

National Assembly Debates

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND SESSION (2002-2003) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA HELD IN THE CONVENTION CENTER OCEANVIEW INTERNATIONAL HOTEL LILIENDAAL

20TH SITTING

2.00 PM

MONDAY 18TH AUGUST, 2003

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (68)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari N. Ramkarran, S. C., M. P. - *Speaker of the National Assembly*

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (34)

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| The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P. | - <i>Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications</i> |
| The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P. | - <i>Minister of Parliamentary Affairs</i> |
| The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation</i> |
| The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Local Government and Regional Development</i> |
| The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport</i> |
| The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Education</i> |
| The Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Finance</i> |
| The Hon. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Housing and Water</i> |
| The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Home Affairs; Region No. 3-Essequibo Islands/West Demerara</i> |
| The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P. | - <i>Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security (AOL)</i> |
| The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P. | - <i>Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development</i> |

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- The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P. - *Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock (Region No.5-Mahaica/Berbice)*
- *The Hon.S.Rudolph Insanally, O.R, C.C.H, M.P. - *Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Foreign Affairs*
- *The Hon. Doodnauth Singh, S.C., M.P. - *Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (Absent)*
- The Hon.Dr.Jennifer R.A. Westford,M.P. - *Minister of the Public Service*
- The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P. - *Minister of Transport and Hydraulics (Absent)*
- The Hon. Bibi S. Shadick, M.P. - *Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security (Region No. 3- Essequibo Islands/ West Demerara)*
- **The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P. - *Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce*
- The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues, M.P. - *Minister of Amerindian Affairs*
- The Hon. Dr Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P. - *Minister of Health*
- Mr S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P. - *Chief Whip*
- Mr Cyril C. Belgrave, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. - *(Region No. 4-Demerara/Mahaica)*
- Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P. - *(Region No. 7- Cuyuni/Mazaruni)*
- Mr Husman Alli, M.P. - *(Region No.4-Demerara/Mahaica)*
- Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. - *(Absent)*
- Mrs Indranie Chandarpal, M.P. - *(Absent)*
- Mr Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P. - *(Absent)*
- Mrs Shirley V. Edwards, J.P. M.P. - *(Absent)*
- Mr Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P. - *(Region No.2-Pomeroon/Supenaam)*
- Mr Heeralall Mohan, M.P. - *(Region No. 6 - East Berbice/ Corentyne)*
- Mr Ramesh C. Rajkumar, M.P. - *(Region No. 6 - East Berbice/ Corentyne)(Absent)*
- Mr Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. - *(AOL)*
- Dr Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.D., M.P. - *Parliamentary Secretary,*
- Mrs Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H, JP, M.P. - *Ministry of Housing and Water-*
- Mrs Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P. - *(Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)*
- Mr Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P.
- Mr. Neendkumar, M.P.

* Non-Elected Minister

** Elected Member from The United Force

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Members of the Opposition (30)

(i) People's National Congress/Reform (27)

Mr. Robert H. O. Corbin, M. P.	- (Absent)
Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.	- (Absent)
Mrs Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P.	- Deputy Speaker of the N.A
Mr E. Lance Carberry, M.P.	- Chief Whip
Mr Ivor Allen, M.P.	-(Region No.2-Pomeroon/Supenaam)-(Absent)
Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.	- (AOL)
Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.	
Mr. C. Stanley Ming, M.P.	
Mr. Raphael G. C. Trotman, M.P.	- (Absent)
Mr Basil Williams	- (AOL)
Mr Vincent L. Alexander, M.P.	- (Region No. 4-Demerara/Mahaica)
Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.	
Dr Dagleish Joseph, M.D., M.P.	
Miss Amna Ally, M.P.	-(Region No.5-Mahaica/Berbice) - (AOL)
Miss Sandra M. Adams, M.P.	- (Region No.10-Upper Demerara Berbice)
Mr. Jerome Khan, M.P.	- (Absent)
Dr George A. Norton, M.P.	
Miss Myrna E. N. Peterkin, M.P.	-(Region No.4-Demerara/Mahaica)
Mr. James K. McAllister, M.P.	-(Region No.3-Essequibo Islands West Demerara)
Miss Lurlene A. Nestor, M.P.	-(Region No.4-Demerara/Mahaica)
Mr Abdul Kadir, J.P., M.P.	-(Region No.10-Upper Demerara/Berbice)
Mr Ricky Khan, M.P.	-(Region No.1-Barima/Waini)
Mrs. R. Bancroft, M.P.	- (Region No.8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
Mr Nasir Ally, J.P., M.P.	-(Region No.6-East Berbice/Corentyne)
Miss Judith David, M.P.	-(Region No.7-Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
Miss Genevieve Allen, M.P.	-(Region No.4-Demerara/Mahaica)
(One Vacancy)	

(ii) Guyana Action Party/Working People's Alliance Party (2)

Mrs Sheila V.A. Holder, M.P.	- (AOL)
Mrs Shirley J. Melville, M.P.	- (Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

(iii) Rise, Organise and Rebuild Party (1)

Mr Ravindra Dev, M.P.	- (AOL)
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OFFICERS

Mr Sherlock E. Isaacs, *Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly*
(Performing the functions of Clerk of the National Assembly)

Mrs Lilawtie Coonjah, *Principal Assistant Secretary (Finance)*
(Performing the functions of Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly.)

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PRAYERS

The Clerk read the **Prayer**.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Leave

Honourable Members, leave has been granted to the Hon Dr Ramnauth Bisnauth, Hon Members Mr Basil Williams, Dr Bheri Ramsaran and Mr Ravindra Dev for today's sitting.

(ii) Funeral of the late Mr Andy Goveia

Honourable Members the funeral of the late Andy Goveia takes places at the Brickdam Cathedral tomorrow afternoon. The body will be at the Cathedral from 3:00 p.m. for funeral service at 3:30 p.m. thence to the Le Repentir Cemetery for burial. There will be a wake for the late Andy Goveia at Congress place this evening.

(iii) Vacation – Deputy Clerk

Honourable Members, Mrs Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk is on vacation and Mrs Bibi Baldeo, Principle Assistant Secretary in the Parliament Office is performing the duties of Deputy Clerk.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Speaker of the National Assembly (*Chairman of the Committee of Selection*)

Minutes of the proceedings of the 7th Meeting of the Committee of Selection of the Second Session held on 13th August, 2003

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PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

**BILLS – REPORT FROM SELECT COMMITTEE AND
THIRD READING**

**ITEM 1–VETERINARIANS BILL 2003–Bill No. 14/2003
published on 2003-07-30**

- (i) That the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Veterinarians Bill 2003, be adopted, and
- (ii) That the Veterinarians Bill be read a third time and passed as amended.

The Speaker: Honourable Members I invite the Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock to move the Motion.

Hon Satyadeow Sawh: Thank you Mr Speaker. I beg to move that the Report from the Special Select Committee on the Veterinarians Bill 2003 be adopted.

The Speaker: I will have to put that first.

Put and adopted.

The Speaker: Yes, Honourable Member.

Hon Satyadeow Sawh: Mr Speaker, I beg that the Veterinarians Bill be read a third time and passed as amended.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed as amended by the Special Select

Committee.

ITEM 2—ANIMALS (MOVEMENT AND DISEASE PREVENTION) BILL 2003 Bill No. 15/2003 published on 2003-07-30

(i) That the Report of the Special Select Committee on Animals (*Movement and Disease Prevention*) Bill 2003 be adopted, and

(ii) That the Animals (*Movement and Disease Prevention*) Bill 2003 be read a third time and passed as amended.

The Speaker: Hon Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock.

Hon Satyadeow Sawh: Thank you, Mr Speaker. I beg to move that the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Animals (*Movement and Disease Prevention*) Bill 2003 be adopted.

Put and adopted.

The Speaker: Yes, Honourable Member.

Hon Satyadeow Sawh: Mr Speaker, I beg to move that the Animals (*Movement and Disease Prevention*) Bill 2003 be read a third time and passed as amended.

Bill read the Third Time, and passed as amended by the Special Select Committee.

ITEM 3—FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT)(No. 2) Bill 2003 – Bill No. 16/2003 published on 2003-07-30

(i) That the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Fiscal Enactments (Amendment) Bill 2003 be adopted and

(ii) That the Fiscal Enactments (Amendment) Bill 2003 be read

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a third time and passed as amended.

The Speaker: Hon Minister of Finance.

Hon Saisnarine Kowlessar: Mr Speaker, I beg to move that the Report of the Special Select committee on the Fiscal Enactments (Amendment)(No. 2)Bill 2003 be adopted.

Put and adopted.

The Speaker: Yes, Honourable Member.

Hon Saisnarine Kowlessar: Mr Speaker, I beg that the Fiscal Enactments (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill be read a third time and passed as amended.

Bill read the Third time and passed as amended by the Special Select Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

The Speaker: Honourable Members, this concludes our business for today.

Before I invite the Hon Minister of Parliamentary Affairs to move the usual Motion I would like to inform members, as you already know, that we now go into recess until the 10th of October. I will like to thank Members for their cooperation and the efficiency which was displayed in conducting our work during this term.

I will like to thank the Clerk and the Staff of the Parliament Office who up to the very last moment were engaged in emergency work, as they usually are, in order to bring off parliamentary sessions.

I will like to convey to Members my best wishes for their summer vacation.

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Hon Minister of Parliamentary Affairs.

Hon Reepu Daman Persaud: Mr Speaker, I think I would fail in my duty if I did not thank you for the patience you have shown, for the tolerance you have exerted and for the able and efficient manner in which you have conducted the business and affairs of the National Assembly. I wish you a peaceful recess.

I want to join with you in thanking the Clerk and staff and others who worked beyond the call of duty to carry out so many functions which on many occasions fell within the ambit of emergency.

We have had very vibrant and deliberative sittings which precede this recess. At the end of the recess it will be no different. A number of bills will be brought and Parliament will continue to be deliberative and vibrant.

In addition I convey that Members have been meeting in the various Committees and the Select Committee has been put to active work within this short span.

We have an active Parliament and so it should be.

I want to wish Members a happy recess and hope that they enjoy the few moments during the recess.

I now move that the National Assembly stands adjourned to a date to be fixed.

The Speaker: The National Assembly stands adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Adjourned accordingly at 14:50 H