

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 8TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (1998) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON TUESDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1998**  
**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (76)**

**Speaker (1)**

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

**Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (46)**

The Hon. Samuel A. A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister (Absent)

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P., Minister of Agriculture and  
Parliamentary Affairs

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

The Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Minister of Finance (Absent)

\*The Hon. Charles R. Ramson, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

\*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P., Minister of Education (Absent)

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

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

\*The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Local Government

\*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

\*The Hon. George E. Fung-On, M.P., Minister of the Public Service (Absent - on leave)

\*The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Health and Labour

The Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P., Minister of Information (Absent)

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Minister of Local Government

\*The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister of Livestock and Fisheries (Absent)

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

\*The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics (Absent)

\*The Hon. Shaik K. Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water (Absent - on leave)

\*Non-elected Minister

Mr. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P.

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.

Dr. Cheddi B. Jagan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Alston A. Kisooson, M.P. (Absent)

Dr. Moti Lall, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Hari Narayan Ramkarran, S.C., M.P. (Absent)

Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.

Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mrs. Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Joseph M. DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

Mr. Heeralall Mohan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Ramratan, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Geoffrey A. Fraser, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

Mr. Ramsundar Sankat, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Eustace S. Rodrigues, M.S., M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)

Mr. Kumkaran Ramdas, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)

**Members of the Minority (29)****(i) People's National Congress (25)**

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minority Leader (Absent)

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

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P. (Absent)

Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P. (Absent)

Miss Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P. (Absent)

Ms Deborah Backer, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Colin Bynoe, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Lance Carberry, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. John S. DeFreitas, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Milton L. Ganpatsingh, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Andrew Hicks, M.P. (Absent)

Dr. Dalgleish Joseph, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Kadim Khan, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Sherwood Lowe, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Aubrey Norton, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Neaz Subhan, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Raphael Trotman, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Joseph Hamilton, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)

Mr. Kelly Andries, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent)

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

**(ii) The United Force (2)**

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Matthew R. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

4.

**(iii) Alliance for Guyana (2)**

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Albertino Peters, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)

**OFFICERS**

Mr. Frank A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

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

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 2.10 p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read Prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

**Leave**

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr for that day's sitting.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**ITEM 1 - 1998 BUDGET - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1998**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to resume consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1998.

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agency, Programmes and Division in the Estimates were considered and were approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated to them:-

**06-01 MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

- 1 Ministry Administration
- 2 Foreign Relations
- Div. 506 Ministry of Foreign Affairs

**Assembly Resumed.**

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, reported to the Assembly that the Committee of Supply had completed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1998, and had approved of them as printed.

The motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1998 was then put and carried.

**BILL - First, Second and Third Readings****ITEM 2 - APPROPRIATION BILL 1998 - Bill No. 4/1998 published 7.4.98**

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, Standing Orders Nos. 12 and 46 were suspended to enable the Appropriation Bill 1998 to be introduced at this stage and to be further proceeded with at that sitting.

On motions by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and passed as printed:-

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 financial year ending 31st December, 1998, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of those sums for specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 2.20 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



D.C. JAGAN

**Speaker of the National Assembly**

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.**

**7th April, 1998.**