

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 158TH 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, 14TH 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

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 (Absent – on leave)

The Hon. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

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)

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. (Absent – on leave)

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 (Absent)

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. (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P. (Absent)

Ms Cheryl Sampson, M.P. (Absent)

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.

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.

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

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

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

Mr. David Patterson, M.P. (Absent)

**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 2.13 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

**Deferral of Motion**

The Speaker informed Members of the Assembly that the motion on Guyana's Ratification of the Protocol amending the Revised Treaty of Chaguaramas to incorporate the Council for National Security and Law Enforcement (CONSLE) as an organ of the Community and the Caricom Implementation Agency for Crime and Security (IMPACS) as an Institution of the Community would not be proceeded with at that day's sitting.

6.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

(1) By the Minister of Agriculture:

Guyana Rice Development Board Annual Report for the year 2010.

(Circulated)

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-**

(2) By the Speaker of the National Assembly (Chairman of the Committee of Selection):

A record of the outcome of the Round Robin of Members of the Committee of Selection on Thursday, 7th July, 2011.

(Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Health (Chairman of the Special Select Committee on the Report of the Draft Standing Orders):

Report of the Special Select Committee on the Report of the Draft Standing Orders.

(Circulated)

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS INCLUDING POLICY STATEMENTS**

**Recognition of the Republic of Southern Sudan**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs made a statement on the recognition of the Republic of Southern Sudan.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS -**

(i) **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**BILLS – SECOND READING**

**ITEM 1 - CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (Free Entry of Skilled Nationals)**

**(AMENDMENT) BILL 2011 – Bill No. 12/2011 published on 2011-07-06**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

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7.

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

**(Read a first time on 2011-07-07)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mrs. Clarissa Riehl

The Minister of Labour

Thereafter the Minister of Foreign Affairs 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 to 3** were passed as printed.

**The Schedule** was passed as printed.

### **Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Caribbean Community (Free Entry of Skilled Nationals) (Amendment) Bill 2011 was read a third time and passed as printed.

### **MOTION**

**ITEM 2 - GUYANA'S RATIFICATION OF THE AGREEMENT REPLACING THE CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY RESPONSE AGENCY (CDERA) WITH THE CARIBBEAN DISASTER EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (CDEMA)**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs moved the following motion:

8.

WHEREAS the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) is tasked with mobilising and coordinating disaster relief, mitigating or eliminating the immediate consequences of disasters and providing immediate and coordinated response by means of emergency disaster relief to any affected Participating State;

AND WHEREAS Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) agreed to have the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMDA) replace the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) to provide an integrated and proactive approach to disaster management;

AND WHEREAS the Agreement Establishing the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA) was signed by Guyana on July 2, 2008 at the Twenty-Ninth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM) in Antigua and Barbuda:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the ratification of the Agreement replacing the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Response Agency (CDERA) with the Caribbean Disaster Emergency Management Agency (CDEMA).

**(Notice Paper No. 532 (M176 Govt 108) published on 2011-07-06)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mrs. Clarissa Riehl

The Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

Thereafter the Minister of Foreign Affairs replied.

The motion was then put and carried.



**ADJOURNMENT**

At 3.41p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 21<sup>st</sup> 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.**

**14th July, 2011.**