

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 30TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1993 - 1999) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON WEDNESDAY, 14TH APRIL, 1999
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (77)

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 (47)

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

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

*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

*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

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

*The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister of Livestock and Fisheries

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

*The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

*The Hon. Shaik K. Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

*The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs (Absent)

*Non elected Minister

Mr. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Chief Whip

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. (Absent)

Mr. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P.

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P.

Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.

Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P.

Dr. Moti Lall, C.C.H., M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mr. Hari Narayen Ramkarran, S.C., M.P.

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.,
Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Local Government

Mrs. Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P.

Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Dr. Bheri Ramsaran, M.P.

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.

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.

Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P., Chief Whip

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

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P.

Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P.

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

Miss Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.

Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.

Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P.

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. John S. DeFreitas, M.P.

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

Dr. Dagleish Joseph, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

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

Mr. Sherwood A. J. Lowe, M.P.

Mr. Andrew Hicks, M.P.

Mr. Neaz Subhan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Colin Bynoe, M.P.

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

Mr. Kelley Andres, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Thakechand Ramnauth, M.P.

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

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

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

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

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

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P.

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

OFFICERS

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

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

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave from that day's sitting had been granted to the following Members:-

Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney

Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - 1999 BUDGETMOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1999

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to resume consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1999.

In Committee of Supply

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

43 - MINISTRY OF HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY

- 1 Ministry Administration
- 2 Social Services
- Div. 503 Ministry of Human Services and Social Security -- SIMAP
- Div. 504 Ministry of Human Services and Social Security

52 - MINISTRY OF HEALTH AND LABOUR

- 1 Ministry Administration
- 2 Disease Control
- 3 Primary Health Care Services
- 4 Regional and Clinical Services
- 5 Health Sciences Education
- 6 Standards and Technical Services
- 7 Rehabilitation Services
- 8 Public Hospital Georgetown
- 9 Labour Administration
- Div. 515 Ministry of Health and Labour

66 - MINISTRY OF INFORMATION

- 1 Information Services
- Div. 513 Ministry of Information

65 - MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT

- 1 Main Office
- 2 Ministry Administration
- 3 Regional Development
- Div. 522 Ministry of Local Government

71 - REGION 1: BARIMA/WAINI

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
- 2 Agriculture
- 3 Public Works
- 4 Education Delivery
- 5 Health Services
- Div. 531 Region 1: Barima/Waini

72 - REGION 2: POMEROON/SUPENAAM

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 532 Region 2: Pomeroon/Supenaam

73 - REGION 3: ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 533 Region 3: Essequibo Islands/West Demerara

74 - REGION 4: DEMERARA/MAHAICA

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 534 Region 4: Demerara/Mahaica

75 - REGION 5: MAHAICA/BERBICE

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 535 Region 5: Mahaica/Berbice

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.02 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.44 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1999.

In Committee of Supply

The following Agencies, Programmes and Divisions were approved as presented:-

76 - REGION 6: EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 536 Region 6: East Berbice/Corentyne

77 - REGION 7: CUYUNI/MAZARUNI

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 537 Region 7: Cuyuni/Mazaruni

78 - REGION 8: POTARO/SIPARUNI

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Public Works
 - 3 Education Delivery
 - 4 Health Services
- Div. 538 Region 8: Potaro/Siparuni

79 - REGION 9: UPPER TAKUTU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 539 Region 9: Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo

80 - REGION 10: UPPER DEMERARA/UPPER BERBICE

- 1 Regional Administration and Finance
 - 2 Agriculture
 - 3 Public Works
 - 4 Education Delivery
 - 5 Health Services
- Div. 540 Region 10: Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice

44 - MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS

- 1 Ministry Administration
 - 2 Culture
 - 3 Youth
 - 4 Sports
- Div. 541 Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

31 - MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS

- 1 Ministry Administration
 - 2 Public Works
 - 3 Communication and Transport
- Div. 519 Ministry of Public Works and Communications - Sea Defences
- Div. 520 Ministry of Public Works and Communications
- Div. 521 Ministry of Public Works - Road Construction, Rehabilitation and Studies

44 - MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND WATER

1 Housing and Water

Div. 523 Ministry of Housing and Water

Div. 524 Ministry of Housing and Water - Water Supply Improvement Project

Div. 525 Ministry of Housing and Water - Georgetown Remedial and Sewerage Project

51 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS

1 Secretariat Services

2 Guyana Police Force

3 Guyana Prison Service

4 Police Complaints Authority

5 Guyana Fire Service

6 National Registration Centre

7 General Register Office

Div. 507 Ministry of Home Affairs

Assembly Resumed.

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 1999, and had approved of them as printed.

The motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1999 was then put and carried.

ITEM 2 - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDERS NOS. 12 AND 67(3)

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves of the suspension of Standing Orders No. 12 (Order of Business) and No. 67(3) (with respect to the publication of the Appropriation Bill), to allow the Appropriation Bill 1999 to be introduced in the Assembly at the same sitting at which, and immediately after, the Estimates of Expenditure for 1999 have been approved.

(Notice Paper No. 63(M22 Govt 18) published 13.4.99)

BILL - Introduction, Second and Third Readings

ITEM 3 - APPROPRIATION BILL 1999

On motions by the Minister of Finance, 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, 1999, 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 8.25 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 22nd April, 1999.



D.C. JAGAN
Speaker of the National Assembly

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

14th April, 1999.