

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 53RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND
SESSION (2002-2005) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON MONDAY, 7TH MARCH, 2005
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
BRICKDAM, 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)

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

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

* 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) (Absent)

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)

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) (Absent)

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

*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.

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

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

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

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroun/Supenaam)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.

Mr. C. Stanley Ming, M.P. (Absent)

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

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

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Dr. Dagleish Joseph, M.D., M.P.

Miss Amna Ally, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

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

Mr. Jerome Khan, M.P.

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)

Dr. Carl Max Hanoman, M.P.

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)

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

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

Mr. Maurice B. Henry, Head Committees Division

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.05p.m.

PRAYERS

The Deputy Clerk read prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave:

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to:

Mr. Winston Murray,

Mr. E. Lance Carberry,

Miss Sandra Adams,

Miss Lurlene Nestor, up to 11th March, 2005

and

Mr. Raphael Trotman for that day's sitting.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

BUDGET SPEECH 2005 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2005

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2005.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2005-02-21)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mrs. Clarissa Riehl,

The Minister of Foreign Affairs,

The Minister of the Public Service,

Mrs. Shirley Melville

and

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 5.00 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.27 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

and

Mr. Robert Corbin.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 7.50 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.17 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs spoke to the motion.

CONCLUSION OF BUDGET DEBATE

The Speaker informed Members that the general debate on the Budget had been completed, and before the adjournment they would consider and dispose the Report of the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply on the allocation of time for the consideration of the 2005 Estimates of Expenditure by the Committee of Supply.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Chairman reported that the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply met on Tuesday, 1st March, 2005, considered the allocation of time for the consideration of the 2005 Estimates of Expenditure in the Committee of Supply and passed a Resolution on the matter. Copies of the Sub-Committee's Minutes, Resolution and Schedule had been circulated. He, thereafter, called on the Hon. Minister of Finance to move the necessary motion for the adoption of the Resolution.

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion which was put and carried:

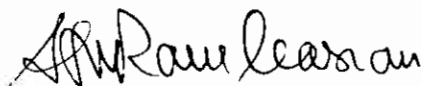
RESOLVED, that this Committee doth agree with the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply in the said Resolution.

The Speaker informed Members that the Committee of Supply had been allocated three days for the consideration of the Estimates. Consideration would begin the following day and would be in accordance with the Resolution of the Sub-Committee.

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 9.20 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, 8th March, 2005.



HON. HARI N. RAMKARRAN. S.C., M.P..

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE.

Public Buildings,

Georgetown.

7th March, 2005.