

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 88TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2020-2024) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON MONDAY, 25TH NOVEMBER, 2024,

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-

2.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

(1) By the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance and the Public Service:

- (i) Government Notice No. 4/2024, regarding Notification Receipts of all petroleum revenues paid into the Natural Resource Fund during the period 1st July, 2024 to 30th September, 2024.

(To be Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Public Works:

Annual Report of the Guyana Civil Aviation Authority for the year 2022.

(To be Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. TEACHERS' SALARY

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

- (1) Can the Minister inform the National Assembly how many teachers in regions (1-10), NET salary per month is less than One Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) for Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools.

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3.

(2) Can the Minister also inform the National Assembly how many teachers in regions (1-10), NET salary per month is more than One Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$150,000) but less than Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000) for Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools.

(1) Can the Minister further inform the National Assembly how many teachers in regions (1-10), NET salary per month is more than Two Hundred Thousand (\$200,000) but less than Two Hundred and Fifty Thousand (\$250,000) for Nursery, Primary and Secondary schools.

(Notice Paper No. 338 (Q254 Opp.254) published on 2024-06-28)

2. MANAGEMENT OF THE GOAL PROGRAMME

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

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Education**

(1) (a) Can the Honourable Minister inform the House whether the Goal Programme in the Ministry of Education has a governing board constituted under the Laws of Guyana?

(b) If the answer to 1(a) is no, please inform the House of the following:

Who are the seven highest ranked persons managing the Goal Programme, and their job descriptions which should include the following:

- Academic Qualifications
- Gross Monthly Earnings
- Work Experience in Education

(Notice Paper No. 358 (Q271 Opp.271) published on 2024-10-25)

4.

3. COST INCURRED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA TO THE UNIVERSITIES/COLLEGES OFFERING THE GOAL PROGRAMME

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Education

Can the Honourable Minister inform the House what is the cost per course per student (in GY \$) to attend each University/College/School, offering the Goal Programme? Please list these costs for 2023 for Diplomas, Degrees, Masters, and Doctorates for each institution.

(Notice Paper No. 359 (Q272 Opp.272) published on 2024-10-25)

4. GEORGETOWN SEAFRONT RESORT AND CONVENTION CENTRE

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

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

Assets Group Inc. has announced the construction of the Georgetown Seafront Resort and Convention Centre which is to be built on sport grounds formally under the control of Guyana National Service (GNS) and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS).

- (a) Can the Honourable Minister please state the method of transfer of ownership of these sports grounds?
- (b) If the grounds were leased, can the Honourable Minister provide the National Assembly with copies of the lease agreement?

(Notice Paper No. 351 (Q266 Opp.266) published on 2024-07-11)

5.

**5. CONCESSIONAL AGREEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION OF GEORGETOWN
SEAFRONT RESORT AND CONVENTION CENTRE**

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

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

Assets Group Inc. has announced the construction of the Georgetown Seafront Resort and Convention Centre which is to be built on sport grounds formally under the control of Guyana National Service (GNS) and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS).

Can the Honourable Minister provide the National Assembly with copies of any concessional agreement/s signed between the developer Assets Group Inc. and/or its subsidiaries with the Government of Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 352 (Q267 Opp.267) published on 2024-07-11)

**6. COPIES OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT AGREEMENTS REPORT (EIA) FOR
THE CONSTRUCTION OF GEORGETOWN SEAFRONT RESORT AND CONVENTION
CENTRE**

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

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

Assets Group Inc. has announced the construction of the Georgetown Seafront Resort and Convention Centre which is to be built on sport grounds formally under the control of Guyana National Service (GNS) and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS).

Can the Honourable Minister advise if an Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) was done prior to the vesting of the lands and signing of any concessional agreements? If so, can the Minister provide the National Assembly with the copies of the Environmental Impact Assessment (EIA) report?

(Notice Paper No. 353 (Q268 Opp.268) published on 2024-07-11)

6.

**7. COPIES OF THE FEASIBILITY STUDY FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF
GEORGETOWN SEAFRONT RESORT AND CONVENTION CENTRE**

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

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

Assets Group Inc. has announced the construction of the Georgetown Seafront Resort and Convention Centre which is to be built on sport grounds formally under the control of Guyana National Service (GNS) and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS).

Can the Honourable Minister advise if a Feasibility Study was done prior to the vesting of the lands and signing of any concessional agreements? If so, can the Minister provide the National Assembly with the copies of the Feasibility Study?

(Notice Paper No. 354 (Q269 Opp.269) published on 2024-07-11)

8. NATIONAL PARK AND SAINT STANISLAUS COLLEGE SPORTS GROUND

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

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

Assets Group Inc. has announced the construction of the Georgetown Seafront Resort and Convention Centre which is to be built on sports grounds formally under the control of Guyana National Service (GNS) and the National Insurance Scheme (NIS).

Can the Honourable Minister advise if the final scope of this development project also includes the incorporation of additional public spaces, namely the National Park and Saint Stanislaus College Sports Ground?

(Notice Paper No. 355 (Q270 Opp.270) published on 2024-07-11)

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7.

9. LIST OF APPLICANTS FOR THE CULTURE AND CREATIVE INDUSTRY GRANT PROGRAMME

Member Asking: Ms. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

Can the Honourable Minister provide a list of the applicants for the Culture and Creative Industry Grant programme for 2022, 2023, and 2024?

(Notice Paper No. 361 (Q274 Opp.274) published on 2024-10-25)

10. SHORTLISTED APPLICANTS FOR THE CULTURE AND CREATIVE INDUSTRY GRANT PROGRAMME

Member Asking: Ms. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

Can the Honourable Minister provide a list of the successful applicants who received the Culture and Creative Industry Grant in 2022, 2023, and 2024?

(Notice Paper No. 362 (Q275 Opp.275) published on 2024-10-25)

11. FOLLOW-UP ON THE USAGE OF THE CULTURE AND CREATIVE INDUSTRY GRANT

Member Asking: Ms. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

(a) Can the Minister state if there was a follow-up to determine how the grant was used by successful applicants in 2022 and 2023?

(b) If follow-ups were done, can the Minister provide the report(s) of the findings?

(Notice Paper No. 363 (Q276 Opp.276) published on 2024-10-25)

8.

12. MISSING SUGAR AT ROSEHALL ESTATE

Member Asking: Mr. Vinceroy Jordan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Agriculture

- (a) Can the Honourable Minister state whether any sugar went missing or could not be accounted for at the Rosehall Estate during the last crop period?
- (b) If yes, can the Minister provide the report on the outcome of the investigation of the unaccounted sugar?

(Notice Paper No. 364 (Q277 Opp.277) published on 2024-10-25)

13. TERMINATION OF CONTRACTS

Member Asking: Mr. Vinceroy Jordan, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Agriculture

Can the Honourable Minister state what led to the termination of contracts of the Production Manager and the Head Lab Technician at the Rosehall Estate?

(Notice Paper No. 365 (Q278 Opp.278) published on 2024-10-25)

For Oral Reply

14. *CRITERIA USED FOR SELECTION OF THE CULTURE AND CREATIVE INDUSTRY GRANT PROGRAMME

Member Asking: Ms. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

*Can the Honourable Minister inform the House of what criteria were used to select persons who received the Culture & Creative Industry Grant for the years 2022, 2023, and 2024?

(Notice Paper No. 360 (Q273 Opp.273) published on 2024-10-25)

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-

Presentation and First Reading

**INTERNATIONAL MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (HAGUE
CONVENTION) BILL 2024 – Bill No. 15/2024**

The Minister of Human Services and Social Security, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to give effect to the Convention on Jurisdiction, Applicable Law, Recognition, Enforcement and Co-operation in respect of Parental Responsibility and Measures for the Protection of Children, and for other related matters.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS

BILLS – Second Readings

1. THE OPEN DATA BILL 2024 – Bill No. 13 of 2024 published on 2024-08-09

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the use and administration of public data; to provide for public data to be made available in an open format and under an open licence; to facilitate transparency, effective governance and innovation in the use and administration of public data and for connected matters.

(Read a first time on 2024-08-09)

2. DECEASED PERSONS ESTATES' ADMINISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2024 – No. 14 of 2024 published on 2024-08-09

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 2024-08-09)

BILLS – Committee, Second and Third Readings

***3. 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)

***4. 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:

/...11

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

11.

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)

(ii) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

***5. 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...";

/...12

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

12.

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;

13.

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)

***6. 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;

/...14

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

14.

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

15.

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

MOTIONS

7. AUTHORITY OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE TO SUMMON WITNESSES

Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P. (Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee) to move the following motion:

WHEREAS Article 2 of the Legislative Bodies (Evidence) Act, Chapter 2 of 2012 provides that “Committee” means a Committee referred to in the definition of “legislative body” and a “legislative body” means- (a) the Cabinet; or (b) any Special Select Committee of the National Assembly; or (c) any Committee of the National Assembly empowered by resolution of the Assembly to summon witnesses;

AND WHEREAS Article 223 (8)(a) of the Constitution of Guyana states that “the Public Accounts Committee” means the Public Accounts Committee established by Order 70(2) of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly; and (b) “the public accounts of Guyana” includes the accounts of – (i) all central and local government bodies and entities; (ii) all bodies and entities in which the state has a controlling interest; and (iii) all projects funded by way of loans or grants by any foreign State or organization;

AND WHEREAS Standing Order 82(1) of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly (with amendments to February 2015) states that, “There shall be a Standing Committee to be known as the Public Accounts Committee to consist of not less than six (6) or more than ten (10) Members to be nominated by the Committee of Selection as soon as may be after the beginning of each National Assembly. It shall be the duty of the Committee 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 Committee for the purpose of examining the Accounts of entities, is required to invite persons to produce books, plans, or documents, to aid in the work of the Committee;

AND WHEREAS on occasions, some persons are reluctant to appear before the Committee, thus affecting the work of the Committee;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee has observed that it is not deemed a legislative body as defined in the Legislative Bodies (Evidence) Act, Chapter 2 of 2012 and is not empowered to summon persons to appear before the Committee;

AND WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee is desirous of summoning persons to appear before the Committee to explain the use of Public Funds during their tenure,

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Public Accounts Committee be deemed a legislative body, as defined in the Legislative Bodies (Evidence) Act, Chapter 2 of 2012, with the power to summon persons to appear before the Committee, to produce books, plans, or documents, to aid in the work of the Committee.

(Notice Paper No. 328 (M77 Committees 21) published on 2024-03-15)

17.

8. **ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE ON ITS EXAMINATION OF THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS OF GUYANA FOR THE YEARS 2017 AND 2018**

Mr. Jermaine Figueira, 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 years 2017 and 2018, be adopted and refer the Report to the Government for consideration.

(Notice Paper No. 331 (M80 Committees 22) published on 2024-05-10)

9. **ADOPTION OF THE SECOND SPECIAL REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON SOCIAL SERVICES**

The Minister of Human Services and Social Security (Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services) to move the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Second Special Report of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 332 (M81 Committees 23) published on 2024-05-10)

S. E. ISAACS,
Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

21ST November, 2024.

