on the Treasury, leaving a financial mess for the rest of us to pay.

It took Kamla Persad-Bissessar over three months to speak publicly on declining oil prices – 3 whole months! And she only spoke because there were calls from all over the nation for her to do so. When she spoke, she had nothing to offer. She refused to make the necessary adjustments to government spending. But her government got upset when Trinidad and Tobago’s credit rating was reduced by
Moody’s, the internationally-renowned and respected financial ratings agency.

You cannot continue to spend more than you earn, with no consequences. Yet, the People’s Partnership has spent money like it is going out of fashion. They have borrowed money left, right and centre, and exceeded their own budget every year in office – and they expect you and I to pay back what they have given their friends and families – what they have stolen from us.

If madness is defined as “doing the same thing over and over, and expecting a different result”, then it will be madness to give the People’s Partnership another term in office. Happily for Trinidad and Tobago, the Partnership has been rejected at the polls, 4 times already in the last 5 years. So, we have hope.

But hope is not enough. We must all act to prevent a return to the disgrace that has passed for government in Trinidad and Tobago over the last 5 years.

The lies that have characterised this government began on the campaign trail in 2010, with Kamla and her team promising to deal with the crime situation within 120 days of being elected. As would become the usual, we soon discovered that we had been hoodwinked – there was NO crime plan! Having made a manifesto promise to address crime, they had never really planned to do anything about it – they listed it in their manifesto just so that the electorate would see and believe that there was a plan (using appearances to deceive).

It would become apparent that rather than a plan to fight crime, there seemed to be a plan to facilitate crime. In one fell swoop, the People’s Partnership began to attack and destroy the national security apparatus. To refresh our minds:

- They destroyed the Special Anti-crime Unit of Trinidad and Tobago
- They refused to take the Offshore Patrol Vessels from BAE, claiming they were not fit for purpose – the same vessels were subsequently bought by the Brazilian Navy, the fifth largest navy in the world; not only did Brazil buy the boats, it also bought licenses to manufacture the same vessels in Brazil
- They allowed the coastal 360° radar facilities to deteriorate to the point where we cannot detect and intercept human trafficking, drugs and armament shipments
- They sent the British intelligence officers packing
- They got rid of the “blimp” airship.

The People’s Partnership dismantled EVERY anti-drug and anti-crime national security initiative initiated by the government that preceded it.

Ask yourself why a government that promised to deal with crime within 120 days of being elected would turn around and do the opposite?

The same government then invented a State of Emergency that did immeasurable harm to the nation’s economy, hit the pockets of many innocent citizens, violated the human rights of hundreds of citizens, and NEVER once gave an explanation as to the real reason for the SOE.

To further embarrass the nation, the Prime Minister claimed that there was a plot to kill her, even as she knew there was NEVER any plot. She cried “Treason” and was ready to send 13 innocent men to hang, knowing full well that there was never any evidence against them. In fact, the “Plot” was manufactured in the hyperactive mind of an ambitious policeman.
The recent jailbreak from Port of Spain prison featured escapees throwing a HAND GRENADE – a military weapon that entered Trinidad and Tobago from Venezuela – that is the hallmark of the People’s Partnership’s gift to Trinidad and Tobago: Increasingly sophisticated weapons in the hands of criminals.

Every murder committed with a firearm is another reason to remember that the People’s Partnership has done more to harm us than protect us in the last 5 years.

So when Kamla Persad-Bissessar praises herself for the sham-bolic governance of the last 5 years (+ stolen time) remember that it has all been an act, and they are counting on you to either fall for it, or do nothing (i.e. don’t vote).

Pick any issue in this book,...

Join the dots...and see the pattern that emerges.
“When good men do nothing”