

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 102ND SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
(2006-2009) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON THURSDAY, 19TH NOVEMBER, 2009
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (70)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (41)

(i) **People's Progressive Party/Civic (40)**

(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 (Absent – performing the
functions of Office of President)

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. 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 Foreign Affairs

*The Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance

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

*Non-elected Minister

2.

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. Charles R. Ramson, 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. B. H. Robeson 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.D., 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 (Absent – on leave)

*The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

The Hon. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.

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

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

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

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

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***Non-Elected Minister**

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

3.

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 – Pomereroon/Supernaam)

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

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

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

***Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

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

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and Water (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P. (Absent)

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

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.

Rev. Kwame Gilbert, M.P.

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 (Absent)

Mr. Winston Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent)

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

/...4

***Non-elected Parliamentary Secretary

4.

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Anthony Vieira, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Absent)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P. (Absent)

Ms Amna Ally, M.P. (Absent)

Ms Cheryl Sampson, M.P. (Absent)

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

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

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

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

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

Ms Africo Selman, M.P. (Absent)

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

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

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

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

(ii) **Alliance for Change (5)**

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

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Mrs. Latchmin Punalall, 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 (2)

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

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.13 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS –

By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) The National Insurance and Social Security (Sickness Benefit Medical Care) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 – No. 6 of 2009.

(Circulated)

- (ii) The National Insurance and Social Security (Industrial Benefit) (Amendment) Regulations 2009 – No. 7 of 2009.

(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

Presentation and First Readings

1. **FIRE PREVENTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 40/2009**

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

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

2. **FIRE SERVICE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 41/2009**

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Fire Service Act.

3. **FIRES AND CASUALTIES INQUIRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 42/2009**

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Fires and Casualties Inquiry Act.

4. **THE PRISON (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 43/2009**

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Prison Act.

7.

5. **PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 44/2009**

The Minister of Health, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide certain rights to persons with disabilities; to provide for the promotion and protection and full and equal enjoyment of the rights; to facilitate the enforcement of the rights; to eliminate discrimination on the basis of disability; to provide for the welfare and rehabilitation of persons with disabilities; to provide for the registration of persons with disabilities; to establish the National Commission on Disabilities; and for connected purposes.

PUBLIC BUSINESS -

(i) **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

BILLS – Second Reading

NATIONAL INSURANCE AND SOCIAL SECURITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 2009 – Bill No. 39/2009 published on 2009-11-12

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the National Insurance and Social Security Act.

(Read a first time on 2009-11-12)

The Minister of Labour spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clauses 1 to 7 were passed as printed.

The Schedule was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the National Insurance and Social Security (Amendment) Bill 2009 was read a third time and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.57 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Education, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 26th November, 2009.



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HON. HARI N. RAMKARRAN, S.C., M.P.,
Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

19th November, 2009.