

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 126TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2006 - 2010) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 15TH JULY, 2010

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

BUSINESS FOR SITTING

PRAYERS

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT-

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-

Private Bill

***By Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.**

Petition on behalf of the Guyana and Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Company Limited seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to amend the Guyana Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Company Limited Ordinance, Chapter 210 of the Kingdom Edition of the Laws of British Guiana (Principal Ordinance).

/...2

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

2.

After the petition is read, the Speaker will put the question that the promoters be allowed to proceed.

(Circulated)

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Treasury Memorandum pursuant to Resolution No. 114 dated March 11, 2010 of the National Assembly adopting the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on the Public Accounts of Guyana for the years 2004 and 2005.

(To be Circulated)

- (ii) The Petroleum (Exploration and Production) (Tax Laws) (YPF Guyana Ltd., formerly Maxus Guyana Ltd.) Order 2010 – Order No. 9 of 2010.

(To be Circulated)

- (iii) The Petroleum (Exploration and Production) (Tax Laws) (CGX Resources Inc.) Order 2010 – Order No. 10 of 2010.

(To be Circulated)

- (iv) The Petroleum (Exploration and Production) (Tax Laws) (Canacol Energy (Guyana) Inc., formerly Groundstar Resources Inc.) Order 2010 – Order No. 11 of 2010.

(To be Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

By Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Economic Services):

The Fifth Periodic Report of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Economic Services.

(Circulated)

3.

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. **PRIVITISATION OF GUYANA POWER AND LIGHT**

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and
Communication

Can the Honourable Prime Minister state what efforts Government proposes to take to privatise Guyana Power Light and save the taxpayers the huge sums that are transferred each year to that utility?

(Notice Paper No. 442 (Q321 Opp296) published on 2010-03-05)

2. **SETTING UP OF SEVERAL RIGHTS COMMISSIONS**

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and
Communication

Can the Honourable Prime Minister say why is there no provision in the 2010 Budget for the setting up of the secretariat to facilitate the work of the several Right Commissions?

(Notice Paper No. 443 (Q322 Opp297) published on 2010-03-05)

4.

3. **ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL PROCUREMENT COMMISSION**

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

Will the Honourable Prime Minister provide a status report on the failure to establish the National Procurement Commission?

(Notice Paper No. 444 (Q323 Opp298) published on 2010-03-05)

4. **VIDEO TAPING OF PROCEEDINGS IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

The proceedings in the National Assembly are video-taped by the Government controlled NCN. Will the Honourable Prime Minister say why copies of the parliamentary proceedings are not being made available to the Alliance For Change parliamentary party upon request?

(Notice Paper No. 445 (Q324 Opp299) published on 2010-03-05)

5. **NATIONAL SPORTS COMMISSION**

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Will the Honourable Minister say why is money being voted for the National Sports Commission, a body that has been defunct for more than two years?

(Notice Paper No. 446 (Q325 Opp300) published on 2010-03-05)

5.

6. DIPLOMATIC PASSPORTS

Member Asking: Mr. Raphael Trotman, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

Could the Honourable Minister say-

What is the criteria used for the issuing of Diplomatic Passports by the Government of Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 467 (Q335 Opp310) published on 2010-06-02)

For Oral Replies

7. PADDY DRYING FLOORS

Member Asking: Mr. Everall Franklin, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Agriculture

1. *Can the Minister inform the National Assembly of the price paid for the paddy drying floor at Anna Regina?
2. *What is the average cost per square meter of drying floors, constructed so far, if all floors have the same thickness? If not, provide the average cubic meter cost?
3. *What mechanism is in place to protect drying paddy from eventual rain?
4. *Is the Minister satisfied that these drying floors can be described as “a value for money” project?

(Notice Paper No. 470 (Q337 Opp312) published on 2010-06-09)

6.

8. **GRADE REPETITION/RETENTION AND AUTOMATIC PROMOTION
(AMENDMENT)**

Member Asking: Mr. Everall Franklin, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

1. *Can the Hon. Minister explain to this House the intention of Circular No. 8/2009 dated 29th September, 2009, from the Chief Education Officer, to all Nursery, Primary and Secondary Schools, among others, with the subject stated as “**Grade Repetition/Retention and Automatic Promotion (Amendment)**”?
2. *Is the policy now, as the Circular suggests in paragraph 2 that, “No repetition shall take place at the Nursery, Primary nor Secondary levels”, irrespective of the performance of students and that promotion to higher grades will be automatic?
3. *Deficiencies noted by teachers according to this Circular must be remedied during the August holidays. How practical is this, when some of these deficiencies were developed over years of formal teaching?
4. *Is it true to say that this policy will be delivering students to subsequent grades, who are below the required standard?

(Notice Paper No. 471 (Q338 Opp313) published on 2010-06-09)

7.

9. **EXPORT OF ACTIVATED CARBON/CHARCOAL**

Member Asking: Mr. Overall Franklin, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

1. *Will the Hon. Prime Minister state what quantity of spent activated charcoal (activated carbon) was exported by Omai Gold Mining Ltd., during the last ten years of its operation here in Guyana?
2. *Please name companies to which the activated carbon/charcoal was sent for regeneration?
3. *Is the Government in possession of any reports of the regeneration process undertaken by these companies?

(Notice Paper No. 473 (Q339 Opp314) published on 2010-06-11)

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-

/...8

PUBLIC BUSINESS-

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS – Committee and Third Readings

***1. MARITIME ZONES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 36/2009 published on 2009-10-08**

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 repeal and replace the Maritime Boundaries Act 1977, to incorporate certain provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001, to provide for marine scientific research, maritime cultural area, eco-tourism, marine parks and reserves and mariculture, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and for related matters.

(Read a first time on 2009-10-15)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-10-29)

***2. LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 45/2009 published on 2009-11-26**

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 Legal Practitioners Act.

(Read a first time on 2009-11-26)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-12-21)

BILLS – Second Readings, Committee and Third Readings

*3. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 23/2009 published 2009-06-03**

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 Local Government Act.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-04)

*4. **FISCAL TRANSFERS BILL 2009 - Bill No. 25/2009 published on 2009-06-11**

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 provide for the formulation and implementation of objective criteria for the purpose of the allocation of resources to and the garnering of resources by local democratic organs and for matters connected therewith.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-11)

*5. **MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 26/2009 published on 2009-06-11**

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 Municipal and District Councils Act.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-11)

/...10

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

10.

*6. **CUSTODY, CONTACT, GUARDIANSHIP AND MAINTENANCE BILL 2009 –
Bill No. 29/2009 published on 2009-06-25**

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 granting of custody, contact, guardianship and maintenance rights with respect to children and for connected purposes.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-25)

*7. **CHILDCARE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 31/2009
published on 2009-07-08**

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 regulate childcare services and to provide for parameters for the granting of licences for childcare and development services and connected matters.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-07-09)

(ii) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and first Readings

*1. **BROADCASTING BILL 2010 – Bill No. 3/2010**

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., is to seek leave to present the following Bill:

/...11

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

11.

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the establishment of a Broadcasting Authority, to provide for their functions, and to provide for the licensing of broadcasting agencies and the encouragement of production and broadcasting of television and radio programmes having relevance generally to life and culture of the people and for consequential and related matters.

*2. **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.

(iii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

8. **ADOPTION OF THE NINTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS IN RELATION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.(Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly adopts the Ninth Report of the Standing Committee to address matters relating to the appointment of Members of Commissions established under the Constitution, and signify to the President that the following persons:

/...12

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

12.

Mr. Carvil Duncan

and

Mr. Cecil Seepersaud

have been nominated in accordance with Article 200(1)(b) of the Constitution, be appointed Members of the Public Service Commission.

(Notice Paper No. 472 (M136 PPP/C 16) published on 2010-06-11)

**9. ADOPTION OF THE FIFTH PERIODIC REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY
SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC SERVICES**

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Economic Services) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly adopts the Fifth Periodic Report of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Economic Services and refer the Report to the Government for consideration.

(Notice Paper No. 476 (M138 PPP/C 17) published on 2010-07-08)

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S.E. ISAACS
Clerk of the National Assembly

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

9th July, 2010.

