

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 130TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
(2006-2010) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON MONDAY, 9TH AUGUST, 2010
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM,
GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (70)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., 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, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice),
Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications

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

The Hon. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Education

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),
Minister of Health

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo),
Minister of Foreign Affairs

*The Hon. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance

The Hon. Robert M. Persaud, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne),
Minister of Agriculture (Absent – on leave)

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***Non-elected Minister**

2.

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni),
Minister of Public Service

The Hon. Kellawan Lall, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

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

The Hon. Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P., Minister of Culture,
Youth and Sport (Absent – on leave)

The Hon. B. H. Robeson Benn, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

**The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Minister of Labour

The Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice),
Minister of Human Services and Social Security (Absent – on leave)

The Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health

The Hon. Jennifer I. Webster, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Finance

The Hon. Manniram Prashad, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

*The Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

The Hon. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Chief Whip

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

Ms Bibi S. Shadick, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Mr. Albert A. Atkinson, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent – on leave)

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***Non-Elected Minister**

****Elected Member from the United Force**

3.

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent – on leave)

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Mohamed F. Khan, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

***Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mr. Parmanand P. Persaud, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supernaam)

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Housing and Water (Absent – on leave)

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Mr. Norman A. Whittaker, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini) (Absent)

Dr. Vishwa Deva Budhram Mahadeo, M.P.

Rev. Dr. Kwame Gilbert, M.P.

Mr. Lloyd J. Pereira, J.P., M.P.

Members of the Opposition (28)

(i) Members of People's National Congress Reform-One Guyana (22)

Mr. Robert Corbin, M.P., Leader of the Opposition

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

***Non-elected Parliamentary Secretary

4.

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

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P. (Absent – on leave)

Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

Ms Cheryl Sampson, M.P.

Mr. Dave Danny, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Aubrey C. Norton, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Ernest Barnabas Elliot, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent – on leave)

Mrs. Judith David-Blair, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Mervyn Williams, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Island/West Demerara)

Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

Dr. John Austin, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Ms Jennifer Wade, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Ms. Vanessa Kissoon, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Mr. Desmond Fernandes, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Ms Dawn Hastings, M.P.

5.

(ii) Alliance for Change (5)

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

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mrs. Sheila Holder, M.P.

Mrs. Latchmin Punalall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P. (Absent)

Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild (1)

Mr. Everall N. Franklin, M.P.

OFFICERS (2)

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

Ms Hermina Gilgeours, Assistant Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.37 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

6.

MOTIONS OF PRIVILEGES

(1) **Motion of Privilege against Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance**

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., moved a motion of privilege with respect to a misleading statement made by Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., Minister of Finance during the consideration of Financial Paper No. 6 of 2009 on the 11th January, 2010.

The Speaker informed the Assembly that a prima facie case was not made out against Hon. Dr. Ashni Singh, M.P., Minister and Finance. Thereafter, the matter was disallowed by the Speaker.

(2) **Motion of Privilege against Hon. Mohamed Ally, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water**

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., moved a motion of privilege with respect to a misleading statement made by Hon. Irfaan Ali, Minister of Housing and Water during the consideration of the Financial Paper No. 6 of 2009 on the 11th January, 2010.

The Speaker informed the Assembly that a prima facie case was made out against Hon. Mohamed Ally, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water. Thereafter, the matter was referred to the Committee of Privileges.

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

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 54

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications moved the following motion:

7.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 54 be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its sitting on Monday, 9th August, 2010, with the second reading and the remaining stages of the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2010 – Bill No. 16/2010.

(Notice Paper No. 491 (M152 Govt 93) published on 2010-08-09)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

Presentation and First Readings

1. **INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSING (AMENDMENT) BILL 2010 – Bill No. 15/2010 published on 2010-08-05**

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act.

2. **ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM (AMENDMENT) BILL 2010 – Bill No. 16/2010 published on 2010-08-09**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Act 2009.

8.

PUBLIC BUSINESS-

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS – Second Reading

ITEM 1 - ELECTRICITY SECTOR REFORM (AMENDMENT) BILL 2010 – Bill No. 11/2010 published on 2010-07-29

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Electricity Sector Reform Act 1999.

(Read a first time on 2010-07-29)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. E. Lance Carberry

The Minister of Labour

Mrs. Sheila Holder

Thereafter, the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications 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 to 6 were passed as printed.

9.

Clause 7

The Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications moved the following amendments which were put and carried:

“In the Marginal Notes delete the word ‘Amendment’ and insert the words ‘Repeal and Re-enactment’

Clause 7 was then passed as amended.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications, the Electricity Sector Reform (Amendment) Bill 2010 was read a third time and passed as amended.

ITEM 2 - ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND COUNTERING THE FINANCING OF TERRORISM (AMENDMENT) BILL 2010 – Bill No. 16/2010 published on 2010-08-09

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism Act 2009.

(Read a first time on 2010-08-09)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Winston Murray

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan

The Bill was then read a second time.

10.

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

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the following amendments which were put and carried:

“In the second paragraph after the words ‘not exceeding’ insert the words ‘in aggregate’”

Clause 2 was then passed as amended.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (Amendment) Bill 2010 was read a third time and passed as amended.

(iii) **COMMITTEES BUSINESS**

MOTIONS

ITEM 3 - ADOPTION OF THE TENTH REPORT OF THE COMMITTEE ON APPOINTMENTS IN RELATION TO THE APPOINTMENT OF MEMBERS OF THE POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Chairperson of the Committee on Appointments) moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly adopts the Tenth Report of the Standing Committee to address matters relating to the Appointment of Members of Commissions established under the Constitution, and signify to the President that the following persons:

/...11

11.

- Mr. Harold Martin
- Mr. Franchot Duncan Clarke
- Mr. Lloyd Alvin Smith
- Mr. Dennis Morgan, A.A.

having been nominated in accordance with Article 210(1)(c) of the Constitution, be appointed Members of the Police Service Commission.

(Notice Paper No. 483 (M145 PPP/C 19) published on 2010-07-29)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Ms Amna Ally

The Minister of Health

Mrs. Sheila Holder

Thereafter, Ms Gail Teixeira replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

**ITEM 4 - ADOPTION OF THE REPORT OF THE SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE
ON THE MARITIME ZONES BILL 2009**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs (Chairperson of the Special Select Committee on the Maritime Zones Bill 2009) moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Maritime Zones Bill 2009 – Bill No. 36 of 2009 be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 484 (M146 Govt 89) published on 2010-07-29)

12.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Aubrey Norton

Ms Bibi Shadick

Thereafter, the Minister of Foreign Affairs replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

BILL – Third Reading

ITEM 5 - MARITIME ZONES BILL 2009 – Bill No. 36/2009 published on 2009-10-08

The Minister of Foreign Affairs moved the third reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to repeal and replace the Maritime Boundaries Act 1977, to incorporate certain provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea and the UNESCO Convention on the Protection of the Underwater Cultural Heritage 2001, to provide for marine scientific research, maritime cultural area, eco-tourism, marine parks and reserves and mariculture, the protection and preservation of the marine environment and for related matters.

(Read a first time on 2009-10-15)

(Read a second time and committed to the Special Select Committee on 2009-10-29)

Thereafter, the Bill was read a third time and passed as amended.

13.

MOTION

**ITEM 6 - ADOPTION OF THE SECOND PERIODIC REPORT OF THE
PARLIAMENTARY SECTORAL COMMITTEE ON NATURAL
RESOURCES**

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P. (Vice Chairperson of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Natural Resources) moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Second Periodic Report of the Parliamentary Sectoral Committee on Natural Resources be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 488 (M150 Opp 41) published on 2010-07-29)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Odinga Lumumba

Mr. Neendkumar

The motion was then put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.50 p.m., the Speaker adjourned the Assembly to a date to be fixed.

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HON. HARI N. RAMKARRAN, S.C., M.P.,
Speaker of the National Assembly

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

9th August, 2010.