

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 30TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1992-1994) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON MONDAY, 7TH MARCH, 1994

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Derek C. Jagan, S.C., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the
National Assembly

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (43)

The Hon. Samuel A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Senior Minister of
Agriculture (Leader of the House)

The Hon. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Senior Minister of Home
Affairs (Government Chief Whip)

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Senior Minister in the
Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional
Development

*The Hon. Asgar Ally, M.P., Senior Minister of Finance

*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth Bisnauth, M.P., Senior Minister
of Education and Cultural Development

*The Hon. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., Attorney General
and Minister of Legal Affairs

*The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Senior Minister of Labour,
Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Senior Minister of Foreign
Affairs

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Senior Minister of Health

The Hon. M. Shree Chan, M.P., Senior Minister of Trade,
Tourism and Industry

Mrs. Janet Jagan, O.E., M.P.

The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry
of Agriculture

The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Minister in the Ministry
of Labour, Human Services and Social Security (Absent)

*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of
Public Works, Communications and Regional Development
(Absent - on leave)

*The Hon. George E. Fung-On, M.P., Minister in the Office
of the President

*The Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of
Finance

/...

*Non-elected Member

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P.
 Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.
 Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.
 Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.
 Mr. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P.
 Mr. Komal Chand, M.P.
 Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.
 Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.
 Mrs. Una A. James, M.P.
 Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P.
 Dr. Moti Lall, M.P.
 Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.
 Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.
 Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P.
 Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.
 Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P.
 Mr. Reuben A. Gilbert, M.P.
 Mr. Edward DaSilva, M.P.
 Mr. Khadim Bacchus, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic
 Organs)
 Mr. Samad A. Baksh, M.P. (Region No.2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam) (Absent)
 Mr. Harrinarine Baldeo, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
 Mr. Joseph DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
 Mr. Eugene La Cruz, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper
 Essequibo)
 Mr. Bagot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)
 Mr. Kum Karan Ramdas, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Mr. Ramrattan, M.P. a/k Balkarran (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/
 West Demerara) (Absent - on leave)

Members of the Minority (29)

(i) People's National Congress (26)

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minority Leader
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.
 Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Chief Whip
 Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P.
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. King, M.P.
 Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.
 Miss Amna Ally, M.P.
 Miss Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.
 Mr. Arthur A. Alexander, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National
 Assembly
 Mr. Simon H. Ng-See-Quan, M.P.
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P.
 Mr. David Subnauth, M.P.
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
 Mrs. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. M. Idris Deen, M.P.
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P.
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.
 Mr. Phillip Bynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P.
 Mr. Hukumchand, M.P. a/k Parag
 Miss Joan C. Richards, M.P.
 Miss Gwenneth A. Brouet, M.P.
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas, M.P.

Mr. Matheson Williams, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs) (Absent)

(iii) The United Force (1)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

OFFICERS

Mr. Frank A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read prayers.

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Senior Minister of Finance:

(i) Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure
of Guyana for the financial year 1994.

(Circulated)

(ii) Purchase Tax (Motor Vehicles) Order 1994
(No. 7 of 1994), made under section 5A
of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic
Act, Chapter 51:02, on 7th March, 1994.

(Circulated)

(iii) Purchase Tax (Motor Vehicles) (Exemption)
(Amendment) Order 1994 (No. 8 of 1994),
made under section 5 A of the Motor
Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chapter
51:02, on 7th March, 1994.

(Circulated)

(iv) Consumption Tax (Amendment) Order 1994
(No. 9 of 1994), made under section 4
of the Consumption Tax Act, Chapter
80:02, on 7th March, 1994.

(Circulated)

- (v) State Paper on Guyana: The Government's
Vision of Development by His Excellency
The President, Dr. Cheddi Jagan.

(Circulated)

- (vi) State Paper on Guyana: Government's Policy
Orientation.

(Circulated)

- (vii) State Paper on Policy for Tax Equity and
Reform.

(Circulated)

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY
AND MOVED BY A MINISTER -

Suspension of Standing Orders

The following motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture
(Leader of the House) was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Orders Nos. 9(2) and
32(a) be suspended to enable the Senior
Minister of Finance to complete uninterrupted
the reading of the Budget Speech for 1994 at
the sitting of the Assembly on Monday,
7th March, 1994.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (1) MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1994 -
Bill No. 6/1994

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the
Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act.

- (2) TAX (AMENDMENT AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1994 -
Bill No. 7/1994

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
the Tax Act and to repeal the
Excise Regulations Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1994

In accordance with article 171(2) of the Constitution, the Senior Minister of Finance signified that Cabinet had recommended that the National Assembly should proceed upon the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial 1994.

The Senior Minister of Finance then moved the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1994 of the total sum of \$28,242,989,000, excluding \$16,853,572,000, which is chargeable by law (see Appendix).

The Senior Minister read the Budget Speech.

The motion was then proposed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.35 p.m. on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 11th March, 1994.

Distribution of Documents

Following the Adjournment, the following documents were distributed to Members:

- (i) Budget Speech by the Senior Minister of Finance for 1994
- (ii) Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure for 1994
- (iii) Capital Projects Profiles for 1994
- (iv) Motion by the Senior Minister of Finance for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1994
- (v) State Paper on Guyana: The Government's Vision of Development
- (vi) State Paper on Guyana: Government's Policy Orientation
- (vii) State Paper on Policy for Tax Equity and Reform

- (viii) Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic
(Amendment) Bill 1994 - Bill No. 6/1994.
- (ix) Tax (Amendment and Miscellaneous
Provisions) Bill 1994 - Bill No. 7/1994
- (x) Purchase Tax (Motor Vehicles) Order
1994 (No. 7 of 1994)
- (xi) Purchase Tax (Motor Vehicles) (Exemption)
(Amendment) Order 1994 (No. 8 of 1994)
- (xii) Consumption Tax (Amendment) Order 1994
(No. 9 of 1994)



D.C. JAGAN

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown

7th March, 1994

MOTION BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

WHEREAS the Constitution of Guyana requires that estimates of the revenues and expenditure of Guyana for any financial year should be laid before the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the Constitution also provides that when the estimates of expenditure have been approved by the Assembly an Appropriation Bill shall be introduced in the Assembly providing for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet that expenditure;

AND WHEREAS estimates of revenues and expenditure of Guyana for the financial year 1994 have been prepared and laid before the Assembly on 1994-03-07;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1994, of a total sum of twenty eight billion, two hundred and forty two million, nine hundred and eighty nine thousand dollars (28,242,989,000), excluding sixteen billion eight hundred and fifty three million, five hundred and seventy two thousand dollars (16,853,572,000) which is chargeable by law, as detailed therein and summarised in the undermentioned schedule, and agree that it is expedient to amend the law and to make further provision in respect to finance.



.....

Asgar Ally

Senior Minister of Finance

MINISTRY OF FINANCE

1994-03-07

\ + /
APPENDIX
SCHEDULE

DIVISION	HEAD	NET SUM GRANTED	
NUMBER IN	NUMBER IN	CURRENT	CAPITAL
CAPITAL	CURRENT		
ESTIMATES	ESTIMATES	all figures G\$'000	
	PRESIDENT		
	1 OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT	512,954	
	2 GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE	931,930	
	3 GUYANA NATIONAL SERVICE	129,510	
501	OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT		311,000
	PRIME MINISTER		
	4 OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER	15,026	
	CONSTITUTIONAL AGENCIES		
	5 PARLIAMENT OFFICE	33,971	
	6 OFFICE OF THE AUDITOR GENERAL	65,155	
	7 OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN	740	
	8 PUBLIC AND POLICE SERVICE COMMISSIONS	11,817	
	9 TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION	3,446	
	10 PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS	12,209	
	11 PUBLIC SERVICE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL	1,611	
	12 ELECTIONS COMMISSION	10,681	
	13 PUBLIC UTILITIES COMMISSION	13,406	
505	CONSTITUTIONAL AGENCIES		87,509
	LEGAL AFFAIRS		
	14 MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS	8,544	
	15 SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE	27,310	
	16 MAGISTRATES	25,982	
	17 ATTORNEY GENERAL	26,374	
	18 OFFICIAL RECEIVER	5,648	
	19 DEEDS REGISTRY	6,386	
514	MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS		17,585

SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATE	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	NET SUM GRANTED	
		CURRENT	CAPITAL
		all figures G\$'000	
FOREIGN AFFAIRS			
506	20 MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS	846,665	7,860
HOME AFFAIRS			
507	21 MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS 22 MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - POLICE 23 PRISONS 24 POLICE COMPLAINTS AUTHORITY 25 FIRE PROTECTION SERVICES 26 NATIONAL REGISTRATION CENTRE 27 GENERAL REGISTER OFFICE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS	19,502 890,370 122,477 1,803 47,398 134,897 8,227	112,250
AGRICULTURE			
508	28 MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE 29 CROPS AND LIVESTOCK DIVISION 30 LANDS AND SURVEYS DIVISION 31 HYDRAULICS DIVISION 32 HYDROMETEOROLOGICAL DIVISION 33 FISHERIES DIVISION MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE	30,454 382,842 23,908 60,004 56,511 6,213	2,158,597
510	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - MMA III		62,000
512	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - ARTISANAL FISHERY		84,000
HEALTH			
516	34 MINISTRY OF HEALTH 35 MINISTRY OF HEALTH - NATIONAL HOSPITALS 36 MINISTRY OF HEALTH - OTHER HEALTH PROGRAMMES MINISTRY OF HEALTH	363,312 538,780 214,242	1,222,000
517	GUYANA WATER AUTHORITY		818,260

SCHEDULE

DIVISION	HEAD	NET SUM GRANTED	
NUMBER IN	NUMBER IN	CURRENT	CAPITAL
CAPITAL	CURRENT	all figures G\$'000	
ESTIMATES	ESTIMATES	—	—
EDUCATION AND CULTURE			
	37	MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND CULTURAL DEVELOPMENT	738,039
	38	NURSERY SCHOOLS	54,223
	39	PRIMARY SCHOOLS	98,500
	40	SECONDARY/MULTILATERAL AND COMMUNITY HIGH SCHOOLS	165,928
	41	TECHNICAL AND VOCATIONAL SCHOOLS	58,019
	42	PRACTICAL INSTRUCTION CENTRES	21,422
	43	TEACHER TRAINING INSTITUTIONS	56,572
	44	RESOURCE CENTRE	41,820
	45	DEPARTMENT OF CULTURE	51,322
543		MINISTRY OF EDUCATION	599,000
LABOUR, HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY			
	46	MINISTRY OF LABOUR, HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY	331,233
		MINISTRY OF LABOUR, HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY	882,354
FINANCE			
	47	MINISTRY OF FINANCE	3,094,509
	48	ACCOUNTANT GENERAL DEPARTMENT	531,575
	49	CUSTOMS AND EXCISE DEPARTMENT	161,166
	50	INLAND REVENUE DEPARTMENT	244,729
526		MINISTRY OF FINANCE	4,415,986
527		MINISTRY OF FINANCE – HUMAN RESOURCES DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME	172,889
TRADE, TOURISM AND INDUSTRY			
	51	MINISTRY OF TRADE, TOURISM AND INDUSTRY	77,849
528		MINISTRY OF TRADE, TOURISM AND INDUSTRY	2,500

SCHEDULE

DIVISION	HEAD	NET SUM GRANTED	
NUMBER IN	NUMBER IN	CURRENT	CAPITAL
CAPITAL	CURRENT	all figures G\$'000	
ESTIMATES	ESTIMATES		
PHYSICAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT			
52	MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, COMMUNICATIONS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT	377,995	
53	CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT	163,911	
54	REGION 1 – BARIMA/WAINI ADMINISTRATION	46,295	
55	REGION 1 – BARIMA/WAINI AGRICULTURE	6,144	
56	REGION 1 – BARIMA/WAINI EDUCATION	53,580	
57	REGION 1 – BARIMA/WAINI HEALTH	25,476	
58	REGION 2 – POMEROON/SUPENAAM ADMINISTRATION	50,462	
59	REGION 2 – POMEROON/SUPENAAM AGRICULTURE	35,229	
60	REGION 2 – POMEROON/SUPENAAM EDUCATION	128,637	
61	REGION 2 – POMEROON/SUPENAAM HEALTH	53,066	
62	REGION 3 – ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA ADMINISTRATION	28,349	
63	REGION 3 – ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA AGRICULTURE	33,313	
64	REGION 3 – ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA EDUCATION	184,184	
65	REGION 3 – ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA HEALTH	72,850	
66	REGION 4 – DEMERARA/MAHAICA ADMINISTRATION	62,766	
67	REGION 4 – DEMERARA/MAHAICA AGRICULTURE	49,545	
68	REGION 4 – DEMERARA/MAHAICA EDUCATION	168,153	
69	REGION 4 – DEMERARA/MAHAICA HEALTH	92,587	
70	REGION 5 – MAHAICA/BERBICE ADMINISTRATION	56,023	
71	REGION 5 – MAHAICA/BERBICE AGRICULTURE	67,272	
72	REGION 5 – MAHAICA/BERBICE EDUCATION	81,633	
73	REGION 5 – MAHAICA/BERBICE HEALTH	54,399	
74	REGION 6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE ADMINISTRATION	86,178	
75	REGION 6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE AGRICULTURE	69,119	
76	REGION 6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE EDUCATION	182,110	
77	REGION 6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE HEALTH	238,534	
78	REGION 7 – CUYUNI/MAZARUNI ADMINISTRATION	67,069	
79	REGION 7 – CUYUNI/MAZARUNI AGRICULTURE	3,746	
80	REGION 7 – CUYUNI/MAZARUNI EDUCATION	33,136	
81	REGION 7 – CUYUNI/MAZARUNI HEALTH	32,389	
82	REGION 8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI ADMINISTRATION	40,499	
83	REGION 8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI AGRICULTURE	187	
84	REGION 8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI EDUCATION	19,128	
85	REGION 8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI HEALTH	6,278	
86	REGION 9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO ADMINISTRATION	23,697	
87	REGION 9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO AGRICULTURE	3,502	
88	REGION 9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO EDUCATION	44,573	
89	REGION 9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO HEALTH	23,433	
90	REGION 10 – UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE ADMINISTRATION	23,823	
91	REGION 10 – UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE AGRICULTURE	4,930	

SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	NET SUM GRANTED	
		CURRENT	CAPITAL
		all figures G\$'000	
	PHYSICAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT (cont'd)		
	92 REGION 10 – UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE EDUCATION	114,046	
	93 REGION 10 – UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE HEALTH	28,597	
520	MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, COMMUNICATIONS AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT		1,118,123
521	MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS, ROAD CONSTRUCTION, REHAB. & STUDIES		1,392,700
531	REGION 1 – BARIMA/WAINI		14,750
532	REGION 2 – POMEROON/SUPENAAM		55,000
533	REGION 3 – ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA		247,840
534	REGION 4 – DEMERARA/MAHAICA		26,000
535	REGION 5 – MAHAICA/BERBICE		33,500
536	REGION 6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE		38,450
537	REGION 7 – CUYUNIMAZARUNI		41,300
538	REGION 8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI		7,239
539	REGION 9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO		29,043
540	REGION 10 – UPPER DEMERARA/BERBICE		30,900
	PUBLIC DEBT		
	94 PUBLIC DEBT		700
		GRAND TOTAL \$	14,254,354 13,988,635