

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER PAPER**

**FOR THE 61<sup>ST</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION**

**(2012 - 2013) OF THE TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD**

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON THURSDAY, 25<sup>TH</sup> JULY, 2013**

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

**BRICKDAM, 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**

2.

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

**1. AGREEMENT/CONTRACT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA  
AND TELEVISION GUYANA INC.(TVG)**

**Member Asking:**                      **Mrs. Catherine Hughes, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:**                **The Minister of Education**

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister provide copies of the Agreement/Contract between the Government of Guyana and Television Guyana Inc. (TVG) for the use of TVG's teleport/transmission facilities to broadcast the Learning Channel?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister state when the tender for the provision of this service was advertised and in which media?
- (iii) How much money has been paid over to Television Guyana Inc. (TVG) to date for the provision of these services?
- (iv) What is the duration of this contract/contractual arrangement – yearly, monthly or indefinite?
- (v) How many persons are employed by the Learning Channel and from which communities are they?
- (vi) Does the Learning Channel (the Company) possess its own satellite receivers/dishes?
  - (a) If yes, in which geographical location/communities are they located?

3.

(b) If yes, when were these purchased? From whom were they purchase and at what cost? Would the Hon. Minister provide copies of such Purchase Agreements?

(vii) How many antennas does the Learning Channel utilise and in what geographical areas?

(viii) In what geographical areas does the Learning Channel utilise the equipment of Digicel, GT&T or any other network for the broadcast of its programming?

**(Notice Paper No.188 (Q 114 Opp 112) published on 2013-06-06)**

**2. DEATHS WHICH OCCURRED AT GOVERNMENT-FUNDED DORMITORIES/HOSTELS OF SECONDARY SCHOOLS IN THE HINTERLAND REGIONS**

**Member Asking:** Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P.,  
Leader of the Opposition

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

(i) Could the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly of the names of persons who have died by suicide or other causes in Government-Funded Dormitories/Hostels attached to Secondary Schools in the Hinterland Regions of Guyana between January, 1999 and April, 2013?

(ii) Could the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly of the actual dates, the names of the schools of each of these events?

(iii) Could the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly whether inquiries have been conducted into any or all of these events and whether, as a result of the findings of those inquiries, if any, there has been remedial action to prevent recurrences?

**(Notice Paper No.190 (Q 116 Opp 114) published on 2013-06-06)**

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4.

3. **NATIONAL GRADE SIX ASSESSMENT**

**Member Asking:**                      **Ms Amna Ally, M.P.,**  
**Opposition Chief Whip**

**Minister Answering:**              **The Minister of Education**

- (i)     Could the Hon. Minister present in a written form the analysis of the National Grade Six Assessment for all the regions in Guyana?
  
- (ii)    (a)    Could the Hon. Minister give an overall percentage of pupils who fell below the pass marks in Mathematics, Science, English and Social Studies?  
  
      (b) How many students fell below 400 marks?
  
- (iii)    Could the Hon. Minister state whether the results of the Grades 2 and 4 Assessment were included in the final Grade 6 Assessment in all cases?
  
- (iv)    (a)    Could the Hon. Minister indicate whether there were requests in 2012 for reviews of the NGSA exam results? If so, how many and were these reviews done?  
  
      (b) Could the Hon. Minister tell this National Assembly whether there were requests for reviews of the National Grade Six Assessment in 2013? If so, how many and when will these reviews be completed?

**(Notice Paper No.202 (Q 125 Opp. 123) published on 2013-07-03)**

5.

4. **THE LEARNING CHANNEL**

**Member Asking:** Ms Amna Ally, M.P.,  
Opposition Chief Whip

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister list the locations in Regions 1, 7, 8 and 9 which are reached by the Learning Channel?
- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister furnish the National Assembly with a programme guide that is disseminated to those Regions?

(Notice Paper No.203 (Q 126 Opp. 124) published on 2013-07-03)

5. **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY EQUIPMENT IN SECONDARY SCHOOLS**

**Member Asking:** Ms Amna Ally, M.P.,  
Opposition Chief Whip

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister tell this National Assembly whether the IT equipment given to Secondary Schools is in use and functional?
- (ii) Could the Minister list the schools where IT equipment is not functional?
- (iii) How soon will such equipment be functional?

(Notice Paper No.204 (Q 127 Opp. 125) published on 2013-07-03)

6.

6. **THE CARIBBEAN PRESS**

**Member Asking:**                      **Mr. Trevor Williams, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:**                **The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport**

- (i)      Could the Hon. Minister state if there is an establishing document governing the mandate, mission and management of the Caribbean Press? If yes, please provide a copy. If no, why not?
  
- (ii)     Could the Hon. Minister say if there is an annual or biennial plan of action for the management of the Press? If yes, please provide a copy. If no, why not?
  
- (iii)    Former President Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo committed US\$100,000 (\$20M) in 2008 to the establishment of what eventually became the Caribbean Press. Could the Hon. Minister indicate how much has been spent in total on the Press from 2009 to 2012?
  
- (iv)     Could the Hon. Minister say what was the remuneration paid, if any, to Consultants in establishing the Press and who were they?
  
- (v)      Could the Hon. Minister state what are the books edited, proofed, layouts, designed and printed?
  
- (vi)     Could the Hon. Minister state what are the specific administrative costs associated with the Press?
  
- (vii)    Could the Hon. Minister state what are the costs on average – mean of high figure and low figure – associated with the production of a single title? What is the mode average?

7.

- (viii) Could the Hon. Minister tell this National Assembly what were the full editorial services costs associated with the Press in 2010 to 2012, by year?
- (ix) Could the Hon. Minister indicate what were the full layout and design costs associated with the Press in 2010 to 2012, by year?
- (x) Could the Hon. Minister indicate what were the full printing costs associated with the Press in 2010 to 2012, by year?
- (xi) Could the Hon. Minister state what was the full shipping and storage costs associated with the Press in 2010 to 2012, by year?
- (xii) Could the Hon. Minister provide the National Assembly with an exact breakdown of the books that were distributed in Guyana, by title, location and number of copies, as of 20<sup>th</sup> June, 2013?

**(Notice Paper No.205 (Q 128 Opp. 126) published on 2013-07-03)**

**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'S BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Readings**

1. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL 2012 – Bill No. 18/2012 published on 2012-08-09**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Telecommunications Agency and for a regular, coordinated, open and competitive telecommunications sector and for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

**(Read a first time on 2012-08-09)**

2. **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 17/2012 published on 2012-08-09**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Public Utilities Commission Act.

**(Read a first time on 2012-08-09)**

3. **FISCAL TRANSFERS BILL 2012 – Bill No. 20/2012 published on 2012-08-09**

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development to move the second reading of the following Bill, which was referred to a Special Select Committee:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the objective criteria for the allocation of resources to local authorities and for matters connected therewith.

**(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2012-08-09)**



4. **MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 19/2012 published on 2012-08-09**

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development to move the second reading of the following Bill, which was referred to a Special Select Committee:

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 2012-08-09)**

5. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 12/2012 published on 2012-07-31**

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development to move the second reading of the following Bill, which was referred to a Special Select Committee:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Local Government Act.  
**(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2012-07-30)**

6. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION BILL – Bill No. 13/2012 published on 2012-07-31**

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development to move the second reading of the following Bill, which was referred to a Special Select Committee:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to establish the Local Government Commission, as provided for by Article 78A of the Constitution, to provide for the Commission's functions and procedure, and for connected and incidental purposes.  
**(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2012-07-30)**

\*7. **LAND SURVEYORS (PROFESSION) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 16/2013 published on 2013-06-26**

The Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the establishment of a Board of Land Surveyors, the registration and licensing of land surveyors, the regulation of the practice of land surveying and for connected matters.

**(Read a first time on 2013-06-27)**

**MOTION**

\*8. **COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE OF SELECTION**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the House selected nine (9) members to the Parliamentary Committee on Selection of the 10<sup>th</sup> Parliament on February 10, 2012;

AND WHEREAS the House selected four (4) members for the governing PPP/C, four (4) members for the opposition APNU and one (1) member for the opposition AFC;

AND WHEREAS the allocation of a nine (9) member Committee of Selection was by way of an amendment by the combined APNU/AFC opposition to the motion tabled by the Leader of the House for a ten (10) member Committee with five (5) for PPP/C, four (4) APNU and one (1) AFC;

/...11

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

11.

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 94(1) provides for “each Select Committee being so constituted to ensure that, as far as possible, the balance of parties in the National Assembly be reflected in the Committee”;

AND WHEREAS the existing balance of the parties in the 10<sup>th</sup> Parliament is as follows:

PPP/C:	32 seats
APNU:	26 seats
AFC:	7 seats

AND WHEREAS the balance of the parties in the existing Committee of Selection does not conform to Standing Order No. 94(1),

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the decision of the House on the composition of the Parliamentary Committee of Selection be declared inconsistent with Standing Order 94(1);

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That the House takes immediate steps to ensure that the composition of the Parliamentary Committee of Selection is brought into conformity with Standing Order No. 94(1); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the currently constituted Committee of Selection be prevented from discharging its functions under Standing Order No. 81.

**(Notice Paper No. 24 (M7 Govt 4) published on 2012-03-07)**

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

**\*9. GUYANA CRICKET ADMINISTRATION BILL 2012 – Bill No. 31/2012**

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 make provisions for the incorporation of autonomous national cricket administrative organizations in Guyana and to provide for other matters connected therewith.

**(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2012-12-20)**

**BILLS – Committee and Third Readings**

**\*10. ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 12/2013 published on 2013-04-22**

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 Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Act.

**(Read a first time on 2013-04-22)**

**(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2013-05-07)**

(ii) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

11. **APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE  
INCIDENCE OF MARITIME AND RIVERINE INCIDENTS, INJURIES AND  
DEATHS**

Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Co-operative of Guyana prescribes at Article 40(1) that "Every person in Guyana is entitled to the basic right to a happy, creative and productive life, free from hunger, ignorance and want;"

AND WHEREAS several persons have been robbed of their potentially "happy, creative and productive" lives by suffering injury, pain and discomfort; by being killed, or losing personal possessions and property as a result of accidents caused by negligence or as a result of deliberate acts on this country's waterways or coastal waters;

AND WHEREAS it is apparent that riverine traffic is increasing in volume, composition and complexity; that there is competing use of the waterways between riverine villagers who are obliged to rely on boats, sometimes canoes, corials and balahoos to go about their daily lives and other users including barges and tugs carrying commodities and other vessels involved in trade;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, "The President may issue a commission appointing one or more Commissioners and authorising such Commissioner or Commissioners to inquire into any matter in which an inquiry would, in the opinion of the President, be for the public welfare,"

BE IT RESOVLED:

That the National Assembly declares its concern over the incidence of maritime and riverine incidents, especially those which result in the loss of human life; expresses its sympathy with the victims – and to the families of the victims – of maritime and riverine accidents and asserts the responsibility of the State to protect all of its citizens; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls upon the President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into maritime and riverine incidents which have occurred since 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1999, to determine the extent of such incidents and to make recommendations for safe travel and the protection of life on this country's waterways and coastal waters.

**(Notice Paper No. 197 (M 77 Opp.47) published on 2013-06-24)**

**BILLS – Second Reading**

**\*12. THE MARRIED PERSONS (PROPERTY) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 9 of 2013 published on 2013-06-14**

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P. to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled AN ACT to amend the Married Persons (Property) Act.

**(Read a first time on 2013-06-13)**

/...15

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

**MOTION**

**\*13. THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENCE OF CRIMINAL VIOLENCE FROM 2004 TO 2010 IN GUYANA**

Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, to move the following motion:

WHEREAS, Article 138(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Guyana prescribes that no person shall be deprived of his life intentionally save in the execution of the sentence of a court in respect of an offence under the Laws of Guyana of which he has been convicted;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, “The President may issue a commission appointing one or more commissioners and authorizing such commissioner or commissioners to inquire into any matter in which an inquiry would, in the opinion of the President, be for the public welfare”;

AND WHEREAS this country has witnessed a pattern of unlawful killing of undetermined numbers of persons – including assassinations; executions; murders; extra-judicial killings by members of the Guyana Police Force Target Special Squad and other forms of criminal violence in Guyana during a period of ‘troubles’ on the East Coast and East Bank of Demerara and elsewhere – which were harmful to the public welfare;

AND WHEREAS several of these killings have been of a deliberate and systematic nature – particularly those which occurred at Agricola; Bartica; Buxton; Eccles; Lindo Creek; Lusignan and Bel Air, Bourda and Kitty in Georgetown – which can be classified as massacres and have engendered alarm and despondency among the population;

/...16

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

AND WHEREAS some killings involved members of the Guyana Police Force, the Guyana Defence Force and unidentified criminal gangs in which gangsters were equipped with a variety of electronic ‘eavesdropping’ equipment, weapons and vehicles that were provided with assistance and support by members of the Guyana Police Force;

AND WHEREAS commissions of inquiry and coroners’ inquests have not been conducted into some unnatural deaths and criminal investigation reports by the Guyana Police Force, with regard to the most egregious of these crimes, have often been inconclusive;

AND WHEREAS the National Assembly is the supreme legislative forum of our Republic wherein the people’s elected representatives discuss and determine matters of national interest and which is obliged to consider the grave threats to the public welfare and public security which prevailed during the aforesaid period of the ‘troubles’ and which remain substantially uninvestigated,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly condemns the killing of citizens of Guyana which occurred during the period of the ‘troubles’ and expresses its concern that commissions of inquiry have not been convened to investigate the unlawful killings, including the assassination of a Minister of the Government in April, 2006, on the East Coast of Demerara;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls upon the President of Guyana, in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the unlawful killing of citizens during the years 2004 to 2010.

**(Notice Paper No. 112 (M47 Opp 29) published on 2012-12-12)**



\*14. **PREVENTING HONOURABLE CLEMENT ROHEE, M.P., MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS FROM SPEAKING IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following motion after the Committee of Privileges has reported thereon:

WHEREAS Article 171(1) of the Constitution provides that subject to the provisions of this Constitution and of the rules of procedure of the National Assembly, any member of the Assembly may introduce any Bill or propose any motion for debate in, or may present any Petition to the Assembly and the same shall be debated and disposed of according to the rules of the procedure of the Assembly;

AND WHEREAS Article 165(1) of the Constitution provides that, subject to the provisions of this Constitution the National Assembly may regulate its own procedure and may make rules for that purpose;

AND WHEREAS on the 25<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012, Brig. (Ret.'d) David Granger moved a motion in the National Assembly of No Confidence in the Hon. Clement Rohee, M.P., as Minister of Home Affairs and called for his immediate removal, and dismissal from office;

AND WHEREAS on the 30<sup>th</sup> day of July, 2012, Resolution No. 18 of 2012, was passed by the National Assembly in accordance with the said motion;

AND WHEREAS the Hon. Clement Rohee, M.P., is a member of the Cabinet of Guyana with the portfolio of the Minister of Home Affairs;

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

18.

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 47 Rule 10 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly provides that “Nothing in this Standing Order shall be taken to deprive the Assembly of the power of proceeding against any Member according to any Resolution of the Assembly”;

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 113 of the said Standing Orders of the National Assembly provides that “In any matter not herein provided for, resort shall be had to the usage and practice of the House of Commons Assembly of Parliament of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, which shall be followed as far as the same, may be applicable to the Assembly, and not inconsistent with these Standing Orders or with the practice of the Assembly”;

AND WHEREAS the practice and convention in the House of Commons of England is that a Minister who loses a no confidence motion, resigns as Minister,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That since the National Assembly, by National Assembly Resolution No. 18 of 2012, has expressed no confidence in the performance of the Honourable Clement Rohee, M.P. as Minister of Home Affairs, that he be prevented from speaking in the National Assembly so long as he is purporting to carry out the functions of Minister of Home Affairs as published in the Official Gazette.

**(Notice Paper No. 104 (M45 Opp 27) published on 2012-11-22)**

**(Referred to Committee of Privileges on 2012-11-22 in accordance with Standing Order No. 91)**

\*15. **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – No. 15/2012**

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., to move the following motion:

/...19

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order No. 52(1), grant leave for the introduction and first reading of the Public Utilities Commission (Amendment) Bill 2012 – Bill No. 15/2012 –

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Public Utilities Commission Act.  
**(Notice Paper No. 96 (M38 Opp 22) published on 2012-08-02)**

If leave is granted, the Clerk shall read aloud the title of the Bill.

\*16. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL 2012 – Bill No. 16/2012**

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order No. 52(1), grant leave for the introduction and first reading of the Telecommunications Bill 2012 – Bill No. 16/2012 –

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Telecommunication Agency and for a regular, coordinated, open and competitive telecommunications sector and for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

**(Notice Paper No. 97 (M39 Opp 23) published on 2012-08-02)**

If leave is granted, the Clerk shall read aloud the title of the Bill.

**BILL – Committee and Third Reading**

**\*17. OFFICE OF THE CLERK OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY BILL 2012 – No.**

**8/2012 published on 2012-08-10**

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 set out the responsibilities and authority of the Clerk and Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly of Guyana and to provide for the establishment and administration of an independent Office of the Clerk of the National Assembly.

**(Read a first time on 2012-08-09)**

**(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2012-12-17)**

**(iii) COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**18. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE DEEDS REGISTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – BILL NO. 11 OF 2012**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (Chairman of the Special Select Committee on the Deeds Registry (Amendment) Bill 2012) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Deeds Registry  
(Amendment) Bill 2012 – Bill No. 11/2012 be adopted.

**(Notice Paper No. 226 (M 78 Committee 4 ) published on 2013-07-18)**

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

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

**19<sup>th</sup> July, 2013.**