

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 47TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST  
SESSION (1992-1995) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON MONDAY, 6TH FEBRUARY, 1995

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 (Absent - on leave)

\* 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 (Absent)

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

\* The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development

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. Kisson, 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)  
 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)

#### 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.  
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, 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. David Subnauth, M.P.  
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)  
 Mr. M. Idris Deen, M.P.  
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P.  
 Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, 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. (Absent - on leave)  
 Miss Gwenneth A. Brouet, M.P. (Absent)  
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.  
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)  
 Mr. Hubert K.H. Hyman, M.P.

(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas, C.C.H., 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

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave and Sympathy to Hon. H. Nokta

The Speaker announced that leave from that sitting had been granted to the Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, Senior Minister in the Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development, who had lost his brother-in-law in Essequibo. On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker extended sympathy to Mr. Nokta.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Senior Minister of Finance:

Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure  
of Guyana for the financial year 1995.

(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(9)(a) be suspended to enable the Senior Minister of Finance to complete uninterrupted the reading of the Budget Speech for 1995 at the Sitting of the Assembly on Monday, 6 h February, 1995.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

(i) GEORGETOWN SEWERAGE AND WATER (AMENDMENT) BILL 1995 -  
Bill No. 1/1995 published 4.2.95

The Prime Minister, on behalf of the Senior Minister in the Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend  
the Georgetown Sewerage and Water  
Act.

(ii) GUYANA WATER AUTHORITY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1995 - Bill  
No. 2/1995 published 4.2.95

The Prime Minister, on behalf of the Senior Minister in the Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend  
the Guyana Water Authority Act.

(iii) HOLIDAYS WITH PAY BILL 1995 - Bill No. 3/1995 published  
4.2.95

The Senior Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to repeal and re-enact the Holidays with Pay Act, to provide for the grant and regulation of annual holidays with pay for all categories of workers, and for matters connected therewith and incidental thereto.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1995**

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 year 1995.

The Senior Minister of Finance then moved the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1995 of the total sum of \$30,693,232,000, excluding \$14,867,051,000, which is chargeable by law (see Appendix).

The Senior Minister read the Budget Speech.

The motion was then proposed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.00 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 Monday, 13th February, 1995.

**Distribution of Documents**

Following the Adjournment of the Assembly the following documents were distributed to Members:

- (i) Budget Speech by the Senior Minister of Finance for 1995.
- (ii) Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure for 1995.
- (iii) Capital Projects Profiles for 1995.
- (iv) Motion by the Senior Minister of Finance for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1995.



**D.C. JAGAN**

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

**6th February, 1995**

APPENDIX

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 1995 have been prepared and laid before the Assembly on 1995-02-06;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1995, of a total sum of thirty billion, six hundred and ninety three million, two hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars (\$30,693,232,000), excluding fourteen billion, eight hundred and sixty-seven million and fifty-one thousand dollars (\$14,867,051,000) 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 Ali  
Senior Minister of Finance

MINISTRY OF FINANCE  
1995-02-06

## SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	NET SUM GRANTED		
		CURRENT	CAPITAL	
<i>all figures G\$'000</i>				
<b>PRESIDENT</b>				
	1	Office of the President	479,708	
	2	Guyana Defence Force	1,123,140	
	3	Guyana National Service	126,046	
501		Office of the President		516,280
<b>PRIME MINISTER</b>				
	4	Office of the Prime Minister	17,916	
<b>CONSTITUTIONAL AGENCIES</b>				
	5	Parliament Office	43,406	
	6	Office of the Auditor General	62,771	
	7	Office of the Ombudsman	873	
	8	Public and Police Service Commissions	9,368	
	9	Teaching Service Commission	6,306	
	10	Public Prosecutions	12,496	
	11	Public Service Appellate Tribunal	1,701	
	12	Elections Commission	12,832	
	13	Public Utilities Commission	15,672	
505		Constitutional Agencies		16,160
<b>LEGAL AFFAIRS</b>				
	14	Ministry of Legal Affairs	11,175	
	15	Supreme Court of Judicature	38,256	
	16	Magistrates	30,816	
	17	Attorney General	26,219	
	18	Official Receiver	7,080	
	19	Deeds Registry	9,828	
514		Ministry of Legal Affairs		66,200
<b>FOREIGN AFFAIRS</b>				
	20	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	851,032	
506		Ministry of Foreign Affairs		20,790
<b>HOME AFFAIRS</b>				
	21	Ministry of Home Affairs	19,694	
	22	Ministry of Home Affairs – Police	1,083,699	
	23	Prisons	141,106	
	24	Police Complaints Authority	865	
	25	Fire Protection Services	60,048	
	26	National Registration Centre	113,021	
	27	General Register Office	8,952	
507		Ministry of Home Affairs		126,340
<b>AGRICULTURE</b>				
	28	Ministry of Agriculture	38,050	
	29	Crops and Livestock Division	444,560	
	30	Lands and Surveys Division	25,615	
	31	Hydraulics Division	86,549	
	32	Hydrometeorological Division	58,360	
	33	Fisheries Division	6,600	
508		Ministry of Agriculture		876,168
509		<u>Ministry of Agriculture – Sea Defence</u>		1,621,000

## SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	NET SUM GRANTED	
		CURRENT	CAPITAL
<i>all figures G\$'000</i>			
68	Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Education	254,803	
69	Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Health	38,070	
70	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Administration	63,657	
71	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Agriculture	50,972	
72	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Education	111,738	
73	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice – Health	43,723	
74	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Administration	83,976	
75	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Agriculture	78,921	
76	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Education	276,448	
77	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne – Health	200,906	
78	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Administration	64,686	
79	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Agriculture	3,143	
80	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Education	49,063	
81	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Health	34,771	
82	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Administration	24,259	
83	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Agriculture	0	
84	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Education	20,272	
85	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni – Health	4,118	
86	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper Essequibo – Administration	36,321	
87	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper Essequibo – Agriculture	4,232	
88	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper Essequibo – Education	56,447	
89	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper Essequibo – Health	38,833	
90	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Administration	29,810	
91	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Agriculture	9,440	
92	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Education	155,535	
93	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice – Health	28,879	
520	Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development		1,945,500
521	Ministry of Public Works – Road Construction, Rehabilitation & Studies		2,378,990
517	Guyana Water Authority		1,373,000
531	Region No.1 Barima/Waini		19,609
532	Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam		115,000
533	Region No.3 Essequibo Islands/West Demerara		313,000
534	Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica		64,300
535	Region No.5 Mahaica/Berbice		75,800
536	Region No.6 East Berbice/Corentyne		124,700
537	Region No.7 Cuyuni/Mazaruni		34,000
538	Region No.8 Potaro/Siparuni		14,000
539	Region No.9 Upper Takatu/Upper Essequibo		17,260
540	Region No.10 Upper Demerara/Berbice		65,910
<b>PUBLIC DEBT</b>			
94	Public Debt	700	
<b>GRAND TOTAL \$</b>		<b>15,050,333</b>	<b>15,642,899</b>



## SCHEDULE

DIVISION NUMBER IN CAPITAL ESTIMATES	HEAD NUMBER IN CURRENT ESTIMATES	NET SUM GRANTED	
		CURRENT	CAPITAL
		<i>all figures G\$'000</i>	
510	Ministry of Agriculture – MMA III		58,980
512	Ministry of Agriculture – Artisanal Fishery		48,300
	<b>HEALTH</b>		
	34 Ministry of Health	667,350	
	35 Ministry of Health – National Hospitals	335,401	
	36 Ministry of Health – Other Health Programmes	109,195	
516	Ministry of Health		1,173,300
	<b>EDUCATION AND CULTURE</b>		
	37 Ministry of Education and Cultural Development	496,976	
	38 Nursery Schools	73,981	
	39 Primary Schools	149,750	
	40 Secondary/Multilateral and Community High Schools	253,350	
	41 Technical and Vocational Schools	68,655	
	42 Practical Instruction Centres	23,073	
	43 Teacher Training Institutions	60,877	
	44 Resource Centre	38,714	
	45 Department of Culture	48,892	
543	Ministry of Education and Cultural Development		1,100,312
	<b>LABOUR, HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY</b>		
	46 Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security	480,376	
504	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security		879,100
	<b>FINANCE</b>		
	47 Ministry of Finance	2,784,074	
	48 Accountant General Department	620,856	
	49 Customs and Excise Department	168,294	
	50 Inland Revenue Department	254,501	
526	Ministry of Finance		2,594,400
	<b>TRADE, TOURISM AND INDUSTRY</b>		
	51 Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry	89,036	
528	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry		4,500
	<b>PHYSICAL AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT</b>		
	52 Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development	409,522	
	53 Civil Aviation Department	199,954	
	54 Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Administration	48,772	
	55 Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Agriculture	6,779	
	56 Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Education	76,039	
	57 Region No.1 Barima/Waini – Health	28,792	
	58 Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Administration	49,815	
	59 Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Agriculture	32,242	
	60 Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Education	185,863	
	61 Region No.2 Pomeroon/Supenaam – Health	59,719	
	62 Region No.3 Essequibo Islands/West Demerara – Administration	36,911	
	63 Region No.3 Essequibo Islands/West Demerara – Agriculture	48,395	
	64 Region No.3 Essequibo Islands/West Demerara – Education	218,305	
	65 Region No.3 Essequibo Islands/West Demerara – Health	72,134	
	66 Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Administration	60,195	
	67 Region No.4 Demerara/Mahaica – Agriculture	56,062	