

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 37TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2006 - 2007) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON FRIDAY, 14TH DECEMBER, 2007

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

BUSINESS FOR SITTING

PRAVERS

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT-

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

By the Speaker of the National Assembly:

Manual of Rules of Procedure, Practices and Conventions used by Parliamentarians in the conduct of the Business of the National Assembly.

(To be Circulated)

2.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE-

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. **HOSTING CARIFESTA X**

Member Asking: Mr. Neendkumar, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Now that Guyana is hosting CARIFESTA X, could the Minister inform this House on the Government of Guyana plans and the status of preparations for the largest Cultural Festival in the Region?

(Notice Paper No. 188(Q137 PPP/C Private Member No.2) published on 2007-11-22)

2. **PRESIDENT YOUTH AWARD PROGRAMME**

Member Asking: Mr. Steve Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Could the Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport state which regions and communities have benefited from the President Youth Award, Republic of Guyana programme since its inception to now?

(Notice Paper No. 189(Q138 PPP/C Private Member No.3) published on 2007-11-22)

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS, INCLUDING POLICY STATEMENTS-

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE-

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY AND MOVED BY A MINISTER-

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

PUBLIC BUSINESS-

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILL – Second Readings

1. LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2007 – Bill No. 26/2007 published on 2007-12-05

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development, to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Local Authorities (Elections) Act to provide for the postponement of elections of councillors of local democratic organs.

(Read a first time on 2007-12-06)

4.

2. **NATIONAL REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2007- Bill No. 27/ 2007 published on 2007-12-05**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the National Registration Act.
(Read a first time on 2007-12-06)

3. **IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 2007 – Bill No. 28/2007 published on 2007-12-05**

The Minister of Home Affairs, to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Immigration Act.
(Read a first time on 2007-12-06)

4. **POUNDS AND CERTAIN OTHER ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2007 – Bill No. 25/2007 published on 2007-11-15**

The Minister of Home Affairs, to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Pounds Act, the Municipal and District Councils Act, the Local Government Act and Roads Act.
(Read a first time on 2007-11-29)

4.

MOTION

5. **MARKING OF DR. CHEDDI JAGAN'S ENTRY INTO PARLIAMENT**

Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications, to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the First Session of the Fourth Legislative Council of the then British Guiana was opened on December 18, 1947;

AND WHEREAS Dr. Cheddi Jagan at the age of 29 was administered the oath as a Member of the Legislature on the said day, having won the seat for Central Demerara (Buxton to Kitty) at the November, 1947 elections;

AND WHEREAS Dr. Jagan's victory at the polls was unprecedented as it was the first occasion on which a militant representative of the working class secured a seat in the colonial Legislative Council thereby signaling the dawn of a new phase of struggle for independence;

AND WHEREAS his entry into the Legislative Council began a long and illustrious career as a dedicated Parliamentarian extending for 45 years until 1992 when he became ineligible to remain seated on being elected the Executive President of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS he believed that his first foray into the Legislative Council provided a new "dimension to the politics of protest. A continuity between the legislature and the street corner,...The Legislative Council was no longer the hallowed Chamber where "gentlemen" debated at leisure and had their words recorded in the Hansard for posterity. The Legislature at last became part and parcel of the struggle for the people";

AND WHEREAS he brought a new style of parliamentarism to the Legislature and in doing so created his trade mark as a political leader, a trade unionist, a Premier, the Leader of the Opposition and subsequently, President of the nation;

AND WHEREAS Dr. C. Jagan was never deterred in the early days when almost every question he asked and every motion he tabled was left unanswered or defeated; nor was he ever daunted after each election in the post-independence period in recognizing that Parliament was the forum for the battle of ideas and representation returning each time to take his seat in the House and to champion the cause of the people; nor did he stop coming to Parliament in the late eighties when he was muzzled from speaking in this House for several years;

AND WHEREAS his career as a Parliamentarian over four and a half decades was marked by his persistent and unrelenting struggle for the working people of the then British Guiana, for universal adult suffrage, for independence from British colonial rule, for fair and equitable trade relations, for the end to colonial and imperialist rule globally, and in the post-independence period for the return to democracy and free and fair elections;

AND WHEREAS on becoming President at his inaugural speech to the new Parliament he called on Parliament to become a truly deliberative forum;

AND WHEREAS as President he brought his life long philosophy of fair and equitable trade and sustainable human development to bear in his concept of "A New Human Global Order" which was adopted by the UN General Assembly shortly after his passing,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly give due recognition to this outstanding Guyanese who was the longest serving Member of the National Assembly crossing 45 years of service on this the anniversary of his entrance to the Legislature 60 years ago;

7.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly agrees to pay tribute to Dr. Cheddi Jagan as the longest serving Parliamentarian by establishing a Special Collection of his speeches in the National Assembly spanning those 45 years and to place them on display in the Library of the Parliament and to seek support to have them published as a collection for reference to the younger and future generations, some of whom may also enter these Chambers as Members of Parliament.

(Notice Paper No. 197 (M51 Govt 32) published on 2007-12-06)

BILL – Second Readings

***6.. VALUATION OF PROPERTY FOR RATING PURPOSES (VALIDATION) BILL
2007 – Bill No. 29/2007 published on 2007-12-05**

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development, to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to declare and validate the valuation of property in the City of Georgetown for rating purposes.

(Read a first time on 2007-12-06)

/...8

*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

BILLS – Second Readings, Committee and Third Readings

***7. ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM BILL 2007 – Bill No. 18/2007 published on 2007-06-04**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment and management of a Financial Intelligence Unit; to provide for unlawful proceeds of all serious offences to be identified, traced, frozen, seized and eventually forfeited; to provide for comprehensive powers for the prosecution of money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crimes; and the forfeiture of the proceeds of crime and terrorist property; to require reporting entities to take preventive measures to help combat money laundering and terrorist financing; to provide for civil forfeiture of assets and for matters connected therewith.

(Read a first time on 2007-06-07)

(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2007-06-07)

***8. THE FORESTS BILL 2007 – Bill No. 21 of 2007 published on 2007-07-24**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to consolidate and amend the law relating to forests.

(Read a first time on 2007-08-02)

(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2007-11-08)

/...9

*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

MOTION

***9. AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER NO. 54**

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following motion, after the Standing Orders Committee has reported thereon:

WHEREAS Standing Order No. 54 provides that an interval of not less than seven (7) days must elapse between the first and second reading of a Bill;

AND WHEREAS a sitting of the National Assembly is generally held on a Thursday;

AND WHEREAS the stipulation of seven (7) days does not allow for the second reading of the Bill on the following Thursday;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that Standing Order 54 be amended to allow for a Bill, read a first time on a Thursday to be read a second time on the following Thursday;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That in accordance with Standing Order 110 this National Assembly refers this motion to amend Standing Order No. 54 to the Standing Orders Committee for further consideration with a view to effect the desired amendment.

(Notice Paper No. 57(M15 Govt 11) published on 2007-01-18)

(Referred to Standing Orders Committee on 2007-01-31 in accordance with Standing Orders No. 110 (3))

*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

10.

(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and first Reading

***FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL 2006 – Bill No. 26/2006**

Mr. Raphael Trotman, M.P., is to seek leave to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to give access to information to members of the public.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

***10. AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDERS NO. 10**

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following motion, after the Standing Orders Committee has reported thereon:

WHEREAS the hours of Parliament are prescribed by Standing Order No. 10 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly to be 2.00 p.m. to 10.00 p.m. with suspensions at 4.00 p.m. and 7.00 p.m. respectively;

AND WHEREAS Members of the National Assembly have expressed varying views on the times for sittings of the Assembly with some Members favouring the commencement of sessions at an earlier time whilst others appear to prefer the strict observance of the prescribed times;

AND WHEREAS it would be desirable for a compromise to be found so as to allow for the hours of sittings to be varied from time to time by the Parliamentary Management Committee depending on the business to be disposed of,

/...11

*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

11.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Standing Orders Committee examines the issue of the times at which the Assembly shall meet including, the right of the Speaker to suspend the Standing Orders to allow the time to be abridged or varied and to report to the National Assembly its finding and recommendations within three months.

(Notice Paper No.92 (M23 Opp 7) published on 2007-01-30)

(Referred to Standing Orders Committee on 2007-05-24 in accordance with Standing Order No. 110 (3))

(iii) COMMITTEE BUSINESS

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S.E. ISAACS

Clerk of the National Assembly

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam.**

7TH December, 2007.