

# **PARLIAMENTARY AGENDA**

## **FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2013 - FRIDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2013**

**MONDAY, 6<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2013**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**TUESDAY, 7<sup>th</sup> MAY, 2013**

**Sitting of the National Assembly**

**Time:** 2.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Parliament Chamber, Public Buildings, Brickdam,  
Georgetown.

**Business:**

### **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) The Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana National Newspapers Limited for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009.

(Circulated)

- (ii) The Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana National Newspapers Limited for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010.

(Circulated)

- (iii) The Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana National Newspapers Limited for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.  
(Circulated)
- (iv) The Audited Financial Statements of the Port Kaituma Power and Light Company Inc. for the period 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010.  
(Circulated)
- (v) The Audited Financial Statements of the Port Kaituma Power and Light Company Inc. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.  
(Circulated)
- (vi) The Audited Financial Statements of the Mahdia Power and Light Company Inc. for the period 29<sup>th</sup> November, 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010.  
(Circulated)
- (vii) The Audited Financial Statements of the Lethem Power Company Inc. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009.  
(Circulated)
- (viii) The Audited Financial Statements of the Lethem Power Company Inc. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010.  
(Circulated)
- (ix) The Audited Financial Statements of the Lethem Power Company Inc. for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.  
(Circulated)
- (x) The Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana National Cooperative Bank for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2009.  
(Circulated)
- (xi) The Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana National Cooperative Bank for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010.  
(Circulated)

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

1. **NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION PASSED AGAINST REO, REGION NO. 8**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Could the Hon. Minister inform Members of the National Assembly what actions he has taken in relation to the No-Confidence Motion that was passed against REO Harsawack of Region No. 8?

(Notice Paper No.173 (Q 110 Opp 108) published on 2013-03-25)

2. **PROTOCOL RELATING TO AN APPOINTED OFFICIAL OF A REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Could the Hon. Minister inform Members of the National Assembly what is the protocol relating to an appointed official of a Regional Administration committing the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development for the provision of goods and services and in particular, if Mr. Harsawack is empowered to commit the Region in the absence of approval of the RDC?

(Notice Paper No.174 (Q 111 Opp 109) published on 2013-03-25)

3. **COMMUNITY SERVICES ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

In 2006, the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development and Government of Guyana initiated the project named at the caption and which had as its purpose/objective, to prepare four communities for their upgrading to municipalities, these being, Bartica, Charity, Parika and Supenaam.

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister provide the relevant details for the Communities Services Enhancement Project, which was initiated in 2006 and give information on its current status?
- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister say which other communities have been added to the four previously identified and for similar upgrading in status, if any?

**(Notice Paper No.175 (Q 112 Opp 110) published on 2013-03-25)**

## **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

### **Presentation and First Readings**

#### **1. FIRE SERVICE (CHANGE OF NAME) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 13/2013**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to rename the Fire Service Act, the Fire Service and for related purposes.

#### **2. POLICE (CHANGE OF NAME) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 14/2013**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to rename the Police Act, the Police Force, the Police (Discipline) Act and for related purposes.

## **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

### **(i) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

### **BILLS – Second Reading**

#### **1. THE FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (AMENDMENT)**

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

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following Bill:

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

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

**MOTIONS**

2. **THE MARRIED PERSONS (PROPERTY) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 9 of 2013**

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order No. 52(1), grant leave for the introduction and first reading of the Married Persons (Property) (Amendment) Bill 2013 – Bill No. 9 of 2013:-

A Bill intituled AN ACT to amend the Married Persons (Property) Act.

**(Notice Paper No. 164 (M 60 Opp.37) published on 2013-03-13)**

If leave is granted, the Clerk shall read aloud the title of the Bill.

3. **INTERPERSONAL VIOLENCE**

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, to move the following motion:

WHEREAS in its first World Report on Violence and Health released in October, 2002 the World Health Organisation defined violence as “the intentional use of physical force or power, threatened or actual, against another person, or against a group or community, that either result in or has a high likelihood of resulting in injury, death, psychological harm, maldevelopment or deprivation”;

AND WHEREAS the aforesaid World Report defined Interpersonal Violence (IPV) as being subdivided into family and intimate partner violence and community violence with the former category including child maltreatment, intimate partner violence and elder abuse while the latter is subdivided into acquaintance and stranger violence and includes youth violence, assault by strangers, violence relating to property crimes and violence in work places and other institutions;

AND WHEREAS the incidents of Interpersonal Violence has reached epidemic proportions in Guyana;

AND WHEREAS this has occurred despite numerous programmes aimed at reducing interpersonal violence initiated by government agencies, schools, religious bodies, volunteer organizations and other community based organizations;

AND WHEREAS the reversal of this epidemic is in the interest of all Guyanese who continue to be adversely affected by it;

AND WHEREAS research at the national, regional and international levels has shown that high incidents of Interpersonal Violence has a significant negative effect on the economic growth and health of a country,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly unequivocally condemns all forms of Interpersonal Violence;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly designates a day to be observed under the theme “Parliamentarians Against Interpersonal Violence” during which the National Assembly will organize appropriate activities to highlight ways in which Interpersonal Violence can be reduced;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government of Guyana to establish, within one (1) month of the passage of this motion, a broad based Committee comprising but not limited to, representatives of the political parties in the National Assembly; the relevant Government Ministries; religious bodies, private sector bodies; youth organizations; women organizations and volunteer organizations with the mandate to complete a National Plan of Action to combat Interpersonal Violence within four (4) months of its establishment; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Guyana within one (1) month of the completion of the aforesaid National Plan of Action, lay it in the National Assembly.

**(Notice Paper No. 163 (M 59 Opp.36) published on 2013-03-13)**

4. **HONOURING THE 21<sup>ST</sup> AUGUST, 2012 AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE  
GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA AND THE REGIONAL DEMOCRATIC  
COUNCIL, REGION #10**

Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the people of Linden have from the time of the announcement by the Government that there would be an increase in electricity tariff, consequent to the government's intended withdrawal of the subsidy, indicated through their pronouncements in the national media, peaceful picketing exercises and other forms of peaceful protest that the community did not have the economic capacity to pay the steep and unconscionable increase in the cost of electricity and therefore saw the decision as an unjust imposition on the people of Linden;

AND WHEREAS the Government continued to take action to impose the increase in the cost of electricity on the people of Linden in total violation of the people's right to be involved in decisions that directly affect them as is explicit in Article 13 of the Constitution which states that, "The principal objective of the State is to establish an inclusionary democracy by providing increasing opportunities for the participation of citizens, and their organizations in the management and decision-making processes of the State, with particular emphasis on those areas of decisions-making that directly affect their well being";

RECOGNISING that the Government was not responsive to the concerns and interests of the people of Linden and therefore left the people of Linden with no alternative, but to continue to protest;

AND WHEREAS the people of Linden were involved in peaceful protest and were



subjected to the uncalled for use of excessive and lethal force by the Guyana Police Force resulting in the death of Mr. Allen Lewis, Mr. Ron Sommerest, Mr. Shemroy Bouyea and the injuring of scores of unarmed protestors;

AND WHEREAS the use of lethal force rather than instilling fear that was intended, increased the resolve of the people and escalated the protest forcing the Government to respond to concerns of the people of Linden and enter into negotiations with the people of Region 10, represented by their elected and legitimate representatives;

CONCERNED that even while the negotiations were ongoing the Guyana Police and Guyana Defence Forces were used against the people of Linden, including the indiscriminate shooting and injuring of innocent people in their homes on a quiet Sunday;

NOTING that in the face of such provocation, the Region continued to negotiate with the Government in good faith;

AND WHEREAS these negotiations resulted in the Agreement of 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2012, between the Government of Guyana and Region 10 Regional Democratic Council signed, on behalf of the Government of Guyana, by the Hon. Prime Minister, Mr. Samuel Hinds, O.E., M.P., and on behalf of Region 10, Regional Democratic Council, by Mr. Sharma Solomon;

AND WHEREAS the full text of the aforesaid written Agreement, which is attached to this motion, contains the details of the Agreement, inclusive of the deadlines for implementation and the actions required to be undertaken by all parties to the Agreement; (See Appendix)

CONCERNED that six (6) months after the signing of the Agreement many aspects of the Agreement have not been implemented, especially the commitment to return the dish and

transmitter to the people of Linden, inter alia;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government of Guyana to immediately adhere to its commitments and obligations under the written Agreement of 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2012 thereby ensuring that the benefits which were to accrue to the residents of Region 10 are realized; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Government of Guyana be held solely accountable and responsible for all direct and indirect consequences flowing from its continued unwillingness to adhere to the letter and spirit of the written Agreement of 21<sup>st</sup> August, 2012.

**(Notice Paper No. 165 (M 61 Opp.38) published on 2013-03-13)**

(ii) **GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Readings**

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

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Customs Act.

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

6. **ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF**

**TERRORISM (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 12/2013 published on 2013-04-22**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs to move the second reading of the following Bill:

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Act.

**(Read a first time on 2013-04-22)**

7. **EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 7/2013 published on 2013-02-14**

The Minister of Home Affairs to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Evidence Act.

**(Read a first time on 2013-03-14)**

8. **MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 8/2013 published on 2013-02-14**

The Minister of Home Affairs to move the second reading of the following Bill:

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

**(Read a first time on 2013-03-14)**

9. **TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL 2012 – Bill No. 18/2012 published on 2012-08-09**

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

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)**

10. **PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 17/2012**  
**published on 2012-08-09**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move the second reading of the following Bill:

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

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

(iii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

11. **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON 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)**

The Minister of Human Services and Social Security to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Special Select Committee of the National Assembly on 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), outlining its work programme on the abolition of corporal punishment in

the schools be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 166 (M 62 Committee 3) published on 2013-03-18)

## **Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

### **\*Committee of Selection**

**Time:** During the suspension of the Sitting of the National Assembly for refreshments.

**Venue:** Speaker's Chamber,  
Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown

**Business:** For the purpose of effecting changes to the following Committees of the National Assembly:

- The Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Economic Services; and
- The Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services

**Any Other Business**

**\*Not opened to the public**

**WEDNESDAY, 8<sup>th</sup> May, 2013**

**Sitting of the National Assembly**

NIL

**Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

**1.\*First Meeting of the Special Select Committee on the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of the Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2013 – Bill No. 12/2013**

**Time :** 2.30 p.m.

**Venue:** Committee Room No. 2 (Ground Floor, West of the main Stairway)  
Parliament Office, Public Building, Brickdam, Georgetown.

**Business:** (i) For the purpose of electing the Chairperson of the Committee.

**2.\*Committee on Appointments**

**Time :** 3.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Committee Room No. 1, Committees Division, Public Building,  
Brickdam, Georgetown.

**\*Not opened to the public**

- Business:**
- (i) Call to Order;
  - (ii) Announcements;
  - (iii) Correspondence;
  - (iv) Confirmation of the Minutes of the 8<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday, 13<sup>th</sup> March, 2013;
  - (v) Matters Arising;
  - (vi) To consider the draft criteria to be used when identifying Entities to be consulted to submit nominees for Appointment to Commissions;
  - (vii) To discuss the increase in Membership of the Ethnic Relations Commission;
  - (viii) To continue consideration of the list of entities to be consulted to nominate members to be appointed to the Ethnic Relations Commission; and
  - (ix) To identify entities to be consulted to nominate members to be appointed to the:
    - Rights of the Child Commission; and
    - Women & Gender Equality Commission.

Any Other Business

**THURSDAY, 9<sup>th</sup> May, 2013**

**Sitting of the National Assembly**

NIL

### **Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

**\*Special Select Committee on Guyana's Commitment to the United Nations Human Rights Council with Regard to the Abolitions 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 Person**

**Time :** 12.00 noon

**Venue:** Committee Room No. 2, (Ground Floor, West of the Main Stairway),  
Public Building, Brickdam, Georgetown.

**Business:** (i) Correction and confirmation of Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on  
20<sup>th</sup> March, 2013;

(ii) Matters Arising; and

(iii) To continue consideration of Matrix highlighting reference to



Corporal Punishment that applies to the Motion referred to in Resolution No. 23 of 2012.

**Any Other Business**

**\*Not opened to the public**

**FRIDAY, 10<sup>th</sup> May, 2013**

**Sitting of the National Assembly**

**NIL**

## **Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

### **1.Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Economic Services**

**Time :** 10.00 a.m.

**Venue:** Committee Room No. 1 Committees Division, Public Building, Brickdam, Georgetown.

**Business:** (i) Corrections and confirmation of Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Meetings held on 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2012 and 26<sup>th</sup> April, 2013, respectively;

(ii) Matters Arising;

(iii) To consider the Committee's draft Work Programme-

(2013-2017).

**Any other Business**

**2.\*Special Select Committee on the Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2012-Bill No. 12/2012; Local Government Commission Bill 2012-Bill No. 13/2012; Municipal and District Councils (Amendment) Bill 2012-Bill No. 19/2012; and The Fiscal Transfer Bill 2012-Bill No. 20/2012**

**Time :** 4.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Committee Room No. 1 Committees Division, Public Building,

**\*Not opened to the public**

Brickdam, Georgetown.

**Business:** (i) Correction and confirmation of Minutes of the 11<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> Meetings held on 15<sup>th</sup> March, 2013 and 21<sup>st</sup> March, 2013, respectively;

(ii) Matters Arising; and

(iii) To commence consideration of the Municipal and District Councils (Amemdmnt) Bill 2012-Bill No. 19/2012.

**Any Other Business**

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Parliament Office,  
Public Buildings,  
Brickdam,  
Georgetown.

8<sup>th</sup> May, 2013.

