

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 33<sup>RD</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, 13<sup>TH</sup> MAY, 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 (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 (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)

\* 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 (Absent)

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 (Absent - on leave)

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) (Absent - on leave)

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)

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

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Heeralall Mohan, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomereroon/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) (Absent)

Mr. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P.

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

\*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 Amna 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 2.25 p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read Prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

**Leave:**

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to:

The Hon. Clement Rohee

The Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar

The Hon. Rudolph Insanally

The Hon. Dr. Leslie Ramsammy

Mr. Husman Alli

Mr. Neendkumar, and

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

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

**Presentation and First Reading**

**DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION BILL 2004 - Bill No. 8/2004**

The Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the National Drainage and Irrigation Authority for ensuring that water resources are located, evaluated, conserved and utilised for the greatest national advantage through appropriate water management strategies and water use planning, to provide that the drainage and irrigation systems are operated in a sustainable manner, to provide for increased farmer participation through water users associations, local government organs, farmer associations or private entities in the planning, development, operation, maintenance and management of the drainage and irrigation services; to define the powers and duties of the Authority, and for the matters related thereto or connected therewith.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**BILLS - Second Readings**

**ITEM 1 - PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COMMISSION TRIBUNAL BILL 2004 - Bill No. 2/2004**  
**published on 2004-03-04**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Public Procurement Commission Tribunal and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

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

Mrs. Sheila Holder spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs replied.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the clauses of the Bill.

**In Committee**

Clauses 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 9, 11, 13, 15, 16, 17 and 18 were passed as printed.

Clauses 3(4), 6, 10(2), 12(2), 14(1), 19(5), 20, 21(2), 22, 23 and 24

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs moved the following amendments:

- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Clause 3(4)  | For the words "mind and body or for misbehavior" substitute the words "mind or body or for misbehaviour".                            |
| Clause 6     | Delete the word "the".   |
| Clause 10(2) | For the word "tribunal" substitute the word "Tribunal".  |
| Clause 12(2) | For the words "terms to costs" substitute the words "terms as to costs".   |
| Clause 14(1) | For the words "the Judge" substitute the words "a Judge".  |
| Clause 19(5) | For the word "take" substitute the word "make" and for the word "any" where it occurs for the second time substitute the word "and". |

7.

- Clause 20 Delete the words "decisions of".
- Clause 21(2) Before the word "confirm" insert the word "may".
- Clause 22 For the words "22" and the words following substitute - "22. Form and manner of service of notices".
- Clause 23 For the words "from decision" substitute the words "from a decision".
- Clause 24 For the word "take" substitute the word "make".

The amendments were put and carried.

Clauses 3(4), 6, 10(2), 12(2), 14(1), 19(5), 20, 21(2), 22, 23 and 24 were passed as amended.

**Assembly resumed.**

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Public Procurement Commission Tribunal Bill 2004, was read a third time and passed as amended.

**ITEM 2 - RIGHTS COMMISSIONS TRIBUNAL BILL 2004 - Bill No. 3/2004 published on 2004-03-04**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Rights Commissions Tribunal and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

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

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Ravindra Dev

Mrs. Sheila Holder

Mr. Ramesh Rajkumar

Thereafter, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs replied.

The Bill was read a second time.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the clauses of the Bill.

### **In Committee**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs moved the following amendments:

Name of Bill	For the word "Commission" substitute the word "Commissions".
Clause 3(4)	For the words "mind and body, or for misbehaviour" substitute the words "mind or body, or for misbehaviour".
Clause 6	Delete the word "the".
Clause 8(1)	For the words "the Rights Commission" substitute the words "a Rights Commission".
Clause 10(2)	For the word "tribunal" substitute the word "Tribunal".
Clause 12(2)	For the words "terms of costs" substitute the words "terms as to costs".



- Clause 14(1) For the words “the Judge” substitute the words “a Judge”.
- Clause 16(1) Delete the words “contumacy or”.
- Clause 17(1) For the words “the Rights Commissions” substitute the words “a Rights Commission”.
- Clause 19(5) For the word “take” substitute the word “make” and for the word “any” where it occurs for the second time substitute the word “and”.
- Clause 20 For the word “any” substitute the words “any decision of”.
- Clause 21(2) Before the word “confirm” insert the word “may”.
- Clause 22 For the words “22” and the words following substitute - “22. Form and manner of service of notices”.
- Clause 24 For the word “take” substitute the word “make”.

The amendments were put and carried.

Clauses 1, 2, 4, 5, 6, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15, 18 and 23 were passed as printed.

Clauses 3(4), 8(1), 10(2), 12(2), 14(1), 16(1), 17(1), 19(5), 20, 21(2), 22 and 24 were passed as amended.

**Assembly resumed.**

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Rights Commissions Tribunal Bill 2004, was read the third time and passed as amended.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 3.29 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the sitting was adjourned to 2.00p.m., on Monday, 17<sup>th</sup> May, 2004.



**HARI N. RAMKARRAN**

**Speaker of the National Assembly**

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,**

**Public Buildings,**

**Georgetown.**

**13<sup>th</sup> May, 2004.**