NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 35TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION (2012-2013) OF THE TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 10TH JANUARY, 2013

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (68)

Speaker (1)

The Hon Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (34)

(i) People's Progressive Party/Civic (34)

Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, O.E., M.P., Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo), Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent – on leave)

Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance

Hon. Robert M. Persaud, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),

Minister of Natural Resources and Environment

Hon. Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni),

Minister of the Public Service

Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsarran, M.P., Minister of Health

Hon. Mohamed I. Alli, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Public Works

Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice), Minister of Education (Absent – on leave)

Hon. Ganga Persaud, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Hon. Jennifer I.M. Webster, M.P., Minister of Human Services and Social Security

Hon. Pauline Campbell-Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

*Hon. Dr. Nanda K. Gopaul, M.P., Minister of Labour

Hon. Alli Baksh, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam), Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture

Hon. Norman A. Whittaker, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini), Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Hon. Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Finance

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent – on leave)

Bibi S. Shaddick, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

*Non-Elected Minister

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/ West Demerara)

Mr. Odinga Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P.

Rev. Dr. Kwame A. Gilbert, M.P.

**Mr. Joseph Hamilton, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Health

Dr. Vindhya Vasini Persaud, M.S., M.P.

Mr. Cornel Damon, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mr. Faizal M. Jafarally, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Members of the Opposition (33)

(ii) Members of A Partnership for National Unity(26)

Brigadier (Ret'd) David A. Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Dr. Rupert Roopnarine, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Dr. George Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

**Non-Elected Member

Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P.

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Dawn Hastings, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Winston Felix, D.S.M., M.P.

Ms Jennifer J. Wade, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Mr. Sydney Allicock, M.S., M.P.

Ms Africo Selman, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Desmond Trotman, M.P.

Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Mr. James A. Bond, M.P.

Mr. Ronald A. Bulkhan, M.P.

Mr. Jaipaul Sharma, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Mabel Baveghems, M.P.

Mr. John Adams, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Christopher A. Jones, M.P.

Mr. Richard Allen, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Mr. Renis Morian, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Miss Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.

(iii) Members of The Alliance For Change (7)

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mr. Moses Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P.

Mrs. Catherine Hughes, M.P.

Mrs. Valerie Garrido-Lowe, M.P.

Dr. Veersammy Ramayya, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Ms June Eula Marcello, M.P. (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni)

Mr. Trevor Williams, M.P.

OFFICERS

Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, Clerk of the National Assembly

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 2.09 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read the prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(1) New Year's Greetings

The Speaker extended New Year's Greetings to the Members, staff of the Parliament Office and the media.

(2) **Granting of Leave**

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs for that day's sitting.

(3) Thanks to Deputy Speaker

The Speaker thanked the Deputy Speaker for presiding over the last sitting during his absence.

(4) Postponement of Meeting of Committee of Selection

The Speaker informed Members that the Meeting of the Committee of Selection, which was scheduled to be held during the suspension of that day's sitting for refreshments, would be postponed to an early date, provided that the Report of the Standing Orders Committee is approved by the Assembly.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

By the Speaker of the National Assembly (Chairman of the Committee of Selection):

Minutes of Proceedings of the 5th Meeting of the Committee of Selection held on Thursday, 20th December, 2012.

(Circulated)

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. RESTORATION OF THE SUMS DELETED FROM 2012 BUDGET

Member Asking: Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Finance

Minister of Finance, Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., is reported to have said, in delivering his 2012 Mid-Year Report, he had restored the sums the House deleted from the 2012 Budged, on grounds that "The National Assembly was later deemed by the Courts of Guyana to have acted outside its constitutional remit in inflicting those cuts to the budget;" and

Dr. Roger Luncheon was quoted in the press on September 7, 2012 as saying that "the \$1 that was approved by the Opposition for the various Agencies was totally inconsistent with the constitutional provision as ruled by the Chief Justice;" and that, "no one lost their jobs." "Contingency Funds were approved and funds made available belatedly, but still available to meet the wages and salaries of the contract workers at Office of the President."

Would the Hon. Minister of Finance say whether monies cut from the Budget and not approval by this House have been restored to the Ministries? If, so,

- (i) What categories and sums have been involved?
- (ii) What is the legal basis for such payments?
- (iii) What advice was provided on this matter by the Attorney General?
- (iv) What section of the Chief Justice's report/decision suggests that either the Chief Justice or the Ministry of Finance can restore cuts to the budget or that the Chief Justice can authorise the Ministry of Finance to make advances from the Consolidated Fund?

(Notice Paper No.115 (Q 66 Opp. 65) published on 2012-12-14)

Answers:

Where the sums approved by the National Assembly under the Appropriation Act 2012 were found to be inadequate to meet the services of Government, supplementary financing was resorted to in accordance with the law.

- (i) The categories and sums involved have already been reported to the National Assembly in successive Financial Papers.
- (ii) The Constitution and the Fiscal Management and Accountability Act 2003.
- (iii) The Attorney General confirmed in advance the appropriateness of the course of action adopted, which course of action was also approved by the Cabinet.
- (iv) The Chief Justice made several relevant references to the Constitution.

2. TAX BREAKS TO THE ORGANISERS OF HITS & JAMS ENTERTAINMENT CONCERT

Member Asking: Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce (ag)

According to the Stabroek News of Thursday, 18th October, 2012, the Government of Guyana announced through Minister Irfaan Ali, M.P., that it will be giving tax breaks to the organisers of a Hits and Jams Entertainment Concert to be held in December in Guyana.

Will the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce (ag.):

- (i) Provide this House with an authoritative report on the extent of the Government's financial and other support involved in supporting the concert and Mr. Brown's participation in it?
- (ii) Say how much support to such concerts have cost the taxpayer in terms of revenue foregone and other benefits since June, 2012?
- (iii) From what quarter will support other than the tax break be provided?

- (iv) On the basis of what reputable estimate has he announced that many foreign visitors are expected to come to Guyana only to attend the concert?
- (v) What criteria has the PPP Government been using in deciding on whether to extend financial support to the organisers of such events?
- (vi) Were they the same criteria applied to exclude Sizzla, Bounty Killer, Vibes Cartel and Movado?
- (vii) What inputs have the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Minister of Human Services and Social Security had in this decision?

(Notice Paper No.116 (Q 67 Opp. 66) published on 2012-12-14)

Answers:

- (i) The Government merely endorsed the concert. No financial resources were expended in supporting this concert or Mr. Brown's participation in it.
- (ii) The Government has established principles governing tax breaks granted to promoters and entertainers for big events during the months of February, August and December. We do not conceive these tax breaks as revenue forgone primarily because it is one of the fundamental reasons why established promoters and entertainers would host mega concerts. In fact, we are of the steadfast believed that this policy initiative is having a positive economic spin off for all stakeholders' involved.
- (iii) The government only offers tax breaks.

(iv) A normative approach and the theory of reasoned action were taken into consideration in concluding that many foreign visitors would attend. Additionally, Chris Brown has fans worldwide and was certified double platinum by the Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA). Double platinum means that Chris Brown has sold over 2 million copies of albums.

Estimates received from local hotels showed that more than 700 hotel rooms were booked for a period of four nights directly associated with the Chris Brown Concert.

(v) We have established periods for tax breaks. Entertainers and Promoters would formally solicit waiver of taxes, for a particular mega concert, from the relevant Minister who subsequently gives his/her recommendation, based on his judgment, on whether the promoter or entertainer should be granted same. GRA will grant the exemption of taxes with the consent or no objection of the Minister of Finance.

The period selected are carefully considered to stimulate visitor arrival and add international flavor to the menu of activities available to tourists and locals during these periods.

- (vi) The Ministry does not have any criterion that excludes anyone. As a matter of fact, only recently Movado performed at a major concert in Guyana.
- (vii) The concert in question was a Private Sector activity endorsed by the Ministry of Tourism, Industry and Commerce. Moreover, the Ministry would consult with all relevant agencies to ensure that full consideration is given prior to an endorsement.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

Presentation and First Readings

1. CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 2/2013

The Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Customs Act.

2. LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 3/2013

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Local Authorities (Elections) Act to provide for the postponement of elections of councillors of local democratic organs.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) **GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS**

MOTION

<u>ITEM 1</u> - <u>CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 6/2012</u>

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Minister of Finance signified the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 6/2012 – Supplementary Estimates (Capital) totalling \$2,000,000,000 – Advances made from the Contingencies Fund for the period 18th December, 2012 to 31st December, 2012.

(Notice Paper No. 121 (M 54 Govt. 21) published on 2013-01-04)

(Paper presented on 2013-01-03)

Item 1 – Agency Code 21-211, Ministry of Agriculture – Ministry Administration – Chart of Account 1301600, National Drainage and Irrigation Authority, was <u>put</u> and <u>carried</u> on the following division:

<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>FOR</u>	
Ms Ferguson	Mr. T. Williams	Mr. Jafarally
Mr. Morian	Ms Marcello	Mr. Damon
Mr. Allen	Mrs. Garrido-Lowe	Dr. Persaud
Mr. Jones	Mrs. Hughes	Rev. Gilbert
Mr. Adams	Mr. Nagamootoo	Dr. Mahadeo
Ms Baveghems	Mr. Ramjattan	Mr. Seeraj
Mr. Sharma		Mr. Neendkumar
Mr. Bulkan		Mr. Lumumba
Mr. Bond		Mr. Chand
Ms Kissoon		Ms Shaddick
Mr. Trotman		Mr. Nadir
Ms Selman		Ms Teixeira
Mr. Allicock		Bishop Edghill
Ms Wade		Mr. Whittaker
Mr. Felix		Mr. Baksh
Ms Hastings	ľ	Mrs. Campbell-Sukhai
Mr. Scott		Ms Webster

Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Harmon	Mr. G. Persaud
Mr. Greenidge	Mr. Benn
Mrs. Backer	Dr. Anthony
Dr. Norton	Mr. Ali
Mrs. Lawrence	Dr. Ramsarran
Mr. B. Williams	Dr. Westford
Ms Ally	Mr. R. Persaud
Dr. Roopnarine	Dr. Singh
Brig. (Ret'd) Granger	Mr. Nandlall
	Dr. Ramsammy
	Mr. Rohee
	Mr. Hinds
26	36

While the Assembly was considering Item 2 – Agency Code No. 45-451, Ministry of Housing and Water, the Assembly was suspended.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.25 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The Assembly continued and concluded consideration of Item 2 – Agency Code No. 45-451, Ministry of Housing and Water, which was thereafter <u>put</u> and <u>carried</u>.

After consideration of the Schedule, the motion was <u>put</u> and <u>carried</u>.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly doth agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

RESOLVED,

Financial Paper No. 6/2012 – Supplementary Estimates (Capital) totalling \$2,000,000,000 – Advances made from the Contingencies Fund for the period 18th December, 2012 to 31st December, 2012.

BILLS – First, Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 - SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (NO. 3 FOR 2012) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 1/2013 published on 2013-01-03

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Standing Orders Nos. 13(n) and 54 were suspended to enable the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3 for 2012) Bill No. 1/2013 to be introduced at that stage.

The Minister of Finance, in accordance with paragraph (2) of Article 171 of the Constitution, signified Cabinet's recommendation for the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3 for 2012) Bill No. 1/2013 for consideration by the National Assembly.

Thereafter, on motions by the Minister of Finance, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u>:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31st December, 2012, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of those sums for the specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

Bills – Second Readings

<u>ITEM 3</u> - <u>TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL 2012 – Bill No. 18/2012 published on 2012-08-09</u>

At the request of the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs the second reading of the following Bill was <u>deferred</u>:

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)

ITEM 4 - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 - Bill No. 17/2012 published on 2012-08-09

At the request of the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs the second reading of the following Bill was <u>deferred</u>:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Public Utilities Commission Act.

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

(i) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

BILLS - Second Reading

<u>ITEM 5</u> - <u>FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (AMENDMENT) BILL</u> 2012 - No. 24/2012 published on 2012-12-18

Mr. Carl Greenidge, M.P., moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Fiscal Management and Accountability Act 2003.

(Read a first time on 2012-12-17)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan

Mr. Basil Williams

The Minister of Finance

Thereafter Mr. Carl Greenidge replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Thereafter the Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2

The following amendment by Mr. Carl Greendige was put and carried:

Clause 2(a):-

"Delete the words 'The Judicial Service Commission".

Clause 2 was then passed as amended.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by Mr. Carl Greendige, M.P., the Fiscal Management and Accountability (Amendment) Bill 2012 was read a third time and passed as amended.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.55 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 7.44 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

MOTIONS

<u>ITEM 6</u> - <u>FORMER PRESIDENTS (BENEFIT AND OTHER FACILITIES) BILL 2012</u> - Bill No. 29/2012

Mr. Carl Greenidge, M.P., moved 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 Former President (Benefit and Other Facilities) Bill 2012 – Bill No. 29/2012 –

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide benefits and other facilities for Former Presidents.

(Notice Paper No. 114 (M49 Opp 30) published on 2012-12-12)

Ms Gail Teixeira spoke to the motion.

Thereafter Mr. Carl Greenidge replied.

The motion seeking leave of the Assembly to have the Bill be read a first time was <u>put</u> and <u>carried</u> on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. T. Williams	Mr. Jafarally
Ms Marcello	Mr. Damon
Dr. Ramayya	Dr. Persaud
Mrs. Garrido-Lowe	Rev. Gilbert
Mrs. Hughes	Dr. Mahadeo
Mr. Nagamootoo	Mr. Seeraj
Mr. Ramjattan	Mr. Neendkumar
Ms Ferguson	Mr. Lumumba
Mr. Morian	Mr. Chand
Mr. Allen	Ms Shaddick
Mr. Jones	Mr. Nadir
Mr. Adams	Ms Teixeira
Ms Baveghems	Bishop Edghill
Mr. Sharma	Mr. Whittaker
Mr. Bulkan	Mr. Baksh
Mr. Bond	Mrs. Campbell-Sukhai
Ms Kissoon	Ms Webster
Mr. Trotman	Mr. G. Persaud
Ms Selman	Mr. Benn

Mr. Allicock	Dr. Anthony
Ms Wade	Mr. Ali
Mr. Felix	Dr. Ramsarran
Ms Hastings	Dr. Westford
Mr. Scott	Dr. Singh
Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Harmon	Mr. Nandlall
Mr. Greenidge	Dr. Ramsammy
Mrs. Backer	Mr. Rohee
Dr. Norton	Mr. Hinds
Mrs. Lawrence	
Mr. B. Williams	
Ms Ally	
Dr. Roopnarine	
Brig.(Ret'd) Granger	
33	29

Thereafter leave was granted and the Clerk read aloud the title of the Bill.

ITEM 7 - THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENCE OF CRIMINAL VIOLENCE FROM 2004 TO 2010 IN GUYANA

At the request of Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, consideration of the following motion was <u>deferred</u>:

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 killings 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)

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

MOTION

ITEM 8 - ADOPTION OF THE SECOND REPORT OF THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE

Ms Amna Ally, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip, moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the second Report of the Standing Orders Committee be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 120 (M 53 Opp. 31) published on 2012-12-17)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Ms Gail Teixeira

Mr. Moses Nagamootoo

Thereafter, Ms Amna Ally replied.

The motion was the put and carried.

Greetings to the Chinese Immigrants

Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, extended greetings to the Chinese Immigrants on the 160th anniversary of their arrival in British Guiana.

The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs joined the Leader of the Opposition in extending Greetings to the Chinese Immigrants.

Youman Nabi Greetings

The Speaker extended Youman Nabi Greetings to all Muslim brothers and sisters in Guyana. The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Brig. (Ret.'d) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, joined the Speaker in extending Youman Nabi Greetings to all Muslim brothers and sisters in Guyana.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9.12 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Friday, 25th January, 2013.

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HON. RAPHAEL G.C. TROTMAN, M.P.,

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

10th January, 2013.