

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 36th SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1998 - 1999) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON FRIDAY, 29th OCTOBER, 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)

Mr. 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. 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 (Absent- on leave)

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

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

*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 (Absent)

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

*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 (Absent)

*The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

2.

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. (Absent)

Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.

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

Mr. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P.

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

Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

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. (Absent)

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. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P.

Dr. Bheri Ramsaran, M.P.

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

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)(Absent)

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

(There is one vacancy)

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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. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent)

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. (Absent)

Mr. Kadim A. Khan, M.P.

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

Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.

Mr. Andy Goveia, M.P. (Absent)

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 - on leave)

Mr. Andrew Hicks, M.P.

Mr. Neaz Subhan, M.P. (Absent)

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) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Thakechand Ramnauth, M.P.

Mr. Aubrey C. Norton, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

(ii) The United Force (2)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

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) (Absent - on leave)

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 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

- (i) (a) Resignation of Mrs. Janet Jagan as President
- (b) Assumption of the Office of President by Mr. Bharrat Jagdeo
- (c) Appointment of Hon. Samuel Hinds as Prime Minister
- (d) Filling of Vacancy in National Assembly

The Speaker stated that since the last sitting, Mrs. Janet Jagan had resigned from the Office of President on 11th August, 1999, and that the Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, Prime Minister, had assumed the Office of President. Mr. Jagdeo took and subscribed the oath of office that same day and entered upon the duties of the Office of President

On his assumption of the Office of President, Mr. Jagdeo vacated the Office of Prime Minister. He also ceased to be a Member of the National Assembly and vacated his seat therein.

On the said day, His Excellency the President appointed the Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, an elected Member of the National Assembly, to be Prime Minister.

The Speaker further stated that he had, in accordance with section 99A of the Representation of the People Act, Chapter 1:03, called upon the representative of the list of candidates from which Mr. Jagdeo's name was extracted, to further extract from the said list, the name of a person to fill the vacancy in the Assembly.

(ii) **Leave**

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

the Hon. Rev Dr. Ramnauth Bisnauth,
Mr. Alston Kissoon,
Mr. Lawrence Rodney,
Mr. Winston Murray,
Mr. Sherwood Lowe,
Mr. Kelly Andres,
Mr. Aubrey Norton,
and
Mr. Albertino Peters.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Prime Minister:

- (i) Financial Paper No. 3/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$8,862,531,741, for the
period ending 31st December, 1999.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Financial Paper No. 4/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$415,149,071, for the
period ended 5th October, 1999 - Advances made from
the Contingencies Fund.

(Circulated)

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

Suspension of Standing Order No. 68(1)

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs moved the following motion which was
put and carried :

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approve of the
suspension of Standing Order No. 68(1) to enable the
following Financial Papers to be considered at the sitting
of the Assembly on Friday, 29th October, 1999:-

- (i) Financial Paper No. 3/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$8,862,531,741, for
the period ending 31st December, 1999.
- (ii) Financial Paper No. 4/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$415,149,071, for
the period ended 5th October, 1999 - Advances
made from the Contingencies Fund.

7.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

ITEM 1 - CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 3/1999

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Prime Minister signified the recommendation of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED :

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in
Financial Paper No. 3/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$8,862,531,741, for
the period ending 31st December, 1999.

After consideration of the Schedule, the motion was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly adopted the following
Resolution:-

RESOLVED, That this Assembly agree with the Committee of Supply in the
following Resolution:

“RESOLVED:

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in
Financial Paper No. 3/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$8,861,531,741, for
the period ending 31st December, 1999.”

ITEM 2 - CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 4/1999

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Prime Minister signified the recommendation of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in
Financial Paper No. 4/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$415,149,071, for
the period ended 5th October, 1999 - Advances made
from the Contingencies Fund.

After consideration of the Schedule, the motion was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly adopted the following
Resolution:-

RESOLVED, That this Assembly agree with the Committee of Supply in the
following Resolution:

“RESOLVED:

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in
Financial Paper No. 4/1999 - Supplementary Estimates
(Current and Capital) totalling \$415,149,071, for
the period ended 5th October, 1999 - Advances made
from the Contingencies Fund.”

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.23 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



D.C. JAGAN

Speaker of the National Assembly

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

29th October, 1999.