

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

**FOR THE 58TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
(1998-2000) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD**

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 23RD NOVEMBER, 2000

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-

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister of Health and Labour:

Annual Review of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee
for the year 1999.

(To be Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS-

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 ASSEMBLY
AND MOVED BY A MINISTER -**

Suspension of Standing Order 46(2) and (3)

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 46(2) and (3) be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its sitting on Thursday, 23rd November, 2000, with the second reading and remaining stages of the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill 2000 - Bill No. 12 of 2000.

(Notice Paper No. 93(M52 Govt 46) published 2000-11-20)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

Presentation and First Reading

(1) **ELECTION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2000 - Bill No. 12/2000**

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make certain amendments in the laws relating to registration of persons and to elections to choose the President, members of the National Assembly and members of the regional democratic councils and for matters connected therewith.

(2) **ENERGY SECTOR (HARMONISATION OF LAWS) BILL 2000 - Bill No. 13/2000**

The Prime Minister, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to harmonise laws governing regulatory functions in the restructured electricity and energy sector.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILL - Second Reading, Committee and Third Reading

1. **ELECTION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2000 - Bill No. 12/2000**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make certain amendments in the laws relating to registration of persons and to elections to choose the President, members of the National Assembly and members of the regional democratic councils and for matters connected therewith.

MOTION***2. VENEZUELA'S CLAIM TO THE TERRITORY OF ESSEQUIBO**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to move the following motion:

WHEREAS on February 2, 1987, the governments of Britain and Venezuela signed a treaty in Washington, in which they agreed to establish an Arbitral Tribunal for the purpose of determining the boundary between the former Colony of British Guiana, now the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the United States of Venezuela;

AND WHEREAS on October 3, 1899, the Arbitral Tribunal handed down a unanimous decision which in accordance with Article XIII of the abovementioned 1897 Treaty of Washington, the contending parties accepted as being a full, perfect and final settlement of all the questions referred to the Arbitrators;

AND WHEREAS the boundary, which was demarcated in accordance with the Arbitral Award and the report of the findings of a Venezuelan/British Mixed Boundary Commission between the years 1901 and 1905, had been accepted and recognised by both sides as well as the international community for six decades following the demarcation, and is still so accepted and respected by Guyana and the international community;

AND WHEREAS from 1962, and in breach of the Treaty of Washington, the untenable contention by successive Venezuelan Governments that the Arbitral Award is null and void, had been accompanied by numerous attempts to deny Guyana the right to develop its territory within secure boundaries free from threats and other forms of intimidation;

AND WHEREAS the aforesaid acts constitute a real and continuing threat to the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS Guyana became a party to the Geneva Agreement of 1966 between Venezuela and the United Kingdom which established a Guyana/Venezuela Mixed Commission charged with "the task of seeking satisfactory solutions for the practical settlement of the controversy between Venezuela and the United Kingdom which has arisen as a result of the Venezuelan contention that the Arbitral Award about the frontiers between British Guiana and Venezuela is null and void" and that the Good Offices of the United Nations Secretary General has been sought to facilitate this process within the context of Article IV (2) of the Geneva Agreement;

/...4

*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

AND WHEREAS October 3, 1999 marked 100 years since the international Arbitral Award was handed down;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly:

- (i) affirm its continuing resolve to be in rejecting Venezuela's claim and to maintain the existing internationally recognised border between Guyana and Venezuela;
- (ii) condemn any and all acts of aggression against Guyana;
- (iii) reaffirm the continued commitment of Guyana to the Good Offices process of the United Nations Secretary General;
- (iv) direct the Government of Guyana, to pursue a continuous and coordinated programme of diplomatic and other initiatives to secure the territorial integrity of Guyana and its rights to develop its territory, within the context of good neighbourliness, free from threats and intimidation;
- (v) further direct the Government of Guyana to take whatever measures are necessary to maintain the continued involvement and support of all parliamentary and other political parties, social partners and other socio-economic groupings throughout the length and breadth of Guyana in their national rejection of Venezuela's claim to Guyana territory.

(Notice Paper No. 71 (M30 Govt 26) published 6.12.99)

BILLS - Second Reading, Committee and Third Reading

***3. SUMMARY JURISDICTION (LAY MAGISTRATES) BILL 1999 - Bill No. 5/1999
published 6.2.99**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT for the constitution of lay magistrates' courts; for the appointment of lay magistrates; for the regulation of their jurisdiction, practice and procedure and for other like purposes.

(Read a first time on 3.2.99)

(Read a second time and committed to a Select Committee on 18.3.99)

***4. TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING BILL 1999 -
Bill No. 3/1999 published 23.1.99**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the promotion of technical and vocational education and training, and for purposes connected therewith.

(Read a first time on 3.2.99)

F. A. NARAIN

Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,

Public Buildings,

Georgetown

20th November, 2000

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