

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 157TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
(2006-2011) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON THURSDAY, 7TH JULY, 2011
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM,
GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (70)

Speaker (1)

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

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (41)

People's Progressive Party/Civic (40)

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. 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 Foreign Affairs

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

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

***Non-elected Minister**

2.

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. Charles R. Ramson, 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 (Absent – on leave)

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

*The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

The Hon. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.

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

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

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

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

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***Non-Elected Minister**

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

3.

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

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

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/Supenaam)

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

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

***Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

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

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and Water

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

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

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.

Rev. Dr. Kwame Gilbert, M.P.

Mr. Lloyd J. Pereira, J.P., M.P.

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

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

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***Non-elected Parliamentary Secretary

4.

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P. (Absent)

Ms Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

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

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

Mr. Ernest Barnabas 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. (Absent – on leave)

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

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

Mrs. Mabel Baveghems, M.P.

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

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

Ms Dawn Hastings, M.P.

5.

(ii) Alliance for Change (5)

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

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Mrs. Latchmin Punalall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild (1)

Mr. Everall N. Franklin, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

OFFICERS (2)

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

Ms Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.14 p.m.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

Presentation and First Reading

**CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (Free Entry of Skilled Nationals) (AMENDMENT) BILL
2011 – Bill No. 12/2011**

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

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6.

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Caribbean Community (Free Entry of Skilled Nationals) Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESS-

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS – SECOND READING

PROTECTED AREAS BILL 2011 – Bill No. 11/2011 published on 2011-06-20

The Minister of Agriculture moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the protection and conservation of Guyana's natural heritage and natural capital; the creation, management and financing of a national system of protected areas; the maintenance of ecosystem services of national and global importance including climate regulation; the establishment of a protected areas commission; the establishment and management of a protected areas trust fund; the fulfillment of Guyana's international environmental responsibilities; public participation in protected areas and conservation; and related purposes.

(Read a first time on 2011-06-23)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

The Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mr. Mervyn Williams

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan

While the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications was speaking to the motion the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber.

Presiding by Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P.

At 3.50 p.m., the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly took the Chair.

7.

Speaker's Return to the Chamber

At 3.56 p.m., the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

Thereafter the Minister of Agriculture replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clauses 1 and 2 were passed as printed.

Clause 3

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendments which were put and negatived:

“Clause 3(a) –

Insert the word ‘Savannahs’ after the word ‘seascapes’

Clause 3(g) –

Delete the word ‘and’, replace it by a comma and insert the words ‘and other non-Amerindian communities’ after the words ‘Amerindian Communities’

Clause 3(m)-

Insert an additional clause-

‘to institute measures in conjunction with the Wildlife Division, to regulate harvesting and exploitation of species which are vulnerable or threatened’”

Clause 3 was then passed as printed.

8.

Clause 4

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

“Clause 4(f)-

Delete the words ‘and offered opportunities for employment’ and replace them with the words ‘relevant to job placement opportunities’”

Clause 4 was then passed as amended.

Clause 5 was passed as printed.

Clause 6

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

“Include a definition for ‘Special Grant Programme’”

Clause 6 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 7 and 8 were passed as printed.

Clause 9

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and negatived:

“Clause 9(c) –

Insert the words ‘and use of’ after the word ‘in’”

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

“Clause 9(e)-

Insert the words ‘classification and’ after the first ‘the’ in the clause.”

Clause 9 was then passed as amended.

9.

Clauses 10 to 24 were passed as printed.

Clause 25

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

“Delete the word ‘is’ and replace it with the word ‘be’ and delete the word ‘as’”

Clause 25 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 26 and 27 were passed as printed.

Clause 28

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and negatived:

“Clause 28(2)-

Insert the words ‘and involved’ after the word ‘consulted’”

Clause 28 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 29 to 37 were passed as printed.

Clause 38

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and negatived:

“Delete clause 38(2)”

Clause 38 was then passed as printed.

Clause 39

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and negatived:

“Clause 39(1)-

Delete the words ‘or in his own judgment’ and delete the second ‘by’”

Clause 39 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 40 to 74 were passed as printed.

Clause 75

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

“Delete the words ‘not less than every five years’ and replace them by the words ‘every five years’”

Claus 75 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 76 to 122 were passed as printed.

Clause 123

Mr. Mervyn Williams moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

“Delete the words ‘except authority’”

Clause 123 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 124 to 131 were passed as printed.

The Schedules were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Minister of Agriculture, the Protective Areas Bill 2011 was read a third time and passed as amended.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.37 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications, the Sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 14th July, 2011.

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HON. HARI N. RAMKARRAN, S.C., M.P.,

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,

Public Buildings,

Brickdam,

Georgetown.

7th July, 2011.