

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 32<sup>ND</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND**  
**SESSION (2002-2004) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 2.00 P.M.**  
**ON THURSDAY, 29<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 2004**  
**IN THE CONVENTION CENTRE, OCEAN VIEW INTERNATIONAL HOTEL,**  
**LILIENDAAL, GREATER 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

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

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 (Absent - on leave)

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

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) (Absent - on leave)

\* 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

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) (Absent)

\*\* 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 (Absent)

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. (Absent)

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P.

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

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

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)

Mr. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P.

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

\*Non-Elected Minister

\*\*Elected Member from The United Force



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

Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

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

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

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam) (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. C. Stanley Ming, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Vincent L. Alexander, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Dr. Dalglish Joseph, M.D., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Miss Anna Ally, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice) (Absent - on leave)

Miss Sandra M. Adams, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Jerome Khan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Miss Myrna E.N. Peterkin, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. James K. McAllister, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara) (Absent - on leave)

Dr. Carl Max Hanoman, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Miss Lurlene A. Nestor, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Abdul Kadir, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Ricky Khan, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini) (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Rajcoomarie Bancroft, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Nasir Ally, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne) (Absent - on leave)

Miss Judith David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent - on leave)

Miss Genevieve Allen, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent - on leave)

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

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 2.11 p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read Prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

**Leave:**

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to:

The Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar and

The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh for that day's sitting,

The Hon. Rudolph Insanally, up to 5<sup>th</sup> May, 2004, and

27 Members of the People's National Congress/Reform for that day's sitting.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.**

By the Minister of Home Affairs:

Report of the Special Select Committee on the Review of Public Holidays.

(Circulated)

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**ITEM1 - REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE ON THE REVIEW OF PUBLIC HOLIDAYS**

The Minister of Home Affairs moved the following motion:

RESOLVED,

That the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Review of Public Holidays be adopted.

*(Notice Paper No. 110 (M52 Govt48) published on 2004-04-22)*

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Ravindra Dev

Mrs. Sheila Holder

The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal

The Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Minister of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.06 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 4.30 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Mrs. Shirley Melville

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

Thereafter, the Minister of Home Affairs replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

**BILLS - Second Readings**

**ITEM 2 - PENSIONS (PRESIDENT) BILL 2004 - Bill No. 4/2004 published on 2004-03-04**

The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the payment of superannuation benefits in respect of service in the Office of the President.

**(Read a first time on 2004-03-15)**

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

**In Committee**

Clauses 1 to 5 were passed as printed.



**Assembly resumed.**

On a motion by the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, the Pensions (President) Bill 2004 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ITEM 3 - INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 2004 - Bill No. 6/2004 published on 2004-03-18**

The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income Tax Act.  
(Read a first time on 2004-03-19)

Mr. Bernard DeSantos spoke to the motion.

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

**In Committee**

Clauses 1 and 2 were passed as printed.

On a motion by the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2004 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.57 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the sitting was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



**HARI N. RAMKARRAN**

**Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**29<sup>th</sup> April, 2004.**