

THE OFFICIAL GAZETTE
LEGAL SUPPLEMENT – C

30TH MAY, 2001

BILL No. 8 of 2001

Wednesday 30th May, 2001

PARLIAMENT OFFICE

Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
Guyana.

30th May, 2001

The following Bill which will be introduced in the National Assembly is published for general information.

F. A. Narain,
Clerk of the National Assembly.



GUYANA

BILL No. 8 of 2001

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) (No. 5) BILL 2001

ARRANGEMENT OF SECTIONS

SECTION

1. Short title.
2. Insertion of new Title 6A, heading and article 197A in the Constitution.

**A BILL
Intituled**

AN ACT to alter the Constitution in accordance with articles 66 and 164.

A.D. 2001

Enacted by the Parliament of Guyana:-

Short title.

1. This Act may be cited as the Constitution (Amendment) (No. 5) Act 2001.

Insertion of new Title 6A heading and article 197A in the Constitution.

2. The Constitution is hereby altered by the insertion of the following TITLE and article immediately after TITLE 6

**"TITLE 6A
DEFENCE AND SECURITY**

Defence and security.

197A. (1) The State's defence and security policy shall be to defend national independence, preserve the country's sovereignty and integrity, and guarantee the normal functioning of institutions and the security of citizens against any armed aggression.

(2) The Defence and Security Forces shall be subordinate to national defence and security policy and owe allegiance to the Constitution and to the Nation. The oath taken by members of the Defence and Security Forces shall establish their duty to respect the Constitution.

Cap. 15:01

(3) The Guyana Defence Force established under the Defence Act shall in the discharge of its constitutional responsibilities function in such a manner as to earn the respect and enjoy the confidence of citizens.

Cap. 16:01

(4) The Police Force established under the Police Act shall function accordance with the law enforcement agency of the State responding to the daily need to maintain law and order by suppressing crime to ensure that citizens are safe in the homes, the streets and in other places.

(5) Disciplined forces commissions may be constituted by the National Assembly from time to time, as may be necessary, with power to examine the structure and composition of the discipline forces and make recommendations generally with a view to Promoting their greater efficiency, and giving effect to the need in the public interest that the composition of the disciplined forces take account of the ethnic constituents of the population."

EXPLANATORY MEMORANDUM

Clause 2 inserts as Title 6A a new article 197A on defence and security. It reiterates the duties of the Defence Force and the Police Force. Disciplined Forces Commissions may be appointed to examine the structure and composition of the disciplined forces to give effect to the need for the composition of the disciplined forces to take account of the ethnic constituents of the population.

Reepu Daman Persaud,
Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.