

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 102ND 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, 28TH APRIL, 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-

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

- (a) Deferred Payment Agreement dated January 14, 2025, between the Ministry of Finance acting on behalf of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, represented by the Finance Secretary, and the China Road and Bridge Corporation for an amount of US\$162,657,139.00. The purpose of this Deferred Payment Agreement is to finance the Upgrading of the Palmyra to Moleson Creek Highway, Lot 2, which covers Bloomfield to No. 54.

(To be Circulated)

- (b) Government Notice No. 2/2025, regarding Notification Receipts of all petroleum revenues paid into the Natural Resource Fund during the period 1st January, 2025 to 31st March, 2025.

(To be Circulated)

(2) By the Prime Minister:

Annual Report of the Public Utilities Commission for the year 2024.

(To be Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance:

Audited Financial Statements of the Ethnic Relations Commission for the years ended 31st December, 2015 to 2023.

(To be Circulated)

3.

(4) By the Minister of Public Works:

Audited Financial Statements of the Demerara Harbour Bridge Corporation for the years ended 31st December, 2021 and 2022.

(To be Circulated)

REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. NAME AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE COMPANY CONSTRUCTING THE BETERVERWAGTING 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 give brief background information of the Company to whom the Contract for the rehabilitation of BV Police Station has been awarded?

(Notice Paper No. 376 (Q284 Opp.284) published on 2025-01-23)

2. CONSTRUCTION OF THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT (CID) HEADQUARTERS

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

1. Can Honorable Minister inform the National Assembly of the total Project cost for the construction of the Criminal Investigation Department (CID) building, Camp Street, Georgetown?

4.

2. Can the Honourable Minister state the percentage of works with costs paid out as at October 25, 2024, on construction of the CID building?
3. Can the Honourable Minister state when the project commenced and is likely to be completed, as per the contract agreement?
4. Can the Honourable Minister lay over to the National Assembly copies of the Contract agreement between the Ministry of Home Affairs and the contractor for the CID building project?

(Notice Paper No. 377 (Q285 Opp.285) published on 2025-01-23)

**3. NAME AND BACKGROUND INFORMATION OF THE COMPANY
CONSTRUCTING THE CRIMINAL INVESTIGATION DEPARTMENT (CID)
HEADQUARTERS**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

Could the Honorable Minister provide the National Assembly with the name and brief background of the Company to whom the Contract for the CID building has been awarded?

(Notice Paper No. 378 (Q286 Opp.286) published on 2025-01-23)

**4. MONITORING AND EVALUATION OF GRANTS ISSUED TO SMALL
BUSINESSES**

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

1. Could Honourable Minister indicate to the National Assembly, from 2020 to October 2024, how many small businesses that received grants still exist? If none, what are the pitfalls?

5.

2. Can the Honourable Minister state what mechanisms are in place to ensure that these businesses remain viable?

(Notice Paper No. 379 (Q287 Opp.287) published on 2025-01-23)

5. LIST OF WORKS COMPLETED ON THE NEW HEADQUARTERS OF THE CENTRAL HOUSING AND PLANNING AUTHORITY AND THE GUYANA WATER INC.

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Housing and Water

The National Assembly has approved some \$1.3B for the construction of a new Headquarters to facilitate and accommodate staffers of Central Housing and Planning Authority and Guyana Water Inc. Minister Colin Croal and TEAM made a visit to the construction site on March 12, 2024. During his visit, he reported his satisfaction of the project and stated that the project will be completed by the end of 2024.

Can the Honourable Minister provide the National Assembly with a detailed list of works completed as of October 31, 2024, and the costs associated with each completed activity for both projects?

(Notice Paper No. 380 (Q288 Opp.288) published on 2025-01-23)

For Oral Replies

6. * COLLABORATION BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF THE PUBLIC SERVICE AND THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR FOR A NEEDS ASSESSMENT ON (CURRENT AND FUTURE) SKILLS FOR THE PUBLIC SERVICE

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Labour

1. *Can the Hon. Minister state whether there has been any collaboration between the Ministry of the Public Service and the Ministry of Labour to conduct a formal (study)needs assessment of the current and future skills needed for the Public Service

6.

and the country?

2. *If yes, can this study be made available to the public and be laid in the National Assembly as early as possible?

(Notice Paper No. 400 (Q308 Opp.308) published on 2025-01-23)

7. * NUMBER OF REGISTERED VENEZUELAN

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

*Can the Hon. Minister state what is the number of registered Venezuelans in Guyana, as of November, 2024?

(Notice Paper No. 401 (Q309 Opp.309) published on 2025-01-23)

8. * NUMBER OF VENEZUELAN WHO ARRIVED IN GUYANA

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs

*Can the Hon. Minister state what is the monthly number of arrivals of Venezuelans in Guyana from January, 2024, to present and their points of entry?

(Notice Paper No. 402 (Q310 Opp.310) published on 2025-01-23)

9. * HIGH-RISK MOTHERS IN GUYANA

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

Minister Answering: The Minister of Health

*Can the Honourable Minister inform this National Assembly whether High-Risk mothers in Guyana can rely on the emergency care available and delivered at the health facilities in the ten Administrative Regions?

(Notice Paper No. 408 (Q316 Opp.316) published on 2025-01-23)

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS, INCLUDING POLICY STATEMENTS-

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-

**REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ON
DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE-**

**MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY AND
MOVED BY A MINISTER-**

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS

BILLS – Second Readings

**1. 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:

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)

**2. 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:

8.

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)

3. **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)

4. **COURT OF APPEAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 2025 – Bill No. 3/2025 published on 2025-02-11**

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

A BILL initiated AN ACT to amend the Court of Appeal Act.

(Read a first time on 2025-02-17)

5. **ADVANCE PASSENGER INFORMATION AND PASSENGER NAME RECORD BILL 2025 – Bill No. 4/2025 published on 2025-02-11**

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

9.

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the collection, transmission, sharing, storage and regulation of Advance Passenger Information and Passenger Name Record in respect of persons travelling to, departing from and transiting through Guyana and to operationalise the CARICOM Advance Passenger Information System and other related matters.

(Read a first time on 2025-02-17)

6. **REGIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM BILL 2025 – Bill No. 5/2025 published on 2025-02-11**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the implementation of the Treaty establishing the Regional Security System and for connected matters.

(Read a first time on 2025-02-17)

7. **CARICOM ARREST WARRANT BILL 2025 – Bill No.6/2025 published on 2025-02-12**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to give effect to the CARICOM Arrest Warrant Treaty and to provide for related matters.

(Read a first time on 2025-02-17)

BILLS – Committee, Second and Third Readings

***8. 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)

***9. 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)

/...11

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

(ii) **PRIVATE MEMBERS' BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

***10. 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;

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;

/...12

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

12.

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 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)

***11. 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;

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;

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

14.

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

MOTIONS

12. 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:

15.

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)

**13. 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)

17.

14. **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)

15. **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.

22nd April, 2025.

