

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 86TH 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 WEDNESDAY, 21ST 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-

By Mr. Trevor Williams, M.P.

Petition on behalf of the retired employees of the Guyana Telecommunications Corporation and active servants of the Guyana Telephone and Telegraph Company and the Guyana Postal and Telecommunications Workers Union (GPWU) request that the former employees of the Guyana Telecommunication Corporation who continued in service with the Guyana Telephone and

2.

Telegraph Company and retired, be paid their just and due pension in accordance with the Pensions Act as enshrined in the Constitution of Guyana. Also for the Minister of Finance to kindly state the reason preventing the responsible agency from affecting payment of the correct pension that is just and due to pensioners, and when would the payment to the pensioners be effected, and request that it be read.

(Circulated)

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. ESTABLISHMENT OF A LIBRARY AT THE MADHIA SCHOOL DORMITORIES

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

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)

3.

2. **CONSTRUCTION OF THE PARAMAKATOI PRIMARY SCHOOL**

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)

For Oral Reply

3. **DISBURSEMENT OF THE \$10,000 GRANT BY THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister say:-

* (i) What mechanism will be employed by the Ministry of Education to disburse the \$10,000.00 per child, as has been promised in Budget 2014?

* (ii) When will this money be disbursed?

(Notice Paper No. 322 (Q 222 Opp. 219) published on 2014-04-28)

4.

For Written Replies

***4. 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)

***5. 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?

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

5.

- (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)

***6. 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?

/...6

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

6.

- (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)

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:

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.

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

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) **GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS**

BILLS – Second Reading

*1. **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

*2. **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;

/...8

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

8.

- 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

- *3. **PROCUREMENT (AMENDMENT) 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

- *4. **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;

/...9

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

9.

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),

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

***5. 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)

***6. 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)

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

11.

*7. **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

8. **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

9. **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:

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

12.

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)

10. **APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE SHOOTING OF CITIZENS BY THE GUYANA POLICE FORCE ON 6TH DECEMBER, 2011 IN GEORGETOWN**

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

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13.

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)

*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;

/...15

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

15.

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;

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;

/...17

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

17.

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:

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

18.

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.

*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.

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

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)

(iii) COMMITTEES BUSINESS

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S.E. ISAACS
Clerk of the National Assembly

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

16th May, 2014.