

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 7TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2020) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 10.00 A.M.
ON FRIDAY, 18TH SEPTEMBER, 2020
IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,
LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (70)

Speaker (1)

*Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly (Virtual Participation)

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (37)

Peoples Progressive Party Civic (37)

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, M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Senior Ministers (16)

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 (Absent on – leave)

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

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

***Non-Elected Member**

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

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

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***Non-Elected Member**

Other Members (14)

Hon. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Hon. Alister 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

*Hon. Vikash Ramkissoon, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture

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.

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.

Hon. Christopher A. Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip

Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.

4.

Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P.

Hon. Coretta A. McDonald, A.A., M.P.

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

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.

Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.

Hon. Vincent P. Henry, M.P.

Hon. Ronald Cox, M.P. (Region No. 1 – BarimaWaini)

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)

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

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

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

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

Hon. Dineshwar N. Jaiprashad, 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. Deslyn West, Assistant Clerk of the National Assembly

5.

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 10.15 a.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk led in Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

The Speaker made the following announcement:

(1) Maintenance Work

The Speaker stated that he was informed by the Minister of Public Works that maintenance work is being done in his area of his residence, so he was required to relocate in order to preside over the House uninterrupted, resulting in the late start.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

BUDGET SPEECH 2020 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2020.

(Moved by the Minister with responsibility for Finance on 2020-09-09)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

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

Hon. Lenox Shuman, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Hon. Collin Croal, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

Hon. Priya Manickchand, M.P., Minister of Education

6.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 12.39 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 1.55 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

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

Hon. Nicolette Henry, M.P.

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

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

At 4.15 p.m. the Members of the A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change
withdrew from the Chamber.

Hon. Bharrat Jadgeo, M.P., Vice President also spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 5.06 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 6.04 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion.

7.

The Hon. Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph Harmon, M.S.M., M.P., Leader of the Opposition also spoke to the motion.

The Hon. Bishop Juan Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., Minister with responsibility for Finance moved that the Sitting continue beyond 8.00 p.m. to continue and conclude the debate on the motion.

The Hon. Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister also spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Hon. Bishop Juan Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., Minister with responsibility for Finance replied.

CONCLUSION OF BUDGET DEBATE

Following the conclusion of the general debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2020, Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider and approve of the Report of the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Speaker reported that the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply met on, Thursday, 17th September, 2020, considered the allocation of time for the consideration of the 2020 Estimates of Expenditure in the Committee of Supply, and passed a Resolution on the matter.

Copies of the Sub-Committee's Minutes, Resolution and Timetable were circulated to Members at today's Sitting.

8.

On a motion by the Minister with responsibility for Finance, the Committee of Supply agreed with the Business Sub-Committee in its Resolution.

The Speaker stated that in accordance with the Resolution, the Committee of Supply would commence consideration of the 2020 Estimates of Expenditure at 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 21st September, 2020.

Assembly resumed

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.55 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 9.30 a.m. on Monday, 21st September, 2020.

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HON. MANZOOR NADIR, M.P.,

Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,

Public Buildings,

Brickdam,

Georgetown.

18th September, 2020.