

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020-2022) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10.00 A.M.**  
**ON MONDAY, 7<sup>TH</sup> NOVEMBER, 2022,**  
**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

**\*Non-Elected Member**

/...2

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 (Virtual Participation)

\*Hon. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce (Virtual  
Participation)

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

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

/...3

**\*Non-Elected Member**

3.

**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. (Virtual Participation)

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) (Virtual Participation)

Hon. Lee G.H. Williams, M.P.

\*Hon. Sarah Browne, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs  
(Absent – on leave)

\*Hon. Vikash Ramkissoon, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture  
(Absent- on leave)

Hon. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

**MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (32)**

**(i) A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU/AFC) (31)**

Hon. Aubrey Norton M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

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

Hon. Shurwayne F.K. Holder, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

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

Hon. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

Hon. Sherod A. Duncan, M.P. (Suspended)

Hon. Volda Lawrence, M.P.

/...4

**\*Non-Elected Member**

4.

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Virtual Participation)

Hon. Christopher A. Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip (Suspended)

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

Hon. Amanza O.R. Walton-Desir, M.P. (Absent)

Hon. Coretta A. McDonald, A.A., M.P. (Virtual Participation)

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

Hon. Vincent P. Henry, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P.

Hon. Tabitha J. Sarabo-Halley, M.P. (Suspended)

Hon. Natasha Singh-Lewis, M.P. (Suspended)

Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P. (Suspended)

Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.

Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P.

Hon. Ronald Cox, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini) (Absent)

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

Hon. Ganesh A. Mahipaul, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)  
(Suspended)

Hon. Haimraj B. Rajkumar, M.P.

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

Hon. Dineshwar N. Jaiprakash, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

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

Hon. Beverley Alert, M.P., (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Hon. Richard E. Sinclair, M.P. (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)

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

5.

**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 led in Prayers.

**OATH OF A NEW MEMBER-**

**Ms. Beverley Alert**

The Speaker made the following announcement:

“Hon. Members, following the resignation of Mr. Raphael Trotman on August 31, 2022, and my call upon the Representative of the List from the A Partnership for National Unity/Alliance For Change (APNU/AFC) List of Candidates, I have been informed that the name of Ms. Beverley Alert was extracted from the List and that Ms. Beverley Alert was, on 17<sup>th</sup> October, 2022, declared by the Guyana Elections Commission (GECOM) to be an elected Member of the National Assembly.

Before Ms. Alert can take part in the proceedings of the National Assembly, she will have to make and subscribe to the Oath of Office before the National Assembly, as required by Article 167 of the Constitution”.

As Ms. Alert was present, the oath was administered to her by the Clerk.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

The Speaker also made the following announcements:

**(1) Welcome to New Member**

The Speaker, on behalf of the Assembly and himself, welcomed and congratulated Ms. Beverley Alert on her becoming a Member of the National Assembly.

6.

**(2) Welcome Greetings**

The Speaker extended a hearty welcome to all Members of the National Assembly on their return to the Assembly after a restful recess.

**(3) Participation in International Conferences**

The Speaker informed the Assembly that during the Parliamentary Recess, the Parliament participated in the 65<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Halifax, Canada and the 145<sup>th</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly in Kigali, Rwanda.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS-**

(1) By the Speaker of the National Assembly:

- (i) Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of Guyana and on the Accounts of Ministries, Departments, and Regions for the fiscal year ended 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2021.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor General on the Management of Health Care Waste at Hospitals.

(Circulated)

- (iii) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor General on the Management of Drugs and Medical Supplies at the Ministry of Public Health and Regional Health Facilities.

(Circulated)

- (iv) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor General on the Receipt, Storage and Distribution of Textbooks to school.

(Circulated)

/...7

7.

- (v) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor General on a Review of Training Programmes established and developed by the Council of Technical and Vocational Education and Training.

(Circulated)

- (vi) Performance Audit Report of the Auditor General on Guyana's preparedness for Marine Oil Spill Responses.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Home Affairs:

The Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (The Use of Foreign Issued Driver's Licence in Guyana) Regulations 2022 – No. 21 of 2022.

(Circulated)

(3) By the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance:

- (i) Mid-Year Report for 2022.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Government Notice No. 3 of 2022, regarding Notification Receipts of all petroleum revenues paid into the Natural Resource Fund during the period 1<sup>st</sup> July, 2022 to 30<sup>th</sup> September, 2022.

(Circulated)

- (iii) Financing Agreement Credit No. 7133-GY signed on August 12, 2022 between the Cooperative Republic of Guyana and the International Development Association (IDA) for an amount equivalent to SDR31,900,000, as part of the Guyana Strengthening Human Capital through Education Project. This Project will focus on expanding access to quality education at the secondary level and improving technical and vocational training (TVET).

(Circulated)

8.

- (iv) Loan Contract No. 5560/OC-GY dated September 19, 2022 between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) for an amount of US\$130,000,000.00. This Loan aims to support the execution of a policy-based reform programme aimed at strengthening the efficiency and effectiveness of public policy and fiscal management in response to the health and economic crisis caused by COVID-19 in Guyana II, through the design and implementation of effective and fiscally responsible policy measures.

(Circulated)

(4) By the Minister of Public Works:

- (i) The Civil Aviation (Licensing of Air Transport Service) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 – No. 27 of 2022.

(Circulated)

- (ii) The Civil Aviation (Air Navigation) (Amendment) Regulations 2022 – No. 28 of 2022.

(Circulated)

- (iii) The Civil Aviation (Navigation Service Charges) Regulations 2022 – No. 29 of 2022.

(Circulated)

(5) By the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development:

- (i) The Mabaruma Town (Constitution) (Amendment) Order 2022 – No. 42 of 2022.

(Circulated)

- (ii) The Local Democratic Organs (Areas) (Amendment) Order 2022 – No. 43 of 2022.

(Circulated)



9.

- (iii) The Local Democratic Organs (Neighbourhood Democratic Councils)  
(Amendment) Order 2022 – No. 44 of 2022.

(Circulated)

**ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

The Speaker disallowed a request from the Hon. Jermaine Figueira, M.P., to ask Oral Questions Without Notice in relation to an incident between Mr. Charrandass Persaud, Guyana's High Commissioner to India and a citizen of India.

**REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE**

**Enactment of Constitutional and Statutory Amendments to facilitate a Clean Voters List and to prevent Voter Impersonation**

A request by Hon. Aubrey Norton, M.P., Leader of the Opposition, to move the adjournment of the Assembly on Definite Matters of Urgent Importance on re. the Enactment of Constitutional and Statutory Amendments to facilitate a clean Voters List and to prevent Voter Impersonation, was disallowed by the Speaker.

**Withdrawal of Members of the A Partnership For National Unity/Alliance For Change from the Chamber**

At 10.35 a.m., Members of the A Partnership For National Unity/Alliance for Change withdrew from the Chamber.

**Sympathy Greetings to Hon. Priya Manickchand, M.P., Minister of Education**

The Speaker, on behalf of the Assembly and himself, expressed sincere condolences to the Hon. Priya Manickchand, M.P., Minister of Education and family on the death of her father.

**INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-**

**Presentation and First Readings**

**1. CRIMINAL LAW (PROCEDURE) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 – No. 21 of 2022**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Criminal Law (Procedure) Act.

**2. COURT OF APPEAL (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 – No. 22 of 2022**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Court of Appeal Act.

**3. NATIONAL REGISTRATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 – Bill No. 23 of 2022**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the National Registration Act.

**4. REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 – Bill No. 24 of 2022**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Representation of the People Act.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**Bills – Second Readings**

**ITEM 1 - CONSTITUTION REFORM COMMISSION BILL 2022 – Bill No. 18/2022**  
**published on 2022-07-28**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to establish a Constitution Reform Commission and to provide for its membership, its terms of reference and for other connected purposes.

**(Read a first time on 2022-08-08)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Sanjeev Datadin, M.P.

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

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

**Welcome Greetings**

The Honourable Speaker extended welcomed greetings to H.E. Guo Haiyan, Chinese Ambassador to Guyana; H.E Rene Van Nes, Ambassador of the European Union; Mr. Robert Edwards, Consul of the Canadian High Commission; former Members of Parliament, Mr. Harry Gill, and Mr. Michael Carrington; and Mr. Jamele Ahamad Nadir, at that Sitting of the National Assembly.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 12.03 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 1.32 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

12.

Assembly resumed the debate on the second reading of the Bill.

Hon. Sonia Parag, M.P., Minister of the Public Service also spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

### **In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 17** were passed as printed.

### **Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Constitution Reform Bill 2022 was read a third time and passed as printed.

### **ITEM 2 - MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 – Bill No. 19/2022 published on 2022-07-29**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act.

**(Read a first time on 2022-08-08)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

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

Hon. Vindhya Persaud, M.S., M.P., Minister of Human Services and Social Security

Hon. Brindley Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

/...13

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 10** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Bill 2022 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ITEM 3 - INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSING (AMENDMENT) BILL 2022 – Bill No. 20/2022 published on 2022-07-29**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act.

**(Read a first time on 2022-08-08)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

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

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 6** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing (Amendment) Bill 2022 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.31 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.26 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**ITEM 4 - HIRE-PURCHASE BILL 2020 – Bill No. 14/2020 published on 2020-11-10**

At the request of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance, on behalf of the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce, the second reading of the following Bill was deferred:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the regulation of hire-purchase, credit sale and conditional sale agreements; and for related purposes.

**(Read a first time on 2020-12-23 and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2021-02-11)**

**ITEM 5 - SUICIDE PREVENTION BILL 2022 – No. 11/2022 published on 2022-06-27**

The Minister of Health moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to make provision for the prevention of suicide, for the establishment of a National Suicide Prevention Commission, the functions of which shall include the preparation of a National Suicide Prevention Plan consisting of policies and measures to be implemented for the prevention of suicide, for the provision of Suicide Prevention Centres to provide support services including counselling services to suicide survivors and persons contemplating suicide, and for related matters.

**(Read a first time on 2022-07-21)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Vindhya Persaud, M.S., M.P., Minister of Human Services and Social Security

Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P.

Hon. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

Thereafter, the Minister of Health replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 38** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Minister of Health, the Suicide Prevention Bill 2022 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ITEM 6 - RESTORATIVE JUSTICE BILL – Bill No. 13/2022 published on 2022-07-18**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the use of restorative justice in the criminal justice system for victims, offenders and the community, the establishment of the Advisory Council on Restorative Justice and for related matters.

**(Read a first time on 2022-07-21)**

Hon. Brindley Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 39** were passed as printed.

**The First, Second and Third Schedules** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Restorative Justice Bill 2022 was read a third time and passed as printed.



**ITEM 7 - BAIL BILL 2022 – Bill NO. 14/2022 published on 2022-07-18**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the grant and refusal of bail in criminal proceedings and for related matters.

**(Read a first time on 2022-07-21)**

**SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10(1)**

At 7.43 p.m., the Prime Minister moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue and conclude its business for that day's Sitting.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs continued his speech.

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

At 8.00 p.m., while the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs was speaking to the motion the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Lenox Shuman, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly took the Chair.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs continued and concluded his speech.

The Minister of Home Affairs also spoke to the motion.

**Speaker's Return to the Chamber**

At 8.30 p.m., while the Minister of Home Affairs was speaking to the motion the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Sonia Parag, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

Hon. Charles Ramson, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth & Sports

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 8.58 p.m., while the Minister of Culture, Youth & Sports was speaking to the motion the Sitting was suspended due to the lack of a quorum.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 9.00 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

The Assembly resumed the debate on the Bill.

The Minister of Culture, Youth & Sports continued and concluded his speech.

Hon. Sanjeev Datadin, M.P., also spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

### **In Committee**

**Clauses 1 to 32** were passed as printed.

**The First and Second Schedules** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Bail Bill 2022 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**ITEM 8 - NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (CONTROL) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2021 – Bill No. 2/2021 published on 2021-01-28**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) Act.

**(Read a first time and referred to a Special Select Committee on 2021-01-28)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

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

Hon. Brindley Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Charles Ramson, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth & Sports

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 10.45 p.m., while the Minister of Culture, Youth & Sports was speaking to the motion the Sitting was suspended due to the lack of a Quorum.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 10.54 p.m., the Sitting was resumed

The Assembly resumed the debate on the Bill.

The Minister of Culture, Youth & Sports continued and concluded his speech.

Hon. Sanjeev Datadin, M.P., also spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

**In Committee**

A motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs for the adoption of the Report of the Special Select Committee on the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control)(Amendment) Bill 2021 was put and carried.

**Clauses 1 to 3** were passed as printed.

**Clause 4**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs made the following amendments which were put and carried:

Amendment of  
section 4 of the  
Principal Act  
Sub-Clause  
(2B).

Deletion of "**and (4)**" after "**sections 3(2)**" in the last paragraph of the subclause.

Clause 4 was then passed as amended.

**Clause 5** was passed as printed.

**Clause 6**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs made the following amendments which were put and carried:

Amendment of  
section 12 of the  
Principal Act  
Sub-Clause (1A).

“Deletion of "**and (4)**" after "**sections 3(2)**" in the third to last line of the sub-clause”.

Amendment of section  
12 of the Principal Act  
Sub-Clause (2A),  
paragraph (b).

“Deletion of "**and (4)**" after "**sections 3(2)**" in the last paragraph of the sub-clause”.

Clause 6 was then passed as amended.

**Clauses 7** was passed as printed.

**Clause 8**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs made the following amendments which were put and carried:

Amendment of  
section 73 of  
the Principal  
Act.

“Deletion of **sub-section (9) of section 73 of the Principal Act**”.

Clause 8 was then passed as amended.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) (Amendment) Bill 2021 was read a third time and passed as amended.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 11.42 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

---

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

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

**7<sup>th</sup>, November 2022.**