

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 20<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020-2021) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10.00 A.M.**  
**ON MONDAY, 22<sup>ND</sup> FEBRUARY, 2021**  
**IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,**  
**LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (71)**

**Speaker (1)**

\*Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (38)**

**Peoples Progressive Party Civic (38)**

**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, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

**Senior Ministers (17)**

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. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance

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

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

2.

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

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., (Virtual Participation)

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

4.

Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P. (Virtual Participation)

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)

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) (Absent)

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. Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

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### **COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 10.03 a.m.

### **PRAYERS**

The Clerk led in Prayers.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

The Speaker made the following announcement:

### **CONDUCT OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT DURING BUDGET**

“Honourable Members, we are about to continue the presentations on the second Budget of this Twelfth Parliament. Before I call on the first Speaker, later on, let me just remind Members that, just six months ago, we had one Budget presentation and, only a few days ago, a Training Session for Members of Parliament. I trust that these two experiences will guide us to move forward in a very orderly manner, respectful of the Standing Orders”.

### **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

By the Minister of Public Works:

- (i) Audited Financial Statements of the Cheddi Jagan International Airport Corporation for the years ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2018 and 2019.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Audited Financial Statements of the Guyana Civil Aviation Authority for the year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2011.

(Circulated)

6.

**REPORTS FROM COMMITTEES-**

- (1) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance (Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Appointments):

First Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of a Member to the Judicial Service Commission.

(Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance (Chairperson of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Appointments):

Second Report of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Appointments in relation to the Appointment of a Member of the Local Government Commission.

(Circulated)

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**BUDGET SPEECH 2021 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2021**

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2021.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance on 2021-02-12)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Amanza O.R. Walton-Desir, M.P.

Hon. Joseph Hamilton, M.P., Minister of Labour

Hon. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

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Hon. Sanjeev Datadin, M.P.

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 12.25 p.m. the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 1.17 p.m. the Sitting was resumed.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2021.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Sherod Duncan, M.P.

Hon. Susan Rodrigues, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Housing and Water

Hon. Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P.

Hon. Ronald Cox, M.P.

Hon. Lee Williams, M.P.

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.11 p.m. the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.04 p.m. the Sitting was resumed.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2021.

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The following Members also spoke to the motion:

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

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

At 5.37 p.m., the Members of the A Partnership For National Unity/Alliance for Change withdrew from the Dome.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

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

Hon. Dr. Bheri Ramsaran, M.P.

### **MASHRAMANI GREETINGS**

The Prime Minister extended Mashramani greetings to the Members, the Clerk and Staff of the Parliament Office, the Media, and the citizens of Guyana. The Honourable Speaker joined the Prime Minister in extending Mashramani greetings.



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**ADJOURNMENT**

At 6.45 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m. on Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup> February, 2021.

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**HON. MANZOOR NADIR, M.P.,**  
**Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly**

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,**  
**Public Buildings,**  
**Brickdam,**  
**Georgetown.**

**22<sup>nd</sup> February, 2020.**