

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 34TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION (1986-1987) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY, 18TH MARCH, 1987

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

BUSINESS FOR SITTING

PRAYERS -

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT -

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER - *See Notes*

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS -

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) (Designation of Office of Member of the Co-operative Finance Administration) Order 1986 (No. 65), made under section 2 of the Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) Act, Chapter 27:03, on 12th November, 1986, and published in the Gazette on 24th January, 1987.

(ii) *See Supp. O.P.*

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

(1) For Written Reply

No. 9 - Foreign Exchange Component on Expenditure

By Mr. Kwayana to the Minister of Finance:

QUESTION: Will the Minister say what is the foreign exchange component of actual total expenditure in the years 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984 and, if available, 1985 on the following:-

- (a) Fire Service?  
(b) Police Service?  
Guyana National Service?  
(d) Guyana Defence Force?  
(e) Pure Water Supply?  
(f) Non-drug hospital supplies?

(Notice Paper No. 41 published 1986-05-20)

(2) For Oral Answers

Mr. Kwayana to ask the Minister of Regional Development the following question:

- QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister say how many motions in the last Parliament by Minority Parties were
- (a) given as notice, and
  - (b) debated in the National Assembly?
- (ii) Will the the Minister say -
- (a) how many sittings of the National Assembly were held during the Fourth Parliament, and
  - (b) how many sittings were devoted to Private Members' motions?
- (iii) Is it the Government's policy to delay the answers to questions until they are no longer useful?
- (iv) Is it the Government's policy to answer questions as soon as the efficiency of the respective Ministries will allow?

(Notice Paper No. 42 published 1986-05-20)

No. 11 - Housing accommodation

Mr. Kwayana to ask the Prime Minister the following question:

- QUESTION: (i) Is the Prime Minister aware of the eviction of Ms Christine Edgill from her lawful occupancy of a dwelling in North East La Penitence, YY24, on or about April 24, 1986?
- (ii) Will the Prime Minister name the authority responsible for the eviction of Ms Edgill from her lawful tenancy of YY 24 North East La Penitence on or about April 24, 1986?
- (iii) Does the Prime Minister maintain the statement in the Assembly on March 17 that no strangers have been imposed by the Ministry on the lawful occupants of houses in the Government housing estates?
- (iv) Does the Prime Minister propose to promote an enquiry into the allegations against a senior housing officer of demanding sexual favours from female applicants for housing accommodation?

(Notice Paper No. 43 published 1986-05-20)

No. 12 - Compensation for Loss of Employment

Mr. Kwayana to ask the Minister of Labour the following question:

QUESTION: Will the Minister say what compensatory arrangements exist for employees of the private sector who have given over 15 years' service and lose their jobs because the firm ceased operation?

(Notice Paper No. 44 published 1986-05-20)

\*No. 13 - Cattle Rustling in the Rupununi

Mr. Kwayana to ask the Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs the following question:

QUESTION: (i) Is it true that in or about the month of March 1986 a special police detachment was dispatched to the Rupununi to investigate the rustling of cattle?

(ii) Is it true that as a result of their visit a number of Rupununi residents were arrested and charged?

(iii) What is the number of residents charged with offences connected with cattle rustling or arising out of the visit of the special police detachment?

(iv) Is it true that, following reports of police brutality during the investigation mentioned in question (i), the Government dispatched a mission to the Rupununi to investigate?

(v) If a mission was dispatched will the Minister of State say who comprised it and what were its findings?

(vi) Can the Minister of State say whether the residents charged are represented by counsel?

(Notice Paper No. 45 published 1986-05-20)

\*No. 14 - Assets of the Late President of Guyana

Mr. Kwayana to ask the Minister of Finance the following question:

Will the Minister, in view of the fact that he was not a private citizen and stood as Head of the Guyana Government from December 14, 1964 to August 6, 1985, investigate the assets wherever held of the late President of Guyana, Mr. Linden Forbes Sampson Burnham, and make a report on their nature and their gross and net value, with the necessary information to the Guyanese people, taking into account widespread public interest in the matter?

(Notice Paper No. 48 published 1986-05-30)

No. 23 - Rice Mill from the G.D.R.

The Minority Leader to ask the Senior Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture the following question:

- (i) Will the Minister say when the Rice Mill from the GDR arrived in the country?
- (ii) Will the Minister say also when will work commence on the installation of the Mill and where will it be set up?

(Notice Paper No. 57 published 1986-05-31)

No. 24 - Market at Parika

Cde. Nokta to ask the Minister of Regional Development the following question:

QUESTION: Will the Minister say how soon the construction of a market at Parika, East Bank Essequibo, which was commenced in October, 1984, and was due to be completed by December 31 that year, will be resumed and when the market will be opened?

(Notice Paper No. 58 published 1986-05-31)

No. 25 - Cost of Gasolene

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Trade and Tourism the following question:

QUESTION: Of the current retail price - \$7.45 per gallon of gasolene, will the Minister say what is the landed cost per gallon, the Government tax and the profit margin to the filling stations?

(Notice Paper No. 59 published 1986-05-31)

No. 26 - Tabling and Circulation of Publications

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Information and the Public Service the following question:

- QUESTION:
- (i) Will the Minister say whether the two publications -
    - (a) An Analysis of the Presidential, National and Regional Elections of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, December 9, 1985, and
    - (b) Guyana General Elections, December 9, 1985 -
 will be tabled in the National Assembly, and if so, when?
  - (ii) If not, why not?
  - (iii) Will the Minister ensure that all publications by the Ministry of Information and by other Ministries, for local and overseas distribution are circulated to Members of Parliament?

(Notice Paper No. 60 published 1986-05-31)

\*No. 27 - Cost of Construction - Square of the Revolution

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Communications and Works the following question:

- QUESTION: (i) Is it true that the cost of construction for the bitumen pave and stands at the "Square of the Revolution" was \$4.3 million?
- (ii) If not, what was the actual cost?

(Notice Paper No. 68 published 1986-06-05)

\*No. 28 - Ceasing of Nuclear Testing

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Foreign Affairs the following question:

- QUESTION: Will the Minister say whether Guyana will support the call made by the six non-aligned nations in a letter sent to President Reagan and Mr. Gorbachyov, urging the two leaders to stop nuclear testing, and to prevent the militarisation of outer space?

(Notice Paper No. 69 published 1986-06-05)

\*No. 29 - Quantity, Price and Disposal of Gold

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Finance the following question:

- QUESTION: Will the Minister say -
- (a) how much gold was bought by the Guyana Gold Board during 1985;
- (b) at what price; and
- (c) where and how is the gold sold or otherwise disposed of?

(Notice Paper No. 70 published 1986-06-05)

\*No. 30 - Prime Minister's Delegation to North America

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Finance the following question:

- QUESTION: Will the Minister say how many persons accompanied the Prime Minister on his recent visit to North America and what was the per diem out-of-pocket allowance given to each member of the delegation?

(Notice Paper No. 71 published 1986-06-05)

\*No. 31 - Agreements with Robert Chappell

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Finance the following question:

- QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister make a statement about all the agreements made with Robert Chappell or and companies concerning off-shore banking?
- (ii) Will he say whether, among these, permission has been given to Robert Chappell or any companies to erect a tourist Hotel at the top of Kaieteur Falls at which all bills must be paid and transactions conducted in foreign currency?

(Notice Paper No. 72 published 1986-06-05)

\*No. 32 - Return of Car Parts Seized

The Minority Leader to ask the Minister of Trade and Tourism the following question:

- QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister state whether a part or all of the car parts which were seized by the Police and Customs from Rahaman and Sons of Russell Street, Georgetown, Hassan of Main Street, New Amsterdam, and others have been returned?
- (ii) If not, will the Minister say whether it is proposed to return the parts or make any financial restitution?

(Notice Paper No. 73 published 1986-06-05)

No. 33 - Availability of Wheaten Flour

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud to ask the Minister of Trade and Tourism the following question:

- QUESTION: Will the Minister say what steps, have been taken, since the President's announcement that wheat will be imported, to make wheaten flour available to the public?

(Notice Paper No. 74 published 1986-06-05)

No. 34 - Advertisements in the New Nation, etc.

Cde. S.F. Mohamed to ask the Minister of Information and the Public Service the following question:

- QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister say how much has been paid by the Government, its agencies, Corporations and state enterprises to the New Nation during the year 1985?

What advertisements have been given to other publications, aside from the Guyana Chronicle & Sunday Chronicle and the two radio stations?

(Notice Paper No. 75 published 1986-06-05)

\*Not to be asked at this sitting - S.O. No. 18(12).

No. 35 - Repairs to Sacred Heart Primary School, N.W.D.

Cde. Nokta to ask the Vice-President, Education and Social Development, and Deputy Prime Minister the following question:

- (i) Is the Minister aware that the Sacred Heart Primary School, Arouou River, North West District, was blown down by wind because of lack of repairs?
- (ii) Will the Minister say if repairs to the building have commenced and if so when will they be completed?

(Notice Paper No. 76 published 1986-06-05)

No. 36 - Schedule of Georgetown/North West Steamers

Cde. Nokta to ask the Minister of Communications and Works the following question:

Is the Minister aware that -

- (a) the Georgetown-Northwest District passenger and cargo steamers often do not travel on schedule, thus causing much frustration from commuters at both ends; and
- (b) that large quantities of agricultural produce perish every time this occurs?
- (ii) Could the Minister say how soon this situation will be corrected?

(Notice Paper No. 77 published 1986-06-05)

\*No. 37 - Maintenance of Sea Defences, East Bank Essequibo

Cde. Nokta to ask the Senior Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture the following question:

- QUESTION:
- (i) Is the Minister aware that the poor maintenance of Sea Defences on the East Bank Essequibo has resulted in serious flooding, loss of livestock and damage to crops in the east half of Bush Lot and Reliance area?
  - (ii) If so, will he say what efforts are being made to prevent a recurrence?
  - (iii) Will the Minister also say whether consideration is being given to the payment of compensation to those residents who have suffered losses?

(Notice Paper No. 78 published 1986-06-05)

No. 38 - Inspection of Employers' Registers of Workers

Cde. Janet Jagan to ask the Minister of Labour the following question:

- QUESTION:
- (i) Will the Minister say how many inspections have been made by Labour Department Officers of registers, which are required to be kept by employers under the Household Service Workers (Hours of Work) Act 1980 (No. 17)?
  - (ii) Will the Minister say how many registers, approximately, are being kept?
  - (iii) Have there been any prosecutions under the law?

(Notice Paper No. 80 published 1986-06-11)

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS -

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

SALE OF GUYANA TIMBERS LIMITED

Mr. Kwayana to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Government urgently develop a plan for the sale of Guyana Timbers Limited to the public investors, with employees of the firm having a prior right to acquire shares and operate the firm in an industry with which the labour force and managers are familiar, and cancel any plan for selling the enterprise to a non-Caribbean firm.

(Notice Paper No. 62 published 1986-06-04)

2. CLOSING OF LEONORA SUGAR FACTORY

Mr. Kwayana to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Government cancel plans for the closing down of Leonora sugar factory and open negotiations with the factory workers for the sale of the factory to them.

(Notice Paper No. 63 published 1986-06-04)

3. TRANSPORTATION IN THE RUPUNUNI

Mr. Kwayana to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Ministry of Transport take immediate steps to introduce a system of public transport in the Rupununi in order to break the leaden isolation of communities within the northern villages, within the southern villages and between north and south, and to serve school children;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the service should be so ordered as to be available to persons outside the money economy.

(Notice Paper No. 64 published 1986-06-04)



4. ROAD MAKING MATERIALS

Mr. Kwayana to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Government appoint a task force to study all reports on the tests of road making materials available in Guyana, report on the supply possibilities and recommend on the most efficient materials for use on building and upgrading community roads;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That Government on the basis of these reports or on other reliable information launch a programme of building upgrading and repairing dams, streets and roads within all communities so as to raise them to a level now below a prescribed minimum standard of all-weather roads;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the present period of low fuel prices is an appropriate time to launch such a programme.

(Notice Paper No. 65 published 1986-06-04)

5. REDUCTION IN PRICES OF GASOLENE, DIESELENE AND KEROSENE

Mr. Kwayana to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That in the opinion of this Assembly the wholesale and retail prices of gasolene, dieselene, kerosene as maintained in Guyana by the Ministry of Trade are inflationary and tend to higher production costs leading to reduced competitiveness of both the private and public sectors and ought to be reduced by a minimum of 25% thus reducing the cost of living, inducing more competitive production in all areas of the economy.

(Notice Paper No. 66 published 1986-06-04)

6. COUNTING OF VOTES AT PLACE OF POLL

The Minority Leader to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls upon the Government to take steps to ensure that at all elections the votes shall be counted at the place of poll in the presence of the polling agents of the parties contesting the elections.

(Notice Paper No. 67 published 1986-06-05)

BILLS - Second Reading

- \*7. MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 -  
Bill No. 12/1986 published 1986-10-29

The Minister of Regional Development to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend  
the Municipal and District Councils  
Act.

(Read a first time on 1986-11-03)

- \*8. LOCAL DEMOCRATIC ORGANS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 -  
Bill No. 13/1986 published 1986-10-29

The Minister of Regional Development to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the  
Local Democratic Organs Act.

(Read a first time on 1986-11-03)

- \*9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 - Bill No. 14/1986,  
published 1986-10-29

The Minister of Regional Development to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the  
Local Government Act.

(Read a first time on 1986-11-03)

- \*10. GUYANA GOLD BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 - Bill No. 16/1986,  
published 1987-01-10

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

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the  
Guyana Gold Board Act 1981.

(Read a first time on 1986-12-22)

- \*11. GUYANA GEOLOGY AND MINES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986,  
Bill No. 17/1986 published 1987-01-10

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

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the  
Guyana Geology and Mines Commission  
Act 1979.

(Read a first time on 1986-12-22)

\*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting.

\*12. EXPORT AND IMPORT (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986  
Bill No. 18/1986 published 1987-01-10

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

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the  
Export and Import (Special Provisions)  
Act 1986.

(Read a first time on 1986-12-29)

\*13. FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1987 - Bill No. 1/1987  
published 1987-01-30

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

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the  
Evidence Act, the Tax Act, the Income  
Tax Act, the Capital Gains Tax Act and  
the Property Tax Act, and to repeal the  
National Development Surtax Act.

(Read a first time on 1987-01-20)

F.A. NARAIN  
Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

1987-03-13

\*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting.