

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 31<sup>ST</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020-2021) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10.00 A.M.**  
**ON MONDAY, 9<sup>TH</sup> AUGUST, 2021**  
**IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,**  
**LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (71)**

**Speaker (1)**

\*Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (38)**

**Peoples Progressive Party Civic (38)**

**Prime Minister (1)**

Hon. Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark A. Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister

**Vice-President (1)**

Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Vice-President (Virtual Participation)

**Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)**

Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

**Senior Ministers (17)**

Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni), Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip

Hon. Hugh H. Todd, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

\*Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance

Hon. Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., Minister of Public Works

\*Non-Elected Member

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Hon. Dr. Frank C. S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Health

Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara),  
Minister of Education

\*Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne), Minister of  
Agriculture

Hon. Pauline R.A. Campbell-Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Hon. Joseph L.F. Hamilton, M.P., Minister of Labour

Hon. Vickram O. Bharrat, M.P., Minister of Natural Resources

\*Hon. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Hon. Nigel D. Dharamlall, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam), Minister of Local  
Government and Regional Development

Hon. Collin D. Croal, M.P. (Region No. 1 – BarimaWaini), Minister of Housing and Water

Hon. Vindhya V. H. Persaud, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of  
Human Services and Social Security

Hon. Charles S. Ramson, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Hon. Sonia S. Parag, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

**Junior Ministers (4)**

Hon. Susan M. Rodrigues, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the  
Ministry of Housing and Water

Hon. Deodat Indar, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Works

Hon. Anand Persaud, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Local Government and Regional  
Development

Hon. Warren K.E. McCoy, M.P., Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

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**Other Members (14)**

Hon. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Hon. Alistair S. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

Hon. Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Hon. Sanjeev J. Datadin, M.P.

Hon. Seepaul Narine, M.P.

Hon. Yvonne Pearson-Fredericks, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P.

Hon. Faizal M. Jaffarally, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Hon. Dr. Tandika S. Smith, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Hon. Lee G.H. Williams, M.P.

\*Hon. Sarah Browne, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs (Absent)

\*Hon. Vikash Ramkissoon, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture (Absent on – leave)

Hon. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

**MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (32)**

**(i) A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU/AFC) (31)**

Hon. Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Hon. Roysdale A. Forde, S.C., M.P.

Hon. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P. (Absent)

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Hon. Dr. Nicolette O. Henry, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Karen R.V. Cummings, M.P.

Hon. Tabitha J. Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

Hon. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P. (Virtual Participation)

Hon. Christopher A. Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip (Virtual Participation)

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

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Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.

Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P.

Hon. Coretta A. McDonald, A.A., M.P. (Virtual Participation)

Hon. Catherine A. Hughes, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)

Hon. Haimraj B. Rajkumar, M.P.

Hon. Amanza O.R. Walton-Desir, M.P.

Hon. Natasha Singh-Lewis, M.P.

Hon. Sherod A. Duncan, M.P. (Absent)

Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.

Hon. Vincent P. Henry, M.P.

Hon. Ronald Cox, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Hon. Shurwayne F.K. Holder, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Hon. Ganesh A. Mahipaul, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)  
Opposition Chief Whip (a.g.)

Hon. Nima N. Flue-Bess, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Hon. Maureen A. Philadelphia, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Virtual-Participation)

Hon. Deonarine Ramsaroop, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Hon. Vinceroy H. Jordan, M.P., (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice) (Virtual Participation)

Hon. Dineshwar N. Jaiprakash, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Hon. Richard E. Sinclair, M.P. (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni)

Hon. Jermaine A. Figueira, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Hon. Devin L. Sears, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

**A New and United Guyana, Liberty and Justice Party and The New Movement (ANUG,  
LJP & TNM) (1)**

Hon. Lenox R. O'Dell Shuman, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

**Officers (2)**

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

Ms. Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

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**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 10.45 a.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk led in Prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

**Message of Thanks**

The Honourable Speaker, on behalf of the parents of the late Brandon Persaud, extended thanks to the Ministers, Members of Parliament and Staff of the Parliament Office who comforted and supported them during their time of bereavement.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

(1) By the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance:

- (i) Financing Agreement Credit No. 6975-GY signed on July 2, 2021, between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the International Development Association (IDA) in an amount equivalent to SDR3,500,000.00. The purpose of this loan is to provide additional financing for activities related to the Original COVID-19 Emergency Response Project (Credit No. 6802-GY) signed on December 15, 2020.

(Circulated)

- (ii) First Amendment Agreement signed on July 2, 2021, in relation to the Financing Agreement Credit No. 6802-GY signed on December 15, 2020, between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the International Development Association (IDA) in an amount equivalent to SDR5,400,000.00. The purpose of this Amendment Agreement is to amend the following: Section 2:01; the Project Description in Schedule 1; the Table under Section III. A of Schedule 1; and the Appendix to the Financing Agreement.

(Circulated)

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(2) The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip, on behalf of the Minister of Education, presented the following Order:

The National Schools (Board of Governors) (Amendment) Order 2021- No. 17 of 2021.

(Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Public Works:

The Civil Aviation (Health-Safety Measures for Airports and Aircrafts during a Public Health Pandemic) (Amendment) (No. 2) Regulations 2021.

(Circulated)

### **QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

#### **For Written Replies**

#### **1. CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION OF ROADS, BRIDGES AND BUILDINGS IN REGION #3**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

1. From the Details of Capital Expenditure 2021 a lump sum of \$29,000,000 was approved for the construction of a sanitary facility at Leguan and storerooms at Crane and Vreed-en-Hoop. Can the Hon. Minister disaggregate the \$29,500,000, and provide the specifics of the work to be done at Leguan, Crane and Vreed-en-Hoop?
2. From the Details of Capital Expenditure 2021 a lump sum of \$95,000,000 is approved for the payment of retention, Construction of revetments at Ruby and Hogg Island and Drainage Structure at Hubu, Rehabilitation of Drainage and Irrigation structures at Georgia, Farm, Hogg Island and Toevlugt. A sum of \$57,000,000 was already spent in this on-going expenditure. Can the Hon. Minister disaggregate the \$95,000,000 and provide the specifics reference the works that are currently on-going and the works that are yet to commence?

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3. From the Details of Capital Expenditure 2021 a lump sum of \$105,000,000 is approved for bridges and culverts at Uitvlugt, Endeavour, Goed Intent, Tuschen, Stewartville, Best, la Jalousie, Crane and Wakenaam. Can the Hon. Minister say where bridges will be built and where culverts will be built? Can the Hon. Minister disaggregate the \$105,000,000 and provide the specifics of the different bridges and culverts?
4. From the Details of Capital Expenditure 2021 a lump sum of \$124,000,000 is approved for construction and rehabilitation of roads. Can the Hon. Minister disaggregate the \$105,000,000?
5. From the Details of Capital Expenditure 2021 a lump sum of \$145,000,000 is approved for Provision for Buildings, schools, dormitory, water troughs, sanitary facilities and living quarters. Can the Hon. Minister disaggregate the \$145,000,000?
6. Can the Hon. Minister say how many children will be catered for at the Leonora Secondary School Dormitory?

**(Notice Paper No. 85 (Q60 Opp.60) published on 2021-03-30)**

### **ANSWERS**

1. “Refer to the National Estimates passed at the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly.
2. Refer to the National Estimates passed at the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly.
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4. Refer to the National Estimates passed at the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly.
5. Refer to the National Estimates passed at the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly.
6. Refer to the National Estimates passed at the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly”.

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2. **REGION #3 RESPONSE TO COVID-19**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Can the Hon. Minister provide a detailed Report with reference to the Region's response to COVID-19 and the functions of the Regional Task Force on COVID-19?

(Notice Paper No. 88 (Q63 Opp.63) published on 2021-03-30)

**ANSWER**

“Prior to August 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2020, there were no provisions for Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) neither were there any provisions to provide relief to our Frontline Workers and by extension, the citizens of Guyana. The Region's response to COVID-19 has been comprehensive and served to stop the virus from getting out of control by providing PPE's as well as humanitarian and financial relief through COVID-19 Cash Grants to residents, including Hon. Ganesh Mahipaul. This is a stark contrast to the period of APNU/AFC when no support was provided to citizens, rather billions of dollars were mismanaged during the construction of the Liliendaal Facility and on the procurement of drugs and medical supplies.

The Regional COVID-19 Task Force functions were formed in keeping with the parameters of the newly constituted National COVID-19 Task Force. Prior to August 2020, the National and Regional Task Force bodies were politically directed by the APNU/AFC to disastrous consequences. During this period, there was minimal testing, lack of proper patient care and lack of drugs and medical supplies and financial mismanagement”.

3. **REGIONAL STRATEGIC PLAN**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Can the Hon. Minister say what format would the Regional Strategic Plan take and if a physical document would be available to the public so as to understand the Regional Strategic Plan clearer?

(Notice Paper No. 89 (Q64 Opp.64) published on 2021-03-30)

**ANSWER**

“Refer to the National Estimates passed at the 12<sup>th</sup> Sitting of the National Assembly”.

**4. POLICE OFFICERS’ BODY CAMERAS**

**Member Asking:** Ms. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Home Affairs

1. Could the Honourable Minister indicate the percentage of Police Officers outfitted with body cameras as part of their official uniform?
2. Can the Honourable Minister state if policies and protocols are being developed with respect to the implementation of body cameras?
3. Can the Honourable Minister lay over the polices, if available? If not available, as soon as, it becomes available?

(Notice Paper No. 126 (Q97 Opp.97) published on 2021-06-30)

**ANSWER**

“This information will be provided in due course”.

**5. DEATH OF MR. PETER HEADLEY WHILE IN POLICE CUSTODY**

**Member Asking:** Ms. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Home Affairs

“The Guyana Police Force in its press release dated the 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021, stated that civilian Peter Headley died while in Police custody on the said 16<sup>th</sup> May 2021”. Can the Honourable Minister state the following:

- (1) What are the protocols that govern the apprehension of suspects who are in their vehicles?

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- (2) What are the protocols that govern the search of the vehicles of citizens, and can the Minister indicate how thorough are these searches conducted?
- (3) What are the protocols that govern the police taking command of the vehicles of suspects?
- (4) Were the ranks wearing bodycams or any recording paraphernalia during this incident?
- (5) In the event that a suspect is shot while in custody, what are the Standing Operational Procedures that govern the administering of medical attention at the scene and, thereafter, the protocols relating to the transport of the suspect to the hospital?
- (6) In the event of a suspect being shot and killed under unclear circumstances and/or questionable circumstances, what are the Standing Operational Procedures that relate to the immediate investigation into the conduct of the ranks involved in the incident?
- (7) Could the Minister explain why in the presence of an official Guyana Police Force vehicle was the suspect placed in a civilian vehicle after his arrest?

**(Notice Paper No. 127 (Q98 Opp.98) published on 2021-06-30)**

**ANSWER**

“This matter is engaging the attention of the Police Complaints Authority and, therefore commenting, on this matter is reserved”.

**Oral Replies**

**\*6. NUMBER OF REPORTS OF SEXUAL ABUSE**

**Member Asking: Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P.**

**Minister Answering: The Minister of Home Affairs**

\*For the period 1st May 2015 to 12th January 2016, can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly how many reports, by Region, of sexual abuse that were dealt with by the Guyana Police Force?

**(Notice Paper No. 104 (Q78 Opp.78) published on 2021-05-06)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Home Affairs replied.

**CONVERSION OF QUESTIONS**

The Honourable Speaker, in accordance with **Standing Order No. 19(6)**, requested that the following questions from the Hon. Jermaine Figueira, M.P., to the Minister of Home Affairs for Oral Replies, be converted to questions for Written Replies:

**\*7. TRAFFICKING OF DRUGS**

**Member Asking:**                    **Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:**            **The Minister of Home Affairs**

- A. \*For the period 1st August 2020 to 1st April 2021, can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly how many pounds of cocaine were reported and the number of times, as originated (trafficked) from Guyana at the time of interception in a second country?
  
- B. \*For the period 1st August 2015 to 1st January 2016, can the Honourable Minister additionally inform the National Assembly how many pounds of cocaine were reported and the number of times, as originated (trafficked) from Guyana, at the time of interception in a second country?
  
- C. \*For the period 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, can the Honourable Minister inform the National Assembly, how many persons were apprehended and charged for cocaine trafficking/possession of amounts more than five pounds in Guyana and the number of incidences?
  
- D. \*For the period 1<sup>st</sup> August 2020 to 1<sup>st</sup> April 2021, can the Honourable Minister further inform the National Assembly, how many persons in Guyana were apprehended and charged for cocaine trafficking of amounts more than five pounds and the number of incidences, when cocaine was intercepted in a second country, but was trafficked from Guyana?

**(Notice Paper No. 105 (Q79 Opp.79) published on 2021-05-06)**

**PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS-**

**UNITED NATIONS INTERNATIONAL DAY OF THE WORLD'S INDIGENOUS PEOPLES**

The Leader of the Opposition made a statement re. United Nations International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.

**REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE-**

A request by Hon. Joseph Harmon, M.P., Leader of the Opposition for leave to move the Adjournment of the Assembly on a Definite Matter of Urgent Importance to wit the Imposition by the Government of restrictions on unvaccinated persons, was disallowed by the Speaker.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**BILLS – Second Reading**

**ITEM 1 - PETROLEUM (EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION) (AMENDMENT)**  
**BILL 2021 – Bill No. 14/2021 published on 2021-07-27**

The Minister of Natural Resources moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act.

**(Read a first time on 2021-08-03)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Shurwayne Holder, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 12.54 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.18 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resumed the debate on the Bill.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Devin Sears, M.P.

Hon. Deodat Indar, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Works

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Hon. Bishop Juan Edghill, M.P., Minister of Public Works

Hon. David Patterson, M.P.

**Presiding by Hon. Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P.**

At 4.25 p.m., while Hon. David Patterson, M.P., was speaking to the motion, the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P., took the Chair.

Hon. David Patterson, M.P., continued and concluded his speech.

Hon. Mohabir Nandlall, M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs also spoke to the motion.

**Speaker's Return to the Chamber**

At 4.43 p.m. while the Hon. Mohabir Nandlall, M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs was speaking to the motion, the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

Hon. Mohabir Nandlall, M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs continued and concluded his speech.

Thereafter, the Minister of Natural Resources replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

**In Committee**

**Clause 1** was passed as printed.

**Clause 2**

Mr. David Patterson, M.P., and seconded by Mr. Haimraj Rajkumar, M.P., moved the following amendments which were put and negatived:

Insert Subsection 2(A) -

“Nothing in this section shall prevent the Minister from obtaining written consent from any landowner or lawful occupier of any land described in subsection (1) (b) in any instance where a licensee and a landowner or lawful occupier fails reasonably to reach agreement on a consent from the landowner or lawful occupier and the Minister is reasonably satisfied that there is no commercially reasonable alternative available to the licensee.

In obtaining such consent from a private landowner or lawful occupier, the Minister shall determine adequate compensation payable for any damage to the surface of the lands or cultivation, and compensation for any commercial loss which may be suffered by the landowner or lawful occupier, arising from the licensee’s exercise of its rights.

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In the determination of adequate compensation, the Minister shall seek advice from the Government Valuation Division as well as at least one private Valuator.

Any such determination shall not deprive the landowner or lawful occupier of the right to legal recourse to the Courts”.

**Clause 2** was then passed as printed.

### **Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Minister of Natural Resources, the Petroleum (Exploration and Production) (Amendment) Bill 2021 was read a third time and passed as printed.

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 5.25 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.59 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

### **MOTION**

#### **ITEM 2 - ADOPTION AND IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE REPORT OF THE COMMISSION OF INQUIRY ON THE DEATH IN AN EXPLOSION OF THE LATE DR. WALTER RODNEY**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Report on “The Commission of Inquiry Appointed to Enquire and Report on the Circumstances Surrounding the Death in An Explosion of the Late Dr. Walter Rodney on Thirteenth Day of June, One Thousand, Nine Hundred and Eighty at Georgetown” was handed over to President David Granger on February 10, 2016;

AND WHEREAS the complete report emanating from the Commission of Inquiry was never made public;

AND WHEREAS the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, Mr. Basil Williams, M.P., laid Volume 1 of the Report of the Commission of Inquiry in the National Assembly on May 12, 2016;

AND WHEREAS in Volume I of the Report of the Commission of Inquiry, the Commission presented its findings including “Critical Findings and Summary on Gregory Smith” and 11 significant recommendations;

AND WHEREAS a motion was brought by the Opposition Chief Whip Gail Teixeira, M.P., calling on the “National Assembly to adopt the report and its findings” and calling “on the Government to take measures to implement the recommendations therein in order to ensure that the democratic architecture of the state is preserved and strengthened”;

AND WHEREAS the motion was debated in the National Assembly on August 4, 2016, and amended by the Government to read “the National Assembly acknowledges the report” and “calls on the Government to take measures to examine the findings and recommendations therein in order to ascertain whether any, and if so which, are acceptable and implementable;”

AND WHEREAS there was no movement on this Resolution by the former Government,

**BE IT RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly adopts Volume 1 of the Report and its findings;

**BE IT ALSO RESOLVED:**

That the National Assembly calls on the Government to take measures to implement the recommendations therein in order to preserve and strengthen the

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democratic architecture of the state; and

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:**

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to take measures to cause the complete report emanating from the Commission of Inquiry be made public and publicly available electronically.

**(Notice Paper No. 128 (M29 Govt.19) published on 2021-07-29)**

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P., spoke to the motion.

**SUSPENSION OF SO 10(1)**

At 7.54 p.m., the Prime Minister moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue with its business beyond 10.00 p.m.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Hon. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip(a.g.)

Hon. Amanza Walton-Desir, M.P.

Hon. Hugh Todd, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

**Presiding by Hon. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.**

At 9.39 p.m., while the Hon. Hugh Todd, M.P, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation was speaking to the motion, the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P., took the Chair.

Hon. Hugh Todd, M.P, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation continued and concluded his speech.

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The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Jermaine Figueira, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Nicolette Henry, M.P.

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P.

### **Speaker's Return to the Chamber**

At 10.26 p.m. while the Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P., was speaking to the motion, the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. continued and concluded her speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Mohabir Nandlall, M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Hon. Shurwayne Holder, M.P.

Hon. Roysdale Forde, S.C., M.P.

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 9**

At 11.55 p.m., while the Hon. Roysdale Forde, S.C., M.P., was speaking to the motion Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance, moved that Standing Order No. 9 be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue with its business.

Hon. Roysdale Forde, S.C., M.P. continued and concluded his speech.

Thereafter, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 12.34 a.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 1.08 a.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**BILLS – Second Readings**

**ITEM 3 - SUMMARY JURISDICTION (OFFENCES) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 –  
Bill No. 6/2021 published on 2021-06-04**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) Act.

**(Read a first time on 2021-06-10)**

The following Member spoke to the motion:

Hon. Richard Sinclair, M.P.

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P.

Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance

Hon. Dineshwar Jaiprashad, M.P.

Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 and 2** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Summary Jurisdiction (Offences) (Amendment) Bill 2021 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ITEM 4 - CIVIL LAW OF GUYANA (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 – Bill No. 7/2021 published on 2021-06-04**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Civil Law of Guyana Act.  
**(Read a first time on 2021-06-10)**

The following Member spoke to the motion:

Hon. Shurwayne Holder, M.P.

Hon. Juretha Fernandes, M.P.

Hon. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry & Commerce

Hon. Amanza Walton-Desir, M.P.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 and 2** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Civil Law of Guyana (Amendment) Bill 2021 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**DEFERRAL OF BILLS**

At the request of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip, the following Bills were deferred:

- (i) Police (Amendment) Bill 2021 – Bill No. 8/2021;
- (ii) Firearms (Amendment) Bill 2021 – Bill No. 9/2021;
- (iii) Evidence (Amendment) Bill 2021 – Bill No. 11/2021; and
- (iv) Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) (Amendment) (No. 2) Bill 2021 – No. 12/2021

**RECESS GREETINGS**

The Speaker of the National Assembly wished Members and staff an enjoyable recess. The Prime Minister joined the Speaker in wishing Members an enjoyable recess.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 4.00 a.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

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**HON. MANZOOR NADIR, M.P.,**  
**Speaker of the National Assembly**

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

**9<sup>th</sup>, August 2021.**