

# National Assembly Debates

**PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION (2006-2008) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA HELD IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN**

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57<sup>TH</sup> Sitting

14:00h

Thursday 17 July 2008

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## **MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (70)**

### ***Speaker (1)***

**The Hon Hari N Ramkarran SC, MP**

*Speaker of the National Assembly*

### **Members of the Government (41)**

#### **People's Progressive Party/Civic (40)**

#### **The United Force (1)**

The Hon Samuel A A Hinds MP

*(R# 10 - U Demerara/U Berbice)*

*Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and*

*Communications*

The Hon Clement J Rohee MP

*Minister of Home Affairs*

The Hon Shaik K Z Baksh MP

- *(Absent)*

*Minister of Education*

The Hon Dr Henry B Jeffrey MP

- *(Absent)*

*Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation*

The Hon Dr Leslie S Ramsammy MP

*(R# 6 - E Berbice/Corentyne)*

*Minister of Health*

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATES 17 JULY 2008**

- The Hon Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett MP (AOL)  
*(R# 9 - U Takutu/U Esseq)*  
*Minister of Foreign Affairs*
- \*The Hon Dr Ashni Singh MP  
*Minister of Finance*
- The Hon Harry Narine Nawbatt MP  
*Minister of Housing and Water*
- The Hon Robert M Persaud MP - (Absent)  
*(R# 6 - E Berbice/Corentyne)*  
*Minister of Agriculture*
- The Hon Dr Jennifer R A Westford MP  
*(R#7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)*  
*Minister of the Public Service*
- The Hon Kellawan Lall MP  
*Minister of Local Government and Regional Development*
- \*The Hon Doodnauth Singh SC, MP  
*Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs*
- The Hon Dr Frank C S Anthony MP  
*Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport*
- The Hon B H Robeson Benn MP - (Absent)  
*Minister of Transport and Hydraulics*
- \*\*The Hon Manzoor Nadir MP  
*Minister of Labour*
- The Hon Priya D Manickchand MP - (AOL)  
*(R# 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)*  
*Minister of Human Services and Social Security*
- The Hon Dr Desrey Fox MP - (AOL)  
*Minister in the Ministry of Education*
- The Hon Bheri S Ramsaran MD, MP  
*Minister in the Ministry of Health*

\*Non-elected Minister \*\*Elected Member from TUF

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATES 17 JULY 2008**

The Hon Jennifer I Webster MP

*Minister in the Ministry of Finance*

The Hon Manniram Prashad MP - (Absent)

*Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce*

Mr Donald Ramotar MP

The Hon Gail Teixeira MP

Mr Harripersaud Nokta MP

Mrs Indranie Chandarpal MP, Chief Whip - (Absent)

Ms Bibi S Shadick MP

*(R# 3 – Essequibo Is/W Demerara)*

Mr Mohamed Irfaan Ali MP

Mr Albert Atkinson JP, MP

*(R# 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)*

Mr Komal Chand CCH, JP, MP

*(R# 3 - Essequibo Is/W Demerara)*

Mr Bernard C DeSantos SC, MP

*(R# 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)*

Mrs Shirley V Edwards JP, MP

*(R# 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)*

Mr Mohamed F Khan JP, MP

*(R# 2 - Pomerook/Supenaam)*

Mr Odinga N Lumumba MP - (AOL)

Mr Moses V Nagamootoo JP, MP

Mr Mohabir A Nandlall MP

Mr Neendkumar JP, MP

*(R# 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)*

\*\*\* Mr Steve P Ninvalle MP - (AOL)

*Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport*

Mr Parmanand P Persaud JP, MP

*(R# 2 - Pomerook/Supenaam)*

Mrs Philomena Sahoye-Shury CCH, JP, MP

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATES 17 JULY 2008**

*Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and Water*

\*\*\*Non-elected Member

\*Mrs Pauline R Sukhai MP - *(Absent)*

*Minister of Amerindian Affairs*

Mr Dharamkumar Seeraj MP

Mr Norman A Whittaker MP

*(R# 1 - Barima/Waini)*

**Members of the Opposition (28)**

**(i) People's National Congress Reform 1-Guyana (22)**

Mr Robert HO Corbin

*Leader of the Opposition*

Mr Winston S Murray CCH, MP

Mrs Clarissa S Riehl MP

*Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly*

Mr E Lance Carberry MP

*Chief Whip*

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer MP

Mr Anthony Vieira - *(AOL)*

Mr Basil Williams MP

Dr George A Norton MP

Mrs Volda A Lawrence MP - *(AOL)*

Mr Keith Scott MP

Miss Amna Ally MP

Mr James K McAllister MP - *(Absent)*

Mr Dave Danny MP - *(AOL)*

*(R# 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)*

Mr Aubrey C Norton MP - *(Absent)*

*(R# 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)*

Mr Ernest B Elliot MP - *(AOL)*

*(R# 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)*

## NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATES 17 JULY 2008

Miss Judith David-Blair MP

*(R# 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)*

Mr Mervyn Williams MP

*(Re# 3 - Essequibo Is/W Demerara)*

Ms Africo Selman MP

Dr John Austin MP

*(R# 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)*

Ms Jennifer Wade MP

*(R# 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)*

Ms Vanessa Kissoon MP

*(R# 10 - U Demerara/U Berbice)*

Mr Desmond Fernandes MP

*(Region No 1 – Barima/Waini)*

### **(ii) Alliance For Change (5)**

Mr Raphael G Trotman MP

Mr Khemraj Ramjattan MP

Mrs Sheila VA Holder MP

- (AOL)

Ms Latchmin B Punalall, MP

*(R# 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)*

Mr David Patterson MP

### **(iii) Guyana Action Party/Rise Organise and Rebuild (1)**

Mr Everall N Franklin MP

- (AOL)

### **OFFICERS**

Mr Sherlock E Isaacs

*Clerk of the National Assembly*

Mrs Lilawatie Coonjah

*Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly*

**PRAYERS**

*[The Clerk reads the Prayers]*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

**Death of Ms Mavernie Richardson, former Cleaner of the Parliament Office and Expression of Sympathy**

Honourable Members, Ms Mavernie Richardson, Cleaner of the Parliament Office, who was responsible for the continuous high standard in the cleaning of the Parliament Chamber and the adjoining chambers for the past fifteen years passed away on Wednesday, 16 July 2008, after a brief illness. On behalf of the Members of the National Assembly and myself, I would like to express deepest sympathy to the relatives of the late Ms Richardson.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS:**

By the *Minister of Finance*:

The Excise Tax (Amendment) Regulations 2008 - No 14 of 2008

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**  
**Presentation and First Readings**

**(1) THE EVIDENCE AND MOTOR VEHICLES AND  
ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 - Bill No.  
8/2008**

By the *Minister of Home Affairs*

**(2) PREVENTATION OF CRIMES (AMENDMENT)  
BILL - Bill No. 9/2008**

By the *Minister of Home Affairs*

**(3) MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC  
(AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 - Bill No. 10/2008**

By the *Minister of Home Affairs*

**(4) SUMMARY JURISDICTION (OFFENCES)  
(AMENDMENT) BILL - Bill No. 11/2008**

By the *Minister of Home Affairs*

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY DEBATES 17 JULY 2008**

**(5) COURT OF APPEAL (AMENDMENT) BILL - Bill  
No. 12/2008**

*By the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs*

**(6) TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 2008 - Bill No.  
13/2008**

*By the Minister of Finance*

**The Speaker:** Honourable Members, this brings us to an end of our business for today.

The Honourable Prime Minister

**Hon Samuel AA Hinds:** Mr Speaker, I wish to move that the National Assembly stands adjourn to next Thursday, 24 July 2008.

**The Speaker:** The House is adjourned to next Thursday, 24 July 2008. Thank you very much.

*Adjourned Accordingly at 14:08h*