

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 33RD 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, 16TH DECEMBER, 2021

IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,

LILIENDAAL, GREATER 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-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

2.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written replies

1. NUMBER OF REPORTS OF MISSING CITIZENS

Member Asking: **Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Home Affairs**

(A) For the period 1st August 2020 to 12th April 2021, can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly how many reports of citizens going missing were dealt with by the Guyana Police Force?

(B) For the period 1st May 2015 to 12th January 2016, can the Honourable Minister also inform the National Assembly how many reports of citizens going missing were dealt with by the Guyana Police Force?

(C) Can the Honourable Minister further inform the National Assembly by Region, the number of citizens in A & B above (state separately) that were discovered dead? Please state their names.

(Notice Paper No. 103 (Q77 Opp.77) published on 2021-08-05)

2. NUMBER OF REPORTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE

Member Asking: **Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Home Affairs**

For the period 1st May 2015 to 12th January 2016, can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly how many reports, by Region, of sexual abuse that were dealt with by the Guyana Police Force?

(Notice Paper No. 104 (Q78 Opp.78) published on 2021-08-10)

3. TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS

Member Asking: **Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Home Affairs**

- A. For the period 1st August 2020 to 1st April 2021, can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly how many pounds of cocaine were reported and the number of times, as originated (trafficked) from Guyana at the time of interception in a second country?

- B. For the period 1st August 2015 to 1st January 2016, can the Honourable Minister additionally inform the National Assembly how many pounds of cocaine were reported and the number of times, as originated (trafficked) from Guyana, at the time of interception in a second country?

- C. For the period 1st August 2020 to 1st April 2021, can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly, how many persons were apprehended and charged for cocaine trafficking/possession of amounts more than five pounds in Guyana and the number of incidences?

- D. For the period 1st August 2020 to 1st April 2021, can the Honourable Minister further inform the National Assembly, how many persons in Guyana were apprehended and charged for cocaine trafficking of amounts more than five pounds and the number of incidences, when cocaine was intercepted in a second country, but was trafficked from Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 105 (Q79 Opp.79) published on 2021-08-10)

4.

4. TOTAL NUMBER OF FOREIGN OWNED OPERATED SECURITY COMPANIES IN GUYANA

Member Asking: Ms. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

Can the Minister indicate how many foreign owned and operated security companies are in Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 134 (Q104 Opp.104) published on 2021-09-22)

5. AWARD OF GOVERNMENT CONTRACTS FOR THE PROVISION OF SECURITY SERVICES

Member Asking: Ms. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

- (1) Can the Honourable Minister state the names of the companies who were awarded Government Contracts for the provision of security services under your sector since August 2, 2020?
- (2) Can the Hon. Minister state what percentage of the total budgeted allocations have been expended on the award of these security contracts?
- (3) Can the Minister state whether inspections were done at security companies, with existing governments' contracts under your sector since August 2, 2020? If yes, can the Minister state how frequent these inspections are carried out?
- (4) Can the Minister state the name of any contractor/s who was/were awarded security contracts prior to August 2020 and who may have failed to deliver in terms of their contracted performance and/or breached the terms and conditions of their contracts within the stipulated contractual period under your sector after August 2, 2020?

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5.

- (5) Can the Minister state the value of sums outstanding by the Contractor/s for any contract/s breached and/or terminated?
- (6) The value of each government contract, for the provision of security services, the date of award and the duration of these contracts under your sector?
- (7) Can the Minister state what vetting process was established by the Ministry for persons employed and authorised to carry firearms in these companies?
- (8) Could the Hon. Minister state whether the tenders for the awarding of these security contracts were publicly advertised and, if so, when, and where?
- (9) Can the Minister state whether these awardees were pre-qualified?
- (10) Regarding (8) and (9), could the Hon. Minister state which entity was responsible for the evaluation and recommendation of the awards of the contracts?
- (11) Can the Hon. Minister state what criteria was used in the pre- qualification and qualification process?
- (12) Can the Minister state whether the Principal/s of any of the security companies, which were awarded contracts, have any pending litigation against the Government of Guyana, or whether the Government of Guyana has any pending litigation against the Principal/s of these companies?

(Notice Paper No. 135 (Q105 Opp.105) published on 2021-09-22)

6.

6. FIRE AT THE PSYCHIATRIC HOSPITAL ON 5TH JUNE, 2021

Member Asking: Ms. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

- (1) Could the Honourable Minister indicate to the House, the causes, circumstances, and conditions that led to the fire on Saturday, 5th June, 2021, whereby several patients at the Psychiatric Hospital, East Canjie/Berbice, were badly burnt during the said fire, and further whereby it was widely reported in the media that one patient named Wewoushi Akenty King died from his injuries?
- (2) Can the Hon. Minister state the nature of all the injuries sustained by the affected patients, on the date aforementioned, and the cause of death of Wewoushi Akenty King?
- (3) Could the Hon. Minister state whether the conduct of the staff of the Psychiatric Institution, who were on duty on 5th June, 2021, and thereafter was in conformity with existing Standard Operating Procedures?
- (4) Could the Hon. Minister state base on the conclusion of any investigation report, whether the death of the aforementioned patient and the patients who were burnt, was a result of any negligence, abandonment of duty, disregard of instructions, inaction of the staff, who were on duty on 5th June, 2021, and thereafter?
- (5) Could the Hon. Minister indicate based on any initial report(s), what recommendations were made:
 - (i) To improve the physical infrastructure of the Institution?
 - (ii) The existing security, safety, and other arrangements in respect of the custody, management, and control of patients?
 - (iii) That the appropriate treatment of patients is in compliance with legal and other requirements, to prevent a recurrence of any such disturbance(s)?

(Notice Paper No. 136 (Q106 Opp.106) published on 2021-09-22)

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-

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTIONS

1. **CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 3/2021 – CURRENT AND
CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

Assembly to resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance to signify the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 3 of 2021 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital)
– Advances made from the Contingencies Fund totalling \$5,112,355,210 for the
period 22nd July, 2021 to 9th December, 2021.

(Notice Paper No. 150 (M 30 Govt.19) published on 2021-12-13)

(Paper presented on 2021-12-13)

8.

2. **CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 4/2021 – CURRENT AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

Assembly to resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance to signify the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 4 of 2021 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totalling \$21,477,833,982 for the period ending 31st December, 2021.

(Notice Paper No. 151 (M 31 Govt.20) published on 2021-12-13)

(Paper presented on 2021-12-13)

BILLS – Second Readings

*3. **FISCAL MANAGEMENT AND ACCOUNTABILITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 – Bill No. 17/2021 published on 2021-12-10**

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Fiscal Management and Accountability Act and the Audit Act.

(Read a first time on 2021-12-13)

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

9.

***4. POWERS OF ATTORNEY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 – Bill No. 15/2021 published on 2012-12-10**

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 Powers of Attorney Act.

(Read a first time on 2021-12-13)

***5. DEEDS REGISTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 – Bill No. 16/2021 published on 2021-12-10**

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 Deeds Registry Act.

(Read a first time on 2021-12-13)

BILLS – Committee, Second and Third Readings

***6. NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (CONTROL) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 – Bill No. 2/2021 published on 2021-01-28**

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 Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) Act.

(Read a first time and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2021-01-28)

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

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

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 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 and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2021-02-11)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS

MOTIONS

***8. NATURAL GAS FLARING AT THE ESSO EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION GUYANA LIMITED**

Mr. David Patterson, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Esso Exploration and Production Guyana Limited (EEPGL) was on June 1, 2017, granted an Environmental Permit, No. 20160705-EEDPF, to undertake Phase 1 of the Liza Development Project (Liza 1) which included, the use of a Floating Production, Storage, and Offloading (FPSO) vessel “to process, store and offload the recovered oil during production operations within the Stabroek Block”;

AND WHEREAS the Liza 1 Permit (Clause 1.10) enjoined the Permit Holder, EEPGL, to “Employ effective operational and maintenance systems on all aspects of the facility whose failure could impact the environment...”;

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

11.

AND WHEREAS the Liza 1 Permit (Clause 3.6) expressly prohibits flaring and venting; with exceptions being made for “tank flashing emission, standing/working/breathing losses” and flaring related to the startup of the FPSO, emergencies or during periods of maintenance;

AND WHEREAS EEPGL has routinely been engaged in flaring in direct contravention of the terms of the Liza 1 Permit issued and acknowledged, and as a result, has caused, and is causing substantial damage to the environment and the credibility of the Liza 1 Development Project;

AND WHEREAS calculations based upon reported EEPGL’s production data shows that zero flaring, except for the small amount allowed for pilot flaring, may be achieved by reducing oil production by approximately 15,000 bopd;

AND WHEREAS according to Clause 13.1 in the Liza 1 and Liza 2 Permits, “The Environmental Protection Agency reserves the right to review and amend the conditions attached to this Permit”,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly expresses its dissatisfaction, that all reasonable measures have not been taken or are being taken to prevent the flaring of gas as currently exists, and which reported by EEPGL to be 16 million cubic feet, per day (mcf) at the designed maximum safe oil production limit of 120,000 barrels oil, per day (bopd).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly calls on the Government of Guyana:

1. To direct Esso Exploration and Production Guyana Limited to abide by the terms and conditions of the Liza 1 Permit issued on June 1, 2017;

12.

2. To request that the Environmental Protection Agency takes all reasonable measures to ensure compliance including, EEPGL achieving zero flaring at the Liza 1 Project through reduction of oil production rates; and suspension of same Liza 1 Permit if zero flaring is not met, until it is satisfied that all reasonable and lawful efforts are being made to ensure that there is no flaring of gas as has occurred over the past several weeks; and
3. To request that the Liza 1 and Liza 2 Permits be immediately amended by the EPA to become consistent with the updated conditions in the Payara Permit, relative to flaring.

(Notice Paper No. 63 (M22 Opp. 4) published on 2021-02-26)

***9. 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 Haresh 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;

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

13.

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;

14.

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)

(ii) **COMMITTEES' BUSINESS**

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

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

13th December, 2021.