

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 52ND SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2012-2013) OF THE TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON FRIDAY, 19TH APRIL, 2013
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (68)

Speaker (1)

The Hon Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (34)

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

Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, O.E., M.P., Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
(Absent – performing the functions of Office of President)

Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica),
Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

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

Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance

Hon. Robert M. Persaud, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),
Minister of Natural Resources and Environment

Hon. Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni),
Minister of the Public Service

2.

Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsarran, M.P., Minister of Health

Hon. Mohamed I. Alli, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Public Works

Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice),
Minister of Education

Hon. Ganga Persaud, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Hon. Jennifer I.M. Webster, M.P., Minister of Human Services and Social Security

Hon. Pauline Campbell-Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

*Hon. Dr. Nanda K. Gopaul, M.P., Minister of Labour

Hon. Alli Baksh, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam),
Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture

Hon. Norman A. Whittaker, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini),
Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Hon. Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., Minister in the
Ministry of Finance

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Bibi S. Shaddick, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

***Non-Elected Minister**

3.

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/
West Demerara)

Mr. Odinga Lumumba, M.P.

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

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P.

Rev. Dr. Kwame A. Gilbert, M.P.

**Mr. Joseph Hamilton, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Health

Dr. Vindhya Vasini Persaud, M.S., M.P.

Mr. Cornel Damon, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mr. Faizal M. Jafarally, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Members of the Opposition (33)

(ii) Members of A Partnership for National Unity(26)

Brigadier (Ret'd) David A. Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Dr. Rupert Roopnarine, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)

Dr. George Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

****Non-Elected Member**

4.

Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P.

Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Dawn Hastings, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Winston Felix, D.S.M., M.P.

Ms Jennifer J. Wade, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Mr. Sydney Allicock, M.S., M.P.

Ms Africo Selman, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Desmond Trotman, M.P.

Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Mr. James A. Bond, M.P.

Mr. Ronald A. Bulkan, M.P.

Mr. Jaipaul Sharma, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Mabel Baveghems, M.P.

Mr. John Adams, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Christopher A. Jones, M.P.

Ms Rennita L. Williams, M.P., (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Mr. Renis Morian, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Miss Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.

5.

(iii)Members of The Alliance For Change (7)

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mr. Moses Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P.

Mrs. Catherine Hughes, M.P.

Mrs. Valerie Garrido-Lowe, M.P.

Dr. Veersammy Ramayya, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Ms June Eula Marcello, M.P. (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni)

Mr. Trevor Williams, 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 2.12 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read the prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave:

The Speaker informed Members that leave had been granted to:

- The Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, who was performing the functions of Office of President; and
- The Minister of Foreign Affairs, for that day's sitting

6.

Members of the International Press Institute

The Speaker informed Members that Ms Allison McKenzie, Director of the International Press Institute (IPI), Mr. John Yearwood, Member of the Executive of the IPI and World Editor of the Miami Herald, Mr. Scott Gritten, Communications Officer of IPI and Mr. Bert Wilkinson, Member of the Caribbean Media Workers Association were observing the proceedings at that sitting.

QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-

For Written Replies

1. **NO-CONFIDENCE MOTION PASSED AGAINST REO, REGION NO. 8**

Member Asking: **Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development**

Could the Hon. Minister inform Members of the National Assembly what actions he has taken in relation to the No-Confidence Motion that was passed against REO Harsawack of Region No. 8?

(Notice Paper No.173 (Q 110 Opp 108) published on 2013-03-25)

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development did not pass copies of the answer to the above question to the Clerk of the National Assembly for circulation to Members at that sitting as required by Standing Order No. 22(4).

7.

2. **PROTOCOL RELATING TO AN APPOINTED OFFICIAL OF A REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION**

Member Asking: **Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development**

Could the Hon. Minister inform Members of the National Assembly what is the protocol relating to an appointed official of a Regional Administration committing the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development for the provision of goods and services and in particular, if Mr. Harsawack is empowered to commit the Region in the absence of approval of the RDC?

(Notice Paper No.174 (Q 111 Opp 109) published on 2013-03-25)

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development did not pass copies of the answer to the above question to the Clerk of the National Assembly for circulation to Members at that sitting as required by Standing Order No. 22(4).

3. **COMMUNITY SERVICES ENHANCEMENT PROJECT**

Member Asking: **Mr. Ronald Bulkan, M.P.**

Minister Answering: **The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development**

In 2006, the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development and Government of Guyana initiated the project named at the caption and which had as its purpose/objective, to prepare four communities for their upgrading to municipalities, these being, Bartica, Charity, Parika and Supenaam.

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8.

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister provide the relevant details for the Communities Services Enhancement Project, which was initiated in 2006 and give information on its current status?
- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister say which other communities have been added to the four previously identified and for similar upgrading in status, if any?

(Notice Paper No.175 (Q 112 Opp 110) published on 2013-03-25)

The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development did not pass copies of the answers to the above question to the Clerk of the National Assembly for circulation to Members at that sitting as required by Standing Order No. 22(4).

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS

MOTION

BUDGET SPEECH 2013 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2013

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2013.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2013-03-25)

In Committee of Supply

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

13 - MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Current Expenditure

- 131 Main Office
- 132 Ministry Administration
- 133 Regional Development

Capital Expenditure

- 132 Ministry Administration
- 133 Regional Development

71 - REGION 1: BARIMA/WAINI

Current Expenditure

- 711 Regional Administration and Finance
- 712 Public Works
- 713 Education Delivery
- 714 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

- 711 Regional Administration and Finance
- 712 Public Works
- 713 Education Delivery
- 714 Health Services

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 6.15 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

In Committee of Supply

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

72 - REGION 2: POMEROON/SUPENAAM

Current Expenditure

- 721 Regional Administration and Finance
- 722 Agriculture
- 723 Public Works
- 724 Education Delivery
- 725 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

- 721 Regional Administration and Finance
- 722 Agriculture
- 723 Public Works
- 724 Education Delivery
- 725 Health Services

73 - REGION 3: ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA

Current Expenditure

- 731 Regional Administration and Finance
- 732 Agriculture
- 733 Public Works
- 734 Education Delivery
- 735 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

- 731 Regional Administration and Finance
- 732 Agriculture
- 733 Public Works
- 734 Education Delivery
- 735 Health Services

11.

51 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Current Expenditure

511 Secretariat Services

Capital Expenditure

511 Secretariat Services

Line Item 511 – Secretariat Services was put and carried on the following division:

DECLINED

AGAINST

FOR

TO VOTE

Mr. T. Williams

Ms Ferguson

Mr. Jafarally

Ms Marcello

Mr. Morian

Mr. Damon

Mrs. Garrido-Lowe

Ms Williams

Dr. Persaud

Mrs. Hughes

Mr. Jones

Rev. Gilbert

Mr. Nagamootoo

Mr. Adams

Dr. Mahadeo

Mr. Ramjattan

Ms Baveghems

Mr. Seeraj

Mr. Sharma

Mr. Neendkumar

Mr. Bulkan

Mr. Lumumba

Mr. Bond

Mr. Chand

Ms Kissoon

Bibi Shaddick

Mr. Trotman

Mrs. Chandarpal

Ms Selman

Mr. Nadir

Mr. Allicock

Ms Teixeira

Ms Wade

Bishop Edghill

Mr. Felix

Mr. Whittaker

Ms Hastings

Mr. Baksh

Mr. Scott

Mrs. Campbell-Sukhai

12.

	Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Harmon	Ms Webster
	Mr. Greenidge	Mr. G. Persaud
	Mrs. Backer	Ms Manickchand
	Dr. Norton	Mr. Benn
	Mr. B. Williams	Dr. Anthony
	Ms Ally	Mr. Ali
	Dr. Roopnarine	Dr. Ramsarran
	Brig. (Ret'd) Granger	Dr. Westford
		Mr. R. Persaud
		Dr. Singh
		Mr. Nandlall
		Dr. Ramsammy
		Mr. Rohee
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Line Item 511 – Secretariat Services was then passed as printed.

51 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

Current Expenditure

- 512 Guyana Police Force
- 513 Guyana Prison Service
- 514 Police Complaints Authority
- 515 Guyana Fire Service
- 516 General Register Office

Capital Expenditure

- 512 Guyana Police Force
- 513 Guyana Prison Service
- 514 Police Complaints Authority
- 515 Guyana Fire Service
- 516 General Register Office

13.

Assembly resumed

ADJOURNMENT

At 9.15 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Monday, 22nd April, 2013.

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HON. RAPHAEL G.C. TROTMAN, M.P.,
Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

19th April, 2013.