

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**

**OF THE 28TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST  
SESSION (1998 - 1999) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON MONDAY, 12<sup>TH</sup> APRIL, 1999**

**IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (77)**

**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 (47)**

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

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

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

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

\*The Hon. Charles R. Ramson, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

\*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P., Minister of Education

The Hon. M. Shree Chan, M.P., Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry (Absent - on leave)

\*The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Minister of Human Services and Social Security (Absent)

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

\*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

\*The Hon. George E. Fung-On, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

\*The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Health and Labour

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

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

\*The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister of Livestock and Fisheries

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports (Absent)

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

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

\*The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs (Absent)

**\*Non elected Minister**

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

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.

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

Mr. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P. (Absent)

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

Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.

Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P.

Dr. Moti Lall, C.C.H., M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mr. Hari Narayen Ramkarran, S.C., M.P.

Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.

Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.,  
Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Local Government

Mrs. Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P.

Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Dr. Bheri Ramsaran, M.P.

Mr. Joseph M. DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini) (Absent - on leave)

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

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

Mr. Geoffrey A. Fraser, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

Mr. Ramsundar Sankat, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Eustace S. Rodrigues, M.S., M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)

Mr. Kumkaran Ramdas, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)

**Members of the Minority (29)**

**(i) People's National Congress (25)**

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P.

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

Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P., Chief Whip

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

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P.

Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P.

Mr. Kadim A. Khan, M.P.

Miss Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.

Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.

Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P.

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. John S. DeFreitas, M.P.

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

Dr. Dagleish Joseph, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Joseph L. Hamilton, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Sherwood A. J. Lowe, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Andrew Hicks, M.P.

Mr. Neaz Subhan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Colin Bynoe, M.P.

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

Mr. Kelley Andres, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Thakechand Ramnauth, M.P.

Mr. Aubrey C. Norton, M.P. (Absent)

(ii) **The United Force (2)**

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Matthew R. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

(iii) **Alliance for Guyana (2)**

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P.

Mr. Albertino Peters, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)

**OFFICERS**

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

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

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 2.02 p.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk read Prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

**Leave**

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to the Hon. M. Shree Chan and Mr. Joseph M. DeSouza for that day's sitting, and Mr. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal up to 13<sup>th</sup> March, 1999.

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

- (1) By the Minister of Finance:

† Financial Paper No. 1/1999 - Supplementary Estimates  
(Current and Capital) totalling \$922,257,857, for the  
period ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 1998 - Advances made  
from the Contingencies Fund.

(Circulated)

In accordance with Standing Order No. 68(1), the Minister named  
Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup> April, 1999, as the day for the consideration of  
the Financial Paper.

- (2) By the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, on behalf of the Minister of  
Trade, Tourism and Industry:

National Plan for Ecotourism Development.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Kaieteur National Park Masterplan.

(Circulated)

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE  
FOR 1999 (1999 BUDGET)**

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of  
Expenditure for the financial year 1999.

6.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Ivor Allen

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs

The Minister of the Public Service

Mr. Matthew R. Charlie

Mr. Joseph L. Hamilton

The Minister of Local Government was speaking when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

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

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

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

### **RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE 1999 BUDGET**

The Minister of Local Government continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

The Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Mr. Geoffrey A. Fraser

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

Following the conclusion of the general debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1999, Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider and dispose of the Report of the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply.

**IN COMMITTEE OF SUPPLY**

The Speaker reported that the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply met on 7<sup>th</sup> April, 1999, considered the allocation of time for the consideration of the 1999 Estimates of Expenditure in the Committee of Supply, and passed a Resolution on the matter.

Copies of the Sub-Committee's Minutes, Resolution and Time Table had been circulated to Members at the sitting on 9<sup>th</sup> April, 1999.

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Committee of Supply agreed with the Business Sub-Committee in its Resolution.

The Speaker stated that in accordance with the Resolution, the Committee of Supply would commence consideration of the 1999 Estimates of Expenditure on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 1999.

**Assembly Resumed.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9.00 p.m., the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, 13<sup>th</sup> April, 1999.



**D. C. JAGAN**

**Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**12<sup>th</sup> April, 1999.**