

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 9<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2006) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 2.00 P.M.**  
**ON MONDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> JANUARY, 2007**  
**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (71)**

**Speaker (1)**

The Hon. Hari. N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent – on leave)

**Members of the Government (42)**

(i) **People's Progressive Party/Civic (41)**

(ii) **The United Force (1)**

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice),  
Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

The Hon. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Education

The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Foreign Trade and International  
Cooperation

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),  
Minister of Health

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, M.P., (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo),  
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

\*The Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance (Absent – on leave)

\*The Hon. S. Rudolph Insanally, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent – on leave)

The Hon. Harry Narine Nawbatt, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

**\*Non-elected Minister**

The Hon. Robert M. Persaud, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),  
Minister of Agriculture (Absent)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni),  
Minister of Public Service

The Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

\*The Hon. Doodnauth Singh, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

\*\*The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Minister of Labour

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P., (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice),  
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Dr. Desrey Fox, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Education

The Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health

The Hon. Jennifer I. Webster, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Finance

The Hon. Manniram Prashad, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Chief Whip

Ms Bibi S. Shadick, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Mr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P.

Mr. Albert Atkinson, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni)

**\*Non-Elected Minister**

**\*\*Elected Member from the United Force**

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

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Mohamed F. Khan, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

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

\*\*\*Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

Mr. Parmanand P. Persaud, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

\*\*\*Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Mr. Norman A. Whittaker, M.P., (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini) (Absent)

**Members of the Opposition (28)**

**(i) Members of People's National Congress Reform-One Guyana (22)**

Mr. Robert Corbin, M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Winston Murray, C.C.H., M.P.

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P., Deputy Speaker performing duties of Speaker of the National Assembly

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent – on leave)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Anthony Vieira, M.P.

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

Mr. James McAllister, M.P.

Mr. Dave D. Danny, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Aubrey C. Norton, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Ernest B. Elliot, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Judith David-Blair, M.P., (Region No.7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Mervyn Williams, M.P., (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

Dr. John Austin, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

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

Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P., (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Mr. Desmond Fernandes, M.P., (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

(ii) **Alliance For Change (5)**

Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mrs. Sheila V.A. Holder, M.P.

Ms Chantalle L. Smith, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

**(iii) Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild (1)**

Mr. Everall N. Franklin, M.P.

**OFFICERS**

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

Mrs. Lilawttie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

**ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., asked the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs the following question:

Could the Honourable Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs inform this National Assembly if in the drafting of the Gambling Prevention (Amendment) Bill 2006 currently before this Honourable House, his draftspersons had recourse to any existing legislation on casino gambling?

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., also asked the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs a supplementary question.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS-**

**(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Reading**

**GAMBLING PREVENTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006 – Bill No. 30/2006 published on 2006 12-28**

The Assembly resumed the debate on the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Gambling Prevention Act.

**(Read a first time on 2007-01-11)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Winston Murray

Ms Anna Ally

Mr. David Patterson

Dr. George Norton

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.01 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 4.35 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Mr. Odinga Lumumba

Mr. Ernest Elliot

Mr. Overall Franklin

Ms Africo Selman

Mr. Keith Scott

Mrs. Sheila Holder

While Mr. Moses Nagamootoo was speaking to the motion the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 7.00 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 7.32 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

Mr. Moses Nagamootoo continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Ms Jennifer Wade

Ms Chantelle Smith

Ms Vanessa Kissoon

The Minister in the Ministry of Education

Mr. Anthony Vieira

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan

Mrs. Deborah Backer

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

At 9.58 p.m., the Prime Minister moved a motion for the suspension of Standing Order No. 10(1) for the Assembly to continue the debate on the Bill uninterrupted until its conclusion.

Mrs. Deborah Backer continued and concluded her speech.

Thereafter the Minister of Home Affairs replied.

The motion for the second reading was put and carried on the following division:

**AGAINST**

Mr. Franklin  
 Mr. Patterson  
 Ms Smith  
 Mrs. Holder  
 Mr. Ramjattan  
 Mr. Trotman  
 Mr. Fernandes  
 Ms Kissoon  
 Ms Wade  
 Dr. Austin  
 Ms Selman  
 Mr. Williams  
 Mrs. David-Blair  
 Mr. Elliot  
 Mr. Norton  
 Mr. Danny  
 Mr. McAllister  
 Miss Ally  
 Mr. Scott  
 Mrs. Lawrence  
 Dr. Norton  
 Mr. Williams  
 Mr. Vieira  
 Mrs. Backer

**FOR**

Mr. Seeraj  
 Mrs. Sahoye-Shury  
 Mr. P. Persaud  
 Mr. Neendkumar  
 Mr. Nandlall  
 Mr. Nagamootoo  
 Mr. Lumumba  
 Mr. Khan  
 Mrs. Edwards  
 Mr. DeSantos  
 Mr. Chand  
 Mr. Atkinson  
 Mr. Ali  
 Ms Shadick  
 Mrs. Chandarpal  
 Mr. Nokta  
 Ms Teixeira  
 Mr. Ramotar  
 Mr. Prashad  
 Ms Webster  
 Dr. Ramsaran  
 Dr. Fox  
 Mr. Nadir



Mr. Murray  
Mr. Corbin

Ms Manickchand  
Mr. Benn  
Dr. Anthony  
Mr. Lall  
Dr. Westford  
Mr. Nawbatt  
Mrs. Rodrigues-Birkett  
Dr. Ramsammy  
Dr. Jeffrey  
Mr. Baksh  
Mr. Rohee  
Mr. Hinds

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The Bill was then read a second time.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 4** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed.**

The motion for the third reading was put and carried on the following division:

**AGAINST**

Mr. Franklin  
Mr. Patterson  
Ms Smith

**FOR**

Mr. Seeraj  
Mrs. Sahoye-Shury

Mrs. Holder  
Mr. Ramjattan  
Mr. Trotman  
Mr. Fernandes  
Ms Kissoon  
Ms Wade  
Dr. Austin  
Ms Selman  
Mr. Williams  
Mrs. David-Blair  
Mr. Elliot  
Mr. Norton  
Mr. Danny  
Mr. McAllister  
Miss Ally  
Mr Scott  
Mrs. Lawrence  
Dr. Norton  
Mr. Williams  
Mr. Vieira  
Mrs. Backer  
Mr. Murray  
Mr. Corbin

Mr. P. Persaud  
Mr. Neendkumar  
Mr. Nandlall  
Mr. Nagamootoo  
Mr. Lumumba  
Mr. Khan  
Mrs. Edwards  
Mr. DeSantos  
Mr. Chand  
Mr. Atkinson  
Mr. Ali  
Ms Shadick  
Mrs. Chandarpal  
Mr. Nokta  
Ms Teixeira  
Mr. Ramotar  
Mr. Prashad  
Ms Webster  
Dr. Ramsaran  
Dr. Fox  
Ms Manickchand  
Mr. Nadir  
Mr. Benn  
Dr. Anthony  
Mr. Lall  
Dr. Westford  
Mr. Nawbatt  
Mrs. Rodrigues-Birkett  
Dr. Ramsammy

Dr. Jeffrey  
Mr. Baksh  
Mr. Rohee  
Mr. Hinds

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On a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Gambling Prevention (Amendment) Bill 2006 was read the third time and passed as printed .

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11.55 p.m, on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, 23<sup>rd</sup> January, 2007.

  
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**MRS. CLARISSA RIEHL, M.P.,**  
**Acting Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**22<sup>nd</sup> January, 2007.**