

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**ORDER PAPER**

**FOR THE 4<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION**

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

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON THURSDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2006**

**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-**

By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Audited accounts of the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance for the period 18<sup>th</sup> December, 2002 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2003.

(To be Circulated)

- (ii) Audited accounts of the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2004.  
(To be Circulated)
- (iii) Audited accounts of the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2005.  
(To be Circulated)
- (iv) Audited accounts of the Guyana Securities Council for the period 24<sup>th</sup> September, 2001 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2002.  
(To be Circulated)
- (v) Audited accounts of the Guyana Securities Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2003.  
(To be Circulated)
- (vi) Audited accounts of the Guyana Securities Council for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2004.  
(To be Circulated)
- (vii) Financial Paper No. 3/2006 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totaling \$1,694,288,004 for the period 2006-04-13 to 2006-11-17.  
(To be Circulated)
- (viii) Financial Paper No. 4/2006 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totaling \$4,781,247,499 for the period ending 2006-12-31.  
(To be Circulated)

- (ix) Annual Report of the National Insurance Scheme for the year 2003.  
(To be Circulated)
- (x) Annual Report of the National Insurance Scheme for the year 2004.  
(To be Circulated)
- (xi) Annual Report of the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2003.  
(To be Circulated)
- (xii) Annual Report of the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2004.  
(To be Circulated)
- (xiii) Annual Report of the Office of the Commissioner of Insurance for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2005.  
(To be Circulated)

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-**

**ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE-**

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

1. **ACTION TAKEN ON RESOLUTION NO. 16 OF 2002**

**Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.**

**Minister Answering: The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs**

Will the Hon. Minister state what action his Ministry has taken since being notified by the Clerk of the National Assembly in 2002 about Resolution No. 16 of 2002 of the Eighth Parliament with respect to the following:

“That the National Assembly recognized the need for a policy to be crafted and appropriate regulations instituted in consultation with operators in the mini-bus sector, consumers and other stakeholders to introduce best practices and systems for the safe, efficient and fair operation of the sector”?

**(Notice Paper No. 3 (Q2 Opp2) published on 2006-10-20)**

2. **SAFETY OF MINI BUS COMMUTERS**

**Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.**

**Minister Answering : The Hon. Minister of Home Affairs**

Will the Hon. Minister state specifically which policies were developed by his Ministry and the best practices introduced for the safety of mini-bus commuters since 2002?

**(Notice Paper No. 5 (Q4 Opp4) published on 2006-10-20)**

3. **ACTION TAKEN ON RESOLUTION NO. 16 OF 2002**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Hon. Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

Will the Hon. Minister state what action his Ministry has taken since being notified by the Clerk of the National Assembly in 2002 about Resolution No. 16 of 2002 of the Eighth Parliament with respect to the following:

“That the National Assembly recognized the need for a policy to be crafted and appropriate regulations instituted in consultation with operators in the mini-bus sector, consumers and other stakeholders to introduce best practices and systems for the safe, efficient and fair operation of the sector”?

**(Notice Paper No. 2 (Q1 Opp1) published on 2006-10-20)**

4. **SAFETY OF MINI BUS COMMUTERS**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Hon. Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

Will the Hon. Minister state specifically which policies were developed by his Ministry and the best practices introduced for the safety of mini-bus commuters since 2002?

**(Notice Paper No. 4 (Q3 Opp3) published on 2006-10-20)**

6.

5. **IMPROVING SAFETY, EFFICIENCY AND FAIRNESS IN THE OPERATION OF MINI-BUSES**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Hon. Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

Will the Hon. Minister state whether his Ministry has held any consultation exercises with operators of the mini-bus sector, commuters and other stakeholders with a view of improving safety, efficiency and fairness in the operation of mini-buses?

*(Notice Paper No. 6 (Q5 Opp5) published on 2006-10-20)*

6. **HOMELESS FAMILIES AND INDIVIDUALS**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Human Services and Social Security

Could the Hon. Minister state:

What programmes are in place to take care of the many homeless families and individuals who now live on the streets of our Capital City?

*(Notice Paper No. 9 (Q7 Opp7) published on 2006-11-13)*

7. **CITIZENS WITH MULTIPLE PERSONALITIES (UNSOOUND MIND)**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Health

Could the Hon. Minister of Health state what programmes are in place to care for those citizens with multiple personalities (unsound mind) who roam the streets of our capital city, frequently endangering lives and damaging property?

*(Notice Paper No. 10 (Q8 Opp8) published on 2006-11-13)*

7.

8. **ANESTHESIOLOGISTS FOR THE GEORGETOWN PUBLIC HOSPITAL CORPORATION**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P.

**Minister Answering :** The Minister of Health

Could the Hon. Minister of Health say what steps are being taken to ensure the Theatre of the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation has its full complement of Anesthesiologists?

*(Notice Paper No. 11 (Q9 Opp9) published on 2006-11-13)*

9. **SHOOTING INCIDENT WHICH CLAIMED THE LIFE OF PARASRAM PERSAUD**

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

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

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister of Foreign Affairs say whether the Government of Guyana is satisfied with the response of the Government of the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela surrounding the shooting incident on Friday, October 6, 2006, in the Cuyuni River, which claimed the life of Parasram Persaud?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister say what initiatives the Government of Guyana is pursuing to ensure that the family of Parasram Persaud receives compensation for this death?
- (iii) What action is the Government of Guyana pursuing with respect to this incident?

*(Notice Paper No. 12 (Q10 Opp10) published on 2006-11-13)*

10. **POLICY REGARDING THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF GUYANESE CITIZENS**

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

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

Could the Hon. Minister state:

What is the Government of Guyana's policy regarding the protection of the rights of Guyanese citizens living in sister CARICOM States?

*(Notice Paper No. 13 (Q11 Opp11) published on 2006-11-13)*

11. **COMPLAINTS OF UNFAIR AND/OR UNLAWFUL TREATMENT RECEIVED FROM GUYANESE LIVING IN CARICOM STATES**

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

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

Could the Hon. Minister state:

For the period January 1, 2005 to October 30, 2006, how many complaints of unfair and/or unlawful treatment have been received from Guyanese living in CARICOM states by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and what has been the response and action taken in each case?

*(Notice Paper No. 14 (Q12 Opp12) published on 2006-11-13)*

12. **REPORT ON LOST WEAPONS OF THE GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE (GDF)**

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

**Minister Answering:** The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works & Communications

Could the Hon. Prime Minister state:

- (i) Is the Government in receipt of a report on the weapons which the GDF claimed it lost in February, 2006 and if yes, is the Government satisfied with the report?



- (ii) Will the Government commission an independent enquiry into the circumstances surrounding the missing weapons, and to receive sound recommendations as to how such an occurrence can be prevented in the future?

*(Notice Paper No. 15 (Q13 Opp13) published on 2006-11-13)*

13. **SHOOTING INCIDENT IN THE CUYUNI RIVER ON FRIDAY, OCTOBER 6, 2006**

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

**Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works & Communications**

Could the Hon. Prime Minister state:

Following the shooting incident in the Cuyuni River on Friday, October 6, 2006, have measures been put in place to strengthen border security in general and that with our neighbour Venezuela, in particular?

*(Notice Paper No. 16 (Q14 Opp14) published on 2006-11-13)*

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

**PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-**

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

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

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-**

**Presentation and First Reading**

**LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006 – Bill No. 24/2006**

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development, on behalf of the Government, to present 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.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS-**

**(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**1. NOMINATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF SELECTION**

The Assembly to nominate the Members to comprise the Committee of Selection.

**(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

**MOTIONS**

**1. THE NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT STRATEGY**

**Member Giving Notice: Mr. Winston Murray, C.C.H., M.P.**

WHEREAS over 150 members of Guyanese civil society of various walks of life and from fields of endeavour have put forward a National Development Strategy that details a series of bold economic initiatives and exciting programmes geared towards the transformation and diversification of the economy;

AND WHEREAS among the stated objectives of the National Development Strategy are attainment of the highest possible rates of economic growth, the alleviation of poverty, the equitable geographic distribution of economic activities and benefits and the diversification of economy;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana agreed with the Civil Society to table that National Development Strategy document in the National Assembly for its examination and adoption;

AND WHEREAS the National Assembly of the Eighth Parliament unanimously passed a Resolution on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2005 for an update of the National Development Strategy at the earliest practicable date,

**BE IT RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly accepts the National Development Strategy and the measures and policies therein as an overarching strategy for pursuing the economic and social transformation of Guyana;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly directs that the National Development Strategy be placed before a Special Select Parliamentary Committee to commence consultations immediately with the private sector, wider civil society and other stakeholders to establish a Representative Cross Sectional Group, supported by a suitably resourced secretariat with access to research expertise, to update the National Development Strategy at the earliest practicable date;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That the National Assembly directs that the Representative Cross Sectional Group reports periodically to the Special Select Parliamentary Committee and that the finally updated National Development Strategy be submitted to the Special Select Parliamentary Committee to make recommendations to the National Assembly for the consideration and adoption of the said updated National Development Strategy;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That subsequent to the adoption of the updated National Development Strategy this National Assembly authorizes its Sectoral Committee on Economic Services to monitor the policies and the implementation of the National Development Strategy by the Executive.

*(Notice Paper No. 8 (M2 Opp1) published on 2006-11-13)*

**2. THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**

**Member Giving Notice: Ms Chantalle Smith, M.P.**

WHEREAS in 1991 Guyana signed and ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;

AND WHEREAS Article 19 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that “Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child”;

AND WHEREAS the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child has consistently proposed the abolition of corporal punishment when the reporting process under the convention has revealed the continued existence of school corporal punishment;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana's report to the Committee of the Convention of the Rights of the Child of July 29, 2002 states: "Enhanced legislation is an integral element in this country's efforts to give tangible effect to the provisions of the Constitution Reform Commission.";

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana's report to the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child of July 29, 2002 further states "The Constitutional Reform Commission acknowledged that the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child should inform constitutional provisions to protect children's rights. The Oversight Select Committee of the Revised Guyana Constitution subsequently accepted the above recommendations and in 2001 these rights were accorded the status of fundamental and human rights in the amended Constitution",

**BE IT RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly declares the continued use of corporal punishment in schools in Guyana a violation of Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly declares the continued use of corporal punishment in schools in Guyana a violation of the Constitution;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly recommends the abolition of corporal punishment under the new Education Act.

**(Notice Paper No. 22 ( M3 Opp2) published on 2006-11-22)**

**(iii) COMMITTEE BUSINESS**

  
**S.E. ISAACS**

**Clerk of the National Assembly**

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

**30<sup>th</sup> November, 2006**