

PARLIAMENTARY AGENDA
FOR THE WEEK

MONDAY, 24th June, 2013 - FRIDAY, 28th June 2013

MONDAY, 24th June, 2013

Sitting of the National Assembly

NIL

Meetings of Parliamentary Committees

NIL

Tuesday, 25th June, 2013

Sitting National of the Assembly

NIL

Meetings of Parliamentary Committees

NIL

Wednesday, 26th June, 2013

Sitting of the National Assembly

NIL

Meetings of Parliamentary Committees

1. Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Foreign Relations

TIME: 11.00 a.m.

VENUE: Committee Room No. 2(Ground Floor, West of the main stairway) Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown.

- BUSINESS:**
- (i) Announcements;
 - (ii) To correct and confirm the Minutes of the 4th Meeting held on Tuesday, 28th May, 2013;
 - (iii) Matters arising from the Minutes;
 - (iv) Correspondence;
 - (v) Presentation by Mrs. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs on: the movement of Guyanese in the Caribbean Region; the restructuring of CARICOM – the implementation of the five year plan report, and Diplomatic Relations – staffing within the various Embassies; and
 - (vi) To continue formulating the Committee's Work Programme for 2013-2014.

Any Other Business

2.*Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Guyana Branch

TIME: 1.30 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 7th Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th May, 2013;
 - (ii) Matters arising;
 - (iii) Correspondence;
 - (iv) Consideration of the Report of the Subcommittee for the 16th Regional Presiding Officers and Clerks Conference: 26th October – 1st November, 2013.

Any Other Business

***Not Opened to the Public**

3.*Parliamentary Management Committee

TIME: 3.00 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 8th Meeting held on Wednesday, 15th May, 2013;
 - (ii) Matters arising;
 - (iii) Correspondence;
 - (iv) Business of the National Assembly;
 - (v) Committees and Commissions; and
 - (vi) Training/Workshops/Conferences:
 - Further consideration of the proposal of a Seminar on 22nd July, 2013: **Mainstreaming Child Right in Parliamentary work in Guyana**, submitted by United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

***Not Opened to the Public**

(vii) Administrative matters:

- Continue consideration of the recommendations contained in the Reports on the Training Seminar for Members of Parliament held on the 21st – 22nd May, 2012;
- School Outreach to Region 8 on 10th July, 2013;
- Improvement of the environment of the Public Buildings; and
- Consideration of the Final Report on the Assessment of the Committee System of the National Assembly of Guyana, April, 2013.

Any Other Business

4.*Committee on Appointments

TIME: 3.00 p.m.

VENUE: Committee Room No.1, Committees Division, Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown.

- BUSINESS:**
- (i) Call to Order;
 - (ii) Announcements;
 - (iii) Correspondence;
 - (iv) Confirmation of the Minutes of the 11th Meeting held on Wednesday, 12th June, 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

***Not Opened to the Public**

Thursday, 27th June, 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 Annual Report of Kwakwani Utilities Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2010.

(To be Circulated)

- (ii) The Annual Report of Kwakwani Utilities Inc. for the year ended 31st December, 2011.

(To be Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

- (i) **GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS**

BILLS – Second Readings

1. **HYDRO-ELECTRIC POWER (AMENDMENT) BILL 2013 –
Bill No.15/2013 published on 2013-06-13**

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 Hydro-Electric Power Act.

(Read a first time on 2013-06-13)

MOTIONS

2. **LIMIT ON AMOUNT OUTSTANDING UNDER
GUARANTEES GIVEN UNDER THE GUARANTEE OF
LOANS (PUBLIC CORPORATIONS AND COMPANIES)
ACT**

The Minister of Finance to move the following motion:

WHEREAS in accordance with Section 3(1) of the Guarantee of Loans (Public Corporations and Companies) Act, Chapter 77:01, the Government may in such manner and on such terms and subject to such conditions as may be agreed between it and a lending agency –

- (a) Guarantee the discharge by a Corporation of its obligations under any agreement which may be entered into by the

Corporation with a lending agency in respect of any borrowing by that Corporation that is authorised by the Government;

(b) Assume such other obligation as may be agreed between the Government and a lending agency in relation to or pursuant to any such agreement;

(c) Undertake the repayment to a lending agency of such sums as the lending agency may have advanced to or for the benefit of the Government;

AND WHEREAS it is provided under Section 2(2) of the aforesaid Act that, for the purposes of the Act, a borrowing by a Corporation shall be deemed to include the obligation of the Corporation to make payments to any person arising out of any contract lawfully entered into by the Corporation;

AND WHEREAS it is provided under Section 4(1) of the aforesaid Act that the aggregate amount of the liability of the Government in respect of guarantees given under Section 3 of the Act shall not at any time exceed the sum of one thousand million dollars or such greater sum as may from time to time be specified by the Resolution of the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it has become necessary to specify in accordance with the said Section 4(1) a greater sum for the purpose of enabling the aggregate amount of the liability of the Government in respect of guarantees to be increased due to the extended activities of those incorporated bodies to which the Act applies in accordance with the country's development programme,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approve that the aggregate amount of the liability of the Government under Section 4(1) of the Guarantee of Loans (Public Corporations and Companies) Act, in respect of guarantees given under Section 3 of the Act, shall not at any time exceed the sum of one hundred and fifty thousand million dollars.

(Notice Paper No. 195 (M 75 Govt. 25) published on 2013-06-13)

3. RATIFICATION OF THE ARMS TRADE TREATY

The Minister of Foreign Affairs to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Arms Trade Treaty on the 2nd day of April, 2013;

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) has played an integral role in furthering the agenda which led to the adoption of the Treaty;

AND WHEREAS the Arms Trade Treaty seeks to establish the highest possible common international standards for regulating or improving the regulation of international trade in conventional arms and to prevent and eradicate illicit trade and its diversion;

AND WHEREAS the adoption of the Arms Trade Treaty is considered to be of great significance in that it will aid in achieving the purpose of contributing to international and regional peace, security and stability; reducing human suffering; and promoting cooperation, transparency and responsible action by States Parties in the international trade in conventional arms, thereby building confidence among States Parties;

AND WHEREAS the Arms Trade Treaty was signed by the Republic of Guyana at the United Nations, New York on June 3, 2013,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly of the Parliament of Guyana approves of Guyana's ratification of the Arms Trade Treaty.

(Notice Paper No. 196 (M 76 Govt. 26) published on 2013-06-14)

BILLS – Second Readings

4. 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 Bill:

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)

5. 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)

(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

BILLS – Second Reading

6. THE MARRIED PERSONS (PROPERTY) (AMENDMENT)

BILL 2013 – Bill No. 9 of 2013 published on 2013-06-14

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P. to move the second reading of the following Bill:

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

(Read a first time on 2013-06-13)

MOTION

7. HONOURING THE 21ST 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 21st 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 21st 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 21st August, 2012.

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

Meetings of Parliamentary Committees

NIL

Friday, 28th June, 2013

Sitting of the National Assembly

NIL

Meetings of Parliamentary Committees

**1. *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 Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown.

BUSINESS: (i) Correction and confirmation of Minutes of the 16th Meeting held on 14th June, 2013;

(ii) Matters arising;

(iii) To consider the Draft Reports of the Committee on the:

***Not Open to the Public**

- 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
- Fiscal Transfers Bill 2012 – Bill No. 20/2012.

Any Other Business.

**Parliament Office,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.**

24th June, 2013