

TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA – FIRST SESSION (2012 – 2014)

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

NOTICE PAPER NO. 283

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

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Public Works**

QUESTIONS

CARIBBEAN AIRLINES – FLAGSHIP CARRIER STATUS

On Wednesday, 15th January, 2014, Caribbean Airlines BW 483 landed on time and was due to leave Piarco Airport at 8.30 p.m. as part of a feeder from Miami and Washington. On arrival at Piarco, the passengers going on to Georgetown were told to stay on board. After all the other passengers had disembarked, Georgetown bound passengers were told to leave the plane and to wait at the top of the stairs in the terminal. Once in the terminal they were immediately shepherded into the waiting area room, movement in which was very restricted for over an hour.

In view of the 1st January, 2013 announcement by Minister Benn to the effect that the CAL has been granted flagship carrier status for Guyana, would the Minister be good enough to indicate:

- (i) Whether the negotiation of this status for CAL involved any requirement by the Government of Guyana and a matching commitment from the CAL management to eliminate discriminatory treatment imposed on Guyana bound and departing passengers on this route, one of the airline's most lucrative routes?

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- (ii) If so, what quality and range of services, including arrangements for the transfer and checking-in of transit passengers at Piarco, has the Government of Guyana required CAL to fulfil and over what period of time?
- (iii) Whether the Government has in place any mechanism for monitoring the quality of services provided to passengers since January, 2013? If so, what have been the findings up to the end of the last review period?
- (iv) What has been the direct financial recompense and non-financial benefits, if any, the Government of Guyana has received in return for this grant of the route rights or national carrier status to CAL?
- (v) How does this compare with what was received before 1st January, 2013?

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