

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 137th SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
(2006-2010) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON THURSDAY, 16th DECEMBER, 2010
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM,
GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (69)

Speaker (1)

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

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (41)

People's Progressive Party/Civic (40)

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
function of Office of the 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 (Absent – on leave)

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

*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 (Absent – on leave)

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***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. 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

*The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs (Absent – on leave)

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. (Absent – on leave)

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) (Absent – on leave)

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

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

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 (Absent – on leave)

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 in the
Ministry of Housing and Water

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

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

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.

Rev. Dr. Kwame Gilbert, M.P.

Mr. Lloyd J. Pereira, J.P., M.P.

Members of the Opposition (27)

(i) Members of People's National Congress Reform-One Guyana (21)

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

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

***Non-elected Parliamentary Secretary

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4.

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

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

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

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

Ms Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

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

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

Mr. Ernest Barnabas 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 Kisson, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

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

Ms Dawn Hastings, M.P.

(There is one vacancy)

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5.

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

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

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Mrs. Latchmin Punalall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent – on leave)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P. (Absent)

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

Ms Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.18 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-

(1) By the Minister of Finance:

(i) The Ministers, Members of the National Assembly and Special Offices (Emoluments)
Order 2010 – No. 41 of 2010.

(Circulated)

(ii) The Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) (No. 2) Order 2010 – No. 42 of
2010.

(Circulated)

6.

(iii) Financial Paper No. 3/2010 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital)
totalling \$1,918,999,270 for the period 2010-09-30 to 2010-12-31.

(Circulated)

(iv) Financial Paper No. 4/2010 – Supplementary Estimate (Capital) totalling
\$4,942,976,930 for the period ending 2010-12-31.

(Circulated)

(v) Sales Contract No. SA 139289 signed on January 1, 2010 between PDVSA Petroleo, S.A. (PDVSA) and the Guyana Energy Agency (GEA) to supply the Government of Guyana with crude oil, refined oil products and LPG of up to 5,200 barrels per day on an annual basis.

(Circulated)

(vi) Loan Contract No. 2270/BL-GY signed on February 17, 2010 between the Government of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank for US\$5,000,000 for the Expansion and Integration of Basic Nutrition Program.

(Circulated)

(vii) Loan Contract No. 2215/BL-GY signed on March 21, 2010 between the Government of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank for US\$24,800,000 for the Road Improvement and Rehabilitation Program.

(Circulated)

(viii) Loan Contract No. 2326/BL-GY signed on July 26, 2010 between the Government of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank for US\$2,000,000 for the Georgetown Solid Waste Management Program (Supplementary Financing).

(Circulated)

7.

- (ix) Loan Contract No. 2441/BL-GY signed on November 9, 2010 between the Government of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank for US\$5,000,000 for the Financial Sector Reform Program III.

(Circulated)

- (x) Loan Contract No. 2428/BL-GY signed on December 8, 2010 between the Government of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank for US\$9,500,000 for the Georgetown Sanitation Improvement Program.

(Circulated)

- (xi) Loan Contract No. 2454/BL-GY signed on December 8, 2010 between the Government of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank for US\$20,000,000 for the East Bank Demerara Four Lane Extension Project.

(Circulated)

- (xii) Government Concessional Loan Agreement signed on May 10, 2010 between the Government of Guyana and the Export-Import Bank of China GCL No. (2009) 46 Total No. (297) No. 1290003052009110756 for Renminbi Yuan Y270,000,000 for the Guyana Power and Light Infrastructure Development Project.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs:

- (i) The Law Revision Order 2010 – No. 37 of 2010.

(Circulated)

- (ii) The Law Revision (Revision Date) Order 2010 – No. 38 of 2010.

(Circulated)

8.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Oral Reply

CHIEF JUSTICE PENSION ORDER NO. 16/2010

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P., asked the Minister of Finance the following questions:

Could the Hon. Minister say –

- (i) *What was the basis for making the Chief Justice's Pension Order No. 16/2010?

- (ii) *Why did the Order place the personal emoluments of the Chief Justice at the same level of the Chancellor of the Judiciary?

(Notice Paper No. 495(Q343 Opp318) published on 2010-10-22)

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P., asked the Minister of Finance supplementary questions.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

Mr. Robert Corbin, M.P., asked the Minister of Finance a supplementary question.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

Mr. Raphael Trotman, M.P., asked the Minister of Finance a supplementary question.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.38 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 23rd December, 2010.

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

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam.

16th December, 2010.