

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 39<sup>TH</sup> 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, 14<sup>TH</sup> MARCH, 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

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

2.

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 (Absent – on leave)

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

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. (Absent – on leave)

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

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

**\*Non-Elected Minister**

3.

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**

4.

Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

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. Bulkan, 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.

5.

**(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 2.32 p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read the prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

The Speaker of the National Assembly made the following announcements:

“Firstly, I am in receipt of National Day message from his Excellency, the Speaker of the National Assembly of Kuwait, his Parliament and the people of Kuwait congratulating Guyana on its Republic Day celebrations. I have also received a similar message from the President of

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the Senate of Canada congratulating the Parliament and people of Guyana on the Observance of our Republic Anniversary.

Hon. Members, on the last occasion during the 38<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly, I called the sitting to an end following what, in my opinion, had become intolerable behaviour and remarks. Remarks such as ‘thief’, ‘liar’ and ‘prostitute’ were just a few of the ones most audible; at least that I heard. In addition there was what I considered to be open disdain, disgust and disrespect being shown by Members to each other and even to the Chair.

We are all reminded, including myself, that we are elected officials – servants and stewards of the people’s trust and their aspirations. The people are not only expecting a more fruitful, workable and honourable National Assembly in this 10<sup>th</sup> Parliament, I believe that they are entitled to it. I am not excluding myself, as I said, from this and so for my part I want to apologise to anyone and to everyone that I might have offended during the previous sitting. There are far too many statements and actions of intolerance in our society, coming from as far away as Babu John to Marudi Mountain and we, representing the apex of leadership in this country, must deliver a higher level of behaviour and governance.

My third announcement is that by way of a letter dated 4<sup>th</sup> March I wrote to the Clerk to set today’s date for a sitting. I did so, under what I believe are my powers, particularly under Standing Order 47 (9) where if the Assembly is adjourned or suspended by the Speaker of the National Assembly he may name a time for the resumption of that sitting. Admittedly, there was a difference of opinion expressed to me by the Clerk and today, just a few hours ago, I also received a letter of protest from the Government’s Chief Whip, challenging my decision to convene this sitting. I believe that it is important for us to resume after a month’s hiatus and to put our House back into order before the much anticipated Budget Debates commence within a few weeks.

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Also by way of announcement, I have on behalf of the entire National Assembly, expressed condolences on the tragic passing of President Hugo Raphael Chavez Frias in a letter sent to the Speaker of the National Assembly of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela, Mr. Diosdado Cabello. Hon. Members I wish to remind you all, as I am sure that some of you have been invited, that there is a memorial service being held for the Late President today at 5.00 p.m. at the Cathedral of the Immaculate Conception. Members may wish to attend if they feel the need to.

A letter of congratulation has also been sent to Cde. Zhang Dejiang who was elected Chairman of the 12<sup>th</sup> National People's Congress Standing Committee on yesterday's date; this is one of China's top legislature. Born in 1946, Cde. Zhang Dejiang is a Member of the Standing Committee of the Political Bureau of the Communist Party of China and of their Central Committee.

Hon. Members, in Observance of Commonwealth Day 2013, the National Assembly held a number of activities to commemorate that day which was observed on Monday last, 11<sup>th</sup> March. The Commonwealth of Nations is a voluntary association of 54 countries with 170 Parliaments and Assemblies within its Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. This year's theme was "Opportunity Through Enterprise". The initiatives organised by the Guyana Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association were many and they included, firstly, a simple handing over ceremony of books and material, which were handed over by the British High Commissioner, His Excellency Mr. Andrew Ayre, who made a presentation on behalf of the United Kingdom, House of Commons. The delegation that visited last year was shown this pile of books and we were promised that they would be delivered and so we thank the Parliament of the United Kingdom for their books. This afternoon I will have them shared out between the parties.

8.

A tour of several schools was also organised – Ketley Primary School, Smith’s Memorial Primary School, St. Sidwell Primary School, Sophia Special School, St. Stanislaus Collage, St. Mary’s Secondary School, Central High School and the Kurukuru Training Centre on the Soesdyke-Linden Highway.

We also had a debate held in this very Chamber which was organised in partnership with the Commonwealth Youth Programme and the University of Guyana to debate the moot, and I quote “The movement of skilled labour from several Regional Commonwealth Territories to developed countries is cause for great concern. Governments in Regional Commonwealth Territories do not have enough conditions in place to curb this problem.” We had a lively debate and at the end of which Mr. Michael Xavier of the Faculty of Law was adjudged the most outstanding and best speaker and the competing Faculties of the University of Guyana were the School of Education and Humanities which competed against the Faculty of Law. The Faculty of Law won the debate.

On the evening of the 11<sup>th</sup> March, on Monday, there was also an evening of music, food, dance and drinks celebrating the rich diversity of the Commonwealth. This was held at the Umana Yana and was well attended. Everyone thoroughly enjoyed it.

Finally and most recently, at about 1.55 p.m. this afternoon there was a tree-planting ceremony which was held just prior to the convening of today’s session. An almond tree was planted in the ground of the Assembly to celebrate and to honour the values of the Commonwealth which are democracy, freedom, peace, the rule of law and opportunity for all of its 2,000,000,000 people who comprise all faiths and ethnicities.

On Thursday, 7<sup>th</sup> March, as well, by way of announcement, the National Assembly, in keeping with its tradition begun last year, observed National Women’s Day with a lecture and luncheon



held at the Tower Hotel. The lecture, considered a seminal one on women's involvement in Guyana's politics, was delivered by Senior Lecturer, Ms. Cecilia McAlmont, of the University of Guyana and at the luncheon four women were recognised for their long service to the National Assembly, Ms. Gail Teixeira, Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, Mrs. Clarissa Riehl and member of staff Ms. Olga Aaron. Members will recall that last year Ms. Amna Ally and Ms. Jaitun Haniff were honoured for their long service and I wish to personally thank all those who organised these wonderful events, Mr. Isaacs and staff, and all of the Members of Parliament who participated. Tomorrow Hon. Members, the Women and Gender Equality Commission will be staging its annual exhibition here and that exhibition will be declared open at 10.00 a.m. and so I invite all Members to be a part of it. It is part of the observances for International Women's Day so we ought to support it.

I have one final announcement to make. It pertains to a ruling that I had issued on the 22<sup>nd</sup> February in which by conveying letter, I indicated that I will make the announcement accordingly. At about 12.30 p.m. today, I received a letter from Mr. Basil Williams, Member of Parliament, saying that he wishes to rise on a Point of Order before I make any announcements and to be heard and after extensive discussion in my Chamber with the Clerk present and Senior Members on both sides of the House, I have determined that my announcement is just an announcement because it is my opinion based on all of the precedents that I have seen that the Ruling has been issued and I just formally announce that I recognise the right of Minister Rohee to speak and Mr. Williams, if he wishes, may now rise on a Point of Order.”

### **Point of Order**

At 2.45 p.m., Mr. Basil Williams, M.P., rose on a point of order with respect to the sending of Brig. (Ret'd) Granger's motion on the Right of Minister Rohee to speak to the Committee of Privileges.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

By the Minister of Finance:

Compensation Agreement in the Framework of the PETROCARIBE Energy Co-operation Agreement dated December 28, 2012 between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the PDVSA Petróleo, S.A. (PDVSA) for the cancellation of the oil debt in compensation for the white rice and paddy shipments under the Guyana/Venezuela Rice Trade Agreements in the amount of US\$100,822,924.12.

(Circulated)

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

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

Minutes of Proceedings of the 7<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee of Selection held on Friday, 25<sup>th</sup> January, 2013.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Human Services and Social Security (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on Guyana's Commitment to the United Nations Human Rights Council with regard to the abolition of Corporal Punishment in the schools, the abolition of the Death Penalty and the Decriminalization of Consensual adult same sex relations and discrimination against Lesbians, Gays, Bi-Sexual and Transgender Persons):

Report of the Special Select Committee on Guyana's Commitment to the United Nations Human Rights Council with regard to the abolition of Corporal Punishment in the schools, the abolition of the Death Penalty and the Decriminalization of Consensual adult same sex relations and discrimination against Lesbians, Gays, Bi-Sexual and Transgender Persons (Resolution No. 23 of 2012).

(Circulated)

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

**1. PLACEMENT OF CYRIL POTTER COLLEGE OF EDUCATION GRADUATES**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

Could the Hon. Minister inform this House:-

- (i) Whether all the teachers who graduated from the Cyril Potter College of Education have been placed at schools across the country?
- (ii) Whether this has any effect on the rehired, retired teachers?  
(Notice Paper No.136 (Q 78 Opp. 77) published on 2013-01-31)

**Answer**

“

- (i) For the year 2012, a total of eight hundred and forty-nine (849) teachers graduated from CPCE and they were all placed in schools across the country.
- (ii) NO! retired teachers are re-employed to teach in subject areas where there are vacancies and to teach the Six Year Curriculum at the secondary level where the students are exposed to a remedial type programme during the first year.”

2. **DORMITORY ACCOMMODATION FACILITIES**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

Could the Hon. Minister:-

- (i) Identify the areas where there is need for dormitory accommodation facilities, particularly in the riverain communities?
  
- (ii) State how soon Government will put in place facilities where these are absent?

**(Notice Paper No.137 (Q 79 Opp. 78) published on 2013-01-31)**

**Answer**

“The Ministry, certainly the Planning Unit, believes that the minimum viable size for a secondary school in Guyana is an enrolment of about 250 students. It is not cost efficient or quality effective to have a secondary school that is smaller than that. Indeed, the recommendation in reports from several consultants, the Howes Report 2007 being the most recent, is that an enrolment of even 250 is too small for a secondary school. The intent is to provide equitable access by the Ministry to secondary education; hence, the Ministry is aiming at offering the full range of technical, science and general academic subjects offered by any of the Grade A schools. With small numbers, there are times when these facilities are underutilized, or not utilized at all, depending on students’ choices. More crucial is that a proliferation of small schools worsens the shortage of trained teachers in some subject areas e.g. Mathematics, Science, IT and some other technical subject areas. Educators also feel that there are benefits which are gained when the school is large enough to employ more than one teacher in a subject area. It is felt that quality improves when there is interaction /collaboration/consultation among colleagues teaching the same subject. This, of course, is not possible in a single stream school (i.e. one in which there is only one class for each grade).

The above explanation should help to explain why the Ministry does not construct a secondary school in almost every village as is the case at the primary level. Where the potential school population is too small, as is the case in most hinterland and deep riverain communities, the Ministry will build a school to serve several communities, and because some of these communities are quite distant from the location of the schools, it may not be practicable for the children to travel every day so residential facilities are provided. It should be noted that in general residential facilities are an expensive option and sometimes not the most desired option by parents and wherever possible, regions exercise the option of providing transportation for those students who can travel every day.

### **Present situation**

All secondary schools in hinterland Regions 1, 7, 8 and 9 have dormitories attached to them. There are 12 schools in these regions at the present time and later there will be another secondary school, with the construction of the school and dormitory facilities at Kato in Region 8.

There are also residential facilities in Regions 2, 4, 5, 6 and 10 which serve riverain communities.

In Region 2 there are dormitories at Anna Regina Secondary, Charity Secondary and at Wakapoa. In light of what was said above, the Ministry does not envisage the need for an additional school at this time. There may be a need eventually to expand the facilities at the existing schools.

There is no existing residential facility in Region 3 at this time but there is a proposal to construct a dormitory at Parika Salem to cater for students from communities in the Essequibo river area: Caria Caria, Great Troolie Island, Western Hogg Island, Northern Hogg Island, Fort Island, Aliko, Lanaballi, Saxacalli and Upper and Lower Bonasika. There are, of course, students

in riverain areas of 3 and 4 who can access Dora Secondary and Friendship Secondary on a daily basis.

President's College in Region 4 is a special situation in that it caters for students from all regions who qualify for placement at the school and it provides residential facilities for those who live far from the school. Some of these students are from riverain communities. Originally, St. Cuthbert's in riverain 4 had a dormitory but as numbers from other communities declined this service was no longer needed.

In Region 5 there are no residential facilities attached to a specific school but there is a hostel at Mahaicony, under Ministry of Amerindian Affairs which caters for students from the riverain communities (Karamat, Esau and Jacob, Gordon Table and Maraikobai) who are placed at Bygeval, Mahaicony and Belladrum Secondary Schools. This residential facility was expanded in 2009 to cater for 55 students but the trend in enrolment suggests that there may be need to cater for about 20 more. There is, however, an alternative suggestion from the region which is to procure a boat and transport students daily from some of the villages mentioned above.

In Region 6 there is a hostel in Springlands which caters for students from Orealla and Siparuta. Recently, a hostel has also been constructed at Orealla to cater for students from Siparuta who attend the Secondary department of Orealla Primary school. Students coming from Canje Creek, Berbice River and Upper East Bank Berbice River usually have to find accommodation in the New Amsterdam area. Some thought has been given to the construction of a dormitory in the New Amsterdam area to cater for some of these students but a full analysis of the potential need still needs to be firmly established.

In Region 10 there is a hostel managed by the Regional Administration and one at Kwakwani which comes more specifically under the Regional Education Department. These are adequate for the number of residential students at this time. In fact, the Kwakwani facility is underutilized because some parents are not comfortable with their children in dormitory facilities.”

### **3. REHIRED, RETIRED OFFICERS IN THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister list the positions of rehired, retired officers in the Ministry of Education?
- (ii) Do these officers have contractual arrangements?
- (iii) What is the duration of these contracts?

**(Notice Paper No.138 (Q 80 Opp. 79) published on 2013-01-31)**

#### **Answer**

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<b>AMOUNT</b>	<b>POSITIONS</b>	<b>STATUS</b>	<b>DURATION</b>
1	Technical Facilitator	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Administrative Assistant to Minister	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Senior Technical Officer (Accreditation)	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Chief Planning Officer	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Assistant Secretary (General)	Contract	One (1) year
1	Human Resources Manager	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Typist Clerk	Contract	One (1) year
3	Placement Officer	Contract	One (1) year
2	Senior Education Officer	Contract	One (1) year
1	Education Officer I	Contract	One (1) year
1	Head, Inspectorate Unit	Contract	Three (3) years
3	School Inspector	Contract	Three (3) years

1	School Inspector	Contract	One (1) year
2	Driver/Mechanic	Contract	One (1) year
1	Senior Schools Welfare Officer	Contract	One (1) year
1	Director, TVET	Contract	One (1) year
1	Senior TVET Officer	Contract	One (1) year
1	Coordinator, SCCP	Contract	One (1) year
1	Assistant Superintendent of Exams	Contract	One (1) year
1	Coordinator, Physical Education	Contract	One (1) year
4	Administrator	Contract	One (1) year
1	Secretary General, UNESCO	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Director, NCERD	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Head, Multi Media Centre	Contract	Three (3) years
8	Regional Literacy Coordinator	Contract	One (1) year
1	Learning Resource Development Officer	Contract	Three (3) years
1	Senior Test Development Officer	Contract	One (1) year
2	Senior Subject Specialist	Contract	One (1) year
1	Curriculum Development Officer	Contract	Three (3) years
3	Senior Lecturer	Contract	One (1) year
19	Lecturer II	Contract	One (1) year
11	Lecturer I	Contract	One (1) year
1	Equipment Operator	Contract	One (1) year
2	Cleaner	Contract	One (1) year
1	Vehicle Driver	Contract	One (1) year
2	Instructor II	Contract	One (1) year
1	Instructor III	Contract	One (1) year
1	Store Keeper I	Contract	One (1) year
1	Education Officer I	Temporary	Month to month
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#### 4. **TWENTY-FOUR HOURS SECURITY AT SCHOOLS**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

Could the Hon. Minister:-

- (i) List the schools as well as the security services where a twenty-four hour security is being provided?



- (ii) Will the remaining schools that do not enjoy this luxurious facility of security at their schools be provided with these facilities in 2013?

**(Notice Paper No.139 (Q 81 Opp. 80) published on 2013-01-31)**

**Answer**

**“Georgetown**

**Schools that Receive 24 hours Security Services**

**Nursery Schools**

**Security Companies Contracted**

1 Precious Jewels	Frank Security
2 Smyth Street	Clinton Security
3 Fraser	Martin’s Security
4 Liana	Security Services Limited
5 Alexander Village	Security Services Limited
6 Roxanne Burnham	Home Safe Security
7 St. Christopher	Security Services Limited
8 Albouystown	SAFE Security
9 South Ruimveldt	Frank Security

**Primary Schools**

10 F.E. Pollard	Inter Services Enterprise
11 Rama Krishna	Security Services Limited
12 Sophia	Glenkev Security
13 St. Gabriel’s	Security Services Limited
14 St. Ambrose	Martin’s Security
15 St. Angela’s	Security Services Limited
16 North Georgetown	Frank Security

18.

17 Stella Maris	Inter Services Enterprise
18 St. Sidwell's	Martin's Security
19 Thomas Moore	Inter Services Enterprise
20 Winfer Gardens	Clinton Security
21 Ketley	Security Services Limited
22 David Rose Handicapped	Benjamin Security
23 St. Pius	Security Services Limited
24 West Ruimveldt	SAFE Security
25 South Ruimveldt	On Guard
26 St. Barnabas	On Guard
27 Enterprise	National Security
28 Tucville	On Guard
29 East La Penitence	Security Services Limited
30 Agricola	Clinton Security
31 Graham's Hall	Inter Services Enterprise

**Secondary Schools**

**Security Companies Contracted**

32 Kingston	On Guard
33 Tutorial High	National Security
34 North Georgetown	Crime Buster
35 Richard Ishmael	Crime Buster
36 St. Joseph's High	Martin Security
37 St. John's High	Home Safe Security
38 Christ Church	Clinton Security
39 Bishops' High	Instant Security
40 Central High	On Guard
41 Charlestown	Crime Buster

42 Carmel High	Home Safe Security
43 Dolphin	Crime Buster
44 Campbellville	Martin Security
45 Brickdam	Crime Buster
46 Tucville	On Guard
47 East Ruimveldt	On Guard
48 Queenstown	Home Safe Security
49 St. Winefride's	Crime Buster
50 St. George's	Crime Buster
51 North Ruimveldt Multilateral	Martin's Security
52 South Ruimveldt	Crime Buster
53 Ascension High	Crime Buster
54 St. Mary's High	SAFE Security
55 St. Stanislaus College	Fernandes
56 Houston High	Clinton Security
57 Lodge	Inter Services Enterprise
58 St. Rose's High	Home Safe Security
59 Cummings Lodge	Crime Buster

**Practical Instruction Centre (PIC)**

60 Kingston Industrial Arts	Security Services Limited
61 Sophia	Inter Services Enterprise
62 Sophia Special School	Inter Services Enterprise
63 Durban Backlands	Martin's Security

Thirty (30) schools do not have 24 hours security service. It is proposed that in 2013 these schools be given 24hrs security which will cost approximately 16,598,400.”

**5. POST OF REGISTRAR OF THE SUPREME COURT**

**Member Asking:**                      **Mr. James Bond, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:**                **The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs**

Could the Hon. Minister inform this House on the following:-

- (i) Who is the person filling the post of Registrar (a.g.) of the Supreme Court?
- (ii) What are his/her qualifications?
- (iii) Are those qualifications reposed in the said Registrar (a.g.) in keeping with the requirements of the Act?
- (iv) Who was the person who performed such functions preceding the appointment of the current Registrar (a.g.)?
- (v) What are the qualifications of that person?
- (vi) Were those qualifications reposed in the previous Registrar (a.g.) in keeping with the requirements of the Act?

**(Notice Paper No.140 (Q 82 Opp. 81) published on 2013-01-31)**

**Answers:**

“Article 199(1) of the Constitution of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana vests in the Judicial Service Commission, the authority to appoint persons to the offices to which Article 199 relates. Article 199(3) of the Constitution sets out a non-exhaustive list of offices to which Article 199 relates. These expressly include:

- Registrar of the High Court; and
- Deputy Registrar of the High Court.

The posts of Registrar and Deputy Registrar of the Supreme Court were created by Parliament and the requisite job descriptions and qualifications of such posts are designated by the Public Service Minister. A copy of the said job description is hereto attached and marked 'A1' and 'A2'. **See Appendix**

As Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, I will answer the questions posed by the Honourable Member of Parliament, Mr. Bond. These answers are within my personal knowledge, save where based on information or are available to me from records of the Public Service Ministry.

- (i) Mr. Rasheed Mohamed, a retired, re-employed employee, currently holds the post of Registrar (ag.) of the Supreme Court of Judicature. He was appointed by the Judicial Service Commission.
- (ii) I am informed that Mr. Mohammed has three (3) General Certificate of Education (GCE) subjects.
- (iii) There is no legislation which prescribes any qualifications for the post of Registrar of the Supreme Court -that is contained in the Job Description provided by the Public Service Ministry. In keeping with the Job Description issued by the Public Service Ministry, those qualifications are not reposed in the current holder of the Office of the Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature (ag.).
- (iv) Immediately preceding the appointment of Mr. Mohamed, the post of Registrar of the Supreme Court of Judicature was vacant. I am informed that Ms Bibi Ali was appointed by the Judicial Service Commission to fill the vacant post of Deputy Registrar. She was subsequently appointed by the Judicial Service Commission to act as Registrar.

- (v) I am informed that Ms Ali is a qualified Attorney-At-Law admitted to practice before the Guyana Bar on the 5<sup>th</sup> November, 2004.
- (vi) As stated before, there is no legislation which prescribes any qualifications for the post of Registrar of the Supreme Court. That is contained in the Job Description provided by the Public Service Ministry. The holder of the post must have a Bachelor of Laws Degree along with the Legal Education Certificate plus ten (10) years experience in the Supreme Court Registry.

I am informed that Ms Ali possessed the qualifications, but lacked the experience.”

#### **6. NOTE-TAKING BY JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES**

**Member Asking:** Mr. James Bond, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Could the Hon. Minister inform this House when will the arduous task of copious note-taking by our Judges and Magistrates be replaced by stenographers and/or voice compilation equipment?

**(Notice Paper No.141 (Q 83 Opp. 82) published on 2013-01-31)**

**Answer:**

“I am informed by the Honourable Chancellor and Chairman of the Judicial Service Commission that:

“The Judiciary is in receipt of used recording equipment (which are in good condition) from the British High Commission in Georgetown. Technical assistance is being sought to install the equipment and to test its functionality.” ”

**7. ASSIGNMENT OF RESEARCH CLERKS TO JUDGES AND MAGISTRATES**

**Member Asking:**                    **Mr. James Bond, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:**            **The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs**

Could the Hon. Minister inform this House whether Judges and Magistrates will be assigned Research Clerks?

**(Notice Paper No.142 (Q 84 Opp. 83) published on 2013-01-31)**

**Answer:**

“I am informed by the Honourable Chancellor and Chairman of the Judicial Service Commission that:

“the post of Research Clerk within the structure of the Supreme Court does not exist. Appointment or assignment is usually made to established posts.” ”

**8. MAKING COURTS SOUND-PROOF**

**Member Asking:**                    **Mr. James Bond, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:**            **The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs**

Could the Hon. Minister inform this House which of our Courts are sound-proof and which ones will be made sound-proof?

**(Notice Paper No.143 (Q 85 Opp. 84) published on 2013-01-31)**

**Answer:**

“I am informed by the Honourable Chancellor and Chairman of the Judicial Service Commission that:

“No Court in Guyana is sound-proof, though sound proofing of Courts would be a welcome albeit costly intervention. The Judiciary has not budgeted for sound proofing of the Courts.” ”

9. **APPOINTMENT OF AN OMBUDSMAN**

**Member Asking:**                      **Mr. James Bond, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:**                **The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs**

- (i)      Could the Hon. Minister inform this House how long the Republic of Guyana has been without an Ombudsman?
- (ii)     What are the circumstances responsible for the non-appointment of an Ombudsman?
- (iii)    Is the Hon. Minister taking any positive measures to remove those circumstances?
- (iv)    If he is, what are the measures being employed by him to remove those circumstances?
- (v)    If the Hon. Minister is not employing any measures to remove those circumstances, does he have a good and proper reason for his inaction?

**(Notice Paper No.144 (Q 86 Opp. 85) published on 2013-01-31)**

**Answers:**

- “(i)     Since the retirement of Justice Sheik Mohamed in 2005, the Republic of Guyana has been without an Ombudsman.
- (ii)     Article 191(1) of the Constitution of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana sets out the procedure to be used in appointing the Ombudsman. Article 191(1) states:



“That the Ombudsman shall be appointed by the President acting after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition.”

- (iii) His Excellency The President has held consultations with the Leader of the Opposition.
- (iv) Steps are actively being taken to fill this vacancy.”

#### **10. UNEMPLOYMENT AMONGST THE YOUTHS IN GUYANA**

**Member Asking:** Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Labour

Could the Hon. Minister of Labour inform this House what analysis has been made by his Ministry of the special factors contributing to increasing unemployment amongst the youth population in Guyana with specific emphasis on rural dwellers?

**(Notice Paper No.146 (Q 88 Opp. 87) published on 2013-02-05)**

**Answer:**

“Over the years, this Ministry has continued to monitor the general unemployment situation and intervene/implement various programmes to assist in easing the unemployment situation as it relates to the various regions, age groups, differing abilities among others.

Some of the analysis undertaken are as follows:

- **Annual Occupational Wages Analysis** - this annual survey is conducted to analyze salaries, wages and hours of work across regions, job categories, industries by gender, based on experience/training, academic achievement amongst others. Among its findings it seeks to identify factors responsible for general unemployment, for example low wages, in order to determine the relevant changes to policy and interventions required.

## 26.

- **Child Labour Survey** - this survey is executed from time to time. The aim is in part to understand the nexus between the exploitation of child labour and its contribution to the unemployment situation among other things.
- **Skills Survey** - these are regularly conducted in order to determine which skills are becoming scarce or obsolete and plan training programs to alleviate the relevant situations in these regards.

### **Types of Factors contributing to Unemployment**

During our various surveys, we have identified various factors which contribute to our general unemployment situation. Among these factors are:

- (a) **Voluntary Unemployment** - whereby persons are unwilling to work for the prevailing wage rate or due to cultural factors, but prefer to live on remittances, etc.
- (b) **Seasonal Unemployment** - this relates to, for example, agriculture and harvesting season, catering, etc.
- (c) **Structural Unemployment** - arising from the changing pattern of demand leading to the flooding of the market and reduced demand for some products leading to some producers/vendors being unemployed.
- (d) **Casual Unemployment** - this relates to factors such as the wealth which affects work in industrial occupations in, for example, the construction field, especially for those without other types of skills.
- (e) **Chronic Unemployment** - this relates to long term unemployment due to underutilisation of resources/raw material arising from globalisation, for example, some industries which produce for export.
- (f) **Technological Unemployment** - whereby improved technology led to reduced need for skills, for example, as in Cement mixing, Sugar Industry, etc.
- (g) **Disguised Unemployment** - where persons work for payment in kind, or work in low skill jobs to prevent being unemployed.

(h) **Frictional** - this is a temporary situation, where one might be suspended or on strike, etc.

### **Factors Contributing to Youth Unemployment in the Rural Areas**

However, unemployment relates to a situation whereby jobseekers are actively looking for work, but not finding same.

For the youths in the rural areas, we have factors such as:

1. Lack of requisite education, skill and experience - resulting from youths dropping out of schools due to distance from school, less qualified teachers discouraging school attendance, to seek income generating activities to supplement family income. To this end, training is being conducted to correct the shortage of skills in mining industry. Also, to help reduce numbers of work permits being issued to alleviate shortage of skills in various areas.
2. Seasonal Employment - this is evident in the agricultural industry. This Ministry conducts training programs to ease this problem.
3. Most of the businesses are based in the cities - many businesses are moving sub-agencies to various regions.
4. High cost of travelling to get to work in some rural areas.

By and large, the Central Recruitment and Manpower Agency has reported a drastic reduction in applications from young persons seeking employment. We will continue to monitor the situation and intend to establish Regional Offices for the Central Recruitment and Manpower Agency with a view to capturing the attention of the unemployed young persons.”

**11. POLICIES AND PROGRAMMES TO REDUCE UNEMPLOYMENT IN  
GUYANA**

**Member Asking:** Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Labour

Could the Hon. Minister of Labour say to this House what policies and programmes are being formulated to reduce unemployment in Guyana and the timeline for the implementation of those policies and programmes?

**(Notice Paper No.147 (Q 89 Opp. 88) published on 2013-02-05)**

**Answer:**

“Before the execution of the National Training Project Youth Empowerment, the Board of Industrial Training looked at the Labour market trend vacancies publicised, as well as discussions with employers to secure training attachment for the trainees in the various Regions. Information from the Statistical Unit also was an indication in developing programmes for example, the recent survey in the Mining sector. In summation, the strategy was to train those skills that were in demand.

- A significant number of the out-of-school youths who were unemployed was due to the lack of the requisite competence demanded by employers.
- The excessive wage demands of a lot of youths were another factor, they prefer to speculate.

One of the measures to combat unemployment is the GOG expansion of the vocational training opportunities. This did not only target youths but also adults.

The National Training Project for Youth Empowerment now has a budget in excess of \$M120 dollars, to facilitate training for out-of-school and unemployed youths. The concept is that the skills acquired will make them more marketable or improve their job prospective. The NTPYE

registered 1302 trainees in 2012. A total of 977 trainees graduated and another 184 would complete training in March, 2013.

There is also the Single Parent training project which registered a total of 408 persons for training in 2012. This programme received funding in the sum of \$M25 dollars. Both programmes are executed across the various Regions or rural areas.

Since the Government of Guyana cannot find jobs for everyone; hence these programmes have fashioned with modules in entrepreneurial training, so that the graduates can form themselves in groups and start their own small business. The Ministry has been engaging the Co-ops Officers in the Regions to deliver discourse or discussions on co-operatives as well.

The table below will give an indication of the number of persons trained under the Board of Industrial Training sponsored programs:

#### **Apprenticeship**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>total</b>
2008	48	2	50
2009	73	3	76
2010	51	0	51
2011	69	3	72
2012	62	2	64
		<b>Total over 5 years</b>	<b>249</b>

**National Training Project for Youth Empowerment**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>total</b>
2008	230	341	571
2009	449	694	1143
2010	912	1135	2047
2011	734	1261	1995
2012	447	855	1302
	Total over 5 years		<b>7058</b>

**Single Parent Training**

<b>Year</b>	<b>Male</b>	<b>Female</b>	<b>Total</b>
2009	1	256	257
2010	1	185	186
2011	1	422	423
2012	2	406	408
	Total over 5 years		<b>1274”</b>

**12. IMPACT OF THE ‘NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND POLICY’**

**Member Asking:** Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

Could the Hon. Minister of Education inform this House whether an evaluation has been conducted to ascertain the impact of the ‘No Child left behind Policy’ on the delivery of education in Guyana.

**(Notice Paper No.148 (Q 90 Opp. 89) published on 2013-02-05)**

The Minister of Education did not pass copies of the answer to the above question to the Clerk of the National Assembly for circulation to Members at that sitting as required by Standing Order No. 22(4).

13. **ASSESSMENT OF THE 'NO CHILD LEFT BEHIND POLICY'**

**Member Asking:** Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

Could the Hon. Minister of Education inform this House whether the Hon. Minister considers an assessment of the 'No Child left behind Policy' a necessity in relation to the improvement of the quality of education delivery in Guyana?

**(Notice Paper No.149 (Q 91 Opp. 90) published on 2013-02-05)**

The Minister of Education did not pass copies of the answer to the above question to the Clerk of the National Assembly for circulation to Members at that sitting as required by Standing Order No. 22(4).

14. **INFRASTRUCTURAL WORKS AT AMELIA'S WARD**

**Member Asking:** Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Housing and Water

Could the Hon. Minister of Housing and Water inform this House why infrastructural works ceased in Phase 2 in Amelia's Ward and Phase 3 has commenced in the same area?

**(Notice Paper No.150 (Q 92 Opp. 91) published on 2013-02-05)**

**Answer:**

“Infrastructural works in the Amelia’s Ward, Ph 2 area never ceased; the area is one of the selected schemes for upgrade of infrastructure under the GOG/IDB Second Low Income Settlement Programme and in this regard, the Central Housing and Planning Authority was required to prepare an Engineering Design Report for submission to the Inter-American Development Bank, as part of the usual procurement process. A site visit was conducted by CHPA Engineers and Mr. Orin Gordon, the Chairman of the IMC Linden Town Council for the roads to be selected for paving, in keeping with CHPA’s participatory approach with the involvement of stakeholders. This information was incorporated into the design report and the report submitted to the Bank for its no objection.

As of Saturday, February 16, 2013, the tender for this project was published and is scheduled to be opened on Tuesday, March 19, 2013.

Works were given priority in the Phase 3 area in response to the demand for lots in Region #10. To date, the works in Phase 3 are approximately 90% completed. The main access roads are completed with asphaltic concrete surfaces and the tertiary roads are completed with crusher run and laterite/white sand surface.”

**15. GUYANA-CHINA US\$130 MILLION LOAN AGREEMENT FOR THE CHEDDI JAGAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT EXPANSION**

**Member Asking:**                      **Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P.,**  
**Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

**Minister Answering:**              **The Minister of Finance**

Would the Hon. Minister be kind enough to lay in the National Assembly the Guyana-China US\$130 Million loan agreement for the Cheddi Jagan International Airport expansion signed on or around the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2012, between the Government of Guyana and the People’s Republic of China?

**(Notice Paper No.153 (Q 95 Opp 93) published on 2013-02-06)**



**Answer:**

“The Loan Agreement in question was tabled in the National Assembly by the Minister of Finance on 7<sup>th</sup> February, 2013.”

16. **GY\$998.0 MILLION ON ECONOMIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT**

**Member Asking:**                      **Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P.,**  
**Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

**Minister Answering:**                **The Minister of Finance**

Would the Hon. Minister be kind enough to lay in the National Assembly the GY\$998.0 Million on Economic and Technical Co-operation Agreement signed on or around the 28<sup>th</sup> December, 2012 between the Government of Guyana and the People’s Republic of China?

**(Notice Paper No.154 (Q 96 Opp 94) published on 2013-02-06)**

**Answer:**

“Such technical cooperation agreements are not routinely tabled in the National Assembly, unlike loan agreements which are tabled in accordance with statutory prescription. Nevertheless, the Minister of Finance has made available a copy of the agreement to the Deputy Speaker.”

**17. THREE CO-OPERATION AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF CUBA**

**Member Asking:**                    **Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P.,**  
**Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

**Minister Answering:**            **The Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Would the Hon. Minister be kind enough to lay in the National Assembly the three Co-operation Agreements signed between the Government of Guyana and the Government of Cuba on or around the 19<sup>th</sup> October, 2012?

**(Notice Paper No.155 (Q 97 Opp 95) published on 2013-02-06)**

**Answer:**

“The Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs wishes to lay in the National Assembly the following two Agreements, which were signed in Cuba on the 18<sup>th</sup> day of October, 2012 between the Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the Government of the Republic of Cuba:

(i) Sports Cooperation Agreement between the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the National Institute of Sports, Physical Education and Recreation of the Republic of Cuba;

(ii) Agreement of Cooperation between the Ministry of Health of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the Ministry of Public Health of the Republic of Cuba.

The third Agreement concerns the Reciprocal Exemption of Visa Requirements for Holders of Diplomatic, Official and Service Passports.”

**See attached copies of Cooperation Agreements**

**18. AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES**

**Member Asking:**                    **Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P.,**  
**Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

**Minister Answering:**            **The Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Will the Hon. Minister be kind enough to present to the National Assembly the two below stated Agreements signed between the Government of Guyana and the Government of the United States of America on or around the 1<sup>st</sup> day of February, 2013 and if so, when?

- (i) The Caribbean Basin Security Initiative Agreement; and
- (ii) The Cooperative Sensor Information Integration Agreement.

**(Notice Paper No.156 (Q 98 Opp 96) published on 2013-02-06)**

**Answer:**

“Two Agreements were signed between the Government of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the Government of the United States of America on the 1<sup>st</sup> February, 2013 as follows:

- (i) Modification/Amendment two to the Letter of Agreement of Narcotics Control and Law Enforcement of April 8, 2011; and
- (ii) Coordinating Arrangement between the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the US Government concerning the Cooperative Sensor and Information Integration Program.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs hereby presents the two Agreements to the National Assembly.”

**See attached the two Agreements.**

19. **TELEVISION CHANNELS AND RADIO FREQUENCIES IN GUYANA**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

- (i) Can the Hon. Prime Minister say which channels and radio frequencies have been allocated for television and radio broadcast in Guyana?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Prime Minister provide the names of the Individuals, Companies including their Directors, or Entities that have been allocated or are using each allocated frequency/channel and the numeric frequency/channel assigned from 1992 to 2012?
- (iii) Can the Hon. Prime Minister also state the date of granting of the licence for each of the frequencies/channels assigned?
- (iv) Can the Hon. Prime Minister say which frequencies are currently available for television and radio broadcast?

**(Notice Paper No.157 (Q 99 Opp 97) published on 2013-02-06)**

**Answers:**

**“Background**

Prior to and during 1992, licensing of TV broadcasting stations was not done in a very structured manner. While some broadcasters were granted licenses, by the then Minister, to broadcast (Vieira Communications Ltd., Rex Mckay, Guyana Television Corporation, H.G.P. Television & Sound Studios, Noel Blackman, Stardust Ltd), others simply made a payment of forty thousand

dollars to the General Post Office, for and commenced broadcasting on what we think was a misapplication of the Broadcasting Receiving Set Licence, issued under the Post and Telegraph Act Chapter 47:01. This latter approach occurred during 1992 and sometime after. There was later acknowledgement and receipt of licence fees by the NFMU.

Records of when what frequency was actually assigned in the period 1992-2001, just prior to when the television broadcasting sector was regularized, may not have been properly maintained. As such, accurate dates may not be possible. However from 2001 onwards, records are more reflective of what transpired.

One or two TV stations in the interior have not been captured in previous exercises. These will be addressed in the current new dispensation as set out by the Broadcasting Act 2011. In daily use the words allocation and assignment are used interchangeably, but in the language of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), they have specific meanings as set out below:

*allocation* (of a frequency band): Entry in the Table of Frequency Allocations of a given frequency band for the purpose of its use by one or more terrestrial or space *radio communication services* or the *radio astronomy service* under specified conditions. This term shall also be applied to the frequency band concerned.

Frequency *allocations* are reviewed internationally at ITU World Radio Conferences every three to four years. Allocations for frequency bands are synchronized either globally or regionally. Guyana is part of Region two, the Americas Region. At the national level, frequency allocations are expected to be synchronized as much as possible with the Regional allocations. Any departure from the Regional allocations would not enjoy protection if any interference occurs with another country.

*Assignment* (of a radio frequency or radio frequency channel): Authorization given by an administration for a radio *station* to use a radio frequency or radio frequency channel under specified conditions. Radio is a general term applied to the use of radio waves (electromagnetic waves of frequencies arbitrarily lower than 3000 GHz, propagated in space without artificial guide) and includes sound and television broadcasts.

According to the Broadcasting Act 2011, broadcasting has the meaning as set out below:

*Broadcasting* means the transmission of any programme whether or not encrypted and whether or not actually received, by wired or wireless medium or technology for reception by all or part of the general public, but does not include telecommunications.

This does not include point to point links (link), two-way radio and other transmissions.

Regarding the principals of the Companies that have been granted permission to broadcast, the Deeds Registry would have the most accurate information.

Licensing in the Broadcasting Sector in Guyana is in a state of transition. This is a direct result of the Broadcasting Act 2011 becoming effective on August 28, 2012. Applications for Licences to Broadcast (Sound and Television) are currently being accepted for processing by the Guyana National Broadcasting Authority (GNBA).

Given that this exercise is still taking place, the answers to **questions (ii) and (iii)** are subject to change.

It is expected that information pertaining to licences granted by the GNBA would be published.

- i) While the frequency bands identified in Table 1 below have been allocated for Broadcasting services, some of them have also been allocated for other services on a Primary basis, such as Fixed and Mobile. As such, all of the bands would not be used exclusively for the Broadcasting services. Additionally, some of the frequencies within a band may not be used for Broadcasting services. Given that Guyana is a user (rather than a manufacturer) of technology, usage of frequencies are also informed by global and regional trends.

**Table 1**

<b>Frequency Bands Allocated for Broadcasting Services (sound and television)</b>
525 – 1,705 kHz
2,300 – 2,495 kHz
3,200 – 3,400 kHz
4,750 – 4,995 kHz
5,005 – 5,060 kHz
5,900 – 6,200 kHz
7,300 – 7,400 kHz
9,400 - 9,900 kHz
11,600 – 12,100 kHz
13,570 – 13,870 kHz
15,100 – 15,800 kHz
17,480 – 17,900 kHz
18,900 – 19,020 kHz
21,450 – 21,850 kHz
25,670 – 26,100 kHz
58 - 72 MHz
76 - 88 MHz
88 – 108 MHz
174-216 MHz

470 – 608 MHz
614 – 698 MHz
698 – 806 MHz
806 – 890 MHz
1 452-1 492 MHz
12.2-12.7 GHz
40.5 – 42.5 GHz
74-76 GHz

(ii) & (iii)

**List of persons/entities granted permission to broadcast television signals**

<b>Name of Broadcaster</b>	<b>Broadcasting Channel(s) assigned up to Dec. 31, 2012</b>	<b>Date first permission was granted to Broadcast</b>	<b>Location of Main Broadcasting Transmitter</b>
Television Guyana Inc. Contact person Dr. Ranjisinghi Ramroop (Formerly Vieira Communications Ltd.)	Cable 'O' (28), 12, 25 (link), 35 (link)	Prior to 1992	Georgetown
National Communications Network Inc. (Formerly Guyana Television Broadcasting Company)	11 (replaced ch. 10 which was assigned earlier) 27 (replaced ch. 29 identified earlier), 8,13,15,21,25,50 (link), 40 (link)	Prior to 1992	Georgetown
Rex Mc Kay	7, 38/cable 89 (replaced ch. 6 which was assigned earlier)	Prior to 1992	Providence, EBD
Blackman & Sons, Inc. Contact person Mrs. Eve Blackman. (Formerly Noel Blackman)	9	August 18, 1992	Georgetown
STVS 4/21. Contact person Mr. Richard Sanchara (Formerly Stardust Ltd. F. Sanchara)	4, 21/cable 72 (Licence for Channel 4 has since been revoked)	September 1992	Georgetown



Mohamed Yussuf Ghanie (Tarzie) – TTS (Formerly Neville Alert)	5	September 20, 1992	Bartica
HGP TV – Omar Farouk. Contact person Nygel Fraser (formerly H.G.P. Television & Sound Studios)	16/cable 67, 23/cable 74 (secondary broadcast)	October 1, 1992	Beterverwagting, ECD
Chandranarine Sharma / Savitree Singh	6 (replaced channel 12 in 1998)	Commenced broadcasting in 1992 by paying \$40k to the GPO. Was Regularized in 1993	Georgetown
Rambarran Broadcasting Systems Ltd. Contact person Mr. Wilfred Rambarran	13	Commenced broadcasting in 1992 by paying \$40k to the GPO on June 17, 1992. NFMU invoice dated December 04, 1992	Georgetown
Rocliffe Christie	10, 17, 37(Link)	1993	New Amsterdam
Tony Rambarran	8	1994	New Amsterdam
21st Century Communications Ltd. – MBC. Contact person Ms. Narmala Shewcharan	42/cable 93	Sometime between 1993 and 1996	Georgetown
Godfrey E. Washington	2	Commenced broadcasting on April 06, 1996. Was regularized sometime between 1996 and 1999	Georgetown
Countryside TV/David Subnauth (formerly Dr. Roy W. Ibbott)	19	October 1997	Corentyne, Berbice
Multi Technology Vision (MTV). Contact person Ms. Kaminie Persaud	14/cable 65	Sometime between 1997 and March 1999	Eccles, EBD
K.A.Juman Yassin / Ahamad Rahaman	46/cable 102	August 1997	Georgetown

Brahma Prasad / Chandra Narine	5, 18/cable 69, 40 (link)	December 12, 1997	Georgetown
Alfro Alphonso	8	January 1, 1999	Charity, Essequibo
(Ministry of Education) Guyana Learning Channel.  Contact person Dr. Seeta Shaw-Roth	3, 5, 10, 24/cable 75, 29/cable 80  5	March 2011	Georgetown. Other locations include: New Amsterdam, Benab, Orealla, Linden, Bartica, Kwakwani, Mahdia, Annai, Aishalton, Lethem, Mabaruma, Port Kaituma
Ali's Broadcasting. Contact person Mr. Raymond Ali	2.5 GHz band	1997	Tain, Berbice
E-Netowrks Inc. Contact person Mr. Vishok Persaud	2.5 GHz band	December 2010	Georgetown
Quark Communications Inc. Contact person Mr. Brian Yong	2.5 GHz band	December 2010	Versailles, WBD

**List of persons/entities granted permission to broadcast Television signals via Cable**

<b>Name of Broadcaster</b>	<b>Date First permission was granted to Broadcast</b>	<b>Main Area of Operation</b>
Atlantic Cable Network. Contact person Michael Bess	2001 for a limited area (4 villages only). This was expanded to several other villages in 2007	East Bank Demerara
Infinity Telecommunications Inc. Contact person Mr. Bryan Copeland	2007	Wismar/Linden
Linden Cable Network. Contact person Mr. Gavin Bovell)	2007	McKenzie/Wismar (not currently in operation. We understand that the network is being acquired by Infinity Telecommunications Inc.)
Bartica Communications Network. Contact person Mr. Pierre Wallace	2007	Bartica

Carib Atlantic Cable Network. Contact person Mr. Khakan Ramzan	2007	Mahaicony
E3 Communications. Contact person Mr. Steve Ramsuchit	2007	Corriverton

**List of persons/entities granted permission to broadcast sound signals**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Frequencies (MHz) Assigned / identified up to December 31, 2012</b>	<b>Date permission was first granted to Broadcast</b>	<b>Location of Main Broadcasting Transmitter (All transmitters have not been established/installed as yet)</b>
National Communications Network Inc. (formerly Guyana Broadcasting Corporation). Contact person Mr. Michael Gordon	97.1, 98.1, 100.1, 102.5, 106.5 (100, 102 and 106 were replaced). (560, 700, 760, 3290, 5950)kHz	Prior to 1992	Georgetown
Radio Guyana Inc. Contact person Dr. Ranjisinghi Ramroop	89.3, 89.5, 89.7, 106.9, 107.3	November 2011	Georgetown
Telcor & Cultural Broadcasting Inc. Contact person Mr. Omar Lochan	89.7, 90.1, 91.5, 104.9, 103.3,	November 2011	Georgetown
NTN Radio. Contact person Mr. Anand Persaud	89.1	November 2011	Georgetown
New Guyana Co. Ltd. Contact person Mr Dharam Kumar Seeraj	91.1, 90.7, 90.5, 105.9, 105.3	November 2011	Georgetown
Rudolph Grant	92.1	November 2011	Georgetown
Wireless Connections. Contact person Mr. Maxwell Thom	93.1	November 2011	Georgetown
Hits & Jams Entertainment. Contact person Mr. Rawle Ferguson	94.1	November 2011	Georgetown
Alfro Alphonso & Sons Enterprise.	91.7	November 2011	Charity, Essequibo

Contact person Mr. Alfro Alphonso			
Haslyn Graham	104.3	November 2011	Linden
Little Rock Television Station. Contact person Mr. Rocliffe Christie	88.5	November 2011	New Amsterdam

iv) Determining the availability of channels for broadcasting depends on many factors. These include transmitter power and specifications, height of antenna, location of proposed transmitters.

Given the propagation characteristics of sound broadcasting signals in the medium frequency (MF) and high frequency (HF) bands, frequency availability is not based on national considerations only. International frequency usage and results of international notification and coordination are some of the considerations that would determine frequency availability. Frequency usage in the very high frequency (VHF) and ultra high frequency (UHF) bands etc., in border areas, would also be informed by coordination with neighbouring countries.

To give a rough approximation (from a radio frequency standpoint) in the Georgetown area (the area with the highest demand), at least ten (10) more channels in the VHF band (FM sound broadcasting) can be assigned. One (1) more VHF channel can be assigned for television broadcasting. In the UHF band (up to 692 MHz, channel 50), approximately five (5) channels are available for assignment for television broadcasting. Frequency availability mentioned, have not taken into account applications submitted and/or processed by the Guyana National Broadcasting Authority (GNBA) nor any change in technology/broadcasting formats. The discussion in this paragraph has been based on the traditional analogue format, however, Digital Broadcasting formats currently offered via terrestrial Broadband systems (e.g. as offered in the 2.5 GHz band) and used in real, drop-line cable as well as the Direct to Home Satellite Broadcasts (e.g. Direct TV) each has the potential for hundreds of television and sound feed programmes/channels.

45.

Digital Terrestrial Television Broadcasting (DTTB) is now common in many countries worldwide and the analogue format is expected to be brought to an end, worldwide in the not too distant future. The switch off date for analogue TV signals is June 17, 2015 for many European and African countries. Guyana would be following the transition to DTTB – a date is yet to be set.

This analogue to digital TV broadcasting switchover, while offering many benefits to viewers (including the capacity for additional television feeds/programmes), will introduce a very different scenario. The National Frequency Management Unit is currently working on this issue. Stakeholders are expected to be consulted on same in the near future.

**20. CHINA CENTRAL TELEVISION (CCTV) STATION CHANNEL 27/CABLE 78**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

- (i) Can the Hon. Prime Minister state whether NCN is receiving monetary remuneration or fees for managing the entity CCTV on behalf of the Government of China?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Prime Minister detail the procedure that was followed by NCN to obtain the relevant license for the CCTV operation and what fees were paid to the National Frequency Management Unit?

**(Notice Paper No.158 (Q 100 Opp 98) published on 2013-02-06)**

**Answers:**

“(i) NCN is not managing anything for CCTV so there is no question of fees for so doing.

(ii)there is no need for and hence was no application form and no grant of licence to CCTV.”

**21. MONEY RECEIVED FROM THE EUROPEAN UNION FOR THE YEARS 1992 – 2012**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Agriculture

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister say how much money was received from the European Union for the years 1992 – 2012 for the diversification of Guyana’s sugar industry?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister provide a list of the projects funded with the money received and how much was spent on each project?
- (iii) Can the Hon. Minister say if any money set aside by the European Union for the diversification of Guyana’s sugar industry was not accessed?
- (iv) If money set aside for the diversification of Guyana’s sugar industry was not accessed, can the Hon. Minister provide explanation(s)?

**(Notice Paper No.159 (Q 101 Opp 99) published on 2013-02-06)**

**Answers:**

“(i) Under the ‘Implementation of the Guyana National Action Plan (GNAP) on Accompanying Measures for Sugar Protocol countries affected by the Reform of the EU Sugar Regime programme, the EU has provided 91.5 M Euros over the period 2006 – 2012. The disbursements were provided as Budget Support.

The disbursements were tied to-

- General Conditions – GOG indicators, Fixed Tranches
  - Implementation of stability oriented macro-economic conditions,

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- Satisfactory Progress in the implementation of credible and pertinent reform to improve Public Financial Management,
- Satisfactory progress in the implementation of the (GNAP)

➤ Specific Conditions – GuySuco indicators, Variable Tranches

These conditions were defined each year and disbursements were made in accordance to the levels of achievement.

Receipts to date account for 78.5% of committed funds of 116.7M Euros and account for –

- 100% received on Fixed Tranche with MoF meeting all General Conditions, and
- 60% received on Variable Tranche due to Guysuco not meeting all specific conditions.

(ii)As stated above, the EU disbursements are provided under Budget Support and project specification does not feature.

The GOG has provided to Guysuco some 143.5M Euros (G\$39.6B) since 2005 to support its development and diversification programme. This amount is far in excess of the 91.5M Euros provided by the EU under GNAP to date.

The GOG provided funds for the following:

- Skeldon Sugar Modernisation Programme – G\$24.6B, (NB – 13.4B are CDB and EXIM Bank Loans, GOG direct support is 11.2B)
- Enmore Packaging Plant – G\$2.64B
- Capital programme – G\$4.0B
- Severance benefits for Diamond Sugar Workers – G\$209M
- Land Sales – G\$8.1B

- (iii) 25.1M Euros were not accessed due to unmet sugar indicators.
- (iv) The wet conditions of recent years have severely hampered field operations and yields. Targets set for land conversation to machine friendly layouts, acreage harvested via semi-mechanisation, yield, sugar production, supply of farmers cane were considered by the EU to not being met despite claims of force majeure. In some cases, achievements were just short of target.”

**22. SENIOR SECONDARY BOARD MANAGED HIGH SCHOOLS IN GUYANA**

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

**Minister Answering:**                **The Minister of Education**

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister state which Senior Secondary Board managed High Schools in Guyana are currently in receipt of an annual subvention?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister state which Senior Secondary Board managed High Schools received a subvention during the years 2005 – 2012 and how much money was allocated each year to each school?

**(Notice Paper No.160 (Q 102 Opp 100) published on 2013-02-06)**

**Answer**

“

- (i) Queen’s College and President’s College are the only Board Schools in Guyana that receive subvention.
- (ii) The schools stated above received subventions during the years 2005-2012. These allocations were as follows:



<b>Year</b>	<b>Queen's College</b>	<b>President's College</b>
2005	85,336,000	145,915,000
2006	88,340,000	150,110,000
2007	88,340,000	153,947,000
2008	88,875,000	160,402,000
2009	89,152,000	180,963,000
2010	91,521,000	185,065,000
2011	91,521,000	208,802,000
2012	96,317,000	215,608,000

**23. PAYMENT OF CLEANERS BY PARENT TEACHER'S ASSOCIATIONS (PTA)**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister explain why Parent Teacher's Associations (PTA) are being asked to pay cleaners employed at senior secondary schools?

**(Notice Paper No.161 (Q 103 Opp 101) published on 2013-02-06)**

The Minister of Education did not pass copies of the answer to the above question to the Clerk of the National Assembly for circulation to Members at that sitting as required by Standing Order No. 22(4).

**For Oral Replies**

**24. COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS**

Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P. asked the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development the following questions:

50.

- (i) \*Could the Hon. Minister inform this House why monies for Community Development Councils (CDC) do not go to the Regional Democratic Council for payments to the Councils?
- (ii) \*Could the Hon. Minister explain to this House what is the role of the Director of the Community Development Council (CDC)?
- (iii) \*Could the Hon. Minister explain to this House why staff of the CDCs have to travel from Linden to Georgetown to uplift cheques?

**(Notice Paper No.151 (Q 93 Opp. 92) published on 2013-02-05)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development replied.

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly asked the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development a supplementary question.

Thereafter, the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development replied.

**25. REHABILITATION OF THE EAST BANK BERBICE PUBLIC ROAD**

Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P. asked the Minister of Public Works the following questions:

Could the Hon. Minister of Public Works say -

- (i) \*Whether there are any plans for the rehabilitation of the East Bank Berbice Public Road?
- (ii) \*Will this commence in this year and what length of road is projected to be done in this phase?

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- (iii) \*What are the projected costs or budgetary allocation, if available, to do these works?
- (iv) \*Has there been any remedial works done in the meantime to alleviate the situation?
- (v) \*What are the costs of these works?
- (vi) \*What distance of roads will be completed?

**(Notice Paper No.152 (Q 94 PPP/C Private Member 2) published on 2013-02-06)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Public Works replied.

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P., asked the Minister of Public Works a supplementary question.

Thereafter, the Minister of Public Works replied.

## **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-**

### **Presentation and First Readings**

#### **1. EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 7/2013**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Evidence Act.

#### **2. MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 8/2013**

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

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

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

(i) **GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Readings**

**ITEM 1 - CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 2/2013 published on 2013-01-08**

At the request of the Minister of Finance the second reading of the following Bill was deferred:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Customs Act.

**(Read a first time on 2013-01-10)**

**ITEM 2 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL 2012 – Bill No. 18/2012 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 deferred:

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 3 - 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 deferred:

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

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

**ITEM 4 - FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 21/2012 published on 2012-09-04**

The Minister of Home Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Firearms Act.

**(Read a first time on 2012-10-22)**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Home Affairs replied.

The second reading of the Firearms (Amendment) Bill 2012 was put and negatived on the following division:

**AGAINST**

Mr. T. Williams

Ms Marcello

Dr. Ramayya

Mrs. Garrido-Lowe

Mrs. Hughes

Mr. Nagamootoo

**FOR**

Mr. Jafarally

Mr. Damon

Dr. Persaud

Rev. Dr. Gilbert

Dr. Mahadeo

Mr. Seeraj

Mr. Ramjattan  
 Ms Ferguson  
 Mr. Morian  
 Mr. Allen  
 Mr. Jones  
 Mr. Adams  
 Ms Baveghems  
 Mr. Sharma  
 Mr. Bulkan  
 Mr. Bond  
 Ms Kissoon  
 Mr. Trotman  
 Ms Selman  
 Mr. Allicock  
 Ms Wade  
 Mr. Felix  
 Ms Hastings  
 Mr. Scott  
 Lt. Col.(Ret'd) Harmon  
 Mrs. Backer  
 Dr. Norton  
 Mrs. Lawrence  
 Mr. B. Williams  
 Ms Ally  
 Dr. Roopnarine  
 Brig. (Ret'd) Granger

Mr. Neendkumar  
 Mr. Lumumba  
 Mr. Chand  
 Mrs. Chandarpal  
 Ms Teixeira  
 Bishop Edghill  
 Mr. Whittaker  
 Mrs. Campbell-Sukhai  
 Ms Webster  
 Mr. G. Persaud  
 Ms Manickchand  
 Mr. Benn  
 Mr. Ali  
 Dr. Ramsarran  
 Dr. Westford  
 Mr. R. Persaud  
 Dr. Singh  
 Mrs. Rodrigues-Birett  
 Mr. Nandlall  
 Dr. Ramsammy  
 Mr. Rohee  
 Mr. Hinds

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.10 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.35 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

(ii) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Reading**

**ITEM 5 - THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (AMENDMENT)**

**BILL 2013 – Bill No. 5 of 2013 published on 2013-02-08**

At the request of Ms Amna Ally, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip, the resumption of the debate of the following Bill was deferred:

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

**(Read a first time on 2013-02-07)**

**MOTION**

**ITEM 6 - RESTORATION OF GEORGETOWN**

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P., moved the following motion:

WHEREAS Georgetown is the capital city of Guyana, commonly known as ‘Garden City of the Caribbean’;

AND WHEREAS the expanded boundaries of the city of Georgetown have placed severe strain and pressures on the drainage systems. In addition the heavy siltation of canals, the dumping of refuse and various other kinds of items which block drains, the lack of maintenance of the outfall channels have all led to poor drainage of the city;

AND WHEREAS refuse collection and disposal have reached a critical point where large amounts of garbage are being dumped on street corners, open spaces and canals, creating public nuisance and health hazards;

AND WHEREAS many construction sites continue to block drains and dispose of waste on city parapets and in many instances create stagnant pools of water that encourage the breeding of mosquitoes;

AND WHEREAS the Georgetown City Council is unable to carry out its mandate as prescribed in the Municipal and District Councils Act of 1969 and the Local Democratic Organs Act of 1980, due to the severe under-collection of taxes, rents and fees as well as the miserly subvention received from Central Government,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly of the Parliament of Guyana commits its support towards the restoration of our Capital City, Georgetown;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls upon the Government to:

- (i) Utilize every machinery, work force, and agencies at its disposal and command in conjunction with the Georgetown City Council, Members of the National



Assembly, the business and commercial sector, NGOs, Clubs and citizens in the removal of garbage, abandoned vehicles and builders waste as well as the de-siltation of canals and alleyways over the next three (3) months in an effort to “Restore Georgetown to the Garden City of the Caribbean”; and

- (ii) That the Government establishes a Committee consisting of Members of Parliament, Officials of the Georgetown City Council, Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development and the Ministry of Transport and Hydraulics to monitor the progress of the restoration of Georgetown and report to the National Assembly within four (4) months of the establishment of the Committee.

**(Notice Paper No. 135 (M 58 Opp.35) published on 2013-01-22)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

The Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Ms Annette Ferguson

Mr. Joseph Hamilton

Dr. Rupert Roopnarine

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 7.17 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 7.55 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the Restoration of Georgetown.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

The Minister of Public Works

Mrs. Catherine Hughes

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph Harmon

The Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10(1)**

At 9.54 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Standing Order No. 10(1) was suspended to enable the Assembly to continue with its business uninterrupted.

Mr. Basil Williams also spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, Mrs. Volda Lawrence replied.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 10.22 p.m., the sitting was suspended to allow Members to consult on proposed amendments to the motion.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 10.50 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the Restoration of Georgetown.

Thereafter, Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P., moved and the Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment seconded the following amendments, which were put and carried:

“Insert in the 2<sup>nd</sup> AND WHEREAS clause after the word ‘hazards’ the words ‘for citizens and visitors’.

After the 3<sup>rd</sup> AND WHEREAS clause insert 2 new AND WHEREAS clauses, which will read as follows –

AND WHEREAS the national environmental enhancement initiative of the government, the Pick It Up Guyana Campaign, spearheaded by the Ministry of Natural Resources and the Environment in collaboration with the Ministries of Local Government and Regional Development, Health, and Public Works, the private sector, religious community, NGOs, among others, to promote greater environmental management through enforcement against littering; public awareness; engagement of stakeholders; and mechanisms to reduce, reuse and recycled waste;

AND WHEREAS Government has extended this support, by way of a multi-sectoral stakeholders’ approach to garbage collection and disposal and desilting of drains as well as over the years, centrally providing human and material support to free the streets, the alleyways, the blocked canals and trenches of garbage and heavy vegetation;

In the proposed new 6<sup>th</sup> AND WHEREAS clause delete the words that come after the words ‘Act of 1980’

In the BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED clause delete the first paragraph and in the second paragraph between the words ‘Government’ and ‘Committee’ insert the words ‘expands its multi stakeholders’ and delete the word ‘establishes’ in the first line.

In the second line delete the words ‘consisting of’ and insert the words ‘to include’. In the third line after the word ‘Council,’ insert the words ‘and relevant Government Ministries to develop an action plan, allocate resources and to’ and delete the words ‘Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development and the Ministry of Transport and Hydraulics’.

In the sixth line after the words ‘Georgetown and’ insert the words ‘the Minister of Natural Resources and the Environment will on behalf of the Committee’. In the last line delete the words that come after the words ‘four (4) months’.

Thereafter, the motion as amended was put and carried.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11.07 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

.....

**HON. RAPHAEL G.C. TROTMAN, M.P.,**  
**Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**14<sup>th</sup> March, 2013.**