

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 108TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2015-2018) OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 10.00 A.M.
ON WEDNESDAY, 12TH DECEMBER 2018,
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. 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

/...2

+ 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 (Absent – on leave)
- + 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. Dr. 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

/...3

+ 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

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)

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

4.

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

Ms. Pauline Campbell-Sukhai, M.P.

Mr. Odinga Lumumba, M.P. (Absent)

Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P.

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. (Absent on – leave)

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)

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

Mr. Nigel D. Dharamlall, M.P.

5.

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 10.15 a.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

By the Minister of Finance:

(i) Value-Added Tax (Amendment of Schedule I) Order 2018 – No. 49 of 2018.

(Circulated)

(ii) Value-Added Tax (Amendment) Regulations 2018 – No. 12 of 2018.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

MOTION

BUDGET SPEECH 2019 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2019

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2019.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2018-11-26)

6.

40 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

Current Expenditure

401 Policy Development and Administration

Capital Expenditure

401 Policy Development and Administration

Current Expenditure

402 Training and Development

Capital Expenditure

402 Training and Development

Current Expenditure

403 Nursery Education

Capital Expenditure

403 Nursery Education

Current Expenditure

404 Primary Education

Capital Expenditure

404 Primary Education

Current Expenditure

405 Secondary Education

Capital Expenditure

405 Secondary Education

Current Expenditure

406 Post - Secondary/Tertiary Education

7.

Capital Expenditure

406 Post - Secondary/Tertiary Education

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 12.05 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 1.17 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

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:

42 - MINISTRY OF COMMUNITIES

Current Expenditure

421 Sustainable Communities Management

Capital Expenditure

421 Sustainable Communities Management

Current Expenditure

422 Sustainable Communities Development

Capital Expenditure

422 Sustainable Communities Development

71 – REGION NO. 1: BARIMA/WAINI

Current Expenditure

711 Regional Administration and Finance

7.

Capital Expenditure

711 Regional Administration and Finance

Current Expenditure

712 Public Infrastructure

Capital Expenditure

712 Public Infrastructure

Current Expenditure

713 Education Delivery

Capital Expenditure

713 Education Delivery

Current Expenditure

714 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

714 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

715 Agriculture

78 – REGION NO. 8: POTARO/SIPARUNI

Current Expenditure

781 Regional Administration and Finance

Capital Expenditure

781 Regional Administration and Finance

8.

Current Expenditure

782 Public Infrastructure

Capital Expenditure

782 Public Infrastructure

Current Expenditure

783 Education Delivery

Capital Expenditure

783 Education Delivery

Current Expenditure

784 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

784 Health Services

Current Expenditure

785 Agriculture

Capital Expenditure

785 Agriculture

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 5.28 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 6.20 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

9.

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:

79 – REGION NO. 9: UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO

Current Expenditure

791 Regional Administration and Finance

Capital Expenditure

791 Regional Administration and Finance

Current Expenditure

792 Agriculture

Capital Expenditure

792 Agriculture

Current Expenditure

793 Public Infrastructure

Capital Expenditure

793 Public Infrastructure

Current Expenditure

794 Education Delivery

Capital Expenditure

794 Education Delivery

Current Expenditure

795 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

795 Health Services

72 – REGION NO.2: POMEROON/SUPENAAM

Current Expenditure

721 Regional Administration and Finance

Capital Expenditure

721 Regional Administration and Finance

Current Expenditure

722 Agriculture

Capital Expenditure

722 Agriculture

Current Expenditure

723 Public Infrastructure

Capital Expenditure

723 Public Infrastructure

Current Expenditure

724 Education Delivery

Capital Expenditure

724 Education Delivery

Current Expenditure

725 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

725 Health Services

73 – REGION NO. 3 – ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA

Current Expenditure

731 Regional Administration and Finance

Capital Expenditure

731 Regional Administration and Finance

Current Expenditure

732 Agriculture

Capital Expenditure

732 Agriculture

Current Expenditure

733 Public Infrastructure

Capital Expenditure

733 Public Infrastructure

Current Expenditure

734 Education Delivery

Capital Expenditure

734 Education Delivery

Current Expenditure

735 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

735 Health Services

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10(1)

At 9.57 p.m., the First Vice-President and Prime Minister moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Members to continue and conclude asking questions on the Line Item of the Ministry of Communities Region 3- Essequibo Islands/West Demerara.

Assembly resumed

ADJOURNMENT

At 10.00 p.m., on a motion by the First Vice-President and Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 am. on Thursday, 13th December, 2018.

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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.**

12th December, 2018.