

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 1ST SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2006) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON THURSDAY, 28TH SEPTEMBER, 2006
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (69)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari. N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

Members of the Government (40)

(i) People's Progressive Party/Civic (39)

(ii) The United Force (1)

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice),
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. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Foreign Trade and International
Cooperation

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 Amerindian Affairs

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

*The Hon. S. Rudolph Insanally, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

The Hon. Harry Narine Nawbatt, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

***Non-elected Minister**

2.

The Hon. Robert M. Persaud, M.P., Minister of Agriculture

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. Doodnauth Singh, 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

The Hon. Brindley H.R. 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

The Hon. Dr. Desrey Fox, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Education

The Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.D., 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

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Ms Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P.

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

Mr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P.

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

***Non-Elected Minister**

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

/...3

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)

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. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P.

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, M.P.

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

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

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

Members of the Opposition (28)

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

Mr. Robert Corbin, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Winston Murray, C.C.H., M.P (Absent).

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

Mr. E Lance Carberry, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Anthony Vieria, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P. (Absent)

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P. (Absent)

4.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P. (Absent)

Ms Amna Ally, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. James McAllister, M.P.

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

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

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

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

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

Ms Africo Selman, M.P.

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

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

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

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

(ii) Alliance For Change (5)

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

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mrs. Sheila V.A. Holder, M.P.

Ms Chantalle L. Smith, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. David Patterson, M.P.

(iii) Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild (1)

Mr. Everall N. Franklin, M.P.

OFFICERS

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

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PROCLAMATION SUMMONING PARLIAMENT

The Clerk read the Proclamation made by the President on 12th September, 2006, appointing the Parliament Chamber, Public Buildings, Brickdam, Georgetown, Guyana, as the place where a session of the Ninth Parliament shall be held and 2 o'clock in the afternoon of 28th September, 2006, as the time when such session shall begin.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The Clerk called the names of persons whose names had been extracted from the Lists for the Geographical Constituencies and from the National Top-Up Lists and who had been declared by the Elections Commission to have become Members of the National Assembly, following the Elections on 28th August, 2006.

(1) Declared Elected on 6th September, 2006

Alliance for Change

Chantalle Louise Smith (Region No. 4)

Raphael Trotman

Khemraj Ramjattan

Sheila Holder

David Patterson

6.

Guyana Action Party/Rise Organize and Rebuild

Everall Franklin

United Force Party

Manzoor Nadir

(2) **Declared Elected on 12th September, 2006**

People's Progressive Party/Civic

Komal Chand (Region No. 3)

Bibi Safora Shadick (Region No. 3)

Neendkumar (Region No. 4)

Shirley Veronica Edwards (Region No. 4)

Bernard DeSantos (Region No. 4)

Priya D. Manickchand (Region No. 5)

Robert Peraud (Region No. 6)

Leslie S. Ramsammy (Region No. 6)

Jennifer Westford (Region No. 7)

Albert Atkinson (Region No. 8)

Carolyn Rodrigues (Region No. 9)

Samuel A.A. Hinds (Region No. 10)

Declared Elected on 13th September, 2006

People's Progressive Party/Civic

Norman Whittaker (Region No. 1)

Mohamed F. Khan (Region No. 2)

Parmanand Persaud (Region No. 2)

Mohamed Irfaan Ali

Frank C.S. Anthony

Shaik K.Z. Baksh

7.

Brindley H.R. Benn

Indranie Chandarpal

Desrey Fox

Henry B. Jeffrey

Kellawan Lall

Odinga Lumumba

Moses V. Nagamootoo

Mohabir A. Nandlall

Harry N. Nawbatt

Harriperaud Nokta

Manniram Prashad

Donald R. Ramotar

Bheri S. Ramsaran

Clement J. Rohee

Philomena Sahoye-Shury

Dharamkumar Seeraj

Gail Teixeira

Jennifer I. Webster

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Clerk invited Members to elect the Speaker of the National Assembly in accordance with Article 56(1) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 2 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds proposed and the Hon. Clement Rohee seconded Mr. Hari Narayen Ramkarran, S.C.

As there was no other nomination, the Clerk declared Mr. Hari Narayen Ramkarran, S.C., duly elected Speaker of the National Assembly.

/...8

8.

Mr. Hari Narayen Ramkarran who was present was escorted by his proposer and seconder to the Chair.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

In accordance with Article 56(3) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 3 of the Standing Orders of the National Assembly, the Speaker invited nominations for the Office of Deputy Speaker.

Mrs. Deborah Backer proposed and the Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds seconded Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl.

As there was no other nomination, the Speaker declared Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl duly elected Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

OATHS

The oath of office was made and subscribed by:

Mr. Hari Narayen Ramkarran
Mr. Samuel Archibald Anthony Hinds
Mr. Clement James Rohee
Mr. Sheik Kamrul Zaman Baksh
Dr. Henry Benfield Jeffrey
Dr. Leslie Satruken Ramsammy
Mrs. Carolyn Rodrigues
Dr. Ashni Kumar Singh
Mr. S. Rudolph Insanally
Mr. Harry Narine Nawbatt
Mr. Robert Persaud
Dr. Jennifer Reginalda Ann Westford

Mr. Kellawan Lall
Mr. Doodnauth Singh
Mr. Frank C.S. Anthony
Mr. Brindley Horatio Robeson Benn
Mr. Manzoor Nadir
Ms Priya D. Manickchand
Ms Desrey Fox
Dr. Bheri Sygmond Ramsaran
Ms Jennifer I. Webster
Mr. Manniram Prashad
Mr. Donald Rabindranauth Ramotar
Ms Gail Teixeira
Mr. Harripersaud Nokta
Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal
Ms Bibi Safora Shadick
Mr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali
Mr. Albert Atkinson
Mr. Komal Chand
Mr. Bernard Celestino DeSantos
Mrs. Shirley Veronica Edwards
Mr. Mohamed F. Khan
Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba
Mr. Moses Veersammy Nagamootoo
Mr. Mohabir Anil Nandlall
Mr. Neendkumar
Mr. Parmanand Persaud
Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury
Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj
Mr. Norman Whittaker

Mr. Raphael Gregory Conwright Trotman

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan

Mrs. Sheila Valerie Agnes Holder

Ms Chantelle Louise Smith

Mr. David Patterson

Mr. Overall Franklin

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

REMARKS BY THE SPEAKER

In his remarks, the Speaker thanked Members for re-electing him to the Office of Speaker. He also extended congratulations to Mrs. Clarissa Riehl on her re-election to the Office of Deputy Speaker.

CONGRATULATIONS TO SPEAKER AND DEPUTY SPEAKER

The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds congratulated Mr. Hari Narayan Ramkarran on his re-election to the Office of Speaker of the National Assembly

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Appointment of Ministers

The Speaker informed Members, for the record, of the names of the persons who had been, with effect from 4th September, 2006, appointed by the President to be Ministers and Members of the Cabinet:-

Appointed with effect from 4th September, 2006

Mr. Samuel A.A. Hinds - Minister of Public Works and Communications

Mrs. Carolyn Rodrigues-Birkett - Minister of Amerindian Affairs

Appointed with effect from 9th September, 2006

Mr. Clement J. Rohee - Minister of Home Affairs

Mr. Shaik K.Z. Baksh - Minister of Education

Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey - Minister of Foreign Trade and International Cooperation

Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy - Minister of Health

Dr. Ashni K. Singh - Minister of Finance

Mr. S. Rudolph Insanally - Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Harry Narine Nawbatt - Minister of Housing and Water

Mr. Robert M. Persaud - Minister of Agriculture

Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford - Minister of Public Service

Mr. Kellawan Lall - Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Mr. Doodnauth Singh - Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony - Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport

Mr. Brindley H.R. Benn - Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

Mr. Manzoor Nadir - Minister of Labour

Ms Priya D. Manickchand - Minister of Human Services and Social Security

Dr. Desrey Fox - Minister in the Ministry of Education

Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran - Minister in the Ministry of Health

Ms Jennifer I. Webster - Minister in the Ministry of Finance

Mr. Manniram Prashad - Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 2.50 p.m., the sitting was suspended to enable the Speaker to receive His Excellency the President, Mr. Bharrat Jagdeo.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.18 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

ARRIVAL OF THE PRESIDENT

The President entered the Chamber and took his place on the Dais.

WELCOME TO THE PRESIDENT

The Speaker welcomed the President and invited him to address the Assembly.

ADDRESS BY THE PRESIDENT

His Excellency the President, Mr. Bharrat Jagdeo, addressed the Assembly.

THANKS TO THE PRESIDENT

The Speaker, on behalf of the Members of the Assembly and himself, thanked His Excellency for his address.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.06 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Public Works and Communications, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

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

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam.

28th September, 2006.