

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 19TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2006-2007) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON MONDAY, 19TH 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 (Absent – performing the functions
of Office of the President)

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

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

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 (Absent)

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. B.H. Robeson 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 – on leave)

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**

3.

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.

4.

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Absent)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Amna 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. (Absent)

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

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. (Absent)

(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. Lilawttie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Death of Ms Monica Benn, sister of Hon. B.H. Robeson Benn, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Ms Monica Benn, the sister of the Honourable B.H. Robeson Benn, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics, died on 17th February, 2007.

On behalf of the Members of the Assembly and herself, the Speaker extended sympathy to Minister Benn.

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-

13 - MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT

131 Main Office

132 Ministry Administration

133 Regional Development

13 – Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development– Capital Expenditure

71 - REGION 1: BARIMA/WAINI

711 Regional Administration and Finance

712 Public Works

713 Education Delivery

714 Health Services

71 – Region 1: Barima/Waini– Capital Expenditure

72 - REGION 2: POMEROON/SUPENAAM

721 Regional Administration and Finance

722 Agriculture

723 Public Works

724 Education Delivery

725 Health Services

72 – Region 2: Pomeroon/Supenaam– Capital Expenditure

73 – REGION 3 - ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA

731 Regional Administration and Finance

732 Agriculture

733 Public Works

734 Education Delivery

735 Health Services

73 – Region 3: Essequibo Islands/West Demerara– Capital Expenditure**Assembly resumed.****SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 5.00 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.35 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-

74 – REGION 4: DEMARARA/MAHAICA

741 Regional Administration and Finance

742 Agriculture

743 Public Works

744 Education Delivery

745 Health Services

74 – Region 4: Demerara/Mahaica– Capital Expenditure**75 – REGION 5: MAHAICA/BERBICE**

751 Regional Administration and Finance

752 Agriculture

753 Public Works

754 Education Delivery

755 Health Services

75 – Region 5: Mahaica/Berbice– Capital Expenditure

76 - REGION 6: EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE

761 Regional Administration and Finance

762 Agriculture

763 Public Works

764 Education Delivery

765 Health Services

76 - Region 6: East Berbice/Corentyne- Capital Expenditure

77 - REGION 7: CUYUNI/MAZARUNI

771 Regional Administration and Finance

772 Public Works

773 Education Delivery

774 Health Services

77 - Region 7: Cuyuni/Mazaruni- Capital Expenditure

78 - REGION 8: POTARO/SIPARUNI

781 Regional Administration and Finance

782 Public Works

783 Education Delivery

784 Health Services

78 - Region 8: Potaro/Siparuni- Capital Expenditure

79 - REGION 9: UPPER TAKUTU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO

791 Regional Administration and Finance

792 Agriculture

793 Public Works

794 Education Delivery

795 Health Services

79 - Region 9: Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo- Capital Expenditure

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 7.45 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.19 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-

80 – REGION 10: UPPER DEMERARA/UPPER BERBICE

801 Regional Administration and Finance

802 Public Works

803 Education Delivery

804 Health Services

80 – Region 10: Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice– Capital Expenditure**45 – MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND WATER**

451 Housing and Water

45 – Ministry of Housing and Water– Capital Expenditure**21 - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

211 Ministry Administration

212 Crops and Livestock Support Services

213 Fisheries

214 Hydrometeorological Services

21 – Ministry of Agriculture– Capital Expenditure**51 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

511 Secretariat Services

512 Guyana Police Force

Assembly resumed.**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO.10(1)**

At 9.50 p.m., the Minister of Home Affairs moved a motion for the suspension of Standing Order No. 10(1) for the Assembly to continue the consideration of the 2007 Budget Estimates uninterrupted until its conclusion.

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-

- 512 Guyana Police Force
- 513 Guyana Prison Service
- 514 Police Complaints Authority
- 515 Guyana Fire Service
- 516 General Register Office
- 51 – Ministry of Home Affairs– Capital Expenditure**

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10.41 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, 20th February, 2007.



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MRS. CLARISSA RIEHL, M.P.,
Acting Speaker of the National Assembly

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam.**

19th February, 2007.