

TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA – FIRST SESSION (2012)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NOTICE PAPER NO. 115

Member Asking: **Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Finance**

QUESTIONS

RESTORATION OF THE SUMS DELETED FROM 2012 BUDGET

Minister of Finance, Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., is reported to have said, in delivering his 2012 Mid-Year Report, he had restored the sums the House deleted from the 2012 Budget, on grounds that “The National Assembly was later deemed by the Courts of Guyana to have acted outside its constitutional remit in inflicting those cuts to the budget;” and

Dr. Roger Luncheon was quoted in the press on September 7, 2012 as saying that “the \$1 that was approved by the Opposition for the various Agencies was totally inconsistent with the constitutional provision as ruled by the Chief Justice;” and that, “no one lost their jobs.” “Contingency Funds were approved and funds made available belatedly, but still available to meet the wages and salaries of the contract workers at Office of the President.”

Would the Hon. Minister of Finance say whether monies cut from the Budget and not approval by this House have been restored to the Ministries? If, so,

- (i) What categories and sums have been involved?
- (ii) What is the legal basis for such payments?
- (iii) What advice was provided on this matter by the Attorney General?

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(iv) What section of the Chief Justice's report/decision suggests that either the Chief Justice or the Ministry of Finance can restore cuts to the budget or that the Chief Justice can authorise the Ministry of Finance to make advances from the Consolidated Fund?

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