

PARLIAMENTARY QUESTION

B/582

The Honourable Third Member for Piton and Rivière

du

Rempart

(Mr Rutnah)

To ask the Honourable the Attorney-General, Minister of Justice, Human Rights and Institutional Reforms –

Whether, in regard to the proposed introduction of a Criminal Justice Bill in the House, he will state where matters stand?

REPLY

Madam Speaker,

I presume that the Hon. Member is referring to the "Police and Criminal Justice Bill". In my reply to PQ B/964 of the sitting of 30 October 2018, I referred extensively to my reply to PQ B/601 of the sitting of 24 October 2017, I informed the House of the progress made in relation to the drafting of the Police and Criminal Evidence Bill.

2. The Bill is renamed The Police and Criminal Justice Bill, to better reflect its contents and the emphasis it puts on better guaranteeing the rights of citizens under the Constitution. The Bill itself is accompanied by several Codes of Practice setting out in detail the parameters for police powers of search and seizure, powers of arrest and the conduct of interviews in places of detention.

3. Madam Speaker, I have to inform the House that further Extensive consultations have been held with the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions and the Commissioner of Police.

4. My Office has received further representations from the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions in March 2019 and these representations are being considered with a view to their inclusion in the Bill.

5. Madam Speaker, Government is envisaging the introduction of the Police and Criminal Justice Bill in the House during this session.

