

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 4TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST  
SESSION (1992-1993) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON FRIDAY, 12TH MARCH, 1993

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (72)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Derek C. Jagan, S.C., J.F., M.F., Speaker of the  
National Assembly

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (42)

The Hon. Samuel A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Senior Minister of  
Agriculture (Leader of the House)

The Hon. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.F., Senior Minister of Home  
Affairs (Government Chief Whip)

The Hon. Harrinersaud Nolta, M.P., Senior Minister in the Ministry of  
Public Works, Communications and Regional Development (Absent - on leave)

\*The Hon. Asgar Ally, M.P., Senior Minister of Finance

\*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Pannauth Bisnauth, M.P., Senior Minister of Education  
and Cultural Development

\*The Hon. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and  
Minister of Legal Affairs

\*The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Senior Minister of Labour,  
Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Moses V. Naqamootoo, M.F., Senior Minister in the Office  
of the President

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.F., Senior Minister of Health

The Hon. M. Shree Chan, M.F., Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism  
and Industry

Ms Janet Jagan, M.P.

The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry  
of Agriculture

The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal M.P., Minister of Labour, Human  
Services and Social Security

\*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public  
Works, Communications and Regional Development

\*The Hon. George E. Fung-On, M.P., Minister in the Office of the  
President

\*Non-elected Member

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.  
 Mr. Brindley H. Penn, M.P.  
 Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.  
 Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.  
 Mr. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P.  
 Mr. Komal Chand, M.P.  
 Ms. Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.  
 Mr. Randolph Evans, M.P.  
 Dr. Hughley H. Henoman, M.F.  
 Ms. Una A. James, M.P.  
 Mr. Alston A. Kisson, M.F.  
 Dr. Moti Lall, M.P.  
 Mr. Khemraj Pamjattan, M.P.  
 Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.F.  
 Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.F.  
 Ms. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
 Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P.  
 Mr. Khadim Bacchus, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)  
 Mr. Samad A. Paksh, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroun/Supenaam)  
 Mr. Harrinarine Baldeo, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)  
 Mr. Joseph M. DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Parima/Waini)  
 Mr. Eugene La Cruz, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)  
 Mr. Raqot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)  
 Mr. Kum Karan Ramdass, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)  
 Mr. Ramratan, M.P. a/k Balkarran (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/  
 West Demerara)

Members of the Minority (29)

(i) People's National Congress (26)

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minority Leader  
 Mr. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., M.P.  
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.  
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.  
 Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Chief Whip  
 Ms. Clarissa Riehl, M.P.  
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. King, M.P.  
 Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.  
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P. (Absent - on leave)  
 Ms. Anna Ally, M.P.  
 Ms. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.  
 Mr. Arthur A. Alexander, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly  
 Mr. Simon H. No-See-Quan, M.P.  
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P.  
 Mr. David Subnauth, M.P.  
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)  
 Ms. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P.  
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P.  
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.  
 Mr. Phillip Pynoë, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)  
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P.  
 Mr. Hukumchand, M.P. a/k Parag  
 Ms. Joan C. Richards, M.P.  
 Ms. Gwenneth A. Brouet, M.P.  
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.  
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara Mahaica)

(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas, M.P.  
Mr. Matheson Williams, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic  
Organs) (Absent)

(iii) The United Force (1)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

OFFICERS

Mr. Frank A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly  
Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to the  
Hon. H. Noka for that day's sitting.

(ii) Act No. 1 of 1993

The Speaker informed Members that the Local Authorities  
(Postponement of Elections) Bill 1992 (Bill No. 32 of 1992), which  
was passed by the Assembly on 8th January, 1993, was submitted to  
the President and was assented to by His Excellency on 15th January,  
1993.

The Act - No. 1 of 1993 - was published in the Gazette on  
18th January, 1993. Copies of the Act were distributed to Members.

(iii) Hansard for 2nd Sitting on 7th January, 1993 and 3rd Sitting  
on 8th January, 1993

The Speaker also informed Members that the Hansard for  
the 2nd and 3rd Sittings of the Assembly, held on 7th and 8th  
January, 1993, respectively, had been produced and that printed  
copies had been distributed to Members at the sitting.

(iv) CPA Journal - The Parliamentarian - October 1992

The Speaker further informed Members that copies of the  
quarterly journal of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association  
for October 1992 had been received from the Secretariat of the  
Association in London and had been distributed to Members at the  
sitting.

(v) Receipt of Computers

The Speaker stated that in his remarks at the 2nd sitting on 7th January, 1993, he had referred to the proposal of the British Government to present computers. He informed Members that on 17th February, 1993, the British High Commissioner in Guyana, Mr. Douglas Gordon, had formally donated four computers to the Parliament Office to assist in the production of the outstanding Hansard.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND RECEIPTS, ETC.-(i) By the Speaker (Chairman of the Committee of Selection):

Minutes of the Proceedings of the First Meeting of the Committee of Selection held on Wednesday, 10th March, 1993.

(Circulated)

## (2) By the Senior Minister of Finance

(i) Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure of Guyana for the financial year 1993, including Capital Projects Profiles for 1993.

(Circulated)

(ii) Travel Voucher Tax (Amendment) Order 1993 (No. 3), made under section 3 of the Travel Voucher Tax Act, Chapter 80:09, on 5th March, 1993.

(Circulated)

(iii) Travel Voucher Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1993 (No. 3), made under section 57(13) of the Tax Act, Chapter 80:01, on 5th March, 1993.

(Circulated)

(3) By the Senior Minister of Education and Cultural Development

Annual Report of the Ministry of Education and Cultural Development for the year 1991.

(Circulated)

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY ANDMOVED BY A MINISTERSuspension of Standing Orders

The Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House) moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Orders Nos. 9(2) and 32(9). (a) be suspended to enable the Senior Minister of Finance to complete uninterrupted the reading of the Budget Speech for 1993 at the sitting of the Assembly on Friday, 12th March, 1993.

(Notice Paper No. 3 (M3 Govt 3) published 9.3.93.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

SWORN CLERK AND NOTARY PUBLIC (CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY) BILL 1993  
Bill No. 1/1993 published 4.3.93

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the High Court Act and the Deeds Registry Act to provide separate examinations for sworn clerks under the High Court Act and notaries public under the Deeds Registry Act.

(2) TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 2/1993

In accordance with article 171(2) of the Constitution, the Senior Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Tax Act.

(3) BANKING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 3/1993

In accordance with article 171(2) of the Constitution, the Senior Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Banking Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1993

In accordance with article 171(2) of the Constitution, the Senior Minister of Finance signified that Cabinet had recommended that the National Assembly should proceed upon the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1993.

The Senior Minister of Finance then moved the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1993 of the total sum of \$21,364,269,000, excluding \$12,445,242,000, which is chargeable by law (see Appendix).

The Senior Minister read the Budget Speech.

The motion was then proposed.

#### Distribution of Documents

Before the adjournment was taken, the following documents were distributed to Members:

- (i) Budget Speech by the Senior Minister of Finance for 1993
- (ii) Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure for 1993
- (iii) Capital Projects Profiles for 1993
- (iv) Motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1993.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 4.44 p.m., on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 16th March, 1993.



D.C. Jagan,  
Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

12th March, 1993.

MOTION BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

*WHEREAS* the Constitution of Guyana requires that estimates of the revenues and expenditure of Guyana for any financial year should be laid before the National Assembly;

*AND WHEREAS* the Constitution also provides that when the estimates of expenditure have been approved by the Assembly an Appropriation Bill shall be introduced in the Assembly providing for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet that expenditure;

*AND WHEREAS* estimates of revenues and expenditure of Guyana for the financial year 1993 have been prepared and laid before the Assembly on 1993-03-12;

*NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:*

That this National Assembly approves the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1993, of a total sum of twenty one billion, three hundred and sixty four million, two hundred and sixty nine thousand dollars (21,364,269,000), excluding twelve billion four hundred and forty five million, two hundred and forty two thousand dollars (12,445,242,000) which is chargeable by law, as detailed therein and summarised in the undermentioned schedule, and agree that it is expedient to amend the law and to make further provision in respect to finance.

*Asgar Ally*  
*Minister of Finance*

*MINISTRY OF FINANCE*  
*1993-03-12*

# 1. SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	NET SUM GRANTED	
		CURRENT	CAPITAL
<i>all figures G\$'000</i>			
<b>PRESIDENT</b>			
	1 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT	542,748	
	2 GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE	670,687	
	3 GUYANA NATIONAL SERVICE	106,327	
	4 PUBLIC SERVICE MINISTRY	0	
501	OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT		152,558
<b>PRIME MINISTER</b>			
	5 OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER	8,633	
502	OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER		0
<b>CONSTITUTIONAL AGENCIES</b>			
	6 PARLIAMENT OFFICE	18,234	
	7 OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL	45,000	
	8 OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN	425	
	9 PUBLIC AND POLICE SERVICE COMMISSIONS	6,569	
	10 TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION	2,589	
	11 PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS	9,279	
	12 PUBLIC SERVICE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL	803	
	13 ELECTIONS COMMISSION	10,520	
	14 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION	8,167	
505	CONSTITUTIONAL AGENCIES		68,010
<b>LEGAL AFFAIRS</b>			
	15 MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS	3,777	
	16 SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE	18,146	
	17 MAGISTRATES	13,920	
	18 ATTORNEY GENERAL	18,387	
	19 OFFICIAL RECEIVERS	3,641	
	20 DEEDS REGISTRY	4,527	
514	MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS		7,300
<b>FOREIGN AFFAIRS</b>			
	21 MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	751,447	
506	MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS		2,600
<b>HOME AFFAIRS</b>			
	22 MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS	16,006	
	23 MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - POLICE	738,176	
	24 PRISONS	77,182	
	25 POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY	871	
	26 FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES	32,649	
	27 NATIONAL REGISTRATION CENTRE	123,935	
	28 GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE	5,667	
507	MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS		88,650
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>			
	29 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	18,123	
	30 CROPS AND LIVESTOCK DIVISION	349,079	
	31 LANDS AND SURVEYS DIVISION	16,267	
	32 HYDRAULICS DIVISION	8,461	
	33 HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DIVISION	71,715	
	34 FISHERIES DIVISION	2,433	
508	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE		1,421,950
510	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - MMA III		39,000
512	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - ARTISANAL FISHERY		101,217



## SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	NET SUM GRANTED	
		CURRENT	CAPITAL
<i>all figures G\$'000</i>			
<b>PHYSICAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT <i>con't</i></b>			
71	REGION 2 - POMEROON/SUPENAAM ADMINISTRATION	57,050	
72	REGION 2 - POMEROON/SUPENAAM AGRICULTURE	56,989	
73	REGION 2 - POMEROON/SUPENAAM EDUCATION	85,018	
74	REGION 2 - POMEROON/SUPENAAM HEALTH	33,047	
75	REGION 3 - ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA ADMINISTRATION	22,581	
76	REGION 3 - ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA AGRICULTURE	38,868	
77	REGION 3 - ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA EDUCATION	148,718	
78	REGION 3 - ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA HEALTH	53,628	
79	REGION 4 - DEMERARA/MAHAICA ADMINISTRATION	37,301	
80	REGION 4 - DEMERARA/MAHAICA AGRICULTURE	34,216	
81	REGION 4 - DEMERARA/MAHAICA EDUCATION	125,930	
82	REGION 4 - DEMERARA/MAHAICA HEALTH	54,986	
83	REGION 5 - MAHAICA/BERBICE ADMINISTRATION	41,359	
84	REGION 5 - MAHAICA/BERBICE AGRICULTURE	50,424	
85	REGION 5 - MAHAICA/BERBICE EDUCATION	59,754	
86	REGION 5 - MAHAICA/BERBICE HEALTH	31,258	
87	REGION 6 - EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE ADMINISTRATION	65,390	
88	REGION 6 - EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE AGRICULTURE	75,936	
89	REGION 6 - EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE EDUCATION	132,959	
90	REGION 6 - EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE HEALTH	147,211	
91	REGION 7 - CUYUNI/MAZARUNI ADMINISTRATION	42,393	
92	REGION 7 - CUYUNI/MAZARUNI AGRICULTURE	1,968	
93	REGION 7 - CUYUNI/MAZARUNI EDUCATION	23,276	
94	REGION 7 - CUYUNI/MAZARUNI HEALTH	14,633	
95	REGION 8 - POTARO/SIPARUNI ADMINISTRATION	22,767	
96	REGION 8 - POTARO/SIPARUNI AGRICULTURE	1,534	
97	REGION 8 - POTARO/SIPARUNI EDUCATION	10,918	
98	REGION 8 - POTARO/SIPARUNI HEALTH	2,432	
99	REGION 9 - UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO ADMINISTRATION	18,892	
100	REGION 9 - UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO AGRICULTURE	1,616	
101	REGION 9 - UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO EDUCATION	28,043	
102	REGION 9 - UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO HEALTH	11,596	
103	REGION 10 - UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE ADMINISTRATION	9,206	
104	REGION 10 - UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE AGRICULTURE	1,689	
105	REGION 10 - UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE EDUCATION	64,599	
106	REGION 10 - UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE HEALTH	10,027	
518	MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND WORKS		0
520	MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, COMMUNICATIONS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT		1,461,666
531	REGION 1 - BARIMA/WAINI		7,500
532	REGION 2 - POMEROON/SUPENAAM		19,500
533	REGION 3 - ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA		211,700
534	REGION 4 - DEMERARA/MAHAICA		20,100
535	REGION 5 - MAHAICA/BERBICE		12,050
536	REGION 6 - EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE		18,700
537	REGION 7 - CUYUNI/MAZARUNI		12,300
538	REGION 8 - POTARO/SIPARUNI		4,400
539	REGION 9 - UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO		11,612
540	REGION 10 - UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE		6,300
541	MINISTRY OF HOUSING		0
<b>PUBLIC DEBT</b>			
107	PUBLIC DEBT	950	
GRAND TOTAL \$		12,260,096	9,104,173