

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER PAPER**

**FOR THE 69<sup>th</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION**

**(2006 - 2008) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD**

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON MONDAY, 29<sup>th</sup> DECEMBER, 2008**

**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

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**BUSINESS FOR SITTING**

**PRAYERS**

**OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-**

**MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT-**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-**

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-**

**ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE-**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

**1. CORONER'S INQUEST**

**Member Asking: Mr. Raphael G. C. Trotman, M.P.**

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

Can the Honourable Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs state the current number of Coroner's Inquest pending in Guyana?

**(Notice Paper No. 295 (Q211 Opp 206) published on 2008-10-27)**

**2. NUMBER OF PERSONS DETAINED FOR 72 HOURS OR MORE**

**Member Asking: Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P.**

**Minister Answering: Minister of Home Affairs**

Could the Honourable Minister of Home Affairs provide this National Assembly with a list of the number of persons detained for the year 2007, at each Police Station listed below, for 72 hours or more, who were subsequently released without any charges being preferred against them:-

- (i) Sparendam Police Station
- (ii) Beterverwagting Police Station
- (iii) Vigilance Police Station
- (iv) Cove and John Police Station
- (v) Brickdam Police Station
- (vi) Providence Police Station

**(Notice Paper No. 309 (Q225 Opp 220) published on 2008-11-05)**

3. **ACTING APPOINTMENTS – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**Member Asking:** Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

- (i) Could the Honourable Minister of Education provide this National Assembly with a list of all the vacant senior positions in which officers of the Department of Education and Central Ministry of Education are acting?
- (ii) Could the Minister say why this has been so, and when will these vacancies be filled?

**Notice Paper No. 338 (Q252 Opp 239) published on 2008-12-03)**

4. **SUPPLY OF POTABLE WATER TO MONKEY MOUNTAIN**

**Member Asking:** Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister responsible for Housing and Water

- (i) Can the Honourable Minister responsible for Housing and Water advise on the status of the contract awarded over three years ago, for the distribution of potable water in Monkey Mountain?
- (ii) When can the inhabitants of Monkey Mountain expect to have potable water in their taps as has been long promised by this administration?

**Notice Paper No. 340 (Q254 Opp 241) published on 2008-12-03)**

4.

5. **REPAIRS TO BRIDGE KARASABAI**

**Member Asking:** Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Local Government

Can the Honourable Minister of Local Government advise this Assembly when the bridge into Karasabai which has been in a state of disrepair for over two years will be repaired?

**Notice Paper No. 341 (Q255 Opp 242) published on 2008-12-03)**

**For Oral Replies**

6. **POTABLE WATER IN MADHIA-REGION #8**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Latchmin Budhan-Punalall, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister responsible for Housing and Water

\*When will the residents in Madhia-Region #8 including Campbelltown receive potable water through their taps?

**(Notice Paper No. 281 (Q 199 Opp 194) published on 2008-10-21)**

7. **GUYANA'S LEGAL TRADE UNION REPRESENTATIVE TO THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Labour

\*Can the Honourable Minister of Labour tell this National Assembly whether the nominee of the Guyana Trades Union Congress is Guyana's legal trade union representative to the International Labour Organisation?

**(Notice Paper No. 316 (Q232 Opp227) published on 2008-11-20)**

8. **GUYANA'S MINISTERIAL DELEGATION TO THE ANNUAL INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION CONFERENCE**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Labour

- (i) \*Can the Honourable Minister of Labour tell this National Assembly whether the nominee of the Guyana Trades Union Congress is a standing member of Guyana's Ministerial delegation to the annual International Labour Organisation Conference in Geneva?
  
- (ii) \*Can the Honourable Minister of Labour tell this National Assembly how many times a nominee of the Guyana Trades Union Congress was a member of Guyana's Ministerial delegation to the International Labour Organisation conference between the years 2003 to 2008?

(Notice Paper No. 317 (Q233 Opp228) published on 2008-11-20)

9. **BARBARA STOEN'S APPEAL**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Moses Nagamootoo, M.P.

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

\*Would the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs inform this National Assembly on what grounds the Guyanese judiciary denied Barbara Stoen's appeal to gain custody of her child and remove the child from Jonestown?

(Notice Paper No. 332(Q247 PPP/C No. 12) published on 2008-11-28)

**10. DEPENDENTS PENSION FUND**

**Member Asking:**                    **Mr. Everall Franklin, M.P.**

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

- (i)    \*Can the Hon. Minister confirm whether some dependents/pensioners receive cheques as low as ninety Guyana dollars (G\$90) per month and of approximately 3000 pensioners at least 400 receive cheques less than five hundred dollars (\$500) per month?
  
- (ii)   \*Can the Hon. Minister also confirm that, the monthly administrative cost of the Dependents Fund exceeds the total monthly pension payouts?
  
- (iii)  \*How long has this fund operated at a deficit? When will this situation be rectified?

**Notice Paper No. 334 (Q248 Opp235) published on 2008-12-03)**

**11. COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOLS**

**Member Asking:**                    **Ms Amna Ally, M.P.**

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

- (i)    \*Could the Honourable Minister of Education explain to this National Assembly his Government's rationale for closing all Community High Schools in July, 2009?

- (ii) \*Could the Honourable Minister of Education tell this National Assembly what programmes, if any, will be used to fulfill the objectives of the establishment of Community High Schools.

**Notice Paper No. 335 (Q249 Opp 236) published on 2008-12-03)**

12. **MILK FEEDING PROGRAMME**

**Member Asking:** Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

- (i) \*Could the Honourable Minister of Education tell this National Assembly why the "Milk Feeding Programme" in the Georgetown schools and schools on the coastlands no longer exists?
- (ii) \*Is there any plan by the Government to restart this programme?
- (iii) \*If not, will there be a substitute for the Milk Feeding Programme for those children who most need it?

**Notice Paper No. 336 (Q250 Opp 237) published on 2008-12-03)**

13. **TEACHERS' UPGRADING PROGRAMME**

**Member Asking:** Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Education

\*Could the Honourable Minister of Education inform this National Assembly why the over 300 teachers who successfully completed the teachers' upgrading programme were denied entry into the Teachers' Training College?

**Notice Paper No. 337 (Q251 Opp 238) published on 2008-12-03)**

14. **CONSTRUCTION OF GOVERNMENT BUILDINGS IN BAMBOO CREEK**

**Member Asking:** Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Finance

\*Can the Honourable Minister of Finance advise on the status of the contracts awarded by the Procurement and Tender Administration Board for the construction of a primary school, a health outpost and teachers' quarters in Bamboo Creek?

**Notice Paper No. 339 (Q253 Opp 240) published on 2008-12-03)**

15. **SCHOLARSHIP STUDENTS IN CUBA**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Judith David-Blair, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Public Service

- (i) \*Could the Honourable Minister tell this National Assembly when last the Government officer responsible for our scholarship students in Cuba visited our students in Cuba?
- (ii) \*Could the Honourable Minister tell this National Assembly how much is the stipend received by each of our scholarship students in Cuba?
- (iii) \*How is this stipend being paid to the students?
- (iv) \*Could the Honourable Minister inform this National Assembly if there is any current arrangement between the Government of Cuba and Guyana enabling students studying in Cuba to be supported by their parents?

**Notice Paper No. 342 (Q256 Opp243) published on 2008-12-03)**

16. **2008 CUBAN SCHOLARS – FULFILMENT OF CONTRACTUAL OBLIGATIONS**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Judith David-Blair, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Public Service

- (i) \*Could the Honourable Minister tell this National Assembly how many students have completed their studies in Cuba during 2008 and returned to Guyana to fulfill their contractual obligations?
- (ii) \*Has the Government of Guyana been able to provide each Cuban graduate with relevant employment?

**Notice Paper No. 343 (Q257 Opp244) published on 2008-12-03)**

17. **DISTRIBUTION OF MEDICAL SUPPLIES DONATED BY UNICEF**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Judith David-Blair, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Health

\*Could the Honourable Minister of Health tell this National Assembly how he proposes to distribute the medical supplies donated by UNICEF for the interior Regions?

**Notice Paper No. 344 (Q258 Opp245) published on 2008-12-03)**

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS, INCLUDING POLICY STATEMENTS-**

**PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-**

**REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE-**

**MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY AND  
MOVED BY A MINISTER-**

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-**

**PUBLIC BUSINESS-**

**(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Readings**

1. **LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No.  
24/2008 published on 2008-12-18**

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

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

**(Read a first time on 2008-12-22)**

2. **TRADE UNION RECOGNITION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No. 25/2008  
published on 2008-12-18**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Trade Union Recognition Act 1997.

**(Read a first time on 2008-12-22)**

3. **THE CHILDCARE AND PROTECTION AGENCY BILL 2008 – Bill NO. 26/2008**  
**published on 2008-12-18**

The Minister of Human Services and Social Security to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of a Childcare and Protection Agency the duties of which are to implement the policy and decisions in relation to the laws governing children.

**(Read a first time on 2008-12-22)**

**BILLS – Second Readings, Committee and Third Readings**

\*4. **ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM BILL 2007 – Bill No. 18/2007 published on 2007-06-04**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment and management of a Financial Intelligence Unit; to provide for unlawful proceeds of all

serious offences to be identified, traced, frozen, seized and eventually forfeited; to provide for comprehensive powers for the prosecution of money laundering, terrorist financing and other financial crimes; and the forfeiture of the proceeds of crime and terrorist property; to require reporting entities to take preventive measures to help combat money laundering and terrorist financing; to provide for civil forfeiture of assets and for matters connected therewith.

**(Read a first time on 2007-06-07)**

**(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2007-06-07)**

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

\*5. **THE FORESTS BILL 2007 – Bill No. 21 of 2007 published on 2007-07-24**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to consolidate and amend the law relating to forests.

*(Read a first time on 2007-08-02)*

*(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2007-11-08)*

\*6. **COURT OF APPEAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No. 12 of 2008 published on 2008-07-11**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Court of Appeal Act to provide for appeals by the Director of Public Prosecutions to the Court of Appeal and the Caribbean Court of Justice and for connected matters.

**(Read a first time on 2008-07-17)**

**(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2008-07-25)**

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

**\*7. MONEY TRANSFER AGENCIES (LICENSING) BILL 2008 – No. 15 of 2008  
published on 2008-07-23**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the licensing of persons carrying on the business of money transfer agencies; to make provision for the registering of money transfer agents and for connected purposes.

**(Read a first time on 2008-07-24)**

***(Committed to the Special Select Committee on 2008-08-07)***

**(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**Presentation and first Reading**

**\*FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL 2006 – Bill No. 26/2006**

Mr. Raphael Trotman, M.P., is to seek leave to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to give access to information to members of the public.

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

**MOTION**

8. **LIVE AND UNEDITED BROADCAST OF THE SITTINGS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Mr. Aubrey Norton, M.P., to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Cooperative Republic of Guyana enshrines the protection of Freedom of Expression in Article 146 (1) and guarantees the Guyanese citizen the “freedom to receive ideas and information without interference, freedom to communicate ideas and information without interference ....”;

AND WHEREAS the people of Guyana are entitled to hear and/or see the presentations and representations made on their behalf in the National Assembly and be able to assess the contributions of all and make their own judgment;

AND WHEREAS the National Communication Network (NCN) is owned by the People of Guyana and has the widest coverage and is in a position to broadcast live and uninterrupted the proceedings of the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the Opposition Members of Parliament are entitled to have their views heard in an unedited way by the people of Guyana;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly agrees that the sittings of the National Assembly be broadcast live and unedited to the people of Guyana by the National Communication Network and that the cost of the broadcast be borne by the State;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to allocate a broadcast frequency for a parliamentary channel as happens in most democratic countries;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to begin the live and unedited broadcast of the sittings of the National Assembly no later than one month after the adoption of this Motion.

**(Notice Paper No. 320 (M82 Opp23) published on 2008-11-27)**

**(iii) COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

  
.....  
**S.E. ISAACS**  
**Clerk of the National Assembly**

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

**22<sup>nd</sup> December, 2008**