

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 89<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND**  
**SESSION (2002-2006) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 2.00 P.M.**  
**ON THURSDAY, 2<sup>ND</sup> MARCH, 2006**  
**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

**Members of the Government (38)**

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

**(ii) Non-elected Ministers (3)**

**(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 Home Affairs

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. 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

2.

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

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

The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport (Absent)

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) (Absent)

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

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

\* The Hon. Harry Narine Nawbatt, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

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) (Absent)

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)

Dr. Moti Lall, C.C.H., M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

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)

\*Non-Elected Minister

\*\*Elected Member from The United Force

**Members of the Opposition (30)****() People's National Congress/Reform (27)**

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

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.

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

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

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) (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

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

Dr. Dagleish Joseph, M.D., M.P. (Absent)

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

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

Mr. Jerome Khan, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

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

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

Dr. Carl Max Hanoman, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Joseph Hamilton, M.P.

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

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

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

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)

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

Mr. Ravindra Dev, M.P. (Absent)

**OFFICERS**

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

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The sitting commenced at 2.10p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read prayers.

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

(1) **By the Minister of Foreign Affairs:**

Caribbean Treaty on Mutual Legal Assistance in Serious Criminal Matters.

(Circulated)

(2) **By Mr. Winston Murray (Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee):**

Report of the Public Accounts Committee of the National Assembly on the Public Accounts of Guyana for the years 2000 and 2001.

(Circulated)

**QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS**

**For Oral Reply**

**BIRTH CERTIFICATES FOR INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

Mrs. Shirley Melville, M.P., asked the Minister of Home Affairs the following question:

\*Could the Honourable Minister say what measures will be put in place to ensure that Indigenous peoples who reside mainly in the hinterland are not disenfranchised given that many do not have birth certificates and cannot be registered to vote?

**(Notice Paper No. 214 (Q135 Opp130) published on 2006-01-31)**

The Minister of Home Affairs gave an oral answer.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**BILLS - Second Readings**

**ITEM 1 - INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006 - Bill No. 5/2006 published**  
**on 2006-01-24**

The Minister of Finance, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income tax Act.

**(Read a first time on 2006-02-16)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Winston Murray

and

Mrs. Sheila Holder.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 3** were passed as printed.

**Clause 4**

The following amendments moved by Mr. Winston Murray and seconded by Mr. E. Lance Carberry were put and negatived:

“Delete the words “rate of thirty three and one third percent” and substitute the following words therefor :

- (a) twenty percent of the first \$50,000 of the amount of chargeable income;
- (b) thirty three and one third percent of the remainder of the amount of the chargeable income.”

Clause 4 was then passed as printed.

**Clause 5** was passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed.**

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Income Tax (Amendment) Bill 2006 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ITEM 2 - CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY (MOVEMENT OF FACTORS)**

**BILL 2006 – Bill No. 2/2006 published on 2006-01-16**

The Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation,  
moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to give effect to the provisions of the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community, including the Caricom Single Market and Economy, relating to the exercise by nationals of the Caribbean Community of the right of establishment, the right to provide services and the right to move capital into and within Guyana and out of Guyana to other member states of the Caribbean Community and for connected matters.

**(Read a first time on 2006-01-19)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Jerome Khan,  
The Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce  
and  
Mr. Winston Murray.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

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

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 4.50 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 4** were passed as printed.

**Clause 5**

The Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation moved the following amendment, which was put and carried:

“In line 1 delete the date “31<sup>st</sup> December, 2005” and insert the date “ 30<sup>th</sup> April, 2006”

Clause 5 was then passed as amended.

**Clauses 6 to 31** were passed as printed.

**The Schedule** was passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed.**

On a motion by the Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation, the Caribbean Community (Movement of Factors) Bill 2006 was read a third time and passed as amended.

**ITEM 3 - CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY BILL 2006 - Bill No. 3/2006 published on 2006-01-16**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, moved the second reading of the following Bill:



A BILL intituled AN ACT to give effect to the revised Treaty of Chauguaramas establishing the Caribbean Community, including the Caricom Single Market and Economy and for matters connected therewith.

**(Read a first time on 2006-01-19)**

Mrs. Clarissa Riehl spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 8 were passed as printed.**

**Assembly resumed.**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Caribbean Community Bill 2006 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 5.45 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, 16<sup>th</sup> March, 2006.

  
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**HON. HARI N. RAMKARRAN, S.C., M.P.,**  
**Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**2<sup>nd</sup> March, 2006**