

**IN BRIEF**

## **Commission says tax hikes may be on cards**

**DEFICIT** | The Treasury would probably have to increase taxes in coming years if it wanted to bring down its budget deficit without making onerous cuts in government expenditure, the Financial and Fiscal Commission said yesterday. No mention was made of tax hikes in the medium-term budget policy statement in Parliament last week but the commission said in its submission on the policy statement that these might be necessary as the spending cuts and reprioritisation exercise to which the Treasury had committed itself would not be sufficient. Linda Ensor