NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 85^{TH} SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION (2012 - 2014) OF THE TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 15TH MAY, 2014

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 (Chairman of the Committee of Selection):

Minutes of Proceedings of the 15th Meeting of the Committee of Selection held on Wednesday, 30th April, 2014.

(To be Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Labour:

Annual Report of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund Committee for the year 2012.

(To be Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

(1) By Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. (Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services):

Sixth Periodic Report of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services for the period 16th March, 2012 to 14th March, 2014.

(Circulated)

(2) By <u>Dr. George Norton, M.P. (Chairman of the Committee on Appointments)</u>:

Second Report of the Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of Members of the Public Service Commission.

(Circulated)

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. <u>ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIBRARY AT THE MADHIA SCHOOL</u>

DORMITORIES

Member Asking: Mrs. Valerie Garrido-Lowe, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

3.

Whereas the Madhia School Dormitories do not have a library, hence, students living in these

facilities are denied the opportunity of reading for relaxation and enjoyment and for the

expansion of their consciousness;

And whereas it is the duty of the State to create a good study environment for these students.

Could the Hon. Minister say if her Ministry has any plans of setting up a library in the Madhia

School Dormitories anytime soon and, if so, how soon would that be?

(Notice Paper No. 305 (Q 206 Opp. 203) published on 2014-03-20)

2. <u>CONSTRUCTION OF THE PARAMAKATOI PRIMARY SCHOOL</u>

Member Asking:

Mrs. June Marcello, M.P.

Minister Answering:

The Minister of Education

(i) Could the Hon. Minister tell this House why construction of the Paramakatoi Primary

School, Region 8, that started in April, 2012, has not been completed?

(ii) Could the Hon. Minister tell this House when construction of the Paramakatoi Primary

School would be completed?

(Notice Paper No. 293 (Q 195 Opp. 193) published on 2014-02-13)

3. HIRING OF A STEEL BAND TUNER

Member Asking:

Mr. Christopher Jones, M.P.

Minister Answering:

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

4.

Could the Hon. Minister inform this House why a steel band tuner was contracted/hired by the Culture Department to tune up the state owned steel pan instruments?

- (i) How much was this individual paid and what are the other costs attached, if any, for travel and accommodations?
- (ii) Are there no tuners attached to the Ministry's Culture Department?

(Notice Paper No. 309 (Q 209 Opp. 206) published on 2014-04-02)

4. REPAIRS TO THE NURSING SCHOOL AT EAST STREET AND THE ANNEX TO KINGSTON NURSING HOME

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

Could the Hon. Minister kindly indicate -

- (i) Whether works have been completed on the Nursing School at East Street and the Annex to Kingston Nursing Home? If yes, the nature of works completed to date?
- (ii) If no, why and what is the timeline to complete works in both areas?
- (iii) Provide a breakdown and costing of works completed and the nature of works to be completed at both locations?

(Notice Paper No. 310 (Q 210 Opp. 207) published on 2014-04-02)

5.	CENSOR	BOARD
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Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Could the Hon. Minister explain:-

- (i) Whether the Censor Board is still in place?
- (ii) If yes, how effective is the system as it relates to the monitoring of music?
- (iii) If no, what has caused the delay in putting this body in place?
- (iv) Assuming that the censor body is not in place, when citizens need to ventilate an issue regarding local lyrics, to whom and where can they refer their complaints?

(Notice Paper No. 311 (Q 211 Opp. 208) published on 2014-04-02)

6. THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY INTO WALTER RODNEY ASSASSINATION

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister in the Ministry of Finance

In view of the provision of \$48 million dollars approved by the National Assembly, with respect to the Commission of Inquiry into Walter Rodney Assassination; could the Hon. Minister state:-

- (i) What constitutes Other under Account Code 6294?
- (ii) Give a breakdown what the \$31,400,000.00 was utilised for under Account Code 6249?

- (iii) The percentage of work completed as of to date for the designated area (Supreme Court) to facilitate the Commission of Inquiry into Walter Rodney assassination?
- (iv) Provide a breakdown of the nature of works completed and its costing?

(Notice Paper No. 312 (Q 212 Opp. 209) published on 2014-04-02)

7. <u>BITUMEN PLANT OPERATIONS – TRANSPORT AND HARBOURS</u> DEPARTMENT

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Public Works

Could the Hon. Minister state:-

- (i) For what purpose(s) did the Transport and Harbours Department purchase Bitumen at a cost of \$65,616,830.00?
- (ii) Does the T&HD still operates the Bitumen Plant?
- (iii) If no, what has led to the cessation of the operation of the Bitumen Plant by T&HD?
- (iv) When did the cessation of the operation of the Bitumen Plant operation take place?
- (v) Under whose responsibility the Bitumen Plant falls?(Notice Paper No. 313 (Q 213 Opp. 210) published on 2014-04-02)

8. <u>CONSULTANCY SERVICES FOR ENGINEERING DESIGNS AND SUPERVISION</u> <u>OF WORKS FOR THE PARIKA TO GOSHEN ROAD</u>

Member Asking: Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph Harmon, M.S.M., M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Natural Resources and the

Environment

On the 30th March, 2014, the following notice was published in the Guyana Chronicle Newspaper –

"Guyana Geology and Mines Commission (GGMC) requests for proposals: Consultancy services for engineering designs and supervision of works for the Parika to Goshen Road; Lot 1, Parika to Aliki, Lot 2", Aliki to Itaka, Lot 3, Itaka to Goshen."

Could the Hon. Minister state –

- (i) On what basis was it determined that GGMC should be the executing Agency for this proposed road (Parika to Goshen)?
- (ii) On what basis was this project determined to be a mining road, thus qualifying it for GGMC funding?
- (iii) What consultations, if any, have taken place with stakeholders in the mining sector to determine that this is a priority mining sector project, worthy of GGMC funding?
- (iv) What role, if any, has the Ministry of Public Works played in developing the technical scope of works for this project?
- (v) Has the Cabinet formally approved this project and its execution through the GGMC? (Notice Paper No. 314 (Q 214 Opp. 211) published on 2014-04-02)

9. OVERSEAS TRIPS MADE BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT AND DELEGATIONS

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

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary

Affairs

Would the Hon. Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs tell this House:-

(i) The number of official overseas trips made by the President and delegations since taking office in 2011?

(ii) The total dollar cost of each trip made by the President and delegations individually (destination, accommodation, transportation) since taking office in 2011?

(Notice Paper No. 315 (Q 215 Opp. 212) published on 2014-04-07)

10. BENEFITS GUYANA STANDS TO GAIN FROM OVERSEAS TRIPS

UNDERTAKEN BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT AND

DELEGATIONS

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

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary

Affairs

Would the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs tell this House:-

(i) The immediate and medium term benefits to Guyana associated with each of the trips undertaken by the President and delegations since taking office in 2011 to February, 2014?

- (ii) What benefits Guyana stands to gain in 2014 from each of the overseas trips undertaken by the President and his Delegations in 2012?
- (iii) What benefits Guyana stands to gain in 2016 from each of the overseas visits made by the President and his Delegations in 2012 and 2013?

(Notice Paper No. 316 (Q 216 Opp. 213) published on 2014-04-07)

11. BENEFITS FOR THE FORMER PRESIDENT, DR. BHARRAT JAGDEO

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Finance

Would the Minister of Finance tell this House:-

- (i) What is the electricity charge paid under the Act for former President, Dr. Bharrat Jagdeo, for each month since he demitted office in 2011 up to the end of February, 2014?
- (ii) What is the total health expenses/claims met under the Act for former President, Bharrat Jagdeo and/or his dependents for each month since he demitted office in 2011 to 28th February, 2014?
- (iii) What is the cost of providing transportation (local and overseas) inclusive of cars and drivers, including air cost and road under the Act for former President, Bharrat Jagdeo and/or his dependents for each month since he demitted office in 2011 to 28th February, 2014?

10.

(iv) What is the monthly cost of providing security for personal and property(s) under the

Act for former President, Bharrat Jagdeo since he demitted office in 2011 until 28th

February, 2014?

(Notice Paper No. 317 (Q 217 Opp. 214) published on 2014-04-07)

12. **LEVELS OF UNEMPLOYMENT IN GUYANA**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Finance

(i) Can the Hon. Minister say whether his Government or any of its Agencies compiles

data on levels of unemployment in Guyana?

(ii) Can the Hon. Minister provide the National Assembly with data showing the levels of

unemployment in Guyana for each of the last ten years?

(iii) Can the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly whether his Government's

economic policies are aimed at reducing the levels of unemployment in Guyana, and

if so, what data is used to assess the impact of those policies on the level of

unemployment?

(Notice Paper No. 318 (Q 218 Opp. 215) published on 2014-04-07)

13. **2012 NATIONAL CENSUS**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Finance

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister say when the results of the 2012 National Census will be released?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister also say whether or not his Ministry or any of its officers has been given access to any of the data from the 2012 National Census?
 (Notice Paper No. 319 (Q 219 Opp. 216) published on 2014-04-07)

14. ESTABLISHMENT OF THE REPARATIONS COMMITTEE OF GUYANA

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister inform this National Assembly when was the Reparations Committee of Guyana formed?
- (ii) What criteria were used to select the Members of the Guyana Reparations Committee?
- (iii) Could the Hon. Minister inform this House who are the Members of Guyana's Reparation Committee?
- (iv) Could the Hon. Minister tell this House what are the Terms of Reference/Role of the Reparations Committee of Guyana?
- (v) Could the Hon. Minister say what representations have been made to the Caricom Reparations Commission with respect to claims for Africans and Amerindians in Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 320 (Q 220 Opp. 217) published on 2014-04-14)

For Oral Reply

15. <u>LINDEN ENTERPRISE NETWORK (LEN) BOARD</u>

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Finance

- *(i) What criteria were used to select the Members of the Linden Enterprise Network (LEN)
 Board?
- *(ii) Who were the persons responsible for this selection?

(Notice Paper No. 321 (Q 221 Opp. 218) published on 2014-04-14)

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

Presentation and First Reading

*LAND SURVEYORS BILL 2014 - Bill No. 7/2014

The Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

/...13

*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

A BILL intituled AN ACT to enact a new Land Surveyors Act and to repeal the existing Act, to repeal the Surveys (Special Provisions) Act and to consolidate and reform the law governing the practice of land surveying, including aerial surveys, the preparation of plans, the maintenance of records of land surveys and for related matters.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS

BILLS - Second Readings

1. MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 2014 – Bill No. 4/2014 published on 2014-01-29

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act.

(Read a first time on 2014-02-10)

2. 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.

*3. WILDLIFE IMPORT AND EXPORT BILL 2013 –Bill No. 20/2013 published on 2013-11-27

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to regulate international trade of Guyana's wildlife and to enable Guyana to fulfill its obligations under the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora, Washington, 1973.

(Read a first time on 2013-12-12)

MOTION

*4. SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF MR. DOODNAUTH SINGH, S.C. FORMER ATTORNEY GENERAL AND MINISTER OF LEGAL AFFAIRS

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

That we the Members of the National Assembly of the Parliament of Guyana –

- place on record our profound grief at the great loss to the Parliament of Guyana by the death of Mr. Doodnauth Singh, S.C., Former Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs on 21st August, 2013, after a prolonged illness;
- pay tribute to the committed and distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly directs that an expression of our heartfelt sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing widow, children and relatives.

(Notice Paper No. 258 (M 90 Govt 30) published on 2013-11-19)

BILLS - Second Reading

*5. PROCUREMENT (AMENDENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 17/2013 published on 2013-11-07

In accordance with Standing Order 57(2), the Minister of Finance to move the second reading of the following Bill within six months:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Procurement Act.

(Read a first time on 2013-11-07)

MOTION

*6. 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;

16.

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 <u>parties</u> 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),

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 – Committee and Third Readings

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

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 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) (Read a second time and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2013-11-07)

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

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 Public Utilities Commission Act.

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

(Read a second time and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2013-11-07)

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

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

(Read a first time on 2013-12-12)

(Read a second time and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2013-12-19)

(i) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

BILLS – Second Readings

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

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P., on behalf of Mrs. Deborah Backer (former Member), 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)

11. BROADCASTING (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 19/2013 published on 2014-02-28

Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph Harmon, M.S.M., M.P., to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Broadcasting Act.

(Read a first time on 2014-02-28)

MOTIONS

12. BERBICE RIVER BRIDGE

Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph Harmon, M.S.M., M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Berbice Bridge was built with significant investment by the Government of Guyana on behalf of the People of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS the Berbice Bridge is owned and operated by the Berbice Bridge Company Inc (BBCI), a company incorporated under the provisions of the Companies Act No. 29 of 1991 of the Laws of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana through National Industrial & Commercial Investments Ltd (NICIL) is a preferential shareholder and a member of the Board of Directors of the Berbice Bridge Company Inc.;

AND WHEREAS since it's commissioning in December, 2008 the Berbice Bridge has facilitated crossing of over 650,000 vehicles (of the Berbice River) resulting in an annual revenue of over \$1,500,000,000 (one billion five hundred million dollars) for the Berbice Bridge Company Inc.;

AND WHEREAS the toll for vehicles crossing the Berbice Bridge presently is:

Category	Present Rates
Motor Cars	\$2200
Mini Buses	\$2200
Motor Cycles	\$200
Four-wheel drive/ SUVs/Pick-ups	\$4000
SUVs and pick-ups pulling a boat for recreational activities	\$4000
Four-wheel drives, SUVs and pick-ups pulling horse	\$4000
buggies	
Four-wheel drives/ SUVs / pick-ups transporting BBQ	\$4000
Grills, coolers	
50-seater bus	\$12,800
30-seater bus	\$7,200
Large Trucks	\$13,600

AND WHEREAS the toll for crossing the Berbice River is exceedingly high when compared to a similar crossing of the Demerara River by the Demerara Harbour Bridge and represents a significant devolution of wealth from the people of Berbice in particular to the benefit of a private company;

AND WHEREAS in recognition that the toll was too high the Berbice Bridge Company Inc. for a specific period over August 1, 2013 to August 12, 2013 reduced the toll for the crossing of the Berbice Bridge to the following rates:

Category	Current toll charges/freight	Reduced toll charges for the	
	charges	month of August/no freight	
		charge	
Four-wheel drive/SUVs/Pick-	G\$4000	G\$3000	
ups			
SUVs/Pick-ups pulling a boat	G\$4000	G\$3000 and no freight charge	
for recreational activities		for tourism and pleasure	
		activity	
Four-wheel drive/SUVs/Pick-	G\$4000	G\$3000 and no freight charge	
ups pulling horse buggies			
Four-wheel drive/SUVs/Pick-	G\$4000	G\$3000 and no freight charge	
ups transporting BBQ grills,		for tourism and pleasure	
coolers		activity	
50-seater buses	G\$12,800	G\$9,000	
30-seater buses	G\$7,200	G\$6,000	
Large trucks	G\$13,600	G\$10,000	

AND WHEREAS section 3 and section 4 of the Berbice River Bridge Act 2006 - No. 3 of 2006 provides for the Minister responsible for public works to make "Toll Orders",

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls on the Government of Guyana to instruct its representative on the Board of Directors of the Berbice Bridge Company Inc. to demand an immediate reduction in tolls charged by the Berbice Bridge Company Inc. for crossing the Berbice River; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls upon the Minister responsible for Public Works to make the following Toll Order:

Category	Present Rates	Proposed Rates
Motor Cars	\$2,200	\$1,000
Mini Buses	\$2,200	\$1,000
Motor Cycles	\$200	Free
Four-wheel drive/ SUVs/Pick-ups	\$4,000	\$3,000
SUVs and pick-ups pulling a boat for	\$4,000	\$3,000
recreational activities		
Four-wheel drives, SUVs and pick-ups	\$4,000	\$3,000
pulling horse buggies		
Four-wheel drives/ SUVs / pick-ups	\$4,000	\$3,000
transporting BBQ Grills, coolers		
50-seater bus	\$12,800	\$9,000
30-seater bus	\$7,200	\$6,000
Large Trucks	\$13,600	\$10,000

(Notice Paper No. 272 (M 93 Opp 56) published on 2013-12-10)

13. APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE TORTURE OF PERSONS BY THE GUYANA POLICE FORCE BETWEEN 2006 AND 2013

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 prescribes, at Article 141, that "No person shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading punishment or other treatment;"

AND WHEREAS it has been widely reported that persons were tortured by members of the Guyana Police Force between the years 2006 and 2013, inclusive;

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 RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly expresses its sympathy with the victims of torture; 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 the torture of persons by members of the Guyana Police Force and to make recommendations to prevent a recurrence of such torture.

(Notice Paper No. 281 (M 97 Opp 57) published on 2014-02-05)

14. <u>APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE</u> <u>SHOOTING OF CITIZENS BY THE GUYANA POLICE FORCE ON 6TH</u> <u>DECEMBER, 2011 IN GEORGETOWN</u>

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 prescribes, at Article 141, that "No person shall be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading punishment or other treatment;"

AND WHEREAS it has been widely reported that several persons were shot with pellets by members of the Guyana Police Force at about 10.55 hrs. on 6th December, 2011 in or near Hadfield Street in the city of Georgetown;

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 RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly expresses its sympathy with the victims of the shooting which occurred on 6th December, 2011; 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 injury of persons by shooting and to make recommendations to prevent a recurrence of such shooting.

(Notice Paper No. 282 (M 98 Opp 58) published on 2014-02-07)

*15. 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)

*16. 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 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)

*17. 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.

*18. 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

*19. 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) <u>COMMITTEES BUSINESS</u>

MOTIONS

20. <u>ADOPTION OF THE SIXTH PERIODIC REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY</u> SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P., (Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services), to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Sixth Periodic Report of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 323 (M 101 Committees 7) published on 2014-04-28)

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*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

21. ADOPTION OF THE SECOND REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON

APPOINTMENTS IN RELATION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF

THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

Dr. George Norton, M.P. (Chairman of the Committee on Appointments), to

move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly adopts the Second Report of the Standing

Committee to address matters relating to the Appointment of Members of Commissions

established under the Constitution, and signifies to the President that the following

persons:

(i) Mr. Patrick M. Yarde; and

(ii) Ms Patricia Went

have been nominated in accordance with Article 200 (1)(b) of the Constitution, to be appointed

Members of the Public Service Commission.

(Notice Paper No. 324 (M 102 Committees 8) published on 2014-05-09)

S.E. ISAACS Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,

Public Buildings,

Brickdam,

Georgetown.

9th May, 2014.