

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

PRIVATE MEMBERS' SITTING

FOR THE 101ST SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION

(2020-2025) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 10.00 A.M.

ON MONDAY, 17TH FEBRUARY, 2025,

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-

By the Minister of Public Works:

The Civil Aviation (Operations) (Amendment) Regulations 2025 – No. 2/2025.

(To be Circulated)

2.

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. CONSTRUCTION OF THE BRICKDAM POLICE STATION

Member Asking: Ms Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

1. Can the Honorable Minister inform the National Assembly of the total Project cost for constructing the Brickdam Police Station?
2. Can the Honourable Minister state the percentage of works with costs paid out as of October 25, 2024, for construction of the Brickdam Police Station?
3. Can the Honourable Minister state when the project is likely to be completed as per the contract agreement?
4. Can Honourable Minister lay over to the National Assembly copies of the Contract agreement between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the contractor for the Brickdam Police Station project?

(Notice Paper No. 371 (Q279 Opp.279) published on 2025-01-23)

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3.

2. **NAME AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE COMPANY
CONSTRUCTING THE BRICKDAM POLICE STATION**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

Can the Honourable Minister provide the National Assembly with the name and brief background information of the Company awarded the contract to construct the Brickdam Police Station?

(Notice Paper No. 372 (Q280 Opp.280) published on 2025-01-23)

3. **CONSTRUCTION OF THE KITTY POLICE STATION**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

1. Can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly of the total Project cost for the construction of the Kitty Police Station?
2. Can the Honourable Minister state the percentage of works with costs paid out as of October 25, 2024, on the construction of the Kitty Police Station?
3. Can the Honourable Minister state when the project is likely to be completed as per the contract agreement?
4. Can Honourable Minister lay over to the National Assembly copies of the Contract agreement between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the contractor for the Kitty Police Station project?

(Notice Paper No. 373 (Q281 Opp.281) published on 2025-01-23)

4.

**4. NAME AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE COMPANY
CONSTRUCTING THE KITTY POLICE STATION**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

Could the Honourable Minister provide the National Assembly with the name and brief background information of the Company to whom the Contract for Kitty Police Station has been awarded?

(Notice Paper No. 374 (Q282 Opp.282) published on 2025-01-23)

5. CONSTRUCTION OF THE BETERVERWAGTING POLICE STATION

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

1. Can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly whether monies were allocated in the estimates of 2024, for the construction of the Beterverwagting Police Station?
2. Can the Honorable Minister inform the National Assembly of the total Project cost for construction of the Beterverwagting Police Station?
3. Can the Honourable Minister state the percentage of works with costs paid out as of October 25, 2024, on the construction of the BV Police Station?
4. Can the Honourable Minister state when the project commenced and is likely to be completed as per the contract agreement?

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5.

5. Can Honourable Minister lay over to the National Assembly copies of the Contract Agreement between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the contractor for the BV Police Station project?

(Notice Paper No. 375 (Q283 Opp.283) published on 2025-01-23)

6. MEMBERS OF THE INTERVIEW COMMITTEE 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

1. How many members comprise the Interview Committee that determines the awardees of the Culture and Creative Industry Grant?
2. What are the designations of the Members of the Committee?

(Notice Paper No. 394 (Q302 Opp.302) published on 2025-01-23)

7. NUMBER OF ARTISTS AND MUSICIANS AWARDED 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 Minister provide the number of artists and musicians who were awarded the Culture and Creative Industry Grant in 2024.

(Notice Paper No. 395 (Q303 Opp.303) published on 2025-01-23)

6.

8. VENEZUELA-GUYANA BORDER CONTROVERSY

Member Asking: Mr. Devin Sears, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

What is the status of the ongoing proceedings and discussions regarding the Venezuela-Guyana territorial controversy?

(Notice Paper No. 396 (Q304 Opp.304) published on 2025-01-23)

9. SETTLEMENTS ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR VENEZUELAN RESIDING IN GUYANA

Member Asking: Ms. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

Can the Minister provide an updated list of the names of the settlements established by the Government for Venezuelans residing in Guyana?

(Notice Paper No. 404 (Q312 Opp.312) published on 2025-01-23)

For Oral Replies

10. *PUBLIC SERVANTS EMPLOYED ON CONTRACT

Member Asking: Ms. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

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

_* Can the Hon Minister please inform the House of the number of Public Servants currently employed on contract, as of November 2024, outside of the remit of the Public Service Commission?

(Notice Paper No. 397 (Q305 Opp.305) published on 2025-01-23)

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11. *PUBLIC SERVANTS WHO RESIGNED FROM THE PUBLIC SERVICE

Member Asking: Ms. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

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

* Can the Honourable Minister indicate the number of public servants including those from the traditional public service (nurses, doctors, teachers, police officers, soldiers) that have resigned from the public service since August 2020 – November 2024?

(Notice Paper No. 398 (Q306 Opp.306) published on 2025-01-23)

12. *TIME SERVED ON A GOVERNMENT'S SCHOLARSHIP

Member Asking: Ms. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

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

* Can the Honourable Minister inform the House whether the Public Service Ministry was willing to shorten the time served on a government's scholarship for a Degree, from five to three years before the person pursues specialization?

(Notice Paper No. 399 (Q307 Opp.307) published on 2025-01-23)

13. *RECENT MATERNAL AND NEONATAL DEATHS AT THE NEW AMSTERDAM AND SUDDIE HOSPITALS

Member Asking: Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

*Can the Honourable Minister inform this National Assembly what are some of the causes of the recent maternal and neonatal deaths at the New Amsterdam and Suddie Hospitals earlier in the year?

(Notice Paper No. 405 (Q313 Opp.313) published on 2025-01-23)

8.

14. *SUPERVISION OF JUNIOR DOCTORS AT THE OBSTETRIC WARDS OF THE REGIONAL HOSPITALS

Member Asking: Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

*Can the Honourable Minister inform this National Assembly if there is adequate, as is required, supervision of Junior Doctors by experienced and skilled health personnel at the Obstetric Wards

of the Regional Hospitals, bearing in mind that the health system is itself hemorrhaging from significant loss of Senior staff members?

(Notice Paper No. 406 (Q314 Opp.314) published on 2025-01-23)

15. *TREND IN MATERNAL AND NEONATAL DEATHS BY YOUTHS AND YOUNG ADULTS

Member Asking: Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P.

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

*Can the Honourable Minister inform this National Assembly if a trend has been detected in maternal and neonatal deaths that are linked to and or driven by youths and young adults who are primigravida?

(Notice Paper No. 407 (Q315 Opp.315) published on 2025-01-23)

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS, INCLUDING POLICY STATEMENTS-

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-

9.

**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) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

1. REHABILITATION OF THE LE REPENTIR CEMETERY

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P. to move the following motion:

WHEREAS the Le Repentir Cemetery was established in 1861 as the final resting place for persons residing in our Capital City Georgetown;

AND WHEREAS over several years we the citizens have witnessed its expansion from its original size from 103.508 acres to some 106.508 acres, thus utilizing all the land available;

AND WHEREAS over several years, we have witnessed the degradation of the land, which has resulted in tombs falling into the canals, cracking tombs and, in some cases, some are broken. While the drainage has become almost non-existent, thus creating what looks like a jungle and a haven for persons of nefarious characters;

AND WHEREAS the Georgetown City Council is unable to garner adequate funds to provide services such as security and maintenance, among others;

10.

AND WHEREAS Guyanese of all races, religions and financial standing are unable to visit the final resting place of their loved ones.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to upgrade this historic facility and implement a plan for its maintenance, including the drainage infrastructure, thereby elevating it to the status of a national memorial.

(Notice Paper No. 369 (M88 Opp 15) published on 2025-01-14)

***2. 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...”;

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;

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

11.

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;
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

12.

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)

- *3. **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;

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

13.

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

14.

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) **GOVERNMENTS BUSINESS**

BILLS – Second Readings

4. **FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2024 – Bill No. 22/2024 published on 2024-12-18**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Financial Institutions Act.

(Read a first time on 2024-12-18)

5. **ENGINEERS BILL 2024 – Bill No. 21/2024 published on 2024-12-17**

The Minister of Public Works to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the registration and regulation of persons in the practice of engineering in Guyana and for related matters.

(Read a first time on 2024-12-18)

6. **GUYANA HORSE RACING AUTHORITY BILL 2024 – Bill No. 23/2024 published on 2024-12-18**

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport to move the second reading of the following Bill:

15.

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the regulation of the horse racing industry; to establish a Horse Racing Authority, and for connected matters.

(Read a first time on 2024-12-18)

7. INTERNATIONAL MEASURES FOR THE PROTECTION OF CHILDREN (HAGUE CONVENTION) BILL 2024 – Bill No. 15/2024 published on 2024-11-21

The Minister of Human Services and Social Security to move the second reading of 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.

(Read a first time on 2024-11-25)

8. APOSTILLE BILL 2024 – Bill No. 19/2024 published on 2024-11-27

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation to move the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to implement the Convention Abolishing the requirement of Legalisation for Foreign Public Documents done at the Hague on the 5th day of October, 1961 and for connected matters.

(Read a first time on 2024-11-27)

BILLS – Committee, Second and Third Readings

***9. 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)

***10. 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)

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

(iii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

11. **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”;

18.

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)

12. 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:

19.

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)

**13. 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)

**14. ADOPTION OF THE THIRD 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 Third Special Report of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Social Services be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 368 (M87 Committees 24) published on 2024-12-19)

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

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

10th February, 2025.