

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 22ND SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

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

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 14TH JUNE, 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-

(1) By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) The Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana Securities Council for the year ended 31st December, 2011.

(To be Circulated)

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2.

- (ii) The Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana National Cooperative Bank Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2007.

(To be Circulated)

- (iii) The Audited Financial Statements of the National Communications Network Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2007.

(To be Circulated)

- (iv) The Audited Financial Statements of the National Communications Network Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2008.

(To be Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Human Services and Social Security:

- (i) The Adoption of Children Regulations 2012 – No. 3/2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (ii) The Adoption of Children Rules 2012 – No. 1/2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (iii) The Status of Children Regulations 2012 – No. 4/2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (iv) The Custody, Contact, Guardianship and Maintenance Regulations 2012 – No. 5/2012.

(To be Circulated)

3.

(3) By the Minister of Labour:

- (i) The Minimum Wages (Employees at Petrol Filling Stations) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 22 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (ii) The Minimum Wages (Security Guards) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 23 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (iii) The Labour (Conditions of Employment of Certain Workers) (Minimum Rate of Wages) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 24 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (iv) The Minimum Wages (Mechanical Transport Employees) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 25 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (v) The Minimum Wages (Employees in Groceries) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 26 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (vi) The Minimum Wages (Employees in Hardware Stores) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 27 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

- (vii) The Minimum Wages (Employees in Dry Goods Stores) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 28 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

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4.

(viii) The Printing Trade Workers Wages Council Wages Regulations (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 29 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(ix) The Aerated Water Factories Wages Council Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 30 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(x) The Sawmill Workers Wages Council Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 31 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(xi) The Timber Grant Workers Wages Council Wages Regulation (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 32 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(xii) The Minimum Wages (Cinema Employees) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 33 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

(xiii) The Minimum Wages (Employees in Drug Stores) (Amendment) Order 2012 – No. 34 of 2012.

(To be Circulated)

5.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

***1. 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)

***2. 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-

/...6

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

6.

**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 Readings

**1. MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill
No. 5/2012**

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

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

**2. SUMMARY JURISDICTION (PROCEDURE) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill
No. 6/2012**

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act.

7.

PUBLIC BUSINESS -

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTIONS

1. **CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 9/2011**

Assembly to resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Minister of Finance to signify the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 9/2011 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totalling \$79,619,478 – Advances made from the Contingencies Fund for the period 25th October, 2011 to 31st December, 2011.

(Notice Paper No. 54 (M24 Govt 9) published on 2012-05-11)

(Paper presented on 2012-05-10)

2. **COMPLIANCE WITH THE INTEGRITY COMMISSION ACT**

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

WHEREAS the extant Integrity Commission Act was passed in this House in 1997 and made into law on September 24, 1997 as the Integrity Commission Act 1997, Chapter 19:12, Act No. 20 of 1997;

8.

AND WHEREAS the Commission and support staff were established shortly thereafter and all persons in public life listed in Schedule I being persons of high office are expected to be in compliance with this law;

AND WHEREAS Section 19 of the Act empowers the Commission and the President to publish the names of persons who are not in compliance with this Act in the Gazette and in a daily newspaper;

AND WHEREAS Section 22 addresses the offences and penalties for failure to comply which include fines and imprisonment;

AND WHEREAS all elected officials, and more so, Members of Parliament in particular, identified in Schedule I, are expected to be standard bearers of ethics in public office and uphold the Code of Conduct outlined in the Act and in Schedule II,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this House recognizes the lawful and legal obligation of Members of Parliament to submit annual declarations and call on all Members of this National Assembly to submit their declarations in accordance with the law;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That this House declares that failure or refusal of Members of Parliament to submit declarations is a violation of the law and a gross indictment of those Members of Parliament and vicariously on the integrity of Parliament;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this House conducts an annual voluntary monitoring exercise of compliance by Members of Parliament;

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9.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this House calls on the President to disclose to the Speaker annually the names of those Members of Parliament in default;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That persistent defaulters should be sanctioned by this House according to established norms of ethics and brought before the Committee of Privileges.

(Notice Paper No. 55 (M25 Govt 10) published on 2012-05-30)

3. **SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF DR. MOTI LALL**

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Dr. Moti Lall on 10th January, 2012 and pays tribute to his dedicated service as a Member of Parliament from 24th November, 1992 to 15th February, 2001 and to the people of Guyana;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing widow, child and relatives.

(Notice Paper No. 56 (M26 Govt 11) published on 2012-05-30)

10.

*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;

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),

/...11

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

11.

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)

(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

MOTIONS

5. **FORMER PRESIDENTS' PENSIONS AND BENEFITS**

Mr. Carl Greenidge, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the National Assembly should make appropriate, adequate and reasonable provision for a President to enjoy a comfortable and dignified retirement;

AND WHEREAS it is in the national interest that such provision be made and be related to the capacity of Guyana to support it;

AND WHEREAS the provisions of the Former President's (Benefits and Other Facilities) Act 2009 has caused concern and resulted in adverse reaction among sections of the citizens of Guyana, in particular as to the ability of the country to sustain the benefits set out therein,

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12.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly immediately takes steps to have the aforementioned legislation repealed without prejudice, however, to the payment of benefits;

BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:

That a Parliamentary Committee be convened to examine the Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) Act, Part II Section 4 (Rate of President and Calculation of Pension 7/8 Ceiling of Pension) and to make proposals for their revision;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Special Parliamentary Committee submit as a matter of urgency a revised superannuation benefit package for those persons to whom the Parliamentary and Holders of Special Offices Act applies and for those other categories of employees catered for by other government pensions and arrangement/plans; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this revised superannuation package be sent by the Special Parliamentary Committee for consideration and approval by the National Assembly.

(Notice Paper No. 42 (M14 Opp 8) published on 2012-04-05)

*6. **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**

14.

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))

*7. **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,

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

15.

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))

*8. **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,

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

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))

(iii) COMMITTEES BUSINESS

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S.E. ISAACS
Clerk of the National Assembly

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

8th June, 2012.