NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION (2020) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 10.00 A.M.

ON MONDAY, 14TH 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 Anthony 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

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 Outar 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 Savitri 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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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)
- 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
- Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.
- Mr. Roysdale A. Forde, M.P.
- Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P.
- Ms. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
- Dr. Nicolette O. Henry, M.P.
- Dr. Karen R.V. Cummings, M.P.
- Ms. Tabitha J. Sarabo-Halley, M.P.
- Ms. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.
- Mr. Christopher A. Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip
- Ms. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.

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

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. Deslyn West, Assistant Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 10.02 a.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk led in Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-

The Speaker made the following announcements:

1. Sympathy Message

The Speaker, on behalf of the Members, his family and himself, extended condolences to the Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Sherlock Isaacs, on the passing of his brother, Mr. Lennox Isaacs, who died on Thursday 10th, September 2020.

2. Thank You Message

The Speaker informed the House that the Clerk of the National Assembly and staff were working diligently to fix the little technological glitches and that he was grateful to them.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

By the Minister of Agriculture:

(i) Annual Report of the Ministry of Agriculture – Fisheries Department (Programme 3) for the year 2018.

(Circulated)

(ii) Annual Report of the Guyana Livestock Development Authority for the year 2018.

(Circulated)

(iii) Annual Report of the Guyana Marketing Corporation for the year 2018.

(Circulated)

(iv) Annual Report of the Guyana Rice Development Board for the year 2018. (Circulated) (v) Annual Report of the Guyana School of Agriculture for the year 2018. (Circulated) (vi) Annual Report of the Guyana Sugar Corporation Limited for the year 2018. (Circulated) Annual Report of the Hope Coconut Industries Limited for the year 2018. (vii) (Circulated) (viii) Annual Report of the Hydrometeorological Service (Programme 4) for the year 2018. (Circulated) (ix) Annual Report of Agriculture – Administration (Programme 1) for the year 2018. (Circulated) (x) Annual Report of the Mahica/Mahaicony/Abary Agricultural Development Authority for the year 2018. (Circulated) (xi) Annual Report of the National Agricultural Research & Extension Institute for the year 2018. (Circulated) (xii) Annual Report of National Drainage and Irrigation Authority for the year 2018. (Circulated)

(xiii) Annual Report of the Pesticides & Toxic Chemicals Control Board for the year 2018. (Circulated)

(xiv) Audited Financial Statements of the Pesticides & Toxic Chemicals Control Board for the years ended 31st December 2012 to 31st December, 2017.

(Circulated)

(xv) Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana Marketing Corporation for the years ended 31st December, 2008 to 31st December, 2016.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

<u>ITEM 1</u> - <u>NOMINATION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY</u>

The Assembly resumed the nomination of Members to comprise the Committee of Selection.

Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P., Leader of the Opposition nominated the following four (4) Members to serve on the Committee of Selection:

From A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU+AFC)

Mr. Raphael Trotman, M.P.

Ms. Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Mr. Sherod Duncan, M.P.

Ms. Amanza O.R. Walton-Desir, M.P.

The nomination was seconded by Mr. Christopher Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip.

The motion was then proposed.

ITEM - 2 BUDGET SPEECH 2020 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2020.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2020-09-09)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Raphael Trotman

Minister of Labour

Mr. Shurwayne Holder

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 11.47 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 1.10 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

The Minister within the Ministry of Public Works

Ms. Coretta McDonald

Mr. Seepaul Narine

Mr. Devin Sears

Mr. Sanjeev Datadin

Ms. Amanza Walton-Desir

Mr. Alister Charlie

Mr. Vincent Henry

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.09 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.15 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

The Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister

Ms. Maureen Philadelphia

The Minister within the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.43 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 15th September, 2020.

Hangoor Nadi

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

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

14th September, 2020.