

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 49<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND**  
**SESSION (2002-2005) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 2.00 P.M.**  
**ON MONDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY, 2005**  
**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,**  
**BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (68)**

**Speaker (1)**

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

**Members of the Government (37)**

**(i) People's Progressive Party/Civic (34)**

**(ii) Non-elected Ministers (2)**

**(iii) The United Force (1)**

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works  
and Communications

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Education

The Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar, M.P., Minister of Finance

The Hon. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs  
(Region No. 3 -Essequibo Islands/West Demerara) (Absent - on Leave)

The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P., Minister of Labour, Human Services and  
Social Security

The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and  
Regional Development

The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock  
(Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

\* The Hon. S. Rudolph Insanally, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Minister in the Office of the  
President with responsibility for Foreign Affairs

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

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

The Hon. Bibi S. Shadick, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and  
Social Security (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

\*\* The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., Minister of Health

Mr. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Chief Whip

Mr. Cyril C.L. Belgrave, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P.

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

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Heeralall Mohan, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Ramesh C. Rajkumar, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.D., M.P.

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

Mrs. Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

Mr. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P.

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

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne) (Absent)

\*Non-Elected Minister

\*\*Elected Member from The United Force

**Members of the Opposition (30)**

**(i) People's National Congress/Reform (27)**

Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent - on Leave)

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

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

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomereroon/Supenaam)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.

Mr. C. Stanley Ming, M.P.

Mr. Vincent L. Alexander, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

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

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Dr. Dalgleish Joseph, M.D., M.P.

Miss Anna Ally, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

Miss Sandra M. Adams, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent - on Leave)

Mr. Jerome Khan, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Miss Myrna E.N. Peterkin, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)

Mr. James K. McAllister, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Dr. Carl Max Hanoman, M.P.

Miss Lurlene A. Nestor, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Abdul Kadir, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)

Mr. Ricky Khan, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini) (Absent)

Mrs. Rajcoomarie Bancroft, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)

Mr. Nasir Ally, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Miss Judith David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Miss Genevieve Allen, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

(ii) **Guyana Action Party/Working People's Alliance (2)**

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

Mrs. Shirley J. Melville, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo) (Absent)

(iii) **Rise, Organise and Rebuild Party (1)**

Mr. Ravindra Dev, M.P.

**OFFICERS**

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

Mr. Maurice B. Henry, Head Committees Division

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The sitting commenced at 2.05p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Deputy Clerk read prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

(i) **Performance of duties of Clerk of the National Assembly**

The Speaker informed Members that Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, Clerk of the National Assembly was on leave, and during his absence Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly would be performing his duties while Mr. Maurice B. Henry, Head Committees Division would be assisting her.



(ii) **Leave:**

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to:-

Mr. E. Lance Carberry,

Miss Sandra Adams

and

Miss Lurlene Nestor, up to 4<sup>th</sup> March, 2005.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.**

By the **Minister of Finance:**

Fiscal Management and Accountability Regulations 2004.

(Circulated)

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**BUDGET SPEECH 2005 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2005**

**Correction of Typographical Error**

Before the commencement of the debate, the Speaker drew Members' attention to a typographical error in line twelve (12) of the motion as moved by the Minister of Finance and asked that the figure "2004" be changed to read "2005".

**Period of Breaks**

The Speaker informed Members that for the budget debate and for consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure by the Committee of Supply they would in respect of sitting times, follow their usual practice, that is, they would have their break from 5.00 p.m., to 5.30 p.m., and would continue thereafter with another break at a convenient time.

**Resumption of Debate**

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2005.

**(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2005-02-21)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Jerome Khan,  
The Prime Minister and  
Mr. James McAllister.

**Attendance of Sitting of Canadian Member of Parliament**

The Speaker acknowledge the presence of the Honourable Jim Karygiannis, P.C., M.P., (Scarborough - Agincourt) Parliamentary Secretary to the Minister of Transport Member of the House of Commons of the Canadian Parliament at the sitting.

**Continuation of Debate**

The Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock was speaking to the motion when the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**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.

The Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Mr. Basil Williams

and

The Minister of Transport and Hydraulics.

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 7.25 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 7.50 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Mr. Abdul Kadir,

The Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security,

Dr. Dagleish Joseph,

Dr. Bheri Ramsaran,

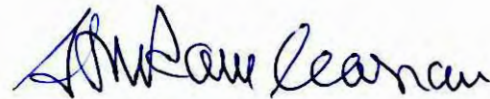
Mrs. Rajcoomarie Bancroft

and

Mr. Zulfikar Mustapha.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

At 10.55 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, 1<sup>st</sup> March, 2005.



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

**Speaker of the National Assembly**

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,**

**Public Buildings,**

**Georgetown.**

**28<sup>th</sup> February, 2005.**