

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 18TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2006-2007) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON FRIDAY, 16TH FEBRUARY, 2007
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (71)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari. N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent – on leave)

Members of the Government (42)

(i) People's Progressive Party/Civic (41)

(ii) The United Force (1)

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice),
Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

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

The Hon. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Education

The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Foreign Trade and International
Cooperation

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),
Minister of Health

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, M.P., (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo),
Minister of Amerindian Affairs

*The Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance

*The Hon. S. Rudolph Insanally, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Hon. Harry Narine Nawbatt, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

***Non-elected Minister**

The Hon. Robert M. Persaud, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),
Minister of Agriculture

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni),
Minister of Public Service

The Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

*The Hon. Doodnauth Singh, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

**The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Minister of Labour

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P., (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice),
Minister of Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Dr. Desrey Fox, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Education

The Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health

The Hon. Jennifer I. Webster, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Finance

The Hon. Manniram Prashad, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce (Absent)

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Chief Whip

Ms Bibi S. Shadick, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Mr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P.

Mr. Albert Atkinson, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni)

***Non-Elected Minister**

****Elected Member from the United Force**

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Mohamed F. Khan, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

***Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

Mr. Parmanand P. Persaud, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

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

***Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Norman A. Whittaker, M.P., (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Members of the Opposition (28)

(i) Members of People's National Congress Reform-One Guyana (22)

Mr. Robert Corbin, M.P., Leader of the Opposition

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

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

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent – on leave)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Anthony Vieira, M.P. (Absent)

***Non-elected Member

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Anna Ally, M.P.

Mr. James McAllister, M.P.

Mr. Dave D. Danny, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Aubrey C. Norton, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Ernest B. Elliot, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Judith David-Blair, M.P., (Region No.7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Mervyn Williams, M.P., (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

Dr. John Austin, M.P., (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Ms Jennifer Wade, M.P., (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Ms Vanessa Kissoon, M.P., (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Mr. Desmond Fernandes, M.P., (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

(ii) **Alliance For Change (5)**

Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mrs. Sheila V.A. Holder, M.P.

Ms Chantalle L. Smith, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent – on leave)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

(iii) Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild (1)

Mr. Everall N. Franklin, M.P.

OFFICERS

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

Mrs. Lilawattie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Death of Mr. George Fung-On, former Minister of the Government

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Mr. George Fung-On, former Minister of the Government died on Friday, 16th February, 2007, after a brief illness.

The Members then stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to the late Mr. George Fung-On, former Minister of the Government.

PUBLIC BUSINESS-

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

BUDGET SPEECH 2007 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2007

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2007.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2007-02-02)

In Committee of Supply

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

01 - OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

- 011 Head Office Administration
- 012 Presidential Advisory (Cabinet and Other Services)
- 014 Public Policy and Planning

01 - Office of the President – Capital Expenditure**09 - PUBLIC AND POLICE SERVICE COMMISSIONS**

- 091 Public and Police Service Commissions

09 – Public and Police Service Commissions– Capital Expenditure**10 - TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION**

- 101 Teaching Service Commission

10- Teaching Service Commission– Capital Expenditure**11 - ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

- 111 Elections Commission
- 112 Elections Administration

11 – Elections Commission– Capital Expenditure**53 - GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE**

- 531 Defence Headquarters

53 – Guyana Defence Force– Capital Expenditure**57 - OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN**

- 571 Ombudsman

57- Office of the Ombudsman– Capital Expenditure**58 - PUBLIC SERVICE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL**

- 581 Public Service Appellate Tribunal

58 – Public Service Appellate Tribunal– Capital Expenditure

02 - OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

021 Prime Minister's Secretariat

02 - Office of the Prime Minister- Capital Expenditure**07 - PARLIAMENT OFFICE**

071 National Assembly

07 - Parliament Office- Capital Expenditure**08 - AUDIT OFFICE****08- Audit Office- Capital Expenditure****31 - MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS AND COMMUNICATIONS**

311 Ministry Administration

312 Public Works

313 Communication and Transport

31 - Ministry of Public Works and Communications- Capital Expenditure**15 - MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE AND INTERNATIONAL CO-OPERATION****15 - Ministry of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation - Capital Expenditure****04 - MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

041 Ministry Administration

042 Foreign Relations

043 Foreign Trade & International Co-operation

04 - Ministry of Foreign Affairs- Capital Expenditure**44 - MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

441 Ministry Administration

442 Culture

443 Youth

Assembly resumed.**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 5.15 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITITNG

At 5.52 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

In Committee of Supply

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

444 Sports

44 – Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport– Capital Expenditure

41 - MINISTRY OF EDUCATION

411 Main Office

412 National Education Policy - Implementation and Supervision

413 Ministry Administration

414 Training and Development

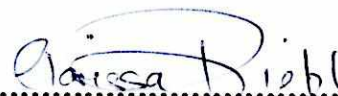
415 Education Delivery

41 – Ministry of Education– Capital Expenditure

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.50 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Monday, 19th February, 2007.



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MRS. CLARISSA RIEHL, M.P.,

Acting Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,

Public Buildings,

Brickdam.

16th February, 2007.