

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

**OF THE 13TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2001) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY, 4TH JULY, 2001

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (68)

Speaker (1)

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

Members of the Government (37)

(i) People's Progressive Party/Civic (34)

(ii) Non-elected Ministers (2)

(iii) The United Force (1)

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works
and Communications (Absent - performing the functions of the Office of President)

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Foreign Trade and International
Co-operation (Absent-on leave)

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Education

The Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar, M.P., Minister of Finance

The Hon. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

The Hon. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal, M.P., Minister of Agriculture
(Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs
(Region No. 3 -Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P., Minister of Labour, Human Services and
Social Security

The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and
Regional Development

The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock
(Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

* The Hon. S. Rudolph Insanally, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Minister in the Office of the
President with responsibility for Foreign Affairs (Absent - on leave)

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

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

The Hon. Bibi S. Shadick, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and
Social Security (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

** The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., Minister of Health

Mr. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Chief Whip

Mr. Cyril C.L. Belgrave, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P.

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

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Heeralall Mohan, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Ramesh C. Rajkumar, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Kumkaran Ramdas, M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.D., M.P.

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.,
Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Water

Mrs. Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

* Non-elected Minister

**Elected Member from The United Force

Members of the Opposition (30)**(i) People's National Congress/Reform (27)**

- Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Leader of the Opposition (Absent-on leave)
- Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.
- Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.
- Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
- Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent)
- Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomereroon/Supenaam) (Absent - on leave)
- Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.
- Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.
- Mr. C. Stanley Ming, M.P.
- Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P. (Absent)
- Mr. Vincent L. Alexander, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
- Mr. Andy Goveia, M.P.
- Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent-on leave)
- Dr. Dalglish Joseph, M.D., M.P.
- Miss Anna Ally, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
- Miss Sandra M. Adams, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
- Mr. Jerome Khan, M.P. (Absent-on leave)
- Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.
- Miss Myrna E.N. Peterkin, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
- Mr. James K. McAllister, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
- Miss Lurlene A. Nestor, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
- Mr. Abdul Kadir, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
- Mr. Ricky Khan, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
- Mrs. Rajcoomarie Bancroft, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
- Mr. Nasir Ally, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
- Miss Judith David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
- Miss Genevieve Allen, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

(ii) Guyana Action Party/Working People's Alliance (2)

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

Mrs. Shirley J. Melville, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

(iii) Rise, Organise and Rebuild Party (1)

Mr. Ravindra Dev, M.P.

OFFICERS

Mr. Frank A. Narain, C.C.H., Clerk of the National Assembly

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

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to:

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee,

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte

and

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence for that day's sitting

and

Mr. Jerome Khan up to 18th July, 2001.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister of Finance:

- ✓ Statement of the withdrawals of sums from the Consolidated Fund for the period January to June, 2001, totalling \$20,897,190,000, authorised in accordance with article 219(3) of the Constitution and which have been incorporated for approval by the National Assembly, in the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2001, and for inclusion in the Appropriation Bill.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS**MOTION****MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2001 (2001 BUDGET)**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2001.

In Committee of Supply

The following Agencies, Programmes and Divisions in the Estimates were considered and were approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:-

05 - MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT**13 - MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

1 Main Office

1 Main Office

2 Ministry Administration

2 Ministry Administration

3 Regional Development

3 Regional Development

Div. 522 Ministry of Local Government

Div. 527 Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

71 - REGION 1: BARIMA/WAINI

1 Regional Administration and Finance

2 Agriculture

3 Public Works

4 Education Delivery

5 Health Services

Div. 531 Region 1: Barima/Waini

72 - REGION 2: POMEROON/SUPENAAM

1 Regional Administration and Finance

2 Agriculture

3 Public Works

4 Education Delivery

5 Health Services

Div. 532 Region 2: Pomeroon/Supenaam

73 - REGION 3: ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA

1 Regional Administration and Finance

2 Agriculture

3 Public Works

4 Education Delivery

5 Health Services

Div. 533 Region 3: Essequibo Islands/West Demerara

74 - REGION 4: DEMERARA/MAHAICA

1 Regional Administration and Finance

2 Agriculture

3 Public Works

4 Education Delivery

5 Health Services

Div. 534 Region 4: Demerara/Mahaica

75 - REGION 5: MAHAICA/BERBICE

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
- 2 Agriculture
- 3 Public Works
- 4 Education Delivery
- 5 Health Services

Div. 535 Region 5: Mahaica/Berbice

76 - REGION 6: EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
- 2 Agriculture
- 3 Public Works
- 4 Education Delivery
- 5 Health Services

Div. 536 Region 6: East Berbice/Corentyne

77 - REGION 7: CUYUNI/MAZARUNI

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
- 2 Agriculture
- 3 Public Works
- 4 Education Delivery
- 5 Health Services

Div. 537 Region 7: Cuyuni/Mazaruni

78 - REGION 8: POTARO/SIPARUNI

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
- 2 Public Works
- 3 Education Delivery
- 4 Health Services

Div. 538 Region 8: Potaro/Siparuni

79 - REGION 9: UPPER TAKUTU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
- 2 Agriculture
- 3 Public Works
- 4 Education Delivery
- 5 Health Services

Div. 539 Region 9: Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo

80 - REGION 10: UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
- 2 Agriculture
- 3 Public Works
- 4 Education Delivery
- 5 Health Services

Div. 540 Region 10: Upper Demerara/Berbice

Assembly resumed.SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 5.02 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.36 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for 2001.

In Committee of Supply

The following Agencies, Programmes and Divisions were considered and were approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:-

03 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE

- 1 Ministry Administration
- 2 Accountant General's Department
- Div. 526 Ministry of Finance

08 - OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL

- 1 Office of the Auditor General
- Div. 505 - Codes 12001, 25001, 44001 Auditor General

90 - PUBLIC DEBT

- 1 Public Debt

45 - MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND WATER

- 1 Housing and Water
- Div. 523 Ministry of Housing and Water
- Div. 524 Ministry of Housing and Water - Water Supply Improvement Project
- Div. 525 Ministry of Housing and Water - Georgetown Remedial and Sewerage Project

21 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

- 1 Ministry Administration
 - 2 Crops and Livestock Support Services
 - 3 Fisheries
 - 4 Hydrometeorological Services
 - 5 Lands and Surveys
- Div. 508 Ministry of Agriculture
Div. 509 Ministry of Agriculture – Rural Support Project
Div. 510 Ministry of Agriculture – MMA III
Div. 512 Ministry of Agriculture – Artisanal Fisheries

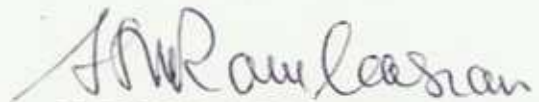
51 – MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

- 1 Secretariat Services
 - 2 Guyana Police Force
 - 3 Guyana Prison Service
 - 4 Police Complaints Authority
 - 5 Guyana Fire Service
 - 7 General Register Office
- Div. 507 Ministry of Home Affairs

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7.11 p.m., the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 5th July, 2001.



HARI N. RAMKARRAN

Speaker of the National Assembly

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

4th July, 2001.