

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 16TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2020-2021) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 10.00 A.M.

ON THURSDAY, 28TH JANUARY, 2021

IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,

LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN

PRIVATE MEMBERS' SITTING

PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS FOR SITTING

PRAYERS

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT-

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

By the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance:

The Customs (Amendment of First Schedule) (No. 3) Order 2020 – No. 82 of 2020.

(To be Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

2.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. NATIONAL PROCUREMENT BOARD

Member Asking: **Ms. Annette Ferguson, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Senior Minister in the Office of President with responsibility
for Finance**

1. The publication of the new appointees to the Public Procurement Board stated the following persons have been nominated and appointed to serve on the board:
- Mr. Tarachand Balgobin as Temporary Chairman
 - Mr. Bernard Lord - Member
 - Mr. Desmond Mohamed - Member
 - Mr. Steve Ninvalle - Member
 - Mr. Mark Conway - Member
 - Ms. Gloria Beharry - Member

In accordance to Part 111 of the Procurement Act 2003, Section 16, clearly addresses the creation and membership of the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board, Section 16(2) states:

“The administration shall be managed by the National Board which shall consist of seven (7) members appointed by the Minister from among persons of unquestionable integrity who have shown capacity in business, the professions, law, audit, finance and administration”.

Can the Honourable Minister state the following:

- (a) Whether the names listed above were appointed in keeping with Section 16
(2) of the National Procurement act?
(b) The current construct is six (6), when will the additional person be appointed?

2. Section 16(3) states:

- “the members of the National Board to be appointed by the Minister shall comprise:*
(i) *not more than five persons from the Public Service;*
(ii) *not more than three persons from the private sector after consultation with their representative organizations”.*

3.

Can the Honourable Minister state the following:

(a) State from the list of appointees, where the persons are employed?

(b) State who are the representatives from the Private Sector?

3. Section 16(4) states:

“Two members of the National Board shall serve on a full-time basis and the remainder shall serve on a part-time basis. The Minister shall appoint as Chairman one of the full-time members”.

Can the Honourable Minister state the following:

(a) Whether there is a conflict of interest in appointing Mr. Tarachand Balgobin as Temporary Chairman, since he is a full time Public Servant and the Act does not allow for this arrangement?

(b) Is there consideration for the appointment of a substantive Chairperson of the Board?

(c) If yes, is there a period for the appoint and when?

(Notice Paper No.15 (Q9 Opp.9) published on 2020-10-28)

2. CONTRACTED EMPLOYEES

Member Asking: Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Public Works

1. Can the Minister provide the designation of each person employed on contract in the Ministry of Public Works as well as its gazetted umbrella and associated Agencies since August 2, 2020?
2. Can the Minister provide the emoluments (salaries and other benefits) for each of the persons employed on contract since August 2, 2020 as stated above?
3. Can the Honourable Minister advise if allowances for these employments were in Budget 2020, and if so, under which line item are they being paid?

(Notice Paper No. 20 (Q12 Opp.12) published on 2020-12-07)

3. CONTRACTED EMPLOYEES

Member Asking: Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Natural Resources

1. Can the Minister provide the designation of each person employed on contract in the Ministry of Natural Resources as well as its gazetted umbrella and associated Agencies since August 2, 2020?
2. Can the Minister provide the emoluments (salaries and other benefits) for each of the persons employed on contract since August 2, 2020 as stated above?
3. Can the Honourable Minister advise if allowances for these employments were in Budget 2020, and if so, under which line item are they being paid?

(Notice Paper No. 21 (Q13 Opp.13) published on 2020-12-07)

4. TRAWLER LICENSES

Member Asking: Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Agriculture

1. To whom were two new trawler licenses issued to, for years 2020-2021 by the Ministry of Agriculture Fisheries Department?
2. Were they any due diligence conducted on these license(s) to verify a meritorious grant thereof?
3. If there were any such due diligence done, could the Honourable Minister provide copies to this Honourable House of the said due diligence Report(s)?
4. Was the Guyana Association of Trawler Owners and Seafood Processors Association (GATOSP) consulted in any way prior to this grant of the two trawler licenses?

(Notice Paper No. 22 (Q14 Opp.14) published on 2020-12-07)

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS, INCLUDING POLICY STATEMENTS-

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-

**REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ON
DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE-**

**MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY AND
MOVED BY A MINISTER-**

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

MOTIONS

1. **NARCOTICS DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (CONTROL)**

(AMENDMENT) BILL 2020 -No. 16 of 2020

Mr. Sherod Duncan, M.P. 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 Narcotics Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) (Amendment) Bill 2020 -No. 16 of 2020:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) Act.

(Notice Paper No. 23 (M9 Opp. 3) published on 2020-12-11)

2. **APPOINTMENT OF A COMMISSION OF INQUIRY TO INVESTIGATE THE UNREST AT THE LUSIGNAN PRISON, THE SUBSEQUENT DEATHS OF AND THE INJURY OF SEVERAL PRISONERS ON THE 19TH SEPTEMBER, 2020**

Ms Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P. 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 Commissioners to inquire into any matters in which an inquiry would in the opinion of the President be for the public welfare”;

AND WHEREAS, it has been widely reported and confirmed that several prisoners were shot by members of the Guyana Prison Services in or near the Lusignan Prison, resulting in injuries and two deaths on the 19th September, 2020;

AND WHEREAS, the lack of information surrounding the following matters are of public concern;

AND WHEREAS, the Home Affairs Minister has failed to provide answers on these matters of public importance and the public remains without credible information, after the 19th September, 2020 as to the circumstances which led to the unrest, injuries sustained and the subsequent deaths of several prisoners;

AND WHEREAS, it is important, in the public's interest to know and understand the specific facts and circumstances that led to the shooting and subsequent deaths of three prisoners so as to prevent a recurrence;

7.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls on the Government to make full disclosure on all aspects of the tragedy at the Lusignan Prisons on the 19th September, 2020 and to declare what actions have been and are being taken to reduce the opportunities for such situations from re- occurring.

(Notice Paper No. 17 (M7 Opp 1) published on 2020-12-01)

3. **CONDEMN THE BRUTAL AND HORRIFIC KILLING OF JOEL HENRY, ISIAAH HENRY AND HARESH SINGH, BETWEEN THE PERIOD SEPTEMBER 6 to 9, 2020**

Ms Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS, Guyanese citizens, Joel Henry, Isiah Henry and Hareesh Singh, all under the age of 20 years old, from the village of N0. 3 Village, West Coast Berbice, were brutally, barbarically and horrifically killed, and the bodies found at or near the Cotton Tree Back Dam in the Mahaica/ Berbice Region No. 5;

AND WHEREAS, the period September 6 to 9, 2020, will go down in the history of our country as the period when these unspeakable crimes left the nation numb and in a state of shock and sadness;

AND WHEREAS. these brutal, senseless, barbaric, depraved and horrific killings have caused untold pain, agony, grief, anguish, anger and despair to the surviving family members, fellow villagers and the entire Guyanese Community;

AND WHEREAS, these brutal and horrific killings have evoked unequivocal condemnation from Guyanese, living in Guyana and in the diaspora;

AND WHEREAS, the diplomatic community and civil society have also unequivocally condemned these brutal, barbaric and horrific killings;

AND WHEREAS, Parliament, of which the National Assembly is a part of the supreme legislative forum of our Republic wherein the people's elected representatives discuss and determine matters of national interest and is obliged to consider the grave threats to the public welfare and public security;

AND WHEREAS, Article 138(1) of the Constitution of the Cooperative 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, to date these horrific deaths which are of public importance, concern and welfare remain substantially unresolved.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly recommends to the Government to procure and finance the assistance of expert and competent professionals who can resolve these cases;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly condemns the killing of the three Citizens aforementioned, and extends sincerest condolences to the families of the deceased; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls on the Government to continue its earnest investigations, so as to ensure expeditious justice to the family.

(Notice Paper No. 18 (M8 Opp 2) published on 2020-12-01)

9.

(ii) **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

BILLS – Second Readings

4. **LAW REFORM COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020 – Bill No. 11/2020 published on 2020-11-20**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Law Reform Commission Act.

(Read a first time on 2020-12-23)

5. **ADOPTION OF CHILDREN (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020 – Bill No. 15/2020**

The Minister of Human Services and Social Security to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Adoption of Children Act.

(Read a first time on 2020-12-23)

6. **DECEASED PERSONS ESTATES' ADMINISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020 – Bill No. 12/2020 published on 2020-11-10**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Deceased Persons Estates' Administration Act.

(Read a first time on 2020-12-23)

7. **SMALL BUSINESS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2020 – Bill No. 13/2020 published on 2020-11-10**

The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce to move the second reading of the following Bill:

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10.

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Small Business Act.

(Read a first time on 2020-12-23)

8. **HIRE-PURCHASE BILL 2020 – Bill No. 14/2020 published on 2020-11-10**

The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the regulation of hire-purchase, credit sale and conditional sale agreements; and for related purposes.

(Read a first time on 2020-12-23)

(iii) **COMMITTEES' BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

9. **OUTSTANDING WORK OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT**

Mr. David Patterson, M.P. (Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee) to move the following motion:

WHEREAS, in accordance with Standing Order No. 104(1), every Committee shall before the end of the Session in which it was appointed, make a report to the Assembly upon matters referred to it;

AND WHEREAS, the Public Accounts Committee, a Standing Committee of the National Assembly of the First Session of the Eleventh Parliament, was unable, owing to the dissolution of Parliament on 30th December, 2019, to conclude the work that was referred to it in that Session,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Public Accounts Committee of the National Assembly of the First Session of the Twelfth Parliament take into account all outstanding work of the previous Committee.

(Notice Paper No. 28 (M14 Committee 1) published on 2021-01-06)

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11.

10. **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ON ITS EXAMINATION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF GUYANA FOR THE YEAR 2015**

Mr. David Patterson, M.P. (Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on its examination of the Public Accounts of Guyana for the year 2015, be adopted and refer the Report to the Government for consideration.

(Notice Paper No. 31 (M15 Committee 2) published on 2021-01-18)

**S. E. ISAACS, A.A.,
Clerk of the National Assembly**

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.**

21st January, 2021.