

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 65TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2020-2023) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 20TH JULY, 2023,

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-

1. By the Speaker of the National Assembly:
Annual Report of the Public Accountability and Oversight Committee for the fiscal year 2022.

(To be Circulated)

2.

2. By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance:

- (i) Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana Lands and Survey Commission for the year ended 31st December, 2017.

(To be Circulated)

- (ii) Annual Report of the Ombudsman for the years 2021 and 2022.

(To be Circulated)

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

- (i) Annual Report of the Natural Resource Fund for the fiscal year 2022.

(To be Circulated)

- (ii) The Customs (Amendment of First Schedule) (No. 2) Order 2023 – No. 44 of 2023.

(Circulated)

- (iii) Government Notice No. 3/2023, regarding Notification Receipts of all petroleum revenues paid into the Natural Resource Fund during the period 1st April, 2023 to 30th June, 2023.

(To be Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

- (1) By the Minister of Health (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on the Radiation Safety and Security Bill 2022 – Bill No. 8 of 2022):

Report of the Special Select Committee on the Radiation Safety and Security Bill 2022 – No. 8 of 2022.

(Circulated)

3.

- (2) By the Minister of Housing and Water (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on the Planning and Development Single Window System Bill 2022 – Bill No. 26 of 2022):
Report of the Special Select Committee on the Planning and Development Single Window System Bill 2022 – Bill No. 26 of 2022.

(Circulated)

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

In accordance with Standing Order No. 19(4), the following question was converted to a question for written response:

1. CONSTRUCTION OF THE HAAGS BOSCH MAIN ROAD

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Housing and Water

- (a) Can the Honourable Minister inform this National Assembly of the names of the contractors who have been awarded contracts, a disaggregation of the project sum to each contractor, and lots awarded to each contractor?
- (b) Can the Minister also state the duration of the contract and what is the full dimension, in terms of width and depth of the road on completion?
- (c) Can the Minister indicate to this Assembly what are the safety features along the project site?

(Notice Paper No. 247 (Q186 Opp.186) published on 2023-03-06)

/...4

4.

2. Names of Subjects done in the Secondary Schools in Region No. 8

Member Asking: Mr. Richard Sinclair, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister state the name of each subject done by each grade in the Secondary Schools in Region No. 8?

(Notice Paper No. 264 (Q194 Opp.194) published on 2023-06-09)

3. Names of Textbooks for each Subject in the Secondary Schools in Region No. 8

Member Asking: Mr. Richard Sinclair, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister state the names of the textbooks recommended by the Ministry for each of the subjects offered in Secondary Schools in Region No. 8?

(Notice Paper No. 265 (Q195 Opp.195) published on 2023-06-09)

4. Number of hard copies of Textbooks in the Secondary Schools in Region No. 8

Member Asking: Mr. Richard Sinclair, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister state the number of hard copies of the recommended textbooks that are in the possession of the Secondary Schools as of March 27, 2023, in Region No. 8?

(Notice Paper No. 266 (Q196 Opp.196) published on 2023-06-09)

5. Teaching Vacancies in the Secondary Schools in Region No. 8

Member Asking: Mr. Richard Sinclair, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister provide a list of all the teaching vacancies in each of the Secondary Schools as of March 27, 2023, in Region No. 8?

(Notice Paper No. 267 (Q197 Opp.197) published on 2023-06-09)

5.

6. **Names of Subjects done in the Primary Schools in Region No. 8**

Member Asking: Mr. Richard Sinclair, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Hon. Minister state the name of each subject done by each grade in the Primary Schools in Region No. 8?

(Notice Paper No. 268 (Q198 Opp.198) published on 2023-06-09)

7. **Amount of Monies Spent on Legal Fees and Other Direct Costs to debunk the claim by Venezuela to Guyana's Territory**

Member Asking: Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

Could the Hon. Minister state how much money has been spent between 2015 and March 2023, to debunk the claim by Venezuela to Guyana's Territory, including payments to lawyers and related personnel; research and documentation; travel and subsistence; and other related expenses?

(Notice Paper No. 274 (Q204 Opp.204) published on 2023-06-09)

8. **Value-Added Products now available to the Guyanese Consumers**

Member Asking: Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Minister, you have outlined several initiatives since taking office in 2020 to reduce the 41% dependency on imported food and further commented that the government has created a priority list of foods to be produced at home.

6.

Could the Hon. Minister state what value-added products are now available to the Guyanese consumers as a result of our manufacturers shifting from primary producers of agriculture under your plan to reduce the 41% Dependency on imports?

(Notice Paper No. 275 (Q205 Opp.205) published on 2023-06-09)

9. **Existing Barriers to Trade within CARICOM**

Member Asking: Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

Hon. Minister, our manufacturers and farmers have been confronted with several existing barriers to trade within CARICOM, can you provide information on the progress made to remove any of these existing barriers?

(Notice Paper No. 276 (Q206 Opp.206) published on 2023-06-09)

10. **REMOVAL OF 200 TAXES and FEES IMPOSED BY THE COALITION GOVERNMENT, REPORTED BY SOME MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT IN THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

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

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

Official Report (*Hansard* dated 17th September, 2020, 24th February, 2021, and 25th February, 2021) of the Parliament stated that some Members of the Government quoted, “Coalition Government imposed more than 200 taxes and fees on Guyanese...”

Can the Hon. Senior Minister provide a detailed list of the 200 taxes and fees on items, as claimed to have been imposed by the Coalition Government, during the period May 2015 to August 2020?

(Notice Paper No. 277 (Q207 Opp.207) published on 2023-06-09)

7.

For Oral Replies

**11. *REMUNERATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND DIRECTORS OF THE BOARD
OF DIRECTORS OF THE NATURAL RESOURCE FUND**

Member Asking: **Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.**

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

According to the Official Gazette of Guyana dated 30th August of 2022, a Chairman and four (4) Directors were appointed as Members of the Board of Directors of the Natural Resource Fund. Additionally, a Chairman and eight (8) committee members were appointed as members of the Public Accountability and Oversight Committee and a Chairman and six (6) members were appointed to the Natural Resource Fund Investment Committee.

*In keeping with the Natural Resource Fund Act Section 5 (9) which states “the Directors shall be paid such remuneration in respect of their office as the Minister may determine from time to time”, can the Hon. Senior Minister within the Office of the President with Responsibilities for Finance provide to the National Assembly the total remuneration for the Chairman and Directors of the Board of Directors?

(Notice Paper No. 250 (Q189 Opp.189) published on 2023-03-06)

**12. *REMUNERATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC
ACCOUNTABILITY AND OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE**

Member Asking: **Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.**

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

According to the Official Gazette of Guyana dated 30th August of 2022, a Chairman and four (4) Directors were appointed as Members of the Board of Directors of the Natural Resource Fund.

8.

Additionally, a Chairman and eight (8) committee members were appointed as members of the Public Accountability and Oversight Committee and a Chairman and six (6) members were appointed to the Natural Resource Fund Investment Committee.

*In keeping with the Natural Resource Fund Act Section 6 (8) which states “the Members shall be paid such remuneration in respect of their office as the Minister may determine from time to time”, can the Hon. Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibilities for Finance provide to the National Assembly the total remuneration for the Chairman and Members of the Public Accountability and Oversight Committee?

(Notice Paper No. 251 (Q190 Opp.190) published on 2023-03-06)

13. *REMUNERATION FOR THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE INVESTMENT COMMITTEE

Member Asking: **Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.**

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

According to the Official Gazette of Guyana dated 30th August of 2022, a Chairman and four (4) Directors were appointed as Members of the Board of Directors of the Natural Resource Fund. Additionally, a Chairman and eight (8) committee members were appointed as members of the Public Accountability and Oversight Committee and a Chairman and six (6) members were appointed to the Natural Resource Fund Investment Committee.

*In keeping with the Natural Resource Fund Act Section 8 (3) which states “the Members shall be paid such remuneration in respect of their office as the Minister may determine from time to time”, can the Hon. Senior Minister within the Office of the President with Responsibilities for Finance provide to the National Assembly the total remuneration for the Chairman and Members of the Investment Committee?

(Notice Paper No. 252 (Q191 Opp.191) published on 2023-03-06)

14. *PROVISION OF \$5B FOR THE ALLEVIATION OF THE HIGH COST OF LIVING

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

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

The National Budget of 2023 has a provision of \$5B for the alleviation of the High Cost of Living (budget speech 2023, page 91).

1. *Could the Honourable Minister with responsibility for Finance state what established criterion was set out for the distribution of the monies and how can persons access the forms?
2. *Can the Minister inform the National Assembly of what assessment was used to arrive at \$5B to address the high cost of living?
3. *Can the Minister state whether there is a capped sum from the \$5B across regions? If yes, kindly provide a disaggregation per region?
4. *Can the Minister inform this Assembly when the \$5B is expected to be rolled out across the regions?
5. *Can the Minister inform the National Assembly what mechanisms are in place to ensure timely announcements are made?

(Notice Paper No. 248 (Q187 Opp.187) published on 2023-03-06)

15. *COMPLETION OF THE UPGRADE WORKS ON CEMETERY ROAD

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Public Works

In a report carried in the Guyana Chronicle, dated March 17, 2022, re: “Cemetery Road expansion progressing smoothly. The project is expected to be completed by July 19, 2023.”

- a. * Can the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly whether the project will be completed by July 19, 2023, if no, what caused the delay?
- b. *What is the new completion date for the project?

(Notice Paper No. 278 (Q208 Opp.208) published on 2023-06-09)

16. *MONIES SPENT FOR THE UPGRADE OF CEMETERY ROAD

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Public Works

In a report carried in the Guyana Chronicle, dated March 17, 2022, re: “Cemetery Road expansion progressing smoothly.” The project is expected to be completed by July 19, 2023.”

- a. *Can the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly of the amount of monies spent as of May 25, 2023, from the total project cost of \$475M?
- b. *Can the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly whether there is a ‘cost overrun’ of the project? If yes, what is the new cost?

(Notice Paper No. 279 (Q209 Opp.209) published on 2023-06-09)

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-**

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 13 (Order of Business)

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Planning and Development Single Window System Bill 2022 – Bill No. 26 of 2022 was referred to a Special Select Committee on 24th April, 2023;

AND WHEREAS the Special Select Committee has completed its work and the motion and Bill are on the Order Paper for consideration and third reading at the next Sitting;

AND WHEREAS it is the intention of the Government to have the motion adopted and the Bill be read a third time in order to allow the National Assembly to approve same and for the President to assent for implementation of the legislation;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 13 (Order of Business) be suspended to allow the Assembly to consider the Committees Business after consideration of Government's Business at its Sitting on 20th July, 2023.

(Notice Paper No. 294 (M 70 Govt 34) published on 2023-07-13)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

Presentation and First Reading

ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS AND TRANSACTIONS BILL 2023 – Bill

No. 9/2023 published on 2023-05-17

The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the facilitation and regulation of secure electronic communications, transactions and receipt, payment and transfer of money and for their legal recognition, to promote the development of the legal and business infrastructure necessary to implement secure electronic commerce and to enhance efficient delivery of governance by public authorities by means of reliable electronic records and electronic filing of documents and for related matters.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT’S BUSINESS

MOTIONS

1. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 1/2023 – 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. 1/2023 - Supplementary Estimates (Capital) – Advances made from the Contingency Fund totalling \$4,743,000,000 for the period 2023-03-01 to 2023-04-20.

(Notice Paper No. 258 (M62 Govt. 31) published on 2023-04-24)

(Paper presented on 2023-04-24)

13.

2. **CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 2/2023 – 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. 2/2023 - Supplementary Estimates (Capital) totalling \$26,532,000,000 for the period ending 2023-12-31

(Notice Paper No. 259 (M63 Govt. 32) published on 2023-04-24)

(Paper presented on 2023-04-24)

BILLS – Second Reading

3. **FOREIGN JUDGMENTS (RECIPROCAL ENFORCEMENT) BILL 2023 – Bill No. 4/2023 published on 2023-04-17**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to repeal the Foreign Judgments (Reciprocal Enforcement) Act, and to make new provision for the enforcement of foreign judgments given in countries outside of Guyana which accord reciprocal treatment to judgments given in Guyana and for related matters.

(Read a first time on 2023-04-24)

MOTION

4. **CONFIRMATION OF THE CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT OF FIRST SCHEDULE)
(NO. 2) ORDER 2023 – NO. 44 OF 2023**

Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with section 8 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, confirms the Customs (Amendment of First Schedule) (No. 2) Order 2023 (No. 44 of 2023) which was made on the 12th day of June, 2023, under section 8 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01 and published in an Extra Ordinary copy of the Official Gazette dated 12th June, 2023.

(Notice Paper No. 292 (M68 Govt. 33) published on 2023-06-30)

BILLS – Second Reading

5. **THE RADIATION SAFETY AND SECURITY BILL 2022 – Bill No. No. 8/2022
published on 2022-04-13**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the safe, secure and peaceful uses of ionizing radiation, protect persons and the environment against the harmful effects of radioactive waste, establish the Radiation Safety and Security Board and for connected matters.

(Read a first time and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2022-04-13)

BILLS – Committee, Second and Third Readings

***6. EVIDENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 – Bill No. 3/2022 published on 2022-04-06**

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 Evidence Act.

(Read a first time on 2022-04-13 and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2022-05-17)

***7. NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE AND SECURITY AGENCY BILL 2023 –
Bill No. 5/2023 published on 2023-04-17**

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 the body known as the National Intelligence and Security Agency as the Agency to further enhance the State's defence and security policy stated in article 197A of the Constitution, to provide for the Agency to be responsible for the coordination of the State's defence and law enforcement activities relating to national intelligence and security, and to provide national intelligence and security advice to the President, Cabinet and entities in the security sector, and for connected matters.

(Read a first time on 2023-04-24)

(Referred to a Special Select Committee on 2023-05-10)

/...16

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

16.

(iii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

MOTION

8. **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM BILL NO. 26 OF 2022**

The Minister of Housing and Water (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on the Planning and Development Single Window System Bill 2022 – No. 26 of 2022) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Planning and Development Single Window System Bill 2022 – Bill No. 26 of 2022, be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 293 (M69 Committees 20) published on 2023-07-13)

BILLS – Third Reading

9. **PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT SINGLE WINDOW SYSTEM BILL – Bill No. 26 of 2022 published on 2022-12-05**

The Minister of Housing and Water (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on the Planning and Development Single Window System Bill 2022 – Bill No. 26 of 2022) to move the third reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Planning and Development Single Window System; to provide for the management and implementation of the Planning and Development Single Window System; to provide for the establishment of the Planning Oversight Committee; to define the functions of the Planning Oversight Committee; to centralize functions pertaining to land use planning and development and for matters connected thereto.

(Read a first time on 2022-12-05)

(Read a second time and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2023-04-24)

17.

(ii) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

10. **LOCAL GOVERNMENT COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2023 –**

Bill No. 10 of 2023

Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P., to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with Standing Order No. 52(1), grants leave for the introduction and first reading of the Local Government Commission (Amendment) Bill 2023 – Bill No. 10 of 2023 -

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

(Notice Paper No. 260 (M64 Opp. 11) published on 2023-05-18)

If leave is granted, the Clerk shall read aloud the title of the Bill.

11. **RESCISSION OF RESOLUTION NO. 35 OF 2022 – AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDER NO. 82 (PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE)**

Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P., to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was established in British Guiana in 1957 by Standing Order 70 (2) and is now provided for by Standing Order 82 of the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) derives its mandate from Article 223(5-8) of the Constitution of Guyana (2003) and Standing Order (82) of the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) exercises supervisory oversight of the functioning of the Audit Office in accordance with the Rules, Policies, and Procedures Manual, the Audit Act, and any other Law;

AND WHEREAS the duty of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is to examine the accounts showing the appropriation of the sums granted by the Assembly to meet Public Expenditure and such other accounts laid before the Assembly as the Assembly may refer to the Committee together with the Auditor General's Report thereon;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) examines the economy and the efficiency of the administration of these public expenditures by: a) All central and local government bodies and entities; b) All bodies and entities in which the state has a controlling interest; and c) All projects funded by way of taxes, loans or grants by any foreign state or organization;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) exercises powers in keeping with the Legislative Bodies Evidence Act, Chapter 1:08, allowing, for the summoning of witnesses to give evidence and or provide documents to the Committee;

AND WHEREAS Resolution No. 35 of the National Assembly of Guyana passed on Wednesday, 13th April, 2022, amended Standing Order 82 by inserting immediately after paragraph (3), the following paragraph - "(4) A quorum shall be five (5) members, two (2) representing the Government, two (2) representing the Opposition and the Chairperson;

AND WHEREAS before Resolution No. 35, a quorum for Public Accounts Committee (PAC) was in keeping with Standing Order 95 (6) which states, "Unless the Assembly otherwise direct, three (3) Members shall be the quorum. In ascertaining whether there is a quorum present, the Member in the Chair shall not be excluded.";

19.

AND WHEREAS since the existence of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC), its work has always gone unhindered up until Resolution No. 35 of the National Assembly of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is yet to complete the examination of the Auditor General Reports for the years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) is yet to submit reports to the National Assembly for the financial years 2017, 2018, 2019, 2020 and 2021;

AND WHEREAS since Resolution No. 35, eleven (11) meetings of the Public Accounts Committee have been canceled due to the lack of a quorum;

AND WHEREAS on all eleven (11) occasions it was due to no member of the Government side showing up for the Public Accounts Committee.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly rescinds Resolution No.35 which was passed by the National Assembly on Wednesday, 13th April, 2022.

(Notice Paper No. 261 (M65 Opp. 12) published on 2023-06-08)

12. **ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE TO ADDRESS THE SCOURGE OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE IN GUYANA**

Ms. Annette Ferguson, M.P., to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Domestic Violence continues to ravage our society.

AND WHEREAS Domestic Violence has become prevalent in our Society where in many cases, women become the fatal victim;

AND WHEREAS the Domestic Violence Act, Chapter 11:09, was passed in 1996 for, “the protection in cases involving domestic violence by the granting of a protection order, to provide the police with powers to arrest where a domestic violence offence occurs and for matters connected therewith or incidental thereto.”;

AND WHEREAS in August 2013, the A Partnership For National Unity (APNU) tabled a motion to address the scourge of “Interpersonal Violence” and sought for a Special Select Committee of the National Assembly to examine the situation and make recommendations to the National Assembly for implementation;

AND WHEREAS it was reported by the United Nations Women Caribbean in its Report in November, 2019, that, “Guyana has a relatively high incidence of domestic violence with roughly one out of every two women between ages 15 and 60 have been abused by their husbands, spouses or partners at some stage in their lives.”.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly appoints a Special Select Committee of the National Assembly headed by the Minister responsible for the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security, to review the present situation, approaches of perpetrators, and the factors leading to these vicious acts of Domestic Violence and make recommendations.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That on completion of the work of the Special Select Committee, a detailed report be submitted to the National Assembly for the implementation of the recommendations to be adopted by the Ministry of Human Services and Social Security.

(Notice Paper No. 262 (M66 Opp. 13) published on 2023-06-08)

21.

13. **ESTABLISHMENT OF A SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE TO REVIEW CHARGES FOR HOUSE LOTS FOR GUYANESE**

Ms. Annette Ferguson, M.P., to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Article 26 of the Constitution of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana states that, “every citizen has the right to proper housing accommodation”;

AND WHEREAS the size of Guyana is 83,0000 square miles with a population of over 750,000 persons, of which an average of five persons make up a family size;

AND WHEREAS, the Central Housing and Planning Authority was established in 1948, with its core principle to provide housing for working-class people;

AND WHEREAS, lands for housing purposes are acquired from several state agencies, paid by the Central Housing and Planning Authority;

AND WHEREAS, prices are determined by the Government Valuation Department in many cases after surveys are conducted for housing areas;

AND WHEREAS, many Guyanese who are allocated house lots find it challenging to commence construction because of financial constraints. Additionally, in most instances, the persons are unable to provide 20% of the required loan amount requested by the banks as a qualifying factor to qualify for a loan;

AND WHEREAS, since Guyana is an oil-producing nation with a production of over 200,000 barrels per day, it is evident that housing can become easily accessible for Guyanese who are earning salaries below \$200,000.00.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly approves of a Special Select Committee headed by the Minister of Housing and Water to examine this grave issue of unaffordability by engaging civil society, financiers, and other Stakeholders to submit proposals and make recommendations that may be adopted by the Government to assist Guyanese.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the Special Select Committee, on completion of its work, submits to the National Assembly a detailed report with its recommendations and asks that the House approves of the Ministry of Housing and Water to incorporate them into its Policy.

(Notice Paper No. 263 (M67 Opp. 14) published on 2023-06-08)

***14. 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...”;

/...23

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

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;

24.

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)

***15. 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;

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;

/...25

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

25.

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)

(iii) COMMITTEES BUSINESS

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

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

14th July, 2023.