

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
ORDER PAPER
FOR THE 46TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND
SESSION
(2002-2005) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON WEDNESDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 2005
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN

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, ETC.

1. By the Speaker (Chairman of the Committee of Selection):
 - (i) Minutes of Proceedings of the 12th Meeting of the Committee of Selection which was held on Thursday, 30th December, 2004.

(To be Circulated)

2.

- (ii) Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of Guyana and on the Accounts of Ministries, Departments and Regions for the fiscal year ended 31st December, 2003.

(To be Circulated)

2. By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) The Customs Duties (Amendment) Order 2004.

(Circulated)

- (ii) The Customs Duties (Amendment) Order No. 6 of 2005.

(To be Circulated)

- (iii) Financial Paper No. 4/2004 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totalling \$1,458,826,253 for the period ending 2004-12-31.

(To be Circulated)

- (iv) Financial Paper No. 5/2004 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totalling \$4,748,096,251 for the period ending 2004-12-31.

(To be Circulated)

3. By the Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security:

Recommendation adopted at its 86th Session of the International Labour Conference held in June 1998.

- Job creation in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Recommendation, 1998.

(To be Circulated)

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- (ii) Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of Guyana and on the Accounts of Ministries, Departments and Regions for the fiscal year ended 31st December, 2003.

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- (iii) Financial Paper No. 4/2004 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totalling \$1,458,826,253 for the period ending 2004-12-31.

(To be Circulated)

- (iv) Financial Paper No. 5/2004 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totalling \$4,748,096,251 for the period ending 2004-12-31.

(To be Circulated)

3. By the Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security:

Recommendation adopted at its 86th Session of the International Labour Conference held in June 1998.

- Job creation in Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises Recommendation, 1998.

(To be Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS-

For Written replies

1. **THE GOVERNMENT'S STRATEGY TO FIGHT CRIME**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Home Affairs (a.g.) the following question:

Is the Government's strategy to fight crime one of providing more firearms to affected citizens, or to restrict the total number of firearms available to civilians?

(Notice Paper No. 121 (Q58 Opp57) published on 2004-10-26)

2. **TOTAL NUMBER OF FIREARM LICENCES**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Home Affairs (a.g.) the following question:

What is the total number of firearm licences issued for the years 2003 and 2004?

(Notice Paper No. 122 (Q59 Opp58) published on 2004-10-26)

3. **CRITERIA USED BY LAW ENFORCEMENT AUTHORITIES FOR THE GRANT/REFUSAL OF FIREARM LICENCES**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Home Affairs (a.g.) the following question:

What are the criteria used by the law enforcement authorities, and approved by the Government, for the grant or refusal of a firearm licence, and for various calibres of weapons?

(Notice Paper No. 123 (Q60 Opp59) published on 2004-10-26)

5.

8. **TOTAL NUMBER OF NARCOTICS SEIZURES**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Home Affairs (a.g.) the following question:

What is the total number of narcotics seizures per region, per narcotic, per port of exit, and/or entry, for the period 2000 – 2004?

(Notice Paper No. 137 (Q74 Opp73) published on 2004-10-26)

9. **NUMBER OF SUCCESSFUL NARCOTIC PROSECUTIONS**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Home Affairs (a.g.) the following question:

What is the number of successful prosecutions per Region, for narcotic offences for the period 2000 – 2004?

(Notice Paper No. 138 (Q76 Opp75) published on 2004-10-26)

10. **CUSTOMS ANTI NARCOTIC UNIT (CANU)**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Home Affairs (a.g.) the following question:

What efforts are in place to boost the capacity of the Customs Anti-Narcotic Unit (CANU) to investigate and prosecute drug related crimes in Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 139 (Q76 Opp75) published on 2004-10-26)

11. **SEIZURE OF NARCOTICS AT THE CHEDDI JAGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Home Affairs (a.g.) the following question:

Can the Minister say why larger quantities of narcotics are being seized at the Cheddi Jagan International Airport, and not elsewhere within Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 140 (Q77 Opp76) published on 2004-10-26)

12. **FREE TRADE AREA OF THE AMERICAS (FTAA)**

Mr. Raphael Trotman to ask the Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation the following question:

Can the Honourable Minister provide an update on the establishment of the Free Trade Area of the Americas (FTAA)?

(Notice Paper No. 156 (Q93 Opp92) published on 2004-10-26)

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS-

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 NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND MOVED BY A MINISTER-

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILL - Second Reading

1. **REGIONAL HEALTH AUTHORITIES BILL 2004 - Bill No. 26/2004 published on 2004-12-16**

The Minister of Health to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to establish regional health authorities with responsibility for providing for the delivery of and administering health services and health programmes in specified geographic areas and for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

(Read a first time on 2004-12-30)

MOTIONS**2. UNPRECEDENTED FLOODING OF THE COASTAL AREAS**

The Minister of Transport and Hydraulics to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Guyana has recently witnessed an unprecedented amount of rainfall during the month of January with rainfall during the period December 24 to January 16 measuring in excess of 30 inches, the record amount for any similar period in the history of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS large areas of the coast in Administrative Regions 3, 4 and 5 have been inundated with the East Coast being the most severely affected;

AND WHEREAS as a result there has been incalculable personal and commercial damages suffered by thousands of households with many members being confined to their homes;

AND WHEREAS many of these households have been unable to access food, potable water and have been exposed to public health hazards, a consequence of which has been evacuation of homes, hospitalisations and fatalities;

AND WHEREAS Guyana now faces the worst natural disaster in its history;

AND WHEREAS the Guyanese people have rallied to the victims of the disaster in their thousands offering help in many ways;

AND WHEREAS religious bodies, private sector entities and organisations, trade unions, businesses, individuals and many others in Guyana and outside of Guyana have contributed and are continuing to contribute resources of various kinds to the relief effort and have pledged additional resources;

AND WHEREAS Guyanese and non-Guyanese organisations and overseas residents from many countries have pledged and donated goods and materials and have raised funds and continue to do so;

AND WHEREAS many Governments and international organisations have allocated or sent resources and assistance in many forms;

AND WHEREAS assistance and offers of assistance are continually being pledged by all of the above;

AND WHEREAS the Government has committed itself in partnership with specialised international agencies, to a comprehensive assessment of the impact of the disaster on the socio-economic status of households, communities and national sectors devastated by the floods;

AND WHEREAS the Government intends to take action for the recovery and rehabilitation using the results of the assessment.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly:-

1. Expresses its deeply felt sadness and sympathy to the victims of the disaster;
2. Expresses its gratitude to the people and organisations in Guyana and out of Guyana for the assistance they have given and continue to give;
3. Expresses its thanks to those Governments and international organisations which have contributed to the relief effort;
4. Urges all Guyanese and friends of Guyana to continue their efforts on behalf of the victims;
5. Supports the efforts of the Government of Guyana, the Opposition and all other political organisations which have contributed to the relief efforts;
6. Urges the people of Guyana, including the victims of the flood, to continue their valiant and courageous struggle against this disaster.

(Notice Paper No. 176 (M71 Govt65) published on 2005-02-09)

3. **CONFIRMATION OF THE CUSTOMS DUTIES (AMENDMENT) ORDER 2004**

The Minister of Finance to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with section 9 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, confirm the Customs Duties (Amendment) Order 2004, which was made on 10th December, 2004, under section 8 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, and published in the Official Gazette dated 10th December, 2004.

(Notice Paper No. 172 (M67 Govt62) published on 2004-12-23)

BILLS - Report from Select Committee and Third Readings

*4. **AGE OF CONSENT BILL 2004 - Bill No. 22/2004 published on 2004-11-29**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stage(s) of the following Bill, after the Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Criminal Law (Offences) Act and the Marriage Act.

(Read a first time on 2004-11-29)

(Read a second time on 2004-12-09 and committed to a Special Select Committee)

*5. **MINISTRY OF HEALTH BILL 2004 - Bill No. 24/2004 published on 2004-12-02**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stage(s) of the following Bill, after the Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to continue the Ministry with responsibility for Health and for matters connected therewith.

(Read a first time on 2004-12-09)

(Read a second time on 2004-12-16 and committed to a Special Select Committee)

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*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

MOTION

***6. AMENDMENT TO STANDING ORDER NO. 73(5)**

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

WHEREAS Standing Order 73(5) provides that the deliberations of a Select Committee shall be held in private;

AND WHEREAS the said Standing Order also applies to Standing and Sectoral Committees;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the deliberations of some Committees be held in public or in private if they so decide.

RESOLVED that,

1. Standing Order 73(5) be amended to provide that meetings of the Sectoral Committees and the Public Accounts Committee be held in public except where the said Committees determine otherwise;

2. The said amendment be effected by:

(a) deleting the fullstop at the end of Standing Order 73(5) and replacing it by a colon;

(b) adding the following at the sentence as a new paragraph:

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*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

“Provided that (a) the deliberations of the Sectoral Committees and the Public Accounts Committee shall be held in public except where these Committees determine otherwise; (b) meetings of the Parliamentary Management Committee shall not be held in public”.

3. After the amendment the Standing Order will read as follows:

“The deliberations of a Select Committee shall be in private and shall be confined to the matter referred to it by the Assembly and any extension or limitation thereof made by the Assembly and, in the case of a Select Committee on a Bill to the Bill committed to it and relevant amendments”;

Provided that:

- (a) the deliberations of the Sectoral Committees and the Public Accounts Committee shall be held in public except where these Committees determine otherwise;**
- (b) deliberations of the Parliamentary Management Committee shall not be held in public.**

(Notice Paper No. 170 (M65 Govt60) published on 2004-12-10)

(Referred to Standing Orders Committee on 2004-12-16 in accordance with Standing Order 82(3))

BILL - Second Reading

- *7. **CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) (No. 3) BILL 2003 - Bill No. 10/2003 published on 2003-07-04**

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

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

(Read a first time on 2003-07-10)

MOTION

- *8. **CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 1/2004**

Assembly to resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Minister of Finance to signify the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 1/2004 - Supplementary Estimates (Capital) totalling \$330,000,000 for the period ending 2004-12-31

(Notice Paper No. 118 (M59 Govt55) published on 2004-09-29)

(Paper presented on 2004-08-05)


S.E. ISAACS

Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

10th February, 2005.

*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting