

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 9TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2006 - 2007) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON MONDAY, 22nd JANUARY, 2007

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-

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

2.

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE-

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

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

BILLS – Second Readings

1. **GAMBLING PREVENTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006 – Bill No. 30/2006
published on 2006-12-28**

The Assembly to resume the debate on the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Gambling Prevention Act.

(Read a first time on 2007-01-11)

3.

*2. **VALUE –ADDED TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 2007- Bill No. 3/2007 published on 2007-01-17**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Value-Added Tax Act 2005.

(Read a first time on 2007-01-19)

BILL – Second Reading, Committee and Third Reading

*3. **HEALTH FACILITIES LICENSING BILL 2006 – Bill No. 29/2006 published on 2006-12-21**

The Assembly to proceed upon the further stages of the following Bill, after the Sectoral Committee on Social Services has reported thereon:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the licensing of Health Facilities and for related matters.

(Read a first time on 2006-12-21)

(Committed to the Sectoral Committee on Social Services on 2007-01-11)

(ii) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and first Reading

***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.

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*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

4.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

4. **CONSTRUCTION OF A BRIDGE ACROSS THE BERBICE RIVER**

Member Giving Notice: Mr. James McAllister, M.P.

WHEREAS 12 Presidents of South American countries met in September, 2000 and agreed on the Initiative for the Integration of Regional Infrastructure in South America (IIRSA) which, has a portfolio of 335 infrastructural projects organized in ten Integration and Development Hubs and a Consensus Agenda comprising of 31 integration projects which are to be executed between 2005 and 2010;

AND WHEREAS the Guiana Shield Hub, of which Guyana is a part, has a number of projects including bridging the Takutu River; the Boa Vista-Bonfim-Lethem-Linden-Georgetown Highway; Venezuela (Cuidad Guayana) – Guyana (Georgetown)-Suriname(Paramaribo) Highway; and a deep water port in Guyana; which projects will allow for the full integration of the Guiana Shield Hub Territories and result in the creation of massive volumes of transnational high payload containerized road traffic that would require bridges designed for live loads in excess of AASHTO HS25;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ballast Nedam International for the construction of a fixed prestressed concrete bridge across the Berbice River to carry design live loads in excess of AASHTO HS25, which Memorandum was abandoned and subsequently signed another Memorandum of Understanding with Berbice River Bridge Consortium for the construction of a similar bridge;

5.

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana contends that it opted for a steel floating bridge designed for AASHTO HS25 live load between D'Edward and Crab Island as a result of a feasibility study done by the Louis Berger Group that suggested that such a bridge at this location was most economical;

AND WHEREAS Patricio Millan Development Consultants Inc. conducted a review of the feasibility analysis done by the Louis Berger Group and provided the IDB and the Government of Guyana with independent estimates of cost that established that the Louis Berger Group grossly underestimated the cost of construction and maintenance of the steel floating bridge and that a fixed concrete prestressed bridge between Providence and Augsburg is the only possible economically viable alternative,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to review its' decision to build a steel floating bridge between D'Edward and Crab Island;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly directs its' Economic Services Committee to investigate and identify all factors that influenced the Government's decision to proceed with the construction of a steel floating bridge between D'Edward and Crab Island as against a fixed prestressed concrete bridge at other locations and report to the National Assembly within three months;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly directs the Honourable Minister of Public Works and Communications to instruct the Berbice Bridge Company Inc. to suspend all works pending the outcome of the investigation by the Economic Services Committee.

(Notice Paper No. 42 (M12 Opp5) published on 2007-01-03)

6.

*5. **THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD**

Member Giving Notice: Ms Chantalle Smith, M.P.

WHEREAS in 1991 Guyana signed and ratified the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;

AND WHEREAS Article 19 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child states that “Parties shall take all appropriate legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse, while in the care of parent(s), legal guardian(s) or any other person who has the care of the child”;

AND WHEREAS the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child has consistently proposed the abolition of corporal punishment when the reporting process under the convention has revealed the continued existence of school corporal punishment;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana’s report to the Committee of the Convention of the Rights of the Child of July 29, 2002 states: “Enhanced legislation is an integral element in this country’s efforts to give tangible effect to the provisions of the Constitution Reform Commission.”;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana’s report to the Committee on the Convention on the Rights of the Child of July 29, 2002 further states “The Constitutional Reform Commission acknowledged that the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child should inform constitutional provisions to protect children’s rights. The Oversight Select Committee of the Revised Guyana Constitution subsequently accepted the above recommendations and in 2001 these rights were accorded the status of fundamental and human rights in the amended Constitution”;

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*Not to be proceeded with at this sitting

7.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly declares the continued use of corporal punishment in schools in Guyana a violation of Article 19 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly declares the continued use of corporal punishment in schools in Guyana a violation of the Constitution;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly recommends the abolition of corporal punishment under the new Education Act.

(Notice Paper No. 22 (M3 Opp2) published on 2006-11-22)

(iii) COMMITTEE BUSINESS

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S.E. ISAACS
Clerk of the National Assembly

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

19th January, 2007.

