

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 72<sup>ND</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2015-2017) OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 2.00 P.M.,**  
**ON FRIDAY, 17<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2017,**  
**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,**  
**BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**  
**PRIVATE MEMBERS' SITTING**  
**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (69)**

**Speaker (1)**

\*Hon Dr. Barton U.A. Scotland, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (36)**

**(i) A Partnership For National Unity/Alliance For Change (36)**

**First Vice-President and Prime Minister (1)**

+ Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P., First Vice-President and Prime Minister

**Other Vice-Presidents (3)**

+ Hon. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P., Vice-President and Minister of Foreign Affairs

+Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., Vice-President and Minister of Public Security

+\*Hon. Sydney Allicock, M.S., M.P., Vice-President and Minister of Indigenous Peoples' Affairs

**Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)**

+ Hon. Basil Williams, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

**Senior Ministers (13)**

+ Hon. Amna Ally, M.P., Minister of Social Protection and Government Chief Whip

+ Hon. Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P., Minister of State

+ Hon. Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

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+ Cabinet Member

\*Non-Elected Member

2.

- + Hon. Ronald A. Bulkan, M.P., Minister of Communities
- + Hon. Dr. George A. Norton, M.P., Minister of Social Cohesion
- + Hon. Winston D. Jordan, M.P., Minister of Finance
- + Hon. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P., Minister of Natural Resources
- + Hon. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica),  
Minister of Public Health
- + Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P., Minister of Public Infrastructure
- + Hon. Catherine A. Hughes, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica),  
Minister of Public Telecommunications
- +\*Hon. Winston G. Felix, D.S.M., M.P., Minister of Citizenship
- + Hon. Hans Dominic Gaskin, M.P., Minister of Business
- +Hon. Noel L. Holder, M.P., Minister of Agriculture

**Ministers (9)**

\*Hon. Keith Scott, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Social Protection

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni),  
Minister within the Ministry of Communities

Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Infrastructure

Hon. Valerie Garrido-Lowe, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples’  
Affairs

Hon. Jaipaul Sharma, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica),  
Minister within the Ministry of Finance

Hon. Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica),  
Minister within the Ministry of Public Health

Hon. Simona Charles-Broomes, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Natural Resources

Hon. Nicolette O. Henry, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Education

Hon. Valarie Patterson, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice),  
Minister within the Ministry of Communities

/...3

+ Cabinet Member

\*Non-Elected Member

3.

**Other Members (9)**

Ms. Jennifer J. Wade, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Ms. Rajcoomarie Bancroft, M.P. (Region No. 8 –Potaro/Siparuni)

Mr. John Adams, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Richard Allen, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Mr. Michael Carrington, M.P.

Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Mr. Charrandas Persaud, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Haimraj Rajkumar, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomereroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Audwin Rutherford, M.P.

**MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (32)**

**(i) People’s Progressive Party (32)**

Mr. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Leader of the Opposition (Absent)

Mr. Clement J. Rohee, M.P.

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip

Mr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara) (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Ms. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.

Ms. Pauline Campbell-Sukhai, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Odinga Lumumba, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Dr. Vindhya V. Persaud, M.S., M.P.

Ms. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Joseph L.F. Hamilton, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Collin D. Croal, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Ms. Gillian R. Burton-Persaud, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P.

Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent – on leave)

Ms. Africo Selman, M.P.

Mr. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Ganga Persaud, M.P.

Ms. Yvonne Pearson- Fredericks, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Region No.3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Cornel Damon, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Alister S. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

Mr. Nigel D. Dharamlall, M.P.

Mr. Adrian V. Anamayah, M.P.

Mr. Harry Gill, M.P.

Ms. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

Mr. Vickram O. Bharrat, M.P.

**Officers (2)**

Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

Ms. Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 2.03 p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read Prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

The Speaker made the following announcements:

1. **Welcome of Members to the Sitting**

“Honourable Members, I welcome you to this 72<sup>nd</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly. We will now be entering, if I may say so, the financial phase of our work and I hope that by working together we will achieve our objective within the time allotted.

Honourable Members there are two announcements which I must make both related to the Rights of the Child.

At today’s Sitting at an appropriate time, the Assembly will be suspended to enable the Youth Ambassadors of the Rights of the Child Commission to present a Special Statement to the National Assembly in commemoration of the Anniversary”.

2. **Children’s Conference**

“Honourable Members, the Ministry of Social Protection in collaboration with the Ministry of Education has organised a Children’s Conference which will take place on the 20<sup>th</sup> November, 2017. The Conference has been planned in keeping with Article 13 of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child.

This Conference commences at 9.00 a.m. at the Ramada Princess Hotel, Providence, East Bank Demerara. Honourable Members are invited to attend. Letters of invitation containing additional information on the Conference have been circulated for the consideration of Honourable Members.”

3. **Speaker Deprecate Unparliamentary Conduct in the National Assembly by Certain Members of Parliament at the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting.**

“Honourable Members, the National Assembly is now being faced with attempts at introducing a new paradigm for conducting the business for which it is established. This National Assembly allows for *like views* and *competing views* to be expressed, vigorously, even passionately, by all Honourable Members. The Rules of the National Assembly protect the rights of all Honourable Members to speak, to hear and to be heard. It seems, from recent events, that the virtues we uphold in undertaking our business here are under attack.

Honourable Members, at the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting of our National Assembly and on the occasion of the visit of His Excellency the President to the National Assembly, Your Speaker observed that some Hon. Members held pamphlets, placards and other bits of paper bearing slogans, some of them with poor spelling and even poor grammar. Behind those articles, the Speaker observed that the faces of some Honourable Members indulging this unusual conduct were barely visible. I must tell you too, Hon. Members, that one placard spoke in support of “Democracy” and another in support of “Free Speech”. It seemed to the Speaker that such calls in the context in which they were made were antithetical – supremely ironic.

Those Honourable Members were not satisfied with that breach of the Rules of this House, they descended into creating a din more suitable for a place other than the National Assembly. It did not seem that those Honourable Members for that they continue to be, were in any way embarrassed to be part of that performance from their seats in the House, while maintaining their places of honour derived from being Members of the House.

Their performance, unworthy of this House, demonstrates how Honourable Members can heap disrespect on the House while, at the same time, continuing to claim the honour which being a part of this House confers on all Members.

Honourable Members, it is the Rules which hold sway in this National Assembly they permit the exercise by and protect the Rights of all Hon. Members including those who were part of the exceptional Parliamentary misconduct at the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly. There can be nothing in the display nor in any cause to be urged in this House that warranted the inexcusable and irredeemable performance of those Hon. Members. I recall some rules which direct conduct in this House. The relevant Standing Orders require Honourable Members to maintain silence when another Hon. Member is addressing the House. As regards Hon. Members bringing pamphlets or placards or any other material for display in the House, this can only be done with the permission of the Speaker who may set such terms and conditions which appear to him appropriate. I will tell you that, at the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting, the Speaker, was neither requested to grant nor did he grant permission for placards or pamphlets whether with poor spelling or poor grammar or otherwise, to be brought into the House.

It seemed as though those Hon. Members were, by their conduct, inviting the intervention of the Speaker in order, no doubt, to acquire for themselves a new opportunity at bedlam. Your Speaker, Hon. Members, remained oblivious, to the invitation. If the intention was to prevent the delivery by His Excellency the President of his message to Parliament then I must say to all Hon. Members that the purpose for which the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting of our National Assembly was called was fulfilled. Hansard provides in fullness, the text of the message from the President and all Hon. Members may have sight of it. The presence of His Excellency the President in the National Assembly is therefore an occasion for signally remarking the event of his presence in the House. It is an occasion on which Guyanese who are Members of the National Assembly should gather to demonstrate respect to the State of Guyana and to the personification of the State through the presence of His Excellency the President.

8.

Guyanese are proud of the event so much so they invite others, not of this House and not all Guyanese, to share with them this signal event. It is a time for demonstration by Honourable Members and their invitees of all that is good and wholesome within this Honourable House, attentiveness and fine manners. I must tell you too, Hon. Members, that, I estimate that the proceedings of the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting were viewed by persons in several jurisdictions.

The stark fact is, however, that some Hon. Members, while taking the benefit which flows from the Rules of this House, appear to want to hold themselves free to disregard the very Rules of the very House from which they hold benefit whenever observance of the rules does not accord with whatever action they wish to undertake. Yet, the very rules which they would disregard are the very rules under whose protection they claim to sit and to speak in the National Assembly.

It ought to be a source of deep contemplation and introspection concerning their future conduct for those Members who, by their misconduct at the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting, of our National Assembly, fell so far short of acceptable Parliamentary conduct in the display which they projected to such far flung places as where our broadcast is seen.

The display shown by some Honourable Members of this House was both intemperate and misguided at the 71<sup>st</sup> Sitting. Let it be recorded that this House strongly deprecates the conduct shown by some Hon. Members on that occasion. I have, in the past, reminded Members that they are called upon by their conduct to show veneration to this House. I repeat that call.

Differences of views or philosophy on a particular matter may be always prosecuted in this House by Hon. Members but that should be with decorum and with respect always remembering that some forms of behaviour should not be visited upon the National Assembly. The route of decorum and respect for one another and for our institutions exists for us all to travel. Let us all try to travel on it, notwithstanding our differences. Thank you”.

4. **Leave**

“Honourable Members, leave has been granted to Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P., Bishop Juan Edghill, M.P., J.P., Mr. Odinga Lumumba, M.P. and Mr. Joseph Hamilton for today’s Sitting.”

5. **Death of Mrs. Philomena Ameena Rayman former Member of Parliament**

“Honourable Members, I was informed of the death of Mrs. Philomena Ameena Rayman, a former Member of Parliament who died on the 16<sup>th</sup> August, 2017, at the West Demerara Regional Hospital after a prolonged illness. She was 79 years old, having born on the 6<sup>th</sup> March, 1938. Mrs. Rayman came from the People’s National Congress.

Following the Elections which were held on 16<sup>th</sup> July, 1973, under the system of proportional representation, the Third Parliament of Guyana commenced when the National Assembly first met on 26<sup>th</sup> July, 1973. Mrs. Rayman first became an Ordinary Member of the National Assembly on that date. The Third Parliament was dissolved on the 25<sup>th</sup> October, 1980.

Elections were held on 15<sup>th</sup> December, 1980, under the system of proportional representation. The Fourth Parliament commenced when the National Assembly first met on 30<sup>th</sup> January, 1981. Mrs. Rayman was appointed as a Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1981, until 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1981. Mrs. Rayman again became an Ordinary Member of the National Assembly from 1<sup>st</sup> January, 1982, until the Fourth Parliament was dissolved on the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 1985.

Elections were held on 9<sup>th</sup> December, 1985. The Fifth Parliament commenced when the National Assembly first met on 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1986. During the latter part of the Fifth Parliament Mrs. Rayman returned as an ordinary Member of the National Assembly from 13<sup>th</sup> December, 1989 and worked continuously, until the Fifth Parliament, which life was extended from time to time from 3<sup>rd</sup> February, 1986, to 10<sup>th</sup> June, 1992, was dissolved on 29<sup>th</sup> August, 1992.

Mrs. Rayman ceased to be a Member of the National Assembly on the 28<sup>th</sup> August, 1992. Honourable Members, please let us stand and observe one minute's silence as a mark of respect for the late Mrs. Philomena Ameena Rayman".

**Minute of Silence**

A minute of silence was observed to mark respect for the late Mrs. Philomena Ameena Rayman.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS**

(1) By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Annual Report of the Guyana Public Debt for the year 2016.  
(Circulated)
- (ii) Annual Report of the Guyana Revenue Authority for the year 2011.  
(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Natural Resources:

- Annual Report of the Guyana Forestry Commission for the year 2016.  
(Circulated)

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

1. **COMMISSIONS OF INQUIRY ESTABLISHED BY THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA**

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip asked the Minister of State the following questions:

- (i) The status of each of the Commission of Inquiry (COIs) listed below, and, whether preliminary and final reports have been submitted and when were they submitted?

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- (ii) The costs which have been, or, are expected to be incurred with each of the listed Commission of Inquiry including those that are not complete, or, those about to commence?
- (iii) The monies paid to each Commissioner on each of the listed Commission thus far?
- (iv) When those which have been completed will be made public and brought to this House?
  1. Commission of Inquiry into GUYSUCO – 2015;
  2. Commission of Inquiry on the public Service – 2016;
  3. Commission of Inquiry into the disturbances and resultant deaths at Camp Street Prison – March 8, 2016;
  4. Commission of Inquiry on Education – 2016;
  5. Commission of Inquiry into the fire at the Drop-In Centre that led to 2 children's death – July 16, 2016;
  6. Commission of Inquiry into conditions and benefits of Veterans – November 4, 2016;
  7. Commission of Inquiry to investigate, examine, probe and report on the circumstances which led to the collapse of the mining pit and death of Keon Wilson – October 2016 to November 15, 2016;
  8. Commission of Inquiry into allegations made by Dataram against CANU et al – 2016;
  9. Commission of Inquiry into conflicts at the Guyana National Broadcasting Authority – 2016;
  10. Commission of Inquiry into allegation of procurement at the Ministry of Public Health – November 3, 2016;
  11. Commission of Inquiry into the discovery of a foreign aircraft from Colombia near the village of Yupukaru, Region 9 – November 16, 2016;
  12. Commission of Inquiry into the Public Service Commission – 2017;

12.

13. Commission of Inquiry into the interception and subsequent release of an unnamed private marine vessel in the sea space of Guyana between February 11 – 14, 2017;
14. Commission of Inquiry into Lands - March 11, 2017;
15. Commission of Inquiry into the attempted assassination of the President – July, 2017.

**(Notice Paper No. 106 (Q24 Opp. 23) published on 2017-07-24)**

### **ANSWERS**

Please See **Appendix I** for answers to the above questions.

## **2. BENEFITS GUYANA STANDS TO GAIN FROM OVERSEAS TRIPS UNDERTAKEN BY THE HONOURABLE FIRST VICE-PRESIDENT AND PRIME MINISTER AND DELEGATIONS**

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip asked the First Vice-President and Prime Minister the following questions:

Would the First Vice-President and Prime Minister tell this House:-

- (i) The immediate and medium term benefits to Guyana associated with each of the overseas trips undertaken by the First Vice-President and Prime Minister and his delegations since taking office in May 6, 2015 to July 1, 2017?
- (ii) What actual benefits has Guyana gained in 2017 from each of the overseas trips undertaken by the First Vice-President and Prime Minister and his delegations from the time of taking office to July 1, 2017?
- (iii) What are the costs associated with each overseas trip, including size and members of the delegations, including spouses, undertaken by the First Vice-President and Prime Minister and his delegations for the same period?

**(Notice Paper No. 107 (Q25 Opp. 24) published on 2017-07-24)**

**ANSWERS**

Please See **Appendix II** for answers to the above questions.

**For Oral Replies**

1. **\*EXPENDITURE OF \$605 MILLION FOR DRUGS AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES TO ANSA MCAL**

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip, on behalf of Bishop Juan Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., asked the Minister of Finance the following questions:

The Minister of Finance, Hon. Winston Jordan, M.P., in his response to Notice Paper No. 101, tabled in the House on July 7, 2017, advised the House in writing that the request, by the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation for a waiver of the Procurement Act (S 28C) in order to purchase G\$605,962,200.00 of “emergency pharmaceutical supplies” from Ansa McAL, was not approved.

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister explain how, following the denial of the request for this waiver, was the Georgetown Public Hospital Corporation able to proceed to award the tender to Ansa McAL and to proceed to make payments in violation of the Procurement Act and the financial rules?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister say what action, if any, has been taken by himself, or the NPTAB, with regard to this matter?
- (iii) Can the Minister say whether this violation has been referred to the attention of the Public Procurement Commission?

**(Notice Paper No. 108 (Q26 Opp. 25) published on 2017-07-24)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

Ms. Gail Teixeira asked the Minister of Finance supplementary questions.

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Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

2. **\*RENTAL OF RESIDENCES FOR MINISTERS OF THE GOVERNMENT**

Mr. Mohabir Nandlall, M.P., asked the Minister of Finance the following questions:

- (i) Would the Minister of Finance, Hon. Winston Jordan, inform this National Assembly which if any of the rental contracts for Ministers were considered, or, approved by the Ministry of Finance, and, or the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board and, to provide the National Assembly with the relevant documentation of the approvals of the Ministry of Finance or the National Procurement and Tender Administration Board on these matters?
- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister inform this National Assembly as to whether the Government's policy on the rental and rates of accommodations for Ministers was/is guided by fiscal availability and budgetary considerations?
- (iii) Would the Minister identify which Agencies' budgets in the 2015, 2016 and 2017 Budgets made provisions for these expenditures and under which head /sub heads?

**(Notice Paper No. 115 (Q27 Opp. 26) published on 2017-08-04)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

Ms. Gail Teixeira asked the Minister of Finance a supplementary question.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

## **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-**

### **Introduction and First Readings**

#### **1. PROTECTED DISCLOSURES BILL 2017 – Bill No. 12/2017**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to combat corruption and other wrongdoings by encouraging and facilitating disclosures of improper conduct in the public and private sectors, to protect persons making those disclosures from detrimental action, to establish the Protected Disclosures Commission to receive, investigate or otherwise deal with disclosures of improper conduct and to provide for other related matters.

**(Read a first time 2017-11-17)**

#### **2. WITNESS PROTECTION BILL 2017 – Bill No. 13/2017**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of a Programme for the protection of certain witnesses and other persons; and to provide for related matters.

**(Read a first time 2017-11-17)**

## **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 2.45 p.m. the Sitting was suspended to allow the Youth Ambassadors to read a statement in the Chamber.

## **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 3.06 p.m. the Sitting was resumed.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS -****(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS****ITEM 1 - APPROVAL OF THE 2018 CURRENT AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES OF CONSTITUTIONAL AGENCIES**

In accordance with Article 222A of the Constitution, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and approved of the Estimates of Expenditure of the Constitutional Agencies for the year 2018, as follows:

<b><u>Agency Name</u></b>	<b><u>2018 Budget Proposal</u></b>	<b><u>Recommendation by the Minister of Finance</u></b>
Parliament Office		
Current and Capital	1,739,832	1,578,100

The recommendation by the Minister of Finance in the sum of **\$1,578,100** for the Parliament Office, was put and carried on the following division:

**AGAINST**

Mr. Bharrat  
 Ms. Veerasammy  
 Mr. Gill  
 Mr. Anamayah  
 Mr. Dharamlall  
 Mr. Charlie  
 Mr. Damon  
 Dr. Mahadeo  
 Mr. Chand  
 Mr. Neendkumar  
 Ms. Pearson-Fredericks  
 Mr. G. Persaud  
 Mr. Mustapha  
 Ms. Selman

**FOR**

Mr. Rutherford  
 Mr. Rajkumar  
 C. Persaud  
 Mr. Figueira  
 Mr. Carrington  
 Mr. Allen  
 Mr. Adams  
 Ms. Bancroft  
 Ms. Wade  
 Ms. Patterson  
 Ms. Henry  
 Ms. Broomes  
 Dr. Cummings  
 Mr. Sharma

Dr. Ramsaran  
 Ms. G. Persaud  
 Mr. Croal  
 Ms. Chandarpal  
 Dr. V. Persaud  
 Mr. Seeraj  
 Dr. Anthony  
 Mr. Nandlall  
 Ms. Manickchand  
 Ms. Teixeira  
 Mr. Rohee

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Audit Office of Guyana  
 Current and Capital

844,422

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.35 p.m. the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.43 p.m. the Sitting was resumed.

Ms. Garrido-Lowe  
 Ms. Ferguson  
 Ms. Hastings-Williams  
 Mr. Holder  
 Mr. Gaskin  
 Mr. Gaskin  
 Ms. Hughes  
 Mr. Patterson  
 Ms. Lawrence  
 Mr. Trotman  
 Mr. Jordan  
 Dr. Norton  
 Dr. Roopnarine  
 Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Harmon  
 Ms. Ally  
 Mr. Williams  
 Mr. Ramjattan  
 Mr. Greenidge  
 Mr. Nagamootoo

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783,876

18.

In accordance with Article 222A of the Constitution, the Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and approved of the Estimates of Expenditure of the Constitutional Agencies for the year 2018, as follows:

<b><u>Agency Name</u></b>	<b><u>2018 Budget Proposal</u></b>	<b><u>2018 Budget Approved</u></b>
Public and Police Service Commission		
Current and Capital	158,709	95,140
Teaching Service Commission		
Current and Capital	125,158	125,158
Guyana Elections Commission		
Current and Capital	3,715,210	2,900,000
Supreme Court of Judicature		
Current and Capital	2,753,863	1,874,730
Public Prosecution		
Current and Capital	223,924	174,290
Office of the Ombudsman		
Current and Capital	64,098	57,813
Public Service Appellate Tribunal		
Current and Capital	105,550	51,884
Ethnic Relations Commission		
Current and Capital	142,269	86,534

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Judicial Service Commission		
Current and Capital	10,020	10,020
Indigenous People's Commission		
Current and Capital	27,372	25,683
Human Rights Commission		
Current and Capital	31,113	31,113

<u>Agency Name</u>	<u>2018 Budget Proposal</u>	<u>2018 Budget Approved</u>
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Rights of the Child Commission		
Current and Capital	53,805	42,695
Women and Gender Equality Commission		
Current and Capital	45,997	43,135
Public Procurement Commission		
Current and Capital	251,912	177,666

**Assembly resumed**

Thereafter, the Assembly approved of the sums voted for the Constitutional Agencies to form part of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure of the Public Sector for 2018.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 7.31 p.m. the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 8.08 p.m. the Sitting was resumed.

**ITEM 2- CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 3/2017 – CURRENT  
AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

**In Committee of Supply**

The Minister of Finance signified the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 3/2017 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital)  
totaling \$2,976,237,426 for the period 2017-01-01 to 2017-12-31.

**(Notice Paper No. 116 (M 87 Govt 48) published on 2017-11-03)**

**(Paper presented on 2017-11-02)**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

**03-031 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

6321 Subsidies and Contributions to Local Organisations

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

**03-031 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

1900400 Basic Needs Trust Fund (BNTF)

2601200 Statistical Bureau

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

**04-041 – MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

6284 Other Goods and Services Purchased

**33-332 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

6272 Electricity Charges

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

**33-332 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

1217800 E- Government

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

**53-531 – GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE**

6223 Office Materials and Supplies

6264 Vehicle Spares and Maintenance

6265 Other Transport, Travel and Postage

6282 Equipment Maintenance

6284 Other Goods and Services Purchased

6294 Other Operating Expenses

**79-791 – REGION NO. 9**

6211 Expenses Specific to the Agency

**55-551 – SUPREME COURT**

6323 Constitutional Agencies

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

**33-322 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE**

1404800 Dredging

1404500 Highway Improvement East Coast Demerara

1404800 West Demerara Highway

2700500 Reconditioning of Ferry Vessels

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10(1)**

At 9.59 p.m., the First Vice-President and Prime Minister moved the suspension of Standing Order No. 10(1) to continue and conclude consideration of Financial Paper No. 3 of 2017.

22.

**40-403 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

2607300 Early Childhood Education Project

**40-406 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

4504200 Institutional Strengthening- CTVET and NAC

**42-422 – MINISTRY OF COMMUNITIES**

2802700 Water Supply and Infrastructure Improvement Programme

2802800 Hinterland Sustainable Housing Programme

**43-432 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

4402700 HIV/TB/Malaria Programmes

**49-494 – MINISTRY OF SOCIAL PROTECTION**

1216400 Buildings

**Presiding by Mr. John Adams, M.P.**

At 10.58 p.m., while Mr. Clement Rohee was speaking, the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Mr. John Adams took the Chair.

**Speaker's Return to the Chamber**

At 11.00 p.m. the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

**54-541 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY**

1216500 Citizen Security Strengthening Programme

1216700 Citizen Security Programme II

**73-735 – REGION NO. 3**

2503100 Equipment – Health

**75-755 – REGION NO. 5**

2401900 Land and Water Transport

**78-782 – REGION NO. 8**

1100800 Bridges

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly doth agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

RESOLVED,

Financial Paper No. 3/2017 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totaling \$2,976,237,426 for the period for the period 1<sup>st</sup> January, 2017 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017.

**BILL – FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS**

**ITEM 3 – SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION BILL 2017 – Bill No. 14/2017**  
**published on 2017-10-30**

With the Leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the First Vice-President and Prime Minister, Standing Order Nos. 13(n) and 54 were suspended to enable the Supplementary Appropriation Bill 2017 to be introduced at this stage and to be further proceeded with at that Sitting.

On motions by the Minister of Finance, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and passed as printed.

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017,

estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly and for the appropriation of those sums for the specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11.46 p.m., the First Vice- President and Prime Minister moved a motion for the adjournment of the Assembly to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, 27<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

Ms. Gail Texeira, M.P., moved an amendment to the First Vice- President and Prime Minister's motion for the adjournment of the Assembly to the 24<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.

The amendment was put and negatived.

The Assembly adjourned at 11.55 p.m.

.....  
**HON. DR. BARTON U.A. SCOTLAND, O.R., C.C.H., M.P.,**  
**Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**17<sup>th</sup> November, 2017.**