NATIONAL ASSEMBLY MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS OF THE 84TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION (2012-2014) OF THE TENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD <u>AT 2.00 P.M.</u> ON WEDNESDAY, 16TH APRIL, 2014 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) <u>People's Progressive Party/Civic (34)</u>

Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, O.E., M.P., Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

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

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

- 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. 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. Shadick, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Ganga Persaud, M.P.

*Non-Elected Minister

- 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) <u>Members of A Partnership for National Unity(26)</u>

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), Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

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

Dr. George Norton, M.P.

****Non-Elected Member**

- Mr. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P.
- Lieutenant Colonel (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P.
- Mr. Ronald A. Bulkan, M.P.
- Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.
- Ms Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
- Mr. Winston Felix, D.S.M., M.P.
- Dr. Karen Cummings, 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.
- Mr. James A. Bond, M.P.
- Mr. Ernest Elliot, M.P., (Region No. 4 Demerara/Mahaica)
- Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P. (Region No. 10 Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)
- Mrs. Mabel Baveghems, M.P.
- Mr. John Adams, M.P. (Region No. 3 Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
- Mr. Christopher A. Jones, M.P.
- Mr. Renis Morian, M.P. (Region No. 10 Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)
- Ms Rennita L. Williams, M.P. (Region No. 1 Barima/Waini)
- Miss Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.

(iii)<u>Members of The Alliance For Change (7)</u>

- 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
- Ms Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (a.g.)

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read the prayers.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

<u>News Item in the Guyana Times Newspaper</u>

Mr. Neendkumar gave a personal explanation re. a news item in the Guyana Times Newspaper of Wednesday, 15th April, 2014, about his salary.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) <u>GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS</u>

MOTION

BUDGET SPEECH 2014 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2014

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2014.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2014-03-24)

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:

44 - MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT

Current Expenditure

- 441 Ministry Administration
- 442 Culture
- 443 Youth
- 444 Sport

Capital Expenditure

- 441 Ministry Administration
- 442 Culture
- 443 Youth
- 444 Sport

23 - MINISTRY OF TOURISM, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE Current Expenditure

- 231 Main Office
- 232 Ministry Administration
- 233 Commerce, Industry and

Consumer Affairs

Capital Expenditure

- 231 Main Office
- 232 Ministry Administration
- 233 Commerce, Industry and
- **Consumer Affairs**

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.57 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.55 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:

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03 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE

Current Expenditure

031 Policy and Administration

Capital Expenditure

031 Policy and Administration

Presiding by Mr. Basil Williams, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

At 7.22 p.m., the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Mr. Basil Williams took the Chair.

Return of Speaker

At 7.45 p.m., the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

Capital Expenditure

031 Policy and Administration

Line Item 031- Policy and Administration was put and negatived on the following division:

AGAINST	<u>FOR</u>
Mr. T. Williams	
Ms Marcello	Mr. Jafarally
Dr. Ramayya	Dr. Persaud
Mrs. Garrido-Lowe	Rev. Gilbert
Mrs. Hughes	Dr. Mahadeo
Mr. Nagamootoo	Mr. Seeraj
Mr. Ramjattan	Mr. Neendkumar
Ms Ferguson	Mr. Lumumba

Mr. Morian
Mr. Jones
Mr. Adams
Ms Baveghems
Ms Kissoon
Mr. Elliot
Mr. Bond
Mr. Trotman
Ms Selman
Mr. Allicock
Ms Wade
Dr. Cummings
Mr. Felix
Ms Hastings
Mr. Scott
Mr. Bulkan
Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Harmon
Mr. Greenidge
Dr. Norton
Mrs. Lawrence
Mr. B. Williams
Ms Ally
Dr. Roopnarine
Brig. (Ret'd) Granger

Ms Williams

Mr. Chand Mr. G. Persaud **Bibi Shadick** Mrs. Chandarpal Mr. Nadir Ms Teixeira **Bishop Edghill** Mr. Whittaker Mr. Baksh Mrs. Campbell-Sukhai Ms Webster Ms Manickchand Mr. Benn Dr. Anthony Mr. Ali Dr. Ramsarran Dr. Westford Mr. R. Persaud Dr. Singh Mrs. Rodrigues-Birkett Mr. Nandlall Dr. Ramsammy Mr. Rohee Mr. Hinds

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03 - MINISTRY OF FINANCE Current Expenditure

032 Public Financial Management

Capital Expenditure

032 Public Financial Management

Assembly resumed

The Minister of Finance reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2014 and had approved of them as <u>amended</u>.

Thereafter, the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2014 was <u>put</u> and <u>carried</u>.

BILL – FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS

ITEM 2 - APPROPRIATION BILL 2014 – Bill No. 6/2014 published on 2014-03-25

With the Leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, Standing Order Nos. 13 and 54 were suspended to enable the Appropriation Bill 2014 to be introduced at this stage and to be further proceeded with at that sitting.

On motions by the Minister of Finance, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and <u>passed</u> as <u>amended</u>:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31st December, 2014, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly and for the appropriation of those sums for the specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

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Easter Greetings

The Speaker extended Easter Greetings to all Guyanese and thanked the staff of the Parliament Office, other Ministries and the Media. Brig. (Ret'd) David Granger, M.S.S., M.P., Leader of the Opposition, the Minister of Finance and the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs joined the Speaker in extending Easter Greetings to all Guyanese and thanked all the officials who worked during the consideration of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.05 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 15th May, 2014.

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

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown.

16th April, 2014.