

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 162ND 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, 11TH AUGUST, 2011**  
**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM,**  
**GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (69)**

**Speaker (1)**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (40)**

**People's Progressive Party/Civic (39)**

**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 (Absent – on leave)

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

**\*Non-elected Minister**

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2.

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

\*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 (Absent – on leave)

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)

The Hon. Norman A. Whittaker, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini), Minister of Local  
Government and Regional Development

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.

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

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

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.

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Rev. Dr. Kwame Gilbert, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

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

#### 4.

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

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P. (Absent)

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

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Ms Amna Ally, M.P. (Absent)

Ms Cheryl Sampson, M.P. (Absent)

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

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

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

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

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

Ms Africo Selman, M.P. (Absent)

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

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

Mrs. Mabel Baveghems, M.P. (Absent)

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

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

Ms Dawn Hastings, M.P. (Absent)

5.

**(ii) Alliance for Change (5)**

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

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

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P. (Absent)

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

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 2.20 p.m.

**PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS-**

**Private Bill**

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P., on behalf of the Christian Brethren Incorporation, presented a Petition, seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to amend the Christian Brethren Incorporation Ordinance 1914, Chapter 221 of the Kingdom Edition of the Laws of British Guiana (Principal Ordinance).

The Petition was read by the Clerk.

6.

The question that the Promoters be allowed to proceed was put and carried.

### **REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES**

Due to the absence of Mrs. Volda Lawrence, M.P. (Chairperson of the Public Accounts Committee), the presentation of the following Report was deferred:

The Report of the Public Accounts Committee of Guyana on the Public Accounts of Guyana for the year 2009.

(Circulated)

### **PUBLIC BUSINESS-**

#### **(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

#### **BILLS – Second Readings**

#### **ITEM 1 - TELECOMMUNICATIONS BILL 2011 – Bill No. 18/2011 published on 2011-08-03**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the establishment of the Telecommunications Agency and for a regular, coordinated, open and competitive telecommunications sector and for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

**(Read a first time on 2011-08-04)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Odinga Lumumba

The Minister of Home Affairs

7.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.02 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.07 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Mr. Mohabir Nandlall

Mr. Donald Ramotar

Thereafter the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Thereafter the Telecommunications Bill 2011 was referred to a Special Select Committee.

**ITEM 2 - PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2011 – Bill No. 17/2011 published on 2011-08-03**

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Public Utilities Commission Act.

**(Read a first time on 2011-08-04)**

Mr. Mohabir Nandlall spoke to the motion.

8.

Thereafter the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Thereafter the Public Utilities (Amendment) Bill 2011 was referred to a Special Select Committee.

(iii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**ITEM 3 - ADOPTION OF THE INTERIM REPORT OF THE PARLIAMENTARY  
STANDING COMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT OF THE SECURITY  
SECTOR**

At the request of the Minister of Home Affairs (Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Oversight of the Security Sector), consideration of the following motion was deferred:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly adopts the Interim Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Oversight of the Security Sector.

**(Notice Paper No. 537 (M181 Govt 113) published on 2011-08-05)**



**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6.16 p.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, 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2011.

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**MRS. CLARISSA RIHEL, M.P.,**  
**Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**11th August, 2011.**