

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 2<sup>nd</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10.00 A.M.**  
**ON WEDNESDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER, 2020**  
**IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,**  
**LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (68)**

**Speaker (1)**

\*Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly (Virtual Participation)

**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (35)**

**Peoples Progressive Party Civic (35)**

**Prime Minister (1)**

Hon. Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark A. Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister

**Vice-President (1)**

Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Vice-President (Absent)

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

Hon. Mohabir Anil Nandlall, M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

**Senior Ministers (16)**

Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni), Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip

Hon. Hugh H. Todd, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

Hon. Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., Minister of Public Works

Hon. Dr. Frank C. S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Health

\*Non-Elected Member

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2.

Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara),  
Minister of Education

\*Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne), Minister of  
Agriculture

Hon. Pauline R.A. Campbell-Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Hon. Joseph L.F. Hamilton, M.P., Minister of Labour

Hon. Vickram O. Bharrat, M.P., Minister of Natural Resources

\*Hon. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Hon. Nigel D. Dharamlall, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam), Minister of Local  
Government and Regional Development

Hon. Collin D. Croal, M.P. (Region No. 1 – BarimaWaini), Minister of Housing and Water

Hon. Vindhya V. H. Persaud, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of  
Human Services and Social Security

Hon. Charles S. Ramson, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Hon. Sonia S. Parag, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

**Junior Ministers (4)**

Hon. Warren K.E. McCoy, M.P., Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister

Hon. Deodat Indar, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Works

Hon. Anand Persaud, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Local Government and Regional  
Development

Hon. Susan M. Rodrigues, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the  
Ministry of Housing and Water

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

3.

**Other Members (12)**

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

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

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

Mr. Sanjeev J. Datadin, M.P.

Mr. Seepaul Narine, M.P.

Mrs. Yvonne Pearson-Fredericks, M.P.

Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P.

Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.

Mr. Faizal M. Jaffarally, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Dr. Tandika S. Smith, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Lee G.H. Williams, M.P.

Ms. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

**MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (32)**

**(i) A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU/AFC) (31)**

Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P., Leader of the Opposition (Absent)

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Roysdale A. Forde, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P. (Absent)

Ms. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent)

Dr. Nicolette O. Henry, M.P. (Absent)

Dr. Karen R.V. Cummings, M.P. (Absent)

Ms. Tabitha J. Sarabo-Halley, M.P. (Absent)

Ms. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Christopher A. Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip (Absent)

Ms. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P. (Absent)

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4.

Mr. David A. Patterson, M.P. (Absent)  
Ms. Coretta A. McDonald, M.P. (Absent)  
Ms. Catherine A. Hughes, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)  
Mr. Haimraj B. Rajkumar, M.P. (Absent)  
Ms. Amanza O.R. Walton-Desir, M.P. (Absent)  
Ms. Natasha Singh-Lewis, M.P. (Absent)  
Mr. Sherod A. Duncan, M.P. (Absent)  
Ms. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P. (Absent)  
Mr. Vincent P. Henry, M.P. (Absent)  
Mr. Ronald Cox, M.P. (Region No. 1 – BarimaWaini) (Absent)  
Mr. Shurwayne F.K. Holder, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam) (Absent)  
Mr. Ganesh A. Mahipaul, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara) (Absent)  
Ms. Nima N. Flue-Bess, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)  
Ms. Maureen A. Philadelphia, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)  
Mr. Deonarine Ramsaroop, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)  
Mr. Vinceroy H. Jordan, M.P., (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice) (Absent)  
Mr. Dineshwar N. Jaiprashad, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne) (Absent)  
Mr. Richard E. Sinclair, M.P. (Region No. 8 –Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)  
Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice) (Absent)  
Mr. Devin L. Sears, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice) (Absent)

**A New and United Guyana, Liberty and Justice Party and The New Movement (ANUG, LJP & TNM) (1)**

Mr. Lenox R. O’Dell Shuman, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

**Officers (2)**

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

Ms Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

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### **COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 10.20 a.m.

### **PRAYERS**

The Clerk read Prayers.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

The Speaker made the following announcements:

(1) **Sympathy Message**

The Speaker expressed his condolences to the family and friends of Isaiah and Joel Henry who were murdered in Berbice.

(2) **COVID-19 Test**

The Speaker informed the House that the Clerk, some of the staff of the Parliament Office and himself were tested on Monday 7, September, 2020, for the Novel Coronavirus (COVID – 19) and that his results came back positive, therefore, he would be participating virtually in the Sittings. He also stated the Clerk's results came back negative.

### **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

(1) By the Speaker of the National Assembly:

- (i) Annual Report of the Indigenous Peoples' Commission for the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Annual Report of the Office of the Ombudsman for the years 2017 and 2018.

(Circulated)

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(iii) Annual Report of the Public Service Appellate Tribunal for the years 2017 and 2018.

(Circulated)

(iv) Annual Report of the Public Service Appellate Tribunal for the year 2019.

(Circulated)

(2) The Minister of Public Works presented the following:

(i) Estimates of Revenue and Expenditures of Guyana for the financial year 2020.

(Circulated)

(ii) Annual Reports of the National Insurance Scheme for the years 2017 and 2018.

(Circulated)

(iii) Annual Report of the Financial Intelligence Unit for the Year 2018.

(Circulated)

(iv) Report of the Directors of the Dependents' Pension Fund for the year 2018.

(Circulated)

(v) Mid-Year Report for 2019.

(Circulated)

(vi) Annual Report of the Guyana Oil Company Limited for the year 2018.

(Circulated)

(vii) Annual Report of the Guyana National Shipping Corporation for the year 2018.

(Circulated)

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(3) By the Minister of Agriculture:

- (i) Audited Financial Statement of the Guyana Marketing Corporation for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2016.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Audited Financial Statements of the National Agricultural Research and Extension Institute for the years ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2010 to 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2015.

(Circulated)

- (iii) Annual Reports of the Guyana Sugar Corporation for the years 2016 and 2017.

(Circulated)

- (iv) Audited Financial Statement of the Guyana Sugar Corporation for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2016.

(Circulated)

- (v) Unaudited Financial Statement of the Guyana Sugar Corporation for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017.

(Circulated)

(4) By the Minister within the Ministry of Public Works:

Audited Financial Statement of the Cheddi Jagan International Airport Corporation for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2017.

(Circulated)

8.

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

(1) **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS NOS. 10(2) AND 38(9)(a)**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Orders Nos. 10(2) and 38(9)(a) be suspended to enable the Minister with responsibility for Finance to complete uninterrupted the reading of the Budget Speech for 2020 at the Sitting of the National Assembly on Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020.

**(Notice Paper No. 3 (M3 Govt 3) published on 2020-09-03)**

The motion was put and carried.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS-**

(i) **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**ITEM 1 - NOMINATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**

The Assembly nominated the Members to comprise the Committee of Selection.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip nominated the following five (5) Members to serve on the Committee of Selection:

**From the People's Progressive Party/Civic (5)**

Hon. Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark Anthony Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister

Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and  
Government Chief Whip

Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P., Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Pauline R.A. Campbell-Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs



9.

Hon. Nigel D. Dharamlall, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

In the absence of the Members of A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU+AFC) from the Sitting, their Members were not nominated to serve on the Committee of Selection.

1. **BUDGET FOR 2020**

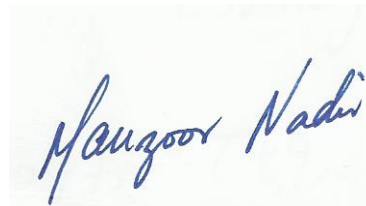
In accordance with Article 171(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Public Works signified that Cabinet had recommended that the National Assembly should proceed upon the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2020.

The Minister then moved the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2020 of the total sum of excluding which is chargeable by law (See Appendix).

The Minister of Public Works read the Budget Speech.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 2.55 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m., on Monday, 14<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.



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**HON. MANZOOR NADIR, M.P.,**  
**Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**9<sup>th</sup> September, 2020.**