

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER PAPER**

**FOR THE 62<sup>ND</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION**

**(2006 - 2008) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD**

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON THURSDAY, 16<sup>TH</sup> OCTOBER, 2008**

**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

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**BUSINESS FOR SITTING**

**PRAYERS**

**OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-**

**MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT-**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-**

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-**

**ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE-**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

1. **CRIMINAL APPEALS FILED IN THE HIGH COURT FROM 2005 – 2007**

**Member Asking:** Ms Sheila Holder M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

How many criminal appeals filed in the High Court in 2005, 2006 and 2007 were disposed of by the Court of Appeal in each of the three years?

(Notice Paper No. 253 (Q178 Opp173) published on 2008-07-23)

2. **APPOINTMENT OF PERMANENT SECRETARIES AND DEPUTY  
PERMANENT SECRETARIES IN THE PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Member Asking:** Ms Sheila Holder M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Public Service

(i) How many Permanent Secretaries in the Public Service are substantively appointed and how many are acting?

(ii) How many Deputy Permanent Secretaries are substantively appointed and how many are acting?

(Notice Paper No. 254 (Q179 Opp174) published on 2008-07-23)

**3. MAINTENANCE OF THE LINDEN/ITUNI ROAD**

**Member Asking:** Ms Sheila Holder M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

The Linden/Ituni road used to be maintained by the Bauxite Company in Linden, since BOSAI no longer operates a mine in Ituni, what arrangement is Government prepared to put in place to maintain this important link road to the Kwakwani community and the Intermediate Savannahs where Government is encouraging farming?  
(Notice Paper No. 255 (Q180 Opp175) published on 2008-07-23)

**For Oral Replies**

**4. ENHANCING CONDITIONS FOR THE DISABLED**

**Member Asking:** Ms Sheila Holder M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

\*Does the Government's commitment to enhancing conditions for the disabled extend to constructing ramps at major institutions such as the Courts and Public Buildings currently without such facilities?

(Notice Paper No. 259 (Q181 Opp176) published on 2008-07-29)

**5. PROVISIONS OF TRAINED TEACHERS FOR MAHDIA**

**Member Asking:** Ms Sheila Holder M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

\*Several women from Campbell Town in Mahdia have bemoaned the fact that there are no trained teachers to prepare their children for CXC examination. What consideration could the Minister extend to this community to satisfy their need for a higher level of education for their children?

(Notice Paper No. 260 (Q182 Opp177) published on 2008-07-29)

**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**

**BILLS – Second Readings**

1. **EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No. No. 22/2008 published on  
2008-08-07**

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 Evidence Act.

**(Read a first time on 2008-08-07)**

2. **THE CRIMINAL LAW (PROCEDURE) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No.  
20/2008 published on 2008-08-07**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Criminal Law (Procedure) Act.

**(Read a first time on 2008-08-07)**

5.

3. **CRIMINAL PROCEDURE (PLEA BARGAINING AND PLEA AGREEMENT)**  
**BILL 2008 – Bill No. 21/2008 published on 2008-08-07**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of a system of plea bargaining and plea agreements in criminal procedure and for matters connected therewith.

**(Read a first time on 2008-08-07)**

\*4. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No. 18/2008**  
**published on 2008-08-07**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Telecommunications Act 1990.

**(Read a first time on 2008-08-07)**

\*5. **INTERCEPTION OF COMMUNICATIONS BILL 2008 – Bill No. 19/2008**  
**published on 2008-08-07**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the interception of communications, the acquisition and disclosure of data relating to communications and the acquisition of the means by which protected communications may be accessed and placed in an intelligible form and for connected purposes.

**(Read a first time on 2008-08-07)**

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\*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

**BILLS – Second Readings, Committee and Third Readings**

**\*6. 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)*

**\*7. 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)*

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\*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

**\*8. COURT OF APPEAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No. 12 of 2008 published on 2008-07-11**

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 amend the Court of Appeal Act to provide for appeals by the Director of Public Prosecutions to the Court of Appeal and the Caribbean Court of Justice and for connected matters.

**(Read a first time on 2008-07-17)**

**(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2008-07-25)**

**\*9. MONEY TRANSFER AGENCIES (LICENSING) BILL 2008 – No. 15 of 2008 published on 2008-07-23**

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 licensing of persons carrying on the business of money transfer agencies; to make provision for the registering of money transfer agents and for connected purposes.

**(Read a first time on 2008-07-24)**

**(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2008-08-07)**

**(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.

**MOTIONS**

10. **ALLEGATIONS OF TORTURE MADE AGAINST THE JOINT SERVICES OF GUYANA**

Mr. Aubrey Norton, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Guyana is a Party to the United Nations Convention Against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman and Degrading Treatment or Punishment (hereinafter referred to as the Convention);

AND WHEREAS Article 141(1) of the Constitution of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana states that “No person should be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading punishment or other treatment”;

AND WHEREAS there have been allegations of torture made against the Joint Services in Guyana by Messrs. Patrick Sumner, Victor Jones, David Leander, Michael Dunn, Alvin Wilson and Sharth Robertson;

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\*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting



AND WHEREAS it is the responsibility of a State Party to the Convention to **“ensure that education and information regarding the prohibition against torture are fully included in the training of law enforcement personnel, civil or military, medical personnel, public officials and other persons who may be involved in the custody, interrogation or treatment of any individual subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment”**,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its treaty obligations under Article 12 of the Convention and establish an impartial and independent Commission to examine and investigate the allegations of torture made against the Joint Services in Guyana;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its treaty obligations under Article 13 of the Convention by ensuring that steps **“be taken to ensure that the complainant and witnesses are protected against all ill-treatment or intimidation as a consequence of his complaint or any evidence given”**;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its treaty obligations under Article 4(2) of the Convention by enacting the necessary legislation to give effect to the provisions of the Convention;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its treaty obligations under Article 14 of the Convention by ensuring that persons found to have been tortured are compensated;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Guyana honour its treaty obligations under Article 11 of the Convention and “...review interrogation rules, instructions, methods and practices as well as arrangements for the custody and treatment of persons subjected to any form of arrest, detention or imprisonment in any territory under its jurisdiction, with a view to preventing any cases of torture”;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to honour its treaty obligations under Article 10 of the Convention by ensuring that public officials are made aware that all forms of torture are prohibited.

**(Notice Paper No. 263 (M76 Opp21) published on 2008-07-31)**

11. **ACCESS TO LOCAL AND EXTERNAL TELEVISION CHANNELS, OTHER THAN NCN CHANNELS, AT LINDEN**

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Article 146(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Guyana provides for the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms of citizens and is the supreme law of the land and directs:

“Except with his own consent, no person shall be hindered in the enjoyment of his freedom of expression, that is to say, freedom to hold opinions without interference, freedom to receive ideas and information without interference, freedom to communicate ideas and information without interference and freedom from interference with his correspondence”;

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AND WHEREAS the people of Linden and Wismar have expressed to the leadership of the Alliance For Change their frustration and anger at being denied the right to access local and external television channels other than NCN channels 11 and 8 operated by the State,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly endorses the fundamental rights of these citizens to receive ideas and information without interference via television media other than those which are provided by NCN;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls on the Government of Guyana and its National Frequency Management Unit to permit operators of private television channels in Guyana the right to relay and bean their channels in Linden and Wismar without having to attain additional licenses and pay additional fees.

**(Notice Paper No. 264 (M77 Opp22) published on 2008-07-31)**

**(iii) COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

  
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**S.E. ISAACS**  
**Clerk of the National Assembly**

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

**10<sup>th</sup> October, 2008.**