

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 120TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2006 - 2010) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 11TH MARCH, 2010

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

BUSINESS FOR SITTING

PRAYERS

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-

MESSAGES FROM THE PRESIDENT-

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-

Private Bill

By Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Petition on behalf of the Guyana and Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Company Limited seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to amend the Guyana Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance Company Limited Ordinance, Chapter 210 of the Kingdom Edition of the Laws of British Guiana (Principal Ordinance).

2.

After the petition is read, the Speaker will put the question that the promoters be allowed to proceed.

(Circulated)

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE-

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Oral replies

1. **CAMERAS OPERATED BY THE STATE MEDIA IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

*Will the Hon. Prime Minister say if he is satisfied that the cameras operated by the State media to video record the Parliamentary proceedings is positioned in such a way that they only capture frontal views of government Members and not Members of the opposition benches?

(Notice Paper No. 420 (Q302 Opp277) published on 2010-02-08)

3.

2. NOISE NUISANCE, DUST NUISANCE AND DEGRADATION TO RESIDENTS OF GANGES STREET, PRASHAD NAGAR

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

*From 1997 to September 29, 2009 (13 years) there were several exchanges of correspondence, on behalf of residents of Ganges Street, Prashad Nagar on the one hand and the Guyana Power and Light Inc., (GPL) and the Environmental Protection Agency on the other complaining about the noise nuisance, dust nuisance and degradation of their community's scenic environment. A petition dated September 29, 2009 from Ganges Street residents stipulating the noise/dust/smoke nuisance and health hazards was sent to the Prime Minister, the Director of the Environmental Protection Agency, the Chairman of GPL, the Mayor of the Georgetown City Council and the Chairman of the Central Housing and Planning Authority. To date all promises made to these residents by GPL have not been fulfilled. Will the honourable Prime Minister indicate to the residents of Ganges Street who have complained about these environmental nuisances and health hazards whether their quest for mitigation measures will ever be forthcoming and if so, when and how?

(Notice Paper No. 422 (Q304 Opp279) published on 2010-02-08)

For Written reply

3. ADVISORS TO HIS EXCELLENCY THE PRESIDENT

Member Asking: Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

Will the Hon. Prime Minister list the names and salaries being paid to all advisors of His Excellency the President?

(Notice Paper No. 421 (Q303 Opp278) published on 2010-02-08)

4.

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) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

**1. SYMPATHY ON DEATH OF THE MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION, THE HON. DESREY CLEMENTINE CAESAR FOX, M.P.**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That we the Members of the National Assembly of the Parliament of Guyana -

- place on record our shock and profound grief at the great loss to the Government and the Parliament of Guyana by the tragic death on Friday, 11th December, 2009, of the Minister in the Ministry of Education, the Hon. Desrey Clementine Caesar Fox, M.P.,

5.

- pay tribute to the committed and distinguished service which she rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly directs that an expression of our heartfelt sympathy be conveyed to her sorrowing children and relatives.

(Notice Paper No. 417 (M120 Govt 75) published on 2010-01-07)

BILLS – Second Readings

- *2. **LEADER OF THE OPPOSITION (BENEFITS AND OTHER FACILITIES)**
BILL 2009 – Bill No. 16/2009 published on 2009-04-30

The Minister of Finance to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for benefits and other facilities to the Leader of the Opposition.

(Read a first time on 2009-04-30)

BILLS – Committee and Third Readings

- *3. **COURT OF APPEAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 – Bill No. 12 of 2008 published on 2008-07-11**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Court of Appeal Act to provide for appeals by the Director of Public Prosecutions to the Court of Appeal and the Caribbean Court of Justice and for connected matters.

(Read a first time on 2008-07-17)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2008-07-24)

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

6.

***4. MARITIME ZONES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 36/2009 published on 2009-10-08**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to repeal and replace the Maritime Boundaries Act 1977, to incorporate certain provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001, to provide for marine scientific research, maritime cultural area, eco-tourism, marine parks and reserves and mariculture, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and for related matters.

(Read a first time on 2009-10-15)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-10-29)

***5. CREDIT REPORTING BILL 2009 – Bill No. 37/2009 published on 2009-10-22**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to establish a credit reporting industry with the aim of enabling more reliable, competitive, and responsible credit lending while protecting borrowers' rights.

(Read a first time on 2009-10-29)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-11-12)

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

7.

***6. PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 44/2009 published on 2009-11-19**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide certain rights to persons with disabilities; to provide for the promotion and protection and full and equal enjoyment of the rights; to facilitate the enforcement of the rights; to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability; to provide for the welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities; to provide for the registration of persons with disabilities; to establish the National Commission on Disabilities; and for connected purposes.

(Read a first time on 2009-11-19)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-11-26)

***7. LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 45/2009 published on 2009-11-26**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Legal Practitioners Act.

(Read a first time on 2009-11-26)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-12-21)

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

8.

BILLS – Second Readings, Committee and Third Readings

***8. ALLIED HEALTH PROFESSIONS BILL 2009 – Bill No. 15/2009 published on 2009-04-30**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for registration of members of allied health professions supplementary to the medical profession, regulation of practice of allied health professions and allied health services, to provide for maintenance of professional standards for allied health professions and health services and to make provisions for training of members of those professions and services and for related purposes.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-04-30)

***9. LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 23/2009 published 2009-06-03**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Local Government Act.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-04)

***10. FISCAL TRANSFERS BILL 2009 - Bill No. 25/2009 published on 2009-06-11**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

9.

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the formulation and implementation of objective criteria for the purpose of the allocation of resources to and the garnering of resources by local democratic organs and for matters connected therewith.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-11)

*11. **MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 26/2009 published on 2009-06-11**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Municipal and District Councils Act.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-11)

*12. **CUSTODY, CONTACT, GUARDIANSHIP AND MAINTENANCE BILL 2009 – Bill No. 29/2009 published on 2009-06-25**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the granting of custody, contact, guardianship and maintenance rights with respect to children and for connected purposes.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-06-25)

/...10

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

10.

***13. THE SEXUAL OFFENCES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 30/2009 published on 2009-07-08**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to reform and consolidate the laws relating to sexual offences and to provide for related matters.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-07-09)

***14. CHILDCARE AND DEVELOPMENT SERVICES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 31/2009 published on 2009-07-08**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Special Select Committee has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to regulate childcare services and to provide for parameters for the granting of licences for childcare and development services and connected matters.

(Read a first time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-07-09)

(ii) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and first Readings

1. BROADCASTING BILL 2010 – Bill No. 3/2010

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., is to seek leave to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the establishment of a Broadcasting Authority, to provide for their functions, and to provide for the licensing of broadcasting agencies and the encouragement of production and broadcasting of television and radio programmes having relevance generally to life and culture of the people and for consequential and related matters.

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

11.

*2. ***FREEDOM OF INFORMATION BILL 2006 – Bill No. 26/2006**

Mr. Raphael Trotman, M.P., is to seek leave to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to give access to information to members of the public.

MOTIONS

15. **REQUEST TO QUESTION, THROUGH COUNSEL, HON. DR. ASHNI SINGH, M.P., MINISTER OF FINANCE BEFORE THE COMMITTEE OF PRIVILEGES**

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., to move the following motion:

WHEREAS at the 99th sitting in the 9th Parliament held on the 22nd day of October, 2009 the Honourable Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance moved a motion which resolved that this Honourable House signals its unanimous disapproval of a statement purportedly made by me, and that this matter be referred to the Committee of Privileges in keeping with Standing Order No. 32 with the view of finding me in contempt of this House;

AND WHEREAS at the aforesaid sitting the Honourable Speaker ruled that a prima facie case had been made out against me and referred the matter to the Committee of Privileges;

AND WHEREAS at my appearance before the Committee of Privileges on the 25th day of November, 2009 I enquired of my right directly or through counsel to question the Honourable

Minister of Finance, Dr. Ashni Singh the mover of the aforesaid motion and the seconder of that motion;

/...12

***Not to be proceeded with at this sitting**

12.

AND WHEREAS by way of letter dated the 15th December, 2009 the Clerk of the National Assembly informed me that "... in order to question the mover of the motion, the Honourable Dr. Ashni Singh, either directly or through counsel, you would be required to table a motion in the National Assembly requesting leave of the House to so do.";

AND WHEREAS the rules of natural justice, dictate that an accused person be given an opportunity to question his or her accuser;

AND WHEREAS this National Assembly as the highest court of Guyana, is duty bound to adhere to the tenets of natural justice,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Honourable House grant me leave to question, through my counsel, Honourable Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance the mover of the motion dated 22nd October, 2009 citing me for contempt of the House.

(Notice Paper No. 413 (M116 Opp 32) published on 2009-12-28)

16. **DEATH OF MR. NAZIR ALLY, FORMER MEMBER OF PARLIAMENT**

Mr. Robert Corbin, M.P., Leader of the Opposition to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Mr. Nazir Ally and pays tribute to his dedicated service as a Member of Parliament from 17th April, 2001 to 2nd May, 2006;

/...13

13.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his bereaved family and relatives.

(Notice Paper No. 414 (M117 Opp 33) published on 2010-01-05)

(iii) COMMITTEES BUSINESS

MOTION

17. ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE FOR THE YEARS 2004 AND 2005

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P., (Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly adopts the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on its examination of the Public Accounts of Guyana for the years 2004 and 2005 and refer the Report to the Government for consideration.

(Notice Paper No. 424 (M123 Opp 34) published on 2010-02-10)

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S.E. ISAACS
Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

5th March, 2010.