

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 8TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2012) OF THE TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 1.00 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY, 11TH APRIL, 2012

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,

BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN

BUSINESS FOR SITTING

PRAYERS

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT-

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

2.

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Oral Replies

1. **RENTAL OF GOVERNMENT QUARTERS**

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Could the Hon. Minister inform this National Assembly:-

- (a) *Whether teachers and other government officers are required to pay 10% of their salary as rent?
- (b) *Whether this procedure is practiced in all 10 Regions and, if not, whether this is being practiced in Region 10 only?
- (c) *Whether monies collected are paid into the consolidated fund and, if not, into which fund are these monies paid?

(Notice Paper No. 25 (Q 18 Opp 18) published on 2012-03-21)

2. **HOUSE LOTS IN REGION 10**

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Housing and Water

Could the Hon. Minister inform this National Assembly:-

- (a) *What criteria were used to determine the cost of a house lot in Region # 10?

3.

(b) *What is the standard size of a house lot?

(c) *Why residents of Region #10, including teachers, nurses and young people, were asked to pay \$500,000, \$300,000, \$150,000 and \$113,000 for house lots in Region #10?

(Notice Paper No. 27 (Q 20 Opp 20) published on 2012-03-21)

For Written Replies

3. EXPENDITURE ON CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT IN REGION # 10

Member Asking: Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Finance

Could the Hon. Minister inform this National Assembly, whether monies are provided to the RDC of Region # 10 for expenditure on Culture, Youth and Sport?

(Notice Paper No. 26 (Q 19 Opp 19) published on 2012-03-21)

***4. LEVEL SEVEN STUDENTS PROVIDED WITH TEXTBOOKS IN THE FOUR 'CORE' SUBJECTS**

Member Asking: Mrs. Cathrine Hughes, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister say how many Level Seven students have been provided by the government with individual textbooks in the four 'core' subject areas?

(Notice Paper No. 17 (Q 14 Opp 14) published on 2012-03-05)

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

4.

*5. **ACQUIRING LEVEL SEVEN TEXTBOOKS IN THE FOUR 'CORE' SUBJECTS**

Member Asking: Mrs. Cathrine Hughes, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister say how much money was spent during the period January 1, 2007 – December 31, 2011 on acquiring Level Seven textbooks in the four 'core' subject areas?

(Notice Paper No. 18 (Q 15 Opp 15) published on 2012-03-05)

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**

MOTION

1. **BUDGET SPEECH 2012 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2012**

Assembly to resume the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2012.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2012-03-30)

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*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

BILL – Second Reading

- *2. **INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 4/2012 published on 2012-04-02**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income Tax Act.

(Read a first time on 2012-04-10)

MOTIONS

- *3. **GUYANA’S RATIFICATION OF THE CARIFORUM-EUROPEAN UNION ECONOMIC PARTNERSHIP AGREEMENT (EPA)**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the ACP-EU Partnership Agreement (the Cotonou Partnership Agreement) signed in June 2000 between the ACP Group of States of the one part and the European Union (EU) Member States of the other part, required the two sides to negotiate Regional WTO-compatible trade agreements to replace the non-reciprocal preferential trade arrangements under the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, with effect from January 1, 2008;

AND WHEREAS the CARIFORUM States of the one part (CARIFORUM) and the European Union and its Member States of the other part (EU), pursuant to the provisions of the Cotonou Partnership Agreement, negotiated the CARIFORUM-EU Economic Partnership Agreement (the Agreement) between April, 2004 and December, 2007;

AND WHEREAS the Cooperative Republic of Guyana, a CARIFORUM Member State and a Party to the Agreement, signed onto the Agreement on October 20, 2008;

/...6

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

6.

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana, in accordance with Article 243 of the Agreement, formally notified the General Secretariat of the EU Council on October 22, 2008 of its provisional application of the Agreement, pending entry into force;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana, pursuant to its provisional application of the Agreement, implemented the agreed Schedule of Tariff Liberalization with effect from January, 2011, following its presentation to the National Assembly in January, 2011;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana is desirous of taking the further step to ratify the Agreement, pursuant to its laws and in accordance with the aforementioned Article 243,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly hereby agrees for the General Secretariat of the European Union Council being informed of Guyana's intention to ratify the Agreement and for Guyana to formally ratify the said agreement.

(Notice Paper No. 45 (M17 Govt 7) published on 2012-04-05)

*4. **COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE OF SELECTION**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the House selected nine (9) members to the Parliamentary Committee on Selection of the 10th Parliament on February 10, 2012;

AND WHEREAS the House selected four (4) members for the governing PPP/C, four (4) members for the opposition APNU and one (1) member for the opposition AFC;

/...7

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

7.

AND WHEREAS the allocation of a nine (9) member Committee of Selection was by way of an amendment by the combined APNU/AFC opposition to the motion tabled by the Leader of the House for a ten (10) member Committee with five (5) for PPP/C, four (4) APNU and one (1) AFC;

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 94(1) provides for “each Select Committee being so constituted to ensure that, as far as possible, the balance of parties in the National Assembly be reflected in the Committee”;

AND WHEREAS the existing balance of the parties in the 10th Parliament is as follows:

PPP/C:	32 seats
APNU:	26 seats
AFC:	7 seats

AND WHEREAS the balance of the parties in the existing Committee of Selection does not conform to Standing Order No. 94(1),

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the decision of the House on the composition of the Parliamentary Committee of Selection be declared inconsistent with Standing Order 94(1);

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That the House takes immediate steps to ensure that the composition of the Parliamentary Committee of Selection is brought into conformity with Standing Order No. 94(1); and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the currently constituted Committee of Selection be prevented from discharging its functions under Standing Order No. 81.

(Notice Paper No. 24 (M7 Govt 4) published on 2012-03-07)

8.

(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

MOTIONS

***5. REPRESENTATION ON SECTORAL COMMITTEES**

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following motion after the Standing Orders Committee has reported thereon:

WHEREAS Standing Order No. 86(1) makes provision for the appointment of the four (4) Sectoral Committees pursuant to Article 119B of the Constitution as soon as may be after the beginning of each National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 86(2) provides that each Sectoral Committee shall consist of seven (7) members, four (4) representing the Government and three (3) the Opposition, respectively;

AND WHEREAS in this 10th Parliament, the Opposition is in the majority and the Government the minority,

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 86(2) does not represent the new majority reality in this 10th Parliament;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 86(2) be amended to read that representation on the Sectoral Committees should be calculated in accordance with the seat allocation to the Political Parties in Parliament; and

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

9.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the four (4) Sectoral Committees not be constituted until and unless representation thereto is calculated in accordance with the seat allocation to the Political Parties in the 10th Parliament.

(Notice Paper No. 21 (M4 Opp 1) published on 2012-03-05)

(Referred to Standing Orders Committee on 2012-03-30 in accordance with Standing Order No.111(3))

*6. **COMPOSITION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE**

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following motion after the Standing Orders Committee has reported thereon:

WHEREAS Standing Order No. 85(1) makes provision for the appointment of a Parliamentary Management Committee as soon as may be after the beginning of each National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS Standing Order No. 85(2) provides that the Parliamentary Management Committee shall comprise ten (10) members, five (5) representing the Government and five (5) representing the Opposition to be nominated by the Committee of Selection, with the Speaker as the Chair, and if the latter is not a member of the Committee, he or she shall not have an original or casting vote;

AND WHEREAS the provision of the said Standing Order No. 85(2) could lead to gridlock and impasse in the work of the Parliamentary Management Committee,

/...10

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

10.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 85(2) be amended to provide that the composition of the Parliamentary Management Committee shall be nine (9) members; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That representation on the nine (9) member Parliamentary Management Committee shall be determined in accordance with the seat allocation to the Political Parties in the Assembly.

(Notice Paper No. 22 (M5 Opp 2) published on 2012-03-05)

(Referred to Standing Orders Committee on 2012-03-30 in accordance with Standing Order No.111(3))

*7. **THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEES**

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following motion after the Standing Orders Committee has reported thereon:

WHEREAS Standing Orders Nos. 80(5), 88(2) and 93(2) provide that unless otherwise provided for in the Standing Orders any member of the Assembly, whether elected or non-elected, shall be eligible for membership of any Standing Committee, Select Committee and Special Select Committee, respectively, and shall have the right to vote therein,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Orders Nos. 80(5), 88(2) and 93(2) be amended to read that only an elected member of the Assembly shall have the right to vote in any Standing Committee, Select Committee and Special Select Committee.

(Notice Paper No. 23 (M6 Opp 3) published on 2012-03-05)

(Referred to Standing Orders Committee on 2012-03-30 in accordance with Standing Order No.111(3))

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

11.

(iii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

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S.E. ISAACS
Clerk of the National Assembly

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

10th April, 2012.