

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 7TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD SESSION
(1991) - (1992) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON MONDAY, 30TH MARCH, 1992

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

Speaker

*Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., M.P.,
Speaker of the National Assembly

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (60)

Prime Minister

Cde. H. Green, M.P., Prime Minister

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)

*Cde. K.S. Massiah, O.R., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister
of Legal Affairs

Deputy Prime Minister (2)

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Public Works,
Communications and Regional Development

Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Minister
of Trade, Tourism and Industry (Absent-on leave)

Senior Ministers (6)

*Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance

*Cde. Dr. P.L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Minister of Agriculture

*Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister of Education and Cultural
Development

Cde. J.R. Kranenburg, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public
Works, Communications and Regional Development

Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Senior Minister in the Office
of the President

*Cde. Rabbian Ali-Khan, M.P., Minister of Labour, Human Services and
Social Security

*Non-elected Member

Ministers (6)

- Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry
 *Cde. V.V. Parvatan, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture
 Cde. J.T. Kissoon, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health
 Cde. Dr. Faith Harding, M.P., Minister for the Public Service Ministry (Absent-on leave)
 Cde. Stella Odi-Ali, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs
 Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security

Government Chief Whip (1)

Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira

Other Members (32)

- Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., M.P.
 Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P.
 Cde. R.E. Jackson, O.R., M.P. (Absent-on leave)
 Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P.
 Cde. S. Prashad, C.C.H., M.P.
 Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn, M.P.
 Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P.
 Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P.
 Cde. K.B. Bancroft, A.A., M.P.
 Cde. M. Corrica, M.S., M.P.
 Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P.
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce-Gill Mingo, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce Munroe, M.P.
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.S., M.P.
 Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
 Cde. Amna Ally, M.P.
 Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.
 Cde. F.M. Cumberbatch, M.P.
 Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.
 Cde. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.
 Cde. Edith Deygoo, M.P.
 Cde. Clarice A. Edwards, M.P.
 Cde. C.L. Geddes, M.P.
 Cde. G. Marshall, M.P.
 Cde. B. Persaud, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. K. Sankar, A.A., M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. E.L. Fraser, M.P.
 Cde. Mignon D. Griffith, M.P.
 Cde. P.E. Rockcliffe, M.P.

(There are two vacancies)

Members from the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs (2)

- Cde. Rose I. Semple, M.P.
 Cde. P. Singh, J.P., M.P.

*Non-elected Member

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10).

Cde. Nellie R. Charles, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
 Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
 Cde. Y. Khan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)
 Cde. Enid E. Abrahams, M.S., J.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo
 Islands/West Demerara)
 Cde. I. Ally, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Cde. S.I. McGarrell, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
 Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takatu/Upper
 Essequibo) (Absent)
 Cde. Ajoodhia, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
 Cde. D. Fernandes, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

Members of the Minority (11)(i) People's Progressive Party (8)Minority Leader (1)

Cde. Dr. C. Jagan, M.P., Minority Leader (Absent)

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Deputy Speaker of the
 National Assembly (Absent)

Other Members (6)

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P., Minority Chief Whip (Absent-on leave)
 Cde. H. Nokta, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. Dr. Roger Luncheon, M.P. (Absent)

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. M.A. Abrahams, A.A., M.P.

(iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

Dr. R. Roopnarine, M.P. (Absent)

OFFICERS

Cde. M.B. Henry, Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.)
 Cde. E. Kendall, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.)

PRAYERS

The Acting Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) Broadcast of Budget

The Speaker announced that in accordance with the usual practice, he had given permission to the Guyana Broadcasting Corporation to broadcast live the Budget presentation which would be made by the Minister of Finance that day. The Corporation had also been given permission to record for subsequent broadcasts speeches which would be made by other Members of the National Assembly at the other sittings during the Budget debate. Such subsequent broadcasts would, however, have to be made in accordance with the approved practice, i.e., the time used for the broadcast of speeches would have to be allotted to the Members of the Assembly in the proportion to the Party representation in the Assembly.

(ii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cde. Dr. Harding for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS(1) By the Speaker (Chairman of the Committee of Selection:)

Minutes of the First Meeting of the Committee of Selection of the National Assembly of the Third Session (1991-1992) of the Fifth Parliament of Guyana held at 3.10 p.m. on Friday, 27th March, 1992.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Finance:

Estimates of the Revenue and Expenditure for the year 1992.

(Circulated)

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

The Minister in the Ministry of Health moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order Nos. 9(2) and 32(9)(a) be suspended to enable the Minister of Finance to complete uninterrupted the reading of the Budget Speech for 1992 at the sitting of the Assembly on Monday, 30th March, 1992.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading(1) TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 7/1992

The Minister of Finance, 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.

(2) FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 8/1992

The Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the
Income Tax Act, the Capital Gains Tax
Act and the Property Tax Act.

(3) IMMIGRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 9/1992

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the
Immigration Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1991

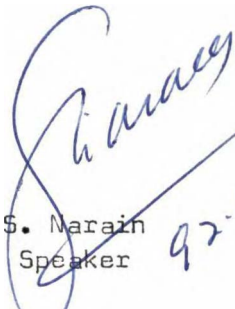
In accordance with paragraph (2) of article 171 of the Constitution the Minister of Finance signified that Cabinet had recommended that the National Assembly should proceed upon the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial year 1992.

The Minister of Finance then moved the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial year 1992 of the total sum of (\$17,863,156,100), excluding fourteen billion and ninety-two million, four hundred and eight thousand dollars (\$14,092,408,000) which is chargeable by law (See Appendix).

The Minister read the Budget Speech and thereafter named Thursday, 2nd April, 1992, as the day for the resumption of the debate of the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.15 p.m. on a motion by the Minister in the Ministry of Health, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, 2nd April, 1992.


S. Narain
Speaker 92-04-02

PARLIAMENT OFFICE
PUBLIC BUILDINGS
GEORGETOWN

1992-03-31

APPENDIX

MOTION BY 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 1992 have been prepared and laid before the Assembly on 1992-03-30;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1992, of a total sum of seventeen billion, eight hundred and sixty three million, one hundred and fifty six thousand dollars (17,863,156,000), excluding fourteen billion and ninety two million, four hundred and eight thousand dollars (14,092,408,000) 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.

Carl B. Greenidge (Sgd)
.....
Carl B. Greenidge
Minister of Finance

MINISTRY OF FINANCE
1991-03-30

APPENDIX

SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	DESCRIPTION OF HEAD all figures G\$'000	NET SUM GRANTED	
			CURRENT	CAPITAL
		<u>PRESIDENT</u>		
	1	Office of the President	722564	
	2	Guyana Defence Force	507322	
	3	Guyana National Service	97806	
	4	Public Service Ministry	0	
501		Office of the President	0	197,425
503		Public Service Ministry		0
		<u>PRIME MINISTER</u>		
	5	Office of the Prime Minister	0	
502		Office of the Prime Minister		0
		<u>CONSTITUTIONAL AGENCIES</u>		
	6	Parliament Office	10101	
	7	Office of the Auditor General	28923	
	8	Office of the Ombudsman	346	
	9	Public and Police Service Commissions	5143	
	10	Teaching Service Commission	2005	
	11	Public Prosecutions	3610	
	12	Public Service Appellate Tribunal	633	
	13	Elections Commission	55542	
	14	Public Utilities Commission	8519	
505		Office of the Auditor General		43,700
513		Public Service Appellate Tribunal		0
542		National Elections Commission		0
		<u>LEGAL AFFAIRS</u>		
	15	Ministry of Legal Affairs	2593	
	16	Supreme Court of Judicature	15759	
	17	Magistrates	7382	
	18	Attorney General	11052	
	19	Official Receiver	2835	
	20	Deeds Registry	2885	
514		Ministry of Legal Affairs		1,700
		<u>FOREIGN AFFAIRS</u>		
	21	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	1221337	
506		Ministry of Foreign Affairs		5,000
		<u>HOME AFFAIRS</u>		
	22	Ministry of Home Affairs	13507	
	23	Police	544532	
	24	Prisons	63290	
	25	Police Complaints Authority	781	
	26	Fire Protection Services	27620	
	27	National Registration Centre	32718	
	28	General Register Office	4809	
507		Ministry of Home Affairs		104,724

SCHEDULE con't

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	DESCRIPTION OF HEAD	NET SUM GRANTED	
			CURRENT	CAPITAL
		<u>AGRICULTURE</u>		
	29	Ministry of Agriculture	13269	
	30	Crops and Livestock Division	327036	
	31	Lands and Surveys Division	12260	
	32	Hydraulics Division	75713	
	33	Fisheries Division	2266	
508		Ministry of Agriculture		829,185
510		Ministry of Agriculture – MMA III		40,000
512		Ministry of Agriculture – Artisanal Fishery		225,000
		<u>HEALTH</u>		
	34	Ministry of Health	162898	
	35	National Hospitals	249435	
	36	Other Health Programmes	107257	
516		Ministry of Health		335,009
517		Guyana Water Authority		153,200
		<u>EDUCATION AND CULTURE</u>		
	37	Ministry of Education and Cultural Development	459139	
	38	Ministry of Education	0	
	39	Nursery Schools	23540	
	40	Primary Schools	61205	
	41	Secondary/Multilateral and Community High Schools	73802	
	42	Technical and Vocational Schools	36311	
	43	Practical Instruction Centres	5994	
	44	Teacher Training Institutions	26331	
	45	Resource Centre	13837	
	46	Ministry of Culture and Social Development	0	
	47	Department of Culture	0	
515		Ministry of Culture and Social Development		0
522		Ministry of Education		0
543		Ministry of Education and Cultural Development		430230
		<u>LABOUR, HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY</u>		
	48	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security	125,519	
	49	Child and Family Welfare Division	0	
	50	Ministry of Labour	0	
	51	Ministry of Co-operatives	0	
504		Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security		225,050
524		Ministry of Labour		0
529		Ministry of Co-operatives		0

all figures G\$'000

SCHEDULE con't

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	DESCRIPTION OF HEAD	NET SUM GRANTED	
			CURRENT	CAPITAL
			all figures G\$'000	
<u>FINANCE</u>				
	52	Ministry of Finance	3341533	
	53	Accountant General Department	346041	
	54	Customs and Excise Department	77510	
	55	Inland Revenue Department	133818	
	56	Statistical Bureau	0	
526		Ministry of Finance		2,823,933
527		Ministry of Finance – Human Resources Development Programme		189,336
<u>PLANNING</u>				
	57	Ministry of Planning	0	
525		Ministry of Planning		0
<u>TRADE, TOURISM AND INDUSTRY</u>				
	58	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry	165,766	
	59	Ministry of Public Utilities	0	
	60	Ministry of Trade and Tourism	0	
521		Ministry of Public Utilities		0
528		Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry		34,000
<u>PHYSICAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT</u>				
	61	Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development	309091	
	62	Civil Defence Commission	0	
	63	Ministry of Communications and Works	0	
	64	Plant Maintenance and Hire Division	0	
	65	Civil Aviation Department	97,451	
	66	Ministry of Housing	0	
	67	Ministry of Regional Development	0	
	68	Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Administration	28228	
	69	Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Agriculture	5503	
	70	Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Education	18099	
	71	Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Health	7788	
	72	Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Administration	42195	
	73	Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Agriculture	18955	
	74	Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Education	46184	
	75	Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Health	27433	
	76	Region No.3 Essequibo Isls/West Dem. – Admin.	15718	
	77	Region No.3 Essequibo Isls/West Dem. – Agri.	22692	
	78	Region No.3 Essequibo Isls/West Dem. – Education	88143	
	79	Region No.3 Essequibo Isls/West Dem. – Health	34486	
	80	Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Administration	36574	
	81	Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Agriculture	38193	
	82	Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Education	113426	
	83	Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Health	59153	
	84	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Administration	41214	
	85	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Agriculture	21464	

SCHEDULE con't

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	DESCRIPTION OF HEAD	NET SUM GRANTED	
			CURRENT	CAPITAL
		all figures G\$'000		
		<u>PHYSICAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT con't</u>		
	86	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Education	42615	
	87	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Health	27543	
	88	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Admin.	47457	
	89	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Agri.	49302	
	90	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Educ.	110709	
	91	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Health	127285	
	92	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Administration	15190	
	93	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Agriculture	1749	
	94	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Education	13977	
	95	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Health	10285	
	96	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Administration	14988	
	97	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Agriculture	1482	
	98	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Education	5234	
	99	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Health	2188	
	100	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper E'bo – Admin.	10732	
	101	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper E'bo – Agri.	1793	
	102	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper E'bo – Educ.	14192	
	103	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper E'bo – Health	7432	
	104	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Admin.	8729	
	105	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Agri.	2273	
	106	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Educ.	33581	
	107	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Health	6167	
518		Ministry of Communication and Works		0
519		Plant Maintenance and Hire Division		0
520		Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development		1,071,616
530		Ministry of Regional Development		0
531		Region No.1 Barima/Waini		5,875
532		Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam		22,700
533		Region No.3 Essequibo Islands/West Demerara		160,600
534		Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica		18,080
535		Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice		21,200
536		Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne		17,590
537		Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni		16,425
538		Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni		6,241
539		Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper Essequibo		10,900
540		Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice		12,500
541		Ministry of Housing		0
		<u>PUBLIC DEBT</u>		
108		Public Debt	950	
		GRAND TOTAL	10,861,937	7,001,219