

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 8<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 9.30 A.M.**  
**ON MONDAY, 21<sup>ST</sup> 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 (Absent)

**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

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

### **COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 10.11 a.m.

### **PRAYERS**

The Clerk led in Prayers.

### **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

#### **(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

#### **Statement of Expenditure**

Hon. Roysdale Forde, S.C., M.P., raised a matter under Article 219(3) of the Constitution and opined that a Statement of Expenditure should have been laid and approved by the Assembly before the next Appropriation Bill. He requested that the Assembly act in accordance with the Constitution of Guyana.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs said that the Assembly was acting in accordance with a precedent set in 2015 and that the Statement of Expenditure could be laid with the Appropriation Bill.

Hon. Speaker decided that we would continue with the consideration of Estimates and make a decision on the matter after he had done some research.

### **MOTION**

#### **BUDGET SPEECH 2020 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2020**

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2020.

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

6.

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

**05 – MINISTRY OF THE PRESIDENCY**

**Current Expenditure**

051 Policy Development and Administration

**Capital Expenditure**

051 Policy Development and Administration

**Current Expenditure**

052 Defence and National Security

**Capital Expenditure**

052 Defence and National Security

**Current Expenditure**

053 Public Service Management

**Capital Expenditure**

053 Public Service Management

**Current Expenditure**

055 Citizenship and Immigration Services

**Capital Expenditure**

055 Citizenship and Immigration Services

7.

**Current Expenditure**

056 Social Cohesion

**Capital Expenditure**

056 Social Cohesion

**Current Expenditure**

057 Environmental Management and Compliance

**Capital Expenditure**

057 Environmental Management and Compliance

**Current Expenditure**

058 Cultural Perseveration and Conservation

**Capital Expenditure**

058 Cultural Perseveration and Conservation

**Current Expenditure**

05A Sport

**Capital Expenditure**

05A Sport

**Current Expenditure**

059 Youth

**Capital Expenditure**

059 Youth

8.

**Current Expenditure**

05B Petroleum and Energy Management

**Capital Expenditure**

05B Petroleum and Energy Management

**01 – OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**Current Expenditure**

011 Administration

**Capital Expenditure**

011 Administration

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 1.20 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.25 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

**01 – OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

**Current Expenditure**

012 National Policy Development Presidential Advisory Services



9.

**Capital Expenditure**

012 National Policy Development Presidential Advisory Services

**Current Expenditure**

013 Defence and National Security

**Current Expenditure**

014 Public Policy and Planning

**Capital Expenditure**

014 Public Policy and Planning

**Current Expenditure**

015 Environmental Management and Compliance

**Capital Expenditure**

015 Environmental Management and Compliance

**Current Expenditure**

016 Police Complaints Authority

**Capital Expenditure**

016 Police Complain

**53-Guyana Defence Force**

**Current Expenditure**

531 Defence and Security Support

**Capital Expenditure**

531 Defence and Security Support

**02 – OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**

**Current Expenditure**

021 Prime Minister's Secretariat

**Capital Expenditure**

021 Prime Minister's Secretariat

**Current Expenditure**

022 Disaster Preparedness, Response and Management

**Capital Expenditure**

022 Disaster Preparedness, Response and Management

**Current Expenditure**

023 Power Generation

**Capital Expenditure**

023 Power Generation

**Current Expenditure**

024 Telecommunications and Innovation

**Capital Expenditure**

024 Telecommunications and Innovation

**Current Expenditure**

025 Government Information and Communication Services

**Capital Expenditure**

025 Government Information and Communication Services

11.

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 5.14 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.27 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

**52 – MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

**Current Expenditure**

521 Policy Development and Administration

**Capital Expenditure**

521 Policy Development and Administration

**Current Expenditure**

522 Ministry Administration

**Capital Expenditure**

522 Ministry Administration

**Current Expenditure**

523 Attorney General's Chambers

12.

**Capital Expenditure**

523 Attorney General's Chambers

**Current Expenditure**

524 State Solicitor

**Capital Expenditure**

524 State Solicitor

**04 – MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS**

**Current Expenditure**

041 Development of Foreign Policy

**Capital Expenditure**

041 Development of Foreign Policy

**Current Expenditure**

042 Foreign Policy Promotion

**Capital Expenditure**

042 Foreign Policy Promotion

**Current Expenditure**

043 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

**12 – MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

**Current Expenditure**

121 Development of Foreign Policy

13.

**Capital Expenditure**

121 Development of Foreign Policy

**Current Expenditure**

122 Foreign Policy Promotion

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 the consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2020.

**Capital Expenditure**

122 Foreign Policy Promotion

**Current Expenditure**

123 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

**Capital Expenditure**

123 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

**14 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE**

**Current Expenditure**

141 Policy Development and Administration

**Capital Expenditure**

141 Policy Development and Administration

**Current Expenditure**

142 Human Resource Development

14.

**Capital Expenditure**

142 Human Resource Development

**Current Expenditure**

143 Human Resource Management

**Capital Expenditure**

143 Human Resource Management

**Assembly resumed**

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8.30 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m. on Tuesday, 22<sup>nd</sup> September, 2020.

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**HON. MANZOOR NADIR, M.P.,**

**Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly**

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,**

**Public Buildings,**

**Brickdam,**

**Georgetown.**

**21<sup>st</sup> September, 2020.**