NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 63RD 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, 7TH NOVEMBER, 2013

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-

(1) By the Speaker of the National Assembly:

Report of the Auditor General to the National Assembly on the Public Accounts of Guyana and on the Accounts of Ministries, Departments and Regions for the fiscal year ended 31st December, 2012.

(2) By the Minister of Foreign Affairs:

(i) Charter of the Commonwealth which was endorsed by the Commonwealth Heads of Government on 14th December, 2012 and signed by Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II on 11th March, 2013.

(To be Circulated)

(ii) Charter of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference held in Dakar, Senegal 2008.

(To be Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Finance:

(i) Mid-Year Report 2013.

(To be Circulated)

(ii) Annual Report of the National Industrial and Commercial Investments Ltd.,
 (Company) for the year ended 31st December, 2011.

(To be Circulated)

(iii) Audited Financial Statements of Matthews Ridge Power and Light Inc. for the period 12th July, 2011 to 31st December, 2011.

(To be Circulated)

(iv) Audited Financial Statements of Matthews Ridge Power and light Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(v) Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana Securities Council for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(vi) Audited Financial Statements of the Linden Mining Enterprise Limited for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(vii) Annual Report of the Guyana Oil Company Limited for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(viii) Annual Report of the Financial Intelligence Unit for the year ended 31st December, 2011.

(To be Circulated)

(ix) Annual Report of the Financial Intelligence Unit for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(x) Annual Report of the Property Holdings Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2009.

(To be Circulated)

(xi) Annual Report of the Property Holdings Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2010.

(xii) Annual Report of the Property Holdings Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2011.

(To be Circulated)

(xiii) Annual Report of the Property Holdings Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(4) By the Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment:

(i) Annual Report of the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment for the year 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(ii) Annual Reports of the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission for the years 2010, 2011 and 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(iii) Annual Reports of the Environmental Protection Agency for the years 2000 to 2011.

(To be Circulated)

- (iv) Annual Reports of the Guyana Forestry Commission for the years 2005 to 2012. (To be Circulated)
- (v) Annual Reports of the Guyana Geology and Mines Commission for the years 2011 and 2012.

(vi) Annual Report of the Protected Areas Commission for the year 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(5) By the Minister of Housing and Water:

(i) Annual Reports of the Central Housing and Planning Authority for the years 2011 and 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(ii) Audited Financial Statements of the Central Housing and Planning Authority for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(iii) Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana Water Incorporated for the year ended 31st December, 2012.

(To be Circulated)

By the Minister of Public Works:

Audited Financial Statements of the Cheddi Jagan International Airport Corporation for the year ended 31st December, 2011.

(To be Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

By Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2013):

Report of the Special Select Committee on the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2013 – Bill No. 12/2013.

(Circulated)

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. 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)

2. TRANSFORMER TO GENERATE HIGHER VOLTAGE OF ELECTRICITY AT MABARUMA SETTLEMENT

Member Asking: Ms Jennifer Wade, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

Whereas the residents of Mabaruma Settlement made vigorous protest in 2012 and as a result they were promised a transformer to generate higher voltage. Could the Hon. Prime Minister kindly state when the residents will receive this transformer which will enable them to enjoy the full use of their electrical appliances?

(Notice Paper No. 213 (Q 136 Opp. 134) published on 2013-07-11)

3. SUPPLY OF ELECTRICITY TO MABARUMA AND ITS ENVIRONS

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

Could the Hon. Prime Minister indicate to the National Assembly –

- (i) Why do residents of Mabaruma and its environs (Kumaka, Hosororo, etc.) only enjoy electricity supply for six (6) hours, between the hours of 17:00 hrs. to 23:00 hrs. daily?
- (ii) Is there any consideration for twenty-four (24) hours electricity supply to residents of Mabaruma? If yes, how soon will this be done? If no, why not?

(Notice Paper No. 219 (Q 142 Opp. 140) published on 2013-07-11)

4. EXPENDITURE FOR ELECTRICITY SUPPLIED TO MABARUMA AND PORT KAITUMA

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

What is the detailed expenditure for electricity supplied to Mabaruma and Port Kaituma, respectively?

(Notice Paper No. 220 (Q 143 Opp. 141) published on 2013-07-11)

5. **REVETMENT IN KUMAKA**

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Could the Hon. Minister tell this National Assembly –

- (i) What is the initial estimated cost to effect works on the revetment in Kumaka?
- (ii) What is the initial timeline given to complete works on the revetment?
- (iii) To whom is the contract awarded?
- (iv) What is the nature of the work completed to date?
- (v) What is the cost incurred to date?
- (vi) Why has there been a Cessation of the Works?
- (vii) How much more money is intended to be expended and what is the new timeline?
- (viii) When are works likely to commence in 2013?

(Notice Paper No. 223 (Q 146 Opp. 144) published on 2013-07-11)

6. REPORT ON CARIFESTA X

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Guyana hosted CARIFESTA X in August, 2008, could the Hon. Minister say to the National Assembly –

- (i) Was a report compiled?
- (ii) If so, was the report laid in the National Assembly?
- (iii) If not, why, and how soon will the report be presented to Members in the National Assembly?

(Notice Paper No. 224 (Q 147 Opp. 145) published on 2013-07-11)

7. AMBULANCE SERVICE AT MABARUMA

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

Could the Hon. Minister explain to the National Assembly the following –

- (i) Is there an ambulance currently servicing residents in Mabaruma? If so, how many?
- (ii) Is/are these ambulance(s) in working conditions?
- (iii) If not, what is/are the reason(s) for them not operable?
- (iv) How long have the communities of Mabaruma out of ambulance services?

- (v) Is/are there temporary alternative arrangement(s) in place to ensure that patients/residents are transported from one area to another in the region?
- (vi) If yes, who provides the service and at what cost, if any?
- (vii) How soon can residents anticipate the restoring of ambulance services in the communities of Mabaruma?

(Notice Paper No. 225 (Q 148 Opp. 146) published on 2013-07-11)

8. REVISION OF SALARIES AND EMOLUMENTS OF MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY

Member Asking: Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly of the date of the last revision of salaries and emoluments of Members of the Judiciary?
- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly if the Government will revise the salaries and emoluments of Members of the Judiciary before the end of 2013?

(Notice Paper No. 227 (Q 149 Opp. 147) published on 2013-07-24)

11.

9. PAYMENT OF TAX-FREE SALARIES TO THE CHANCELLOR OF THE

JUDICIARY AND CHIEF JUSTICE

Member Asking: Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Could the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly if the Government does not consider it is discriminating against the majority of the Members of the Judiciary by only paying the Chancellor of the Judiciary and Chief Justice tax-free salaries?

(Notice Paper No. 228 (Q 150 Opp. 148) published on 2013-07-24)

10. TAX-FREE SALARIES FOR ALL MEMBERS OF THE JUDICIARY

Member Asking: Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Could the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly if the Government will make salaries for all Members of the Judiciary tax-free?

(Notice Paper No. 229 (Q 151 Opp. 149) published on 2013-07-24)

11. SCHOOL UNIFORM VOUCHERS

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

(i) Could the Hon. Minister inform this House who/what categories of students receive school uniform voucher?

- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister say whether the students of El Paso, Region # 8, receive school uniform voucher?
- (iii) If yes, could the Hon. Minister say what are the total cost of the school uniform voucher and say if students of El Paso received this amount?
- (iv) If no, could the Hon. Minister explain why not?

(Notice Paper No. 230 (Q 152 Opp. 150) published on 2013-07-29)

12. WELFARE OFFICER AT EL PASO

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Human Services and Social Security

Could the Hon. Minister inform this House why there is no Welfare Officer in El Paso?

(Notice Paper No. 231 (Q 153 Opp. 151) published on 2013-07-29)

13. HEALTH WORKER AT EL PASO

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

Could the Hon. Minister inform this National Assembly why there is no health worker at El Paso, Region #8?

(Notice Paper No. 232 (Q 154 Opp. 152) published on 2013-07-29)

14. HEALTH POST/CLINIC AT EL PASO

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

Could the Hon. Minister explain to this House why there is no Health Post/Clinic at the El Paso Community?

(Notice Paper No. 233 (Q 155 Opp. 153) published on 2013-07-29)

15. PROVISION AND INSTALLATION, ETC. OF SOLAR PANELS

Member Asking: Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

- (i) Can the Hon. Prime Minister provide the National Assembly with the current plan for supplying, installing, monitoring, maintaining and repairing the solar panels and associated electrical supply systems provided to schools, medical facilities and individual households in Region # 8, especially the villages in the Pakaraimas?
- (ii) Detail village-by-village, how this plan has been implemented since December, 2011?
- (iii) Explain the basis for prioritizing allocation of solar panels between villages and households within villages?
- (iv) Explain the system for preventing bias in allocation of solar panels in Region #8?
- (v) Report to the National Assembly, if any, bias in allocations has occurred in Region # 8 and how this has been corrected, village-by-village, in Region # 8?

(Notice Paper No. 234 (Q 156 Opp. 154) published on 2013-10-04)

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14.

16. CONTROL OF ACOUSHI ANTS

Member Asking: Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Agriculture

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister provide the National Assembly with the current national plan for control of acoushi ants in hinterland farms?
- (ii) Explain why fogging and insecticidal powders are still being used for the control of acoushi ants at least in Region # 8, instead of more effective sealed baits?
 (Notice Paper No. 235 (Q 157 Opp. 155) published on 2013-10-04)

17. MARKETING OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCE - VILLAGES IN REGION #8

Member Asking: Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Agriculture

Explain what specific assistance is being provided by the Ministry to villages in Region # 8, particular in sub-region 1 (North Pakaraimas), for marketing of agricultural produce, since December. 2011?

(Notice Paper No. 236 (Q 158 Opp. 156) published on 2013-10-04)

18. WORK PLANS OF DISTRICT DEVELOPMENT OFFICERS OF REGION # 8

Member Asking: Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Can the Hon. Minister provide the National Assembly with the current work plans of the District Development Officers in Region # 8 since December, 2011, village-by-village, in the Pakaraimas, and the associated back-to-office reports from each outreach activity and Officer, for each date in each village?

(Notice Paper No. 237 (Q 159 Opp. 157) published on 2013-10-04)

19. CURRENT PLAN FOR PUBLIC HEALTH MEASURES IN REGION #8

Member Asking: Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

Can the Hon. Minister provide the National Assembly with the current plan for public health measures in Region # 8, especially the villages in the North Pakaraimas?

(Notice Paper No. 238 (Q 160 Opp. 158) published on 2013-10-04)

20. <u>INTRUSION OF UNITS OF THE NATIONAL ARMED FORCES OF VENEZUELA INTO THE TERRITORY OF GUYANA</u>

Member Asking: Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P.,

Leader of the Opposition

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary

Affairs

 Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly of the circumstances surrounding the intrusion of units of the Venezuelan National Armed Forces into Guyana's territory on or about Saturday 31st August, 2013?

- 2. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly of the actual time and duration of the said intrusion, of the titles of the units and numbers of members of the Venezuelan National Armed Forces and the numbers of the vessels etc., involved?
- 3. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly of the response of members of the Guyana Defence Force who were stationed at Eteringbang and what was the effect of the actions taken, if any?

4. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly whether an inquiry has been conducted into the incident and whether, as a result of the findings of that inquiry, if any, it has been found that there was a breach of any Agreement, Standing Order, Regulation, Act or Law?

5. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly whether any persons were found to be blameworthy of any breach or offence with regard to the intrusion and, if so, what were the outcomes of disciplinary action and what measures have been taken to prevent a recurrence?

(Notice Paper No. 244 (Q 166 Opp. 164) published on 2013-10-07)

21. <u>APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO ENQUIRE INTO THE EVENTS AT THE NEW OPPORTUNITY CORPS</u>

Member Asking: Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P.,

Leader of the Opposition

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Appointment of the Commission of Inquiry to enquire into the events at the New Opportunity Corps at Onderneeming, with particular reference to""All pertinent matters prior to, during and after the escape on August 22, 2012; All pertinent matters prior to, during and after the fire on August 23, 2012; Culpability of the person or persons involved in the escape; Culpability of the person or persons involved in the fire; Recommendations as to the appropriate disciplinary actions to be taken against those found culpable; Review existing arrangements, and make recommendations to prevent any such reoccurrences; Such matter(s) as may in the opinion of the Board be considered relevant for the purpose of the inquiry and the Board can if necessary co-opt other skills and expertise that in its view will aid in the inquiry.

1. Could the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly whether the aforementioned Commission of Inquiry has completed its work on this matter and, if not, whether a new deadline has been set for its completion and, if so, by what date has the

Commission been directed to complete its work?

2. Could the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly, if the Commission of

Inquiry has indeed completed its work, when the Report will be made available to

members of this honourable House?

(Notice Paper No. 246 (Q 167 Opp. 165) published on 2013-10-09)

22. APPOINTMENTS WITHIN THE GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE

Member Asking:

Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P.,

Leader of the Opposition

Minister Answering:

The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

1. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly of the identity of the

officer appointed to the position of 'Deputy Chief of Staff' of the Guyana Defence Force,

consequent to the retirement of Rear Admiral Gary Best and the announced appointment

of Brigadier Julian Lovell as Military Attaché to the Federative Republic of Brazil?

2. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly of the identity of the

officer appointed to the position of 'Colonel General Staff' of the Guyana Defence

Force?

3. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly of the effective

dates of the appointments to the respective positions?

- 4. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly whether it is the intention of the Guyana Defence Board that the positions of Deputy Chief of Staff and Colonel General Staff be held simultaneously and by the same Officer?
- 5. Could the Honourable Prime Minister inform the National Assembly whether it is the intention of the Guyana Defence Board that Captain (Coast Guard) John Flores continue in his present appointment as Colonel Administration and Quartering (Col AQ)?

(Notice Paper No. 247 (Q 168 Opp. 166) published on 2013-10-09)

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. GUYANA CRICKET ADMINISTRATION BILL 2012 – Bill No. 31/2012 published on 2012-12-20

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport to move the second reading of the following Bill, which was referred to a Special Select Committee:

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)

Please note that the abovementioned Report was laid in the National Assembly on 7th August, 2013.

4. <u>LAND SURVEYORS (PROFESSION) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 16/2013 published on</u> 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)

BILLS – THIRD READINGS

5. THE DEEDS REGISTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 11/2012 published on 2012-07-10

In accordance with Standing Orders No. 58(4), the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (Chairman of the Special Select Committee on the Deeds Registry (Amendment) Bill 2012) to move the third reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Deeds Registry Act.

(Read a first time on 2012-07-12)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2012-08-02)

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

In accordance with Standing Orders No. 58(4), the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs to move the third reading of the following Bill:

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)

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21.

MOTION

*7. 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 10th 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;

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 10th 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),

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*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

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)

(i) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

BILLS – Second Reading

8. 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)

MOTIONS

9. ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL VETERANS COMMISSION

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

WHEREAS Article 24 of the Constitution of the Co-Operative Republic of Guyana prescribes that "Every citizen has the right to free medical attention and also to social care in case of old age and disability;"

AND WHEREAS thousands of persons have served in the defence forces and disciplined services of Guyana in which they rendered essential national defence and public security services to the nation as a whole;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with Section 20 of the Defence Act, Ch. 15:01 certain members of the defence forces are required to retire after only twenty-two years of service and other veterans of the disciplined services may be discharged honourably from regular service or transferred to the reserve for various prescribed reasons;

AND WHEREAS many ex-soldiers and servicemen have faced challenges which have had deleterious effects on their employment, health and welfare and of their dependants;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with Article 197 A (5) of the Constitution of the Co-Operative Republic of Guyana, "Disciplined Forces Commissions may be constituted by the National Assembly from time to time, as may be necessary, with power to examine any matter etc;"

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly, acting in accordance with the Constitution, appoint a commission, styled the National Veterans Commission, to examine the conditions and circumstances facing veterans of the defence forces and disciplined services to make recommendations to ensure their health and welfare and for the general administration of veterans affairs in Guyana.

(Notice Paper No. 245 (M 79 Opp. 48) published on 2013-10-07)

10. NATIONAL DAY OF VILLAGES

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 Republic of Guyana, in its Preamble, declares that, "We the Guyanese People...proclaim our commitment to "Safeguard and build on the rich heritage, won through tireless struggle, bequeathed us by our forebears, etc.;"

AND WHEREAS the said Constitution, at Article 35, states further, "The state honours and respects the diverse cultural strains which enrich the society and will seek constantly to promote national appreciation of them at all levels, etc.;"

AND WHEREAS emancipated Africans purchased Plantation Northbrook, and established, thereon, on 7th November 1839, a free community which was named Victoria Village and this act was followed by a series of other purchases and the establishment of communities which came to be known as the village movement;

AND WHEREAS the 153rd sitting of the National Assembly of the first sitting of the Ninth Parliament of Guyana on 19th May, 2011 considered and carried a petition on behalf of the descendants, residents and heirs of the proprietors of Plantation Northbrook (renamed Victoria) for the recognition of the historic contributions of their ancestors who established the first village in post-Emancipation Guyana;

AND WHEREAS Victoria Village will observe the 175th anniversary of its purchase on 7th November, 2014 and due recognition should be given to the seminal role of that significant historic act and of the series of subsequent purchases of plantations which, thereupon, were transformed into human settlements;

AND WHEREAS the State, from time to time, may consider the observance of events to fulfill the various cultural and educational needs of the peoples of Guyana,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls on the Government to issue a commemorative stamp and a commemorative coin and to issue a declaration to designate 7th November as a 'National Day of Villages' in order to honour and respect the pioneering purchasers and to promote national appreciation of the village movement at all levels.

(Notice Paper No. 248 (M 80 Opp. 49) published on 2013-10-10)

*11. 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;

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)

*12. 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;

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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 25th 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 30th 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;

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)

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

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 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.

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*14. 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

*15. 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)

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(iii) <u>COMMITTEES BUSINESS</u>

MOTIONS

16. 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)

17. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – BILL NO. 12/2013

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2013) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2013- Bill No. 12/2013 be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 249 (M 81 Committee 5) published on 2013-10-30)

S.E. ISAACS Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown.

1st November, 2013.