

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 79th SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2015-2017) OF THE ELEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 10.00 A.M.,
ON MONDAY, 11TH DECEMBER, 2017,
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN.
MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (69)

Speaker (1)

*Hon Dr. Barton U.A. Scotland, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (36)

(i) **A Partnership For National Unity/Alliance For Change (36)**

First Vice-President and Prime Minister (1)

+ Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P., First Vice-President and Prime Minister

Other Vice-Presidents (3)

+ Hon. Carl B. Greenidge, M.P., Vice-President and Minister of Foreign Affairs

+Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P., Vice-President and Minister of Public Security

+*Hon. Sydney Allicock, M.S., M.P., Vice-President and Minister of Indigenous Peoples' Affairs

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)

+ Hon. Basil Williams, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Senior Ministers (15)

+ Hon. Amna Ally, M.P., Minister of Social Protection and Government Chief Whip

+ Hon. Lt. Col. (Ret'd) Joseph F. Harmon, M.S.M., M.P., Minister of State

/...2

+ Cabinet Member

*Non-Elected Member

2.

- + Hon. Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P., Minister of the Public Service
- + Hon. Ronald A. Bulkan, M.P., Minister of Communities
- + Hon. Dr. George A. Norton, M.P., Minister of Social Cohesion with responsibility for Culture, Youth and Sport
- + Hon. Winston D. Jordan, M.P., Minister of Finance
- + Hon. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P., Minister of Natural Resources
- + Hon. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of Public Health
- + Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P., Minister of Public Infrastructure
- + Hon. Catherine A. Hughes, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of Public Telecommunications
- +*Hon. Winston G. Felix, D.S.M., M.P., Minister of Citizenship
- + Hon. Hans Dominic Gaskin, M.P., Minister of Business
- +Hon. Noel L. Holder, M.P., Minister of Agriculture
- +Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni), Minister of Public Affairs
- +Hon. Nicolette O. Henry, M.P., Minister of Education

Ministers (7)

*Hon. Keith Scott, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Social Protection

Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Infrastructure

Hon. Valerie Garrido-Lowe, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples' Affairs

Hon. Jaipaul Sharma, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the Ministry of Finance

/...3

+ Cabinet Member

*Non-Elected Member

3.

Hon. Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the Ministry of Public Health

Hon. Simona Charles-Broomes, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Natural Resources

Hon. Valarie Patterson-Yearwood, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice), Minister within the Ministry of Communities

Other Members (9)

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

Ms. Rajcoomarie Bancroft, M.P. (Region No. 8 –Potaro/Siparuni)

Mr. John Adams, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Richard Allen, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Mr. Michael Carrington, M.P.

Mr. Jermaine Figueira, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Mr. Charrandas Persaud, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Haimraj Rajkumar, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Audwin Rutherford, M.P.

MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (32)

(i) People’s Progressive Party (32)

Mr. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Clement J. Rohee, M.P.

Ms. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip

4.

Mr. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Ms. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Dr. Frank C.S. Anthony, M.P.

Ms. Pauline Campbell-Sukhai, M.P.

Mr. Odinga Lumumba, M.P.

Bishop Juan A. Edghill, M.S., J.P., M.P., (Suspended for 4(four) Sittings from Monday 11th to Friday 15th, December, 2017)

Mr. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.

Dr. Vindhya V. Persaud, M.S., M.P.

Ms. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Joseph L.F. Hamilton, M.P.

Mr. Collin D. Croal, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Ms. Gillian R. Burton-Persaud, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P.

Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Ms. Africo Selman, M.P.

Mr. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Ganga Persaud, M.P.

Ms. Yvonne Pearson- Fredericks, M.P.

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

5.

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

Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Cornel Damon, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Alister S. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

Mr. Nigel D. Dharamlall, M.P.

Mr. Adrian V. Anamayah, M.P.

Mr. Harry Gill, M.P.

Ms. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

Mr. Vickram O. Bharrat, M.P.

Officers (2)

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

Ms. Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 10.12 a.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

PUBLIC BUSINESS -

(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

BUDGET SPEECH 2018 – MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2018

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2018.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2017-11-27)

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
052 Defence and National Security
053 Public Service Management
055 Citizenship and Immigration Services
056 Social Cohesion
057 Environmental Management and Compliance
058 Cultural Perseveration and Conservation
059 Youth
05A Sport

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 12.30 p.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting due to grave misconduct by Bishop Juan Edghill.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 10.43 a.m. on Tuesday, 12th December, 2017, the 79th Sitting of the Assembly was resumed.

Assembly resumed

Motion For The Suspension Of Bishop Juan Edghill From The Service Of The Assembly

The Speaker informed Members that due to grave misconduct by Bishop Juan Edghill the Assembly was unable to continue with its business for the remainder of yesterday.

Thereafter, in accordance with Standing Order No. 47 (3), the Speaker called on a Minister to move a motion for the suspension of Bishop Juan Edghill from the service of the Assembly.

7.

The Minister of Social Protection and Government Chief Whip, in accordance with Standing Order No. 47 (2) and (3), moved a motion for the suspension of Bishop Juan Edghill from the service of the Assembly for four (4) consecutive Sittings for disregarding the authority of the Chair.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2018.

The Speaker informed Members that due to the lapse of time during the course of yesterday, the Agencies which were scheduled to be completed on Monday, 11th December, 2018, will be voted on without questions being asked by Members.

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

Capital Expenditure

051 Policy Development and Administration

While the Assembly was considering the budget for Agency - Ministry of the Presidency, the Members of the People's Progressive Party withdrew from the Chamber.

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

Capital Expenditure

052 Defence and National Security

053 Public Service Management

8.

055 Citizenship and Immigration Services
056 Social Cohesion
057 Environmental Management and Compliance
058 Cultural Perseveration and Conservation
059 Youth
05A Sport

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

25 – MINISTRY OF BUSINESS

Current Expenditure

251 Policy Development and Administration
252 Business Development, Support and Promotion
253 Consumer Protection
254 Tourism Development and Promotion

Capital Expenditure

251 Policy Development and Administration
252 Business Development, Support and Promotion
254 Tourism Development and Promotion

21 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE

Current Expenditure

211 Ministry Administration
213 Fisheries
214 Hydrometeorological Services

9.

Capital Expenditure

- 211 Ministry Administration
- 212 Crops and Livestock Support Services
- 213 Fisheries
- 214 Hydrometeorological Services

26 – MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Current Expenditure

- 261 Policy Development and Administration

While the Assembly was considering the budget for Agency – Ministry of Natural Resources, the Members of the Opposition returned to the Chamber.

26 – MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Current Expenditure

- 262 Natural Resource Management
- 264 Petroleum Management

Capital Expenditure

- 261 Policy Development and Administration

17 – MINISTRY OF INDIGENOUS PEOPLE’S AFFAIRS

Current Expenditure

- 171 Policy Development and Administration

Capital Expenditure

- 171 Policy Development and Administration

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 1.17 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

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

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2018.

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 Main Office
- 522 Ministry Administration
- 523 Attorney General's Chambers
- 524 State Solicitor

Capital Expenditure

- 521 Main Office
- 522 Ministry Administration
- 523 Attorney General's Chambers
- 524 State Solicitor

32 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC INFRASTRUCTURE

Current Expenditure

- 321 Policy Development and Administration
- 322 Public Works
- 323 Transport

Capital Expenditure

- 321 Policy Development and Administration
- 322 Public Works
- 323 Transport

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.25 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 7.33 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2018.

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:

42 - MINISTRY OF COMMUNITIES

Current Expenditure

421 Sustainable Communities Management

422 Sustainable Communities Development

Capital Expenditure

421 Sustainable Communities Management

422 Sustainable Communities Development

71 – REGION NO. 1: BARIMA/WAINI

Current Expenditure

711 Regional Administration and Finance

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10(1)

At 9.58 p.m., the First Vice-President and Prime Minister moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue and conclude consideration of the budget for Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini.

12.

71 – REGION NO. 1: BARIMA/WAINI

Current Expenditure

712 Public Infrastructure

713 Education Delivery

714 Health Services

Capital Expenditure

711 Regional Administration and Finance

712 Public Infrastructure

713 Education Delivery

714 Health Services

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10.30 p.m., on a motion by the First Vice-President and Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m., on Wednesday, 13th December, 2017.

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HON. DR. BARTON U.A. SCOTLAND, O.R., C.C.H., M.P.,
Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

12th December, 2017

