

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 81<sup>ST</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2015-2017) OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10.00 A.M.,**  
**ON THURSDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2017,**  
**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,**  
**BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.**  
**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 (15)**

+ Hon. Anna 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

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+ Cabinet Member

\*Non-Elected Member

2.

- + Hon. Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P., Minister of the Public Service
- + Hon. Ronald A. Bulkan, M.P., Minister of Communities
- + Hon. Dr. George A. Norton, M.P., Minister of Social Cohesion with responsibility for Culture, Youth and Sport
- + 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
- +Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni), Minister of Public Affairs
- +Hon. Nicolette O. Henry, M.P., Minister of Education

**Ministers (7)**

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

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

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+ Cabinet Member

\*Non-Elected Member

3.

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

**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 – Pomeroon/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)

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

4.

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

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

Ms. Pauline Campbell-Sukhai, M.P.

Mr. Odinga Lumumba, M.P.

Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., (Suspended for four (4) Sittings, that is, from the 80<sup>th</sup> Sitting to the 83<sup>rd</sup> Sitting)

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.

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)

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)

5.

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 10.31a.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read Prayers.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

By the Minister of Finance:

The Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Order 2017 – No. 41 of 2017.

(Circulated)

**STATEMENT BY MINISTERS**

**Payment made to the Government of Guyana by Exxon Mobil in 2016**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs made a statement re. Payment made to the Government of Guyana by Exxon Mobil in 2016.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS -**

**(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**BUDGET SPEECH 2018 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018**

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2018.

**(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2017-11-27)**

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

**80 – REGION 10: UPPER DEMERARA/UPPER BERBICE**

**Current Expenditure**

- 801 Regional Administration and Finance
- 802 Public Infrastructure
- 803 Education Delivery
- 804 Health Services

**Capital Expenditure**

- 801 Regional Administration and Finance
- 802 Public Infrastructure
- 803 Education Delivery
- 804 Health Services

**04 – MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**Current Expenditure**

- 041 Development of Foreign Policy
- 042 Foreign Policy Promotion
- 043 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

**Capital Expenditure**

- 041 Development of Foreign Policy
- 042 Foreign Policy Promotion

7.

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 1.13 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.39 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2018.

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

**33 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC TELECOMMUNICATIONS**

**Current Expenditure**

- 331 Policy Development and Administration
- 332 Public Telecommunications
- 334 Industry Innovations

**Capital Expenditure**

- 331 Policy Development and Administration
- 332 Public Telecommunications
- 334 Industry Innovations

**49 – MINISTRY OF SOCIAL PROTECTION**

**Current Expenditure**

- 491 Policy Development and Administration
- 492 Social Services
- 493 Labour Administration
- 494 Child Care and Protection

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**Capital Expenditure**

- 491 Policy Development and Administration
- 492 Social Services
- 493 Labour Administration
- 494 Child Care and Protection

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 6.10 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 7.27 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2018.

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

**54 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SECURITY**

**Current Expenditure**

- 541 Policy Development and Administration
- 542 Police Force
- 543 Prison Service
- 544 Police Complaints Authority
- 545 Fire Service
- 546 Customs Anti-Narcotics Unit



**Capital Expenditure**

- 541 Policy Development and Administration
- 542 Police Force
- 543 Prison Service
- 544 Police Complaints Authority
- 545 Fire Service
- 546 Customs Anti-Narcotics Unit

**43 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC HEALTH**

**Current Expenditure**

- 431 Policy Development and Administration

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

At 9.59 p.m., the First Vice-President and Prime Minister moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue and conclude consideration of the estimates of the Ministry of Public Health.

- 432 Diseases Control
- 433 Family Health Care Services
- 434 Regional and Clinical Services
- 435 Health Sciences Education
- 436 Standards and Technical Services
- 437 Disability and Rehabilitation Services

**Capital Expenditure**

- 431 Policy Development and Administration
- 432 Diseases Control
- 433 Family Health Care Services
- 434 Regional and Clinical Services
- 435 Health Sciences Education
- 436 Standards and Technical Services
- 437 Disability and Rehabilitation Services

**Assembly resumed**

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11.20 p.m., on a motion by the First-Vice President and Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m., on Friday, 15<sup>th</sup> December, 2017.

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

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

**14<sup>th</sup> December, 2017**