

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

ON THE 93RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1992-1997) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON TUESDAY, 4TH FEBRUARY, 1997

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (74)

Speaker (1)

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

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (44)

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

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., 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 of Local
Government

*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.

*The Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Senior Minister of Finance

Mrs. Jagan, D.E., M.P.

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

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
Local Government

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

The Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P., Senior Minister of
Information

*The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of
Public Works and Communications

*The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of
Agriculture

*Non-elected Member

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, C.C.H., M.P.
 Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.
 Dr. **Hughley H. Hamoman, 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., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Local Government
 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 Pomeroun/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)
 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 (Absent)
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.
 Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P.
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P.
 Mr. M. Idris Deen, M.P.
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.
 Miss Amna Ally, M.P. (Absent)
 Miss Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.
 Mr. Arthur A. Alexander, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
 Mr. Dharamdeo Sawh, M.P.
 Mr. Simon Ng-See-Quan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. David Subnauth, J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mrs. Cyralda A. DeJesus, M.P.
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.
 Mr. Phillip Bynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)(Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P.
 Mr. Kumkumchand, M.P. a/k Parag
 Miss Joan C. Richards, M.P. (Absent on leave)
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 Demerara/Mahaica)
 Mr. Hubert K.H. Hyman, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P.
 (There is one vacancy)

(ii) Working People's Alliance

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P.

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

(iii) The United Force (U)

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

The Speaker announced that leave from that day's sitting had been granted to the following Members:

Mr. Simon Ng-See-Quan
Mr. Aflabuddin Ahamad, and
Mr. Phillip Rynoe

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM 1 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1997

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1997.

In Committee of Supply

The following Heads and Divisions were printed in the Estimates:-

Head 10-01	Ministry of Education and Cultural Development
Head 10-02	Nursery Schools
Head 10-03	Primary Schools
Head 10-04	Secondary/Multilateral and Community High Schools
Head 10-05	Technical and Vocational Schools
Head 10-06	Practical Instruction Centres
Head 10-07	Teacher Training Institutions
Head 10-08	Resource Centre
Head 10-09	Department of Culture
Div. 542	Ministry of Education - Primary Education Improvement Programme
Div. 543	Ministry of Education
Head 04-05	Public Prosecutions
Head 05-01	Ministry of Legal Affairs
Head 05-02	Supreme Court of Judicature
Head 05-03	Magistrates
Head 05-04	Attorney General
Head 05-05	Official Receiver
Head 05-06	Deeds Registry
Div. 514	Ministry of Legal Affairs

Head 11-01	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security	1,367,897,000
Div. 502	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security - Georgetown Remedial and Sewerage Project	375,000,000
Div. 503	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security - SIMAP	1,183,202,000
Div. 504	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security	31,000,000
Div. 517	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security - GUYWA	10,000,000
Div. 518	Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security - Water Supply Improvement Project	1,028,809,000
Head 06-01	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	826,693,000
Div. 506	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	18,300,000
Head 09-01	Ministry of Health	574,645,000
Head 09-02	National Hospitals	1,007,906,000
Head 09-03	Other Health Programmes	365,061,000
Div. 516	Ministry of Health	323,000,000

Assembly Resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 5.00 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION

At 5.30 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

In Committee of Supply

The following Heads and Divisions were printed in the Estimates:

Head 04-08	Public Utilities Commission	21,592,000
Head 13-01	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry	147,271,000
Div. 528	Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry	14,825,000
Head 04-01	Office of the Auditor General	68,618,000
Head 12-01	Ministry of Finance	2,521,085,000
Head 12-02	Accountant General Department	488,958,000
Head 12-03	Customs and Excise Department	168,796,000
Head 12-04	Inland Revenue Department	263,755,000
Div. 526	Ministry of Finance	2,588,860,000
Head 15-01	Public Debt	1,000,000

Assembly Resumed.

The Senior Minister of Finance reported to the Assembly that the Committee of Supply had completed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1997, and had approved of them as printed.

The motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1997 was then put and carried.

First, Second and Third ReadingsITEM 2 - APPROPRIATION BILL 1997 - Bill No. 1/1997 published 4.2.97

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), Standing Orders Nos. 12 and 46 were suspended to enable the Appropriation Bill 1997 to be introduced at this stage and to be further proceeded with at that sitting.

On motions by the Senior Minister of Finance, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and passed as printed:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the financial year ending 31st December, 1997, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of those sums for specified purposes in conformity with the Constitution.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.12 p.m., on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

D.C. JAGAN
Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

4th February, 1997.