

# **PARLIAMENTARY AGENDA**

## **FOR THE WEEK**

**MONDAY, 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2013 - FRIDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2013**

**MONDAY, 21<sup>st</sup> JANUARY, 2013**

**SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**NIL**

### **Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

#### **1. \* 7th Meeting of the Committee of Selection**

**TIME:** 10.00 a.m.

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

**Business:** For the purpose of effecting change to the Committee of Privileges.

### **Any Other Business**

**\*Not Opened to the Public**

## **2. \* 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Committee of Privileges**

**TIME:** 11.30 a.m.

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

**Business:** (i) To consider whether consequent to a Resolution of the House, the Minister of Home Affairs, the Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., has violated any of the Standing Orders, Customs, Practices, and/ or Conventions of the National Assembly of Guyana;

(ii) To determine what, if any, are the powers of the National Assembly of Guyana to sanction a Member of Parliament, who is a Minister appointed by His Excellency, the President, for failing to resign following the adoption of a Motion of No-Confidence; and

(iii) Presuming that the answer to (ii) above is in the affirmative, what sanctions including, preventing the Hon. Minister from speaking, are available to the National Assembly of Guyana

### **Any Other Business**

**\*Not Opened to the Public**

### 3. Public Accounts Committee

**TIME:** 1.30 p.m.

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

- Business:**
- (i) Correction and confirmation of Minutes of the 16<sup>th</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> Meetings held on 7<sup>th</sup> and 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2013, respectively;
  - (ii) Matters Arising;
  - (iii) To consider letter re: Establishment of a Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC) branch in Guyana; and
  - (iv) To continue examination of the Public Accounts of Guyana for the fiscal year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2010 and to commence examination for the fiscal year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2011, together with the report of the Auditor General thereon, in respect of the following:

Ministry/Department/Other	Paragraph in Auditor General's Report	Accounting Officer
1. Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development	159 – 160 (2)	Mr. Collin Croal
2. Region 10 – Upper Demerara/ Berbice	458 – 470 (12) (2010) 498 – 529 (31) (2011)	Ms. Yolanda Hilliman

**Any Other Business**

**4. \*Special Select Committee on the Guyana Cricket Administration Bill 2012 –  
Bill No. 31/2012**

**TIME:** 4.30 p.m.

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

- Business:**
- (i) Correction and confirmation of Minutes of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Meeting held on 14<sup>th</sup> January, 2013;
  - (ii) Matters Arising; and
  - (iii) To commence clause by clause consideration of the Guyana Cricket Administration Bill 2012 – Bill No. 31/2012.

**Any Other Business**

**\*Not Opened to the Public**

**TUESDAY, 22<sup>nd</sup> JANUARY, 2013**

**Sitting of the National Assembly**

**NIL**

**Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

**\*Special Select Committee on the Deeds Registry (Amendment) Bill 2012 – Bill No. 11/2012**

**TIME:** 3.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Committee Room No. 1, Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown.

- Business:**
- (i) Correction and confirmation of Minutes of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting held on 28<sup>th</sup> November, 2012;
  - (ii) To consider the submission by the Guyana Bar Association on the Deeds Registry (Amendment) Bill 2012- Bill No. 11/2012; and
  - (iii) To consider the Deeds Registry (Amendment) Bill 2012- Bill No. 11/2012.

**Any Other Business**

**\*Not Opened to the Public**

**WEDNESDAY 23<sup>rd</sup> JANUARY, 2013**

**Sitting of the National Assembly**

**NIL**

**Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

**1.\* Committee on Appointments**

**TIME:** 3.00 p.m.

**Venue:** Committee Room No. 1, Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown.

- Business:**
- (i) Call to Order;
  - (ii) Announcements;
  - (iii) Confirmation of Minutes of the 4<sup>th</sup> Meeting held on Wednesday, 9<sup>th</sup> January, 2013;
  - (iv) Matters Arising;
  - (v) To continue consideration of the list of entities to be consulted to nominate Members to be appointed to the Ethnic Relations Commission; and
  - (vi) 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**

**\*Not Opened to the Public**

**2. \*Special Select Committee on;**

**Local Government (Amendment) Bill 2012 – Bill No. 12/2012;**

**Local Government Commission Bill – Bill No. 13/2012;**

**Municipal and District Councils (Amendment) Bill – Bill No. 19/2012; and the**

**Fiscal Transfer Bill 2012 – Bill No. 20/2012**

**TIME:** 4.00 p.m.

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

**Business:**

- (i) Correction and confirmation of Minutes of the 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting held on 16<sup>th</sup> January, 2013;
- (ii) Matters Arising; and
- (iii) To consider one of the four (4) Local Government Bills 2012.

**Any Other Business**

**\*Not Opened to the Public**

**THURSDAY 24<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 2013**

**PUBLIC HOLIDAY**

**FRIDAY, 25<sup>th</sup> JANUARY, 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 Transport and Hydraulics:

(1) Audited Financial Statements of the Demerara Harbour Bridge Corporation for the years ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2003 to 2009.

(To be circulated)



(2) Audited Financial Statements of the Cheddi Jagan International Airport Corporation for the period 1<sup>st</sup> August, 2002 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2002 and for the years ended 31<sup>st</sup> December 2003 to 2010.

(To be circulated)

## **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

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

#### **BILLS – Second Reading**

#### **1. FORMER PRESIDENTS (BENEFIT AND OTHER FACILITIES) BILL 2012 – Bill No. 29/2012 published on 2013 – 01 – 11.**

Mr. Carl Greenidge, M.P., to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide benefits and other facilities for Former Presidents.

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

## **MOTIONS**

#### **2. THE APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE INCIDENCE OF CRIMINAL VIOLENCE FROM 2004 TO 2010 IN GUYANA**

Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, to move the following motion:

WHEREAS, Article 138(1) of the Constitution of the Republic of Guyana prescribes that no person shall be deprived of his life intentionally save in the execution of the sentence of a court in respect of an offence under the Laws of Guyana of which he has been convicted;

AND WHEREAS in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, “The President may issue a commission appointing one or more commissioners and authorizing such commissioner or commissioners to inquire into any matter in which an inquiry would, in the opinion of the President, be for the public welfare”;

AND WHEREAS this country has witnessed a pattern of unlawful killing of undetermined numbers of persons – including assassinations; executions; murders; extra-judicial killings by members of the Guyana Police Force Target Special Squad and other forms of criminal violence in Guyana during a period of ‘troubles’ on the East Coast and East Bank of Demerara and elsewhere – which were harmful to the public welfare;

AND WHEREAS several of these killings have been of a deliberate and systematic nature – particularly those which occurred at Agricola; Bartica; Buxton; Eccles; Lindo Creek; Lusignan and Bel Air, Bourda and Kitty in Georgetown – which can be classified as massacres and have engendered alarm and despondency among the population;

AND WHEREAS some killings involved members of the Guyana Police Force, the Guyana Defence Force and unidentified criminal gangs in which gangsters were equipped with a variety of electronic ‘eavesdropping’ equipment, weapons and vehicles that were provided with assistance and support by members of the Guyana Police Force;

AND WHEREAS commissions of inquiry and coroners’ inquests have not been conducted into some unnatural deaths and criminal investigation reports by the Guyana Police Force, with regard to the most egregious of these crimes, have often been inconclusive;

AND WHEREAS the National Assembly is the supreme legislative forum of our Republic wherein the people’s elected representatives discuss and determine matters of national interest and which is obliged to consider the grave threats to the public welfare and public security which prevailed during the aforesaid period of the ‘troubles’ and which remain substantially uninvestigated,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly condemns the killing of citizens of Guyana which occurred during the period of the 'troubles' and expresses its concern that commissions of inquiry have not been convened to investigate the unlawful killings, including the assassination of a Minister of the Government in April, 2006, on the East Coast of Demerara;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls upon the President of Guyana, in accordance with the Commission of Inquiry Act, Chapter 19:03, to appoint a Commission of Inquiry to inquire into the unlawful killing of citizens during the years 2004 to 2010.

**(Notice Paper No. 112 (M47 Opp 29) published on 2012-12-12)**

### **3. ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATIONAL HERITAGE COMMISSION**

Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Constitution of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, in its Preamble, declares that, "We the Guyanese People...proclaim our commitment to "Safeguard and build on the rich heritage, won through tireless struggle, bequeathed us by our forebears;" and further proclaims that we should "Celebrate our cultural and racial diversity and strengthen our unity by eliminating any and every form of discrimination";

AND WHEREAS the said Constitution, at Article 35, states further, "The state honours and respects the diverse cultural strains which enrich the society and will seek constantly to promote national appreciation of them at all levels and to develop out of them a socialist national culture for Guyana";

AND WHEREAS indentured immigrant labourers from Madeira arrived in the colony of British Guiana one hundred and seventy eight years ago, on 3<sup>rd</sup> May, 1835;

AND WHEREAS indentured immigrant labourers from China arrived in the colony of British Guiana one hundred and sixty years ago, on 12<sup>th</sup> January, 1853;

AND WHEREAS indentured immigrant labourers from India arrived in British Guiana one hundred and seventy five years ago, on 5<sup>th</sup> May, 1838;

AND WHEREAS liberated captive Africans arrived in the colony of British Guiana one hundred and seventy two years ago, in May 1841;

AND WHEREAS the indigenous peoples of Guyana observe “Amerindian Heritage Day’ each year on 10<sup>th</sup> September;

AND WHEREAS enslaved Africans rose, in what is known as the Berbice Revolt, on the Berbice Plantation of Hollandia two hundred and fifty years ago on 27<sup>th</sup> February, 1763;

AND WHEREAS enslaved Africans rose, in what is known as the Demerara Revolt, on several Demerara Plantations one hundred and ninety years ago on 18<sup>th</sup> August, 1823;

AND WHEREAS enslaved Africans regained their freedom one hundred and seventy five years ago on 11<sup>th</sup> August, 1838;

AND WHEREAS the State, from time to time, may consider the erection of monuments, the observance of events, the publication of educational and historical texts, films, broadcasts and other educational materials in order to satisfy the various cultural needs of the people of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS the National Assembly is the supreme legislative forum of our Republic wherein the people’s elected representatives – from both the legislative and executive branches – discuss and determine matters of national interest and importance;

AND WHEREAS due recognition should be given to the rights and consideration given to the cultural needs of all Guyanese,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls for the immediate establishment of a National Heritage Commission to be charged, inter alia, with responsibilities for:

- (i) The promulgation of a National Cultural Policy which “honours and respects the diverse cultural strains which enrich the society and will seek constantly to promote national appreciation of them at all levels; and
- (ii) The commemoration of events and the establishment of memorials which “Celebrate our cultural and racial diversity and strengthen our unity by eliminating any and every form of discrimination”.

**(Notice Paper No. 131 (M 55 Opp.32) published on 2013-01-09)**

**(ii) GOVERNMENT’S BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Readings**

**4. 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)**

**5. LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 – Bill No. 3/2013**  
**published on 2013-01-09**

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 councillors of local democratic organs.

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

**6. 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)**

**7. 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)**

**Any Other Business**

**Meetings of Parliamentary Committees**

**NIL**

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**Parliament Office  
Public Buildings  
Brickdam  
Georgetown.**

**21<sup>st</sup> January, 2013.**