

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 9TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2006) OF THE NINTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON MONDAY, 22ND JANUARY, 2007
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (71)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari. N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent – on leave)

Members of the Government (42)

(i) People’s Progressive Party/Civic (41)

(ii) 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. 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 (Absent – on leave)

*The Hon. S. Rudolph Insanally, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent – on leave)

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

***Non-elected Minister**

2.

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

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.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.

Mr. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P.

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

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.

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, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P.

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

***Mr. Steve P. Ninvalle, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

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

***Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

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

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.

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

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent – on leave)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Anthony Vieira, M.P.

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***Non-elected Member

4.

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Keith Scott, M.P.

Ms Amna Ally, M.P.

Mr. James McAllister, M.P.

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

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

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

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)

(ii) Alliance For Change (5)

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

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

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

5.

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. Lilawattie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., asked the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs the following question:

Could the Honourable Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs inform this National Assembly if in the drafting of the Gambling Prevention (Amendment) Bill 2006 currently before this Honourable House, his draftspersons had recourse to any existing legislation on casino gambling?

Mrs. Deborah Backer, M.P., also asked the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs a supplementary question.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

PUBLIC BUSINESS-

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

BILLS – Second Reading

GAMBLING PREVENTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2006 – Bill No. 30/2006 published on 2006 12-28

The Assembly resumed the debate on the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Gambling Prevention Act.

(Read a first time on 2007-01-11)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Winston Murray

Ms Amna Ally

Mr. David Patterson

Dr. George Norton

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.01 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.35 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Mr. Odinga Lumumba

Mr. Ernest Elliot

Mr. Everall Franklin

7.

Ms Africo Selman

Mr. Keith Scott

Mrs. Sheila Holder

While Mr. Moses Nagamootoo was speaking to the motion the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 7.00 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 7.32 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

Mr. Moses Nagamootoo continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Ms Jennifer Wade

Ms Chantelle Smith

Ms Vanessa Kissoon

The Minister in the Ministry of Education

Mr. Anthony Vieira

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan

Mrs. Deborah Backer

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10(1)

At 9.58 p.m., the Prime Minister moved a motion for the suspension of Standing Order No. 10(1) for the Assembly to continue the debate on the Bill uninterrupted until its conclusion.

Mrs. Deborah Backer continued and concluded her speech.

Thereafter the Minister of Home Affairs replied.

The motion for the second reading was put and carried on the following division:

AGAINST

Mr. Franklin
Mr. Patterson
Ms Smith
Mrs. Holder
Mr. Ramjattan
Mr. Trotman
Mr. Fernandes
Ms Kisson
Ms Wade
Dr. Austin
Ms Selman
Mr. Williams
Mrs. David-Blair
Mr. Elliot
Mr. Norton
Mr. Danny
Mr. McAllister
Miss Ally
Mrs. Scott
Mrs. Lawrence
Dr. Norton
Mr. Williams
Mr. Vieira
Mrs. Backer

FOR

Mr. Seeraj
Mrs. Sahoye-Shury
Mr. P. Persaud
Mr. Neendkumar
Mr. Nandlall
Mr. Nagamootoo
Mr. Lumumba
Mr. Khan
Mrs. Edwards
Mr. DeSantos
Mr. Chand
Mr. Atkinson
Mr. Ali
Ms Shadick
Mrs. Chandarpal
Mr. Nokta
Ms Teixeira
Mr. Ramotar
Mr. Prashad
Ms Webster
Dr. Ramsaran
Dr. Fox
Mr. Nadir

9.

Mr. Murray
Mr. Corbin

Ms Manickchand
Mr. Benn
Dr. Anthony
Mr. Lall
Dr. Westford
Mr. Nawbatt
Mrs. Rodrigues-Birkett
Dr. Ramsammy
Dr. Jeffrey
Mr. Baksh
Mr. Rohee
Mr. Hinds

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The Bill was then read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clauses 1 to 4 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

The motion for the third reading was put and carried on the following division:

AGAINST

Mr. Franklin
Mr. Patterson
Ms Smith

FOR

Mr. Seeraj
Mrs. Sahoye-Shury

Mrs. Holder
Mr. Ramjattan
Mr. Trotman
Mr. Fernandes
Ms Kissoon
Ms Wade
Dr. Austin
Ms Selman
Mr. Williams
Mrs. David-Blair
Mr. Elliot
Mr. Norton
Mr. Danny
Mr. McAllister
Miss Ally
Mrs. Scott
Mrs. Lawrence
Dr. Norton
Mr. Williams
Mr. Vieira
Mrs. Backer
Mr. Murray
Mr. Corbin

Mr. P. Persaud
Mr. Neendkumar
Mr. Nandlall
Mr. Nagamootoo
Mr. Lumumba
Mr. Khan
Mrs. Edwards
Mr. DeSantos
Mr. Chand
Mr. Atkinson
Mr. Ali
Ms Shadick
Mrs. Chandarpal
Mr. Nokta
Ms Teixeira
Mr. Ramotar
Mr. Prashad
Ms Webster
Dr. Ramsaran
Dr. Fox
Ms Manickchand
Mr. Nadir
Mr. Benn
Dr. Anthony
Mr. Lall
Dr. Westford
Mr. Nawbatt
Mrs. Rodrigues-Birkett
Dr. Ramsammy

11.

Dr. Jeffrey

Mr. Baksh

Mr. Rohee

Mr. Hinds

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On a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Gambling Prevention (Amendment) Bill 2006 was read the third time and passed as printed .

ADJOURNMENT

At 11.55 p.m, on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, 23rd January, 2007.

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MRS. CLARISSA RIEHL, M.P.,

Acting Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,

Public Buildings,

Brickdam.

22nd January, 2007.

