

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 70<sup>th</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020-2023) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10.00 A.M.**  
**ON THURSDAY, 14<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER, 2023,**  
**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. 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

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**\*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.

Hon. Yvonne Pearson-Fredericks, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Bheri S. Ramsaran, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P. (Absent – on Leave)

Hon. Faizal M. Jaffarally, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)(Virtual-Participation)

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  
(Absent – on leave)

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

Hon. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

Hon. Nandranie Coonjah, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

**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)(Virtual-Participation)

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

Hon. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

Hon. Sherod A. Duncan, M.P.

Hon. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P. (Virtual-Participation)

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

4.

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

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

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

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

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

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.

Hon. Natasha Singh-Lewis, M.P.

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

Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.

Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P.

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

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)

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)

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

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

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. Dr. Asha Kissoon, 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

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 10.10 a.m.

**PRAYERS**

The Clerk led in Prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER-**

The Speaker made the following announcement:

**1. Rulings By The Speaker**

“Hon. Members, on at least one occasion, I recall that I have had to draw attention to the criticisms of the Rulings of the Speaker by Members of Parliament (MPs), and I drew attention to one of the Rulings by Speaker Hari Narayen Ramkarran. It is at the back of the Standing Orders. He said that the comments and the Rulings of the Speaker are tantamount to questioning the authority of Parliament.

At the last Sitting, in spite of my conversation with the Opposition Chief Whip, he rose on the question of a Matter of Definite Urgent Importance that was raised by the Leader of the Opposition. I commented on that. Sometimes, one wants to question the type and level of life of Members of Parliament. That afternoon at the People’s Parliament at Stabroek Market, the Hon. Member, Ms. Catherine Hughes, said, ‘so imagine today in Parliament we had brought what we call a motion which was just two pieces of paper saying the things we wanted to discuss. And believe it or not, once again, the Speaker decided we must not even have a discussion. Now what is the point of having Parliament?

6.

I will say again, as Speaker Ralph Ramkaran has stated, if you have a criticism of the Ruling of the Speaker, bring a motion. I will repeat, again, in particular with parliaments from which most of the Westminster system parliaments derive their standing orders and rules, if the Speaker gets angry with you, he does not allow you to speak period outside of the other remedies within the Standing Orders. So, I urge, again, Hon. Members, to please be careful as you comment on decisions that the Speaker makes”.

## **2. Salutation**

The Speaker extended birthday greetings to the Minister of Health.

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

(i) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance:

Annual Reports of the Indigenous People’s Commission for the years 2017 to 2022.

(Circulated)

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

(i) The Ministers, Members of the National Assembly and Special Offices  
(Emoluments) Order 2023 – No. 75 of 2023.

(Circulated)

(ii) The Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Order 2023 – No. 76 of  
2023.

(Circulated)

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Written Replies**

1. **PENSIONERS BENEFITTING FROM WATER AND ELECTRICITY  
SUBSIDIES**

**Member Asking:** Ms. Annette Ferguson, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with  
Responsibility for Finance

- (a) Could the Hon. Minister provide the National Assembly with a disaggregated list, as per region, of the number of pensioners who are benefitting from both water and electricity subsidies as of May, 2023?
- (b) Could the Hon. Minister also inform the National Assembly what is the total cost per month this measure has on the treasury?

**(Notice Paper No. 297 (Q222 Opp.222) published on 2023-10-30)**

**Answer:**

See **Appendix (1)** for the answer to the above question.

2. **MEN ON MISSION PROJECT**

**Member Asking:** Ms. Annette Ferguson, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance  
and Government Chief Whip

"During the consideration of budget 2023 estimates, the sum of \$500M was approved under the Office of the President for "**Men on Mission**".

1. Could the Hon. Minister provide the National Assembly with a list, as per region, of the number of projects, sums expended per project, and beneficiaries from the expenditure, as of June 17, 2023?

8.

2. Can the Hon. Minister inform the National Assembly what is the balance of the sum as of June 17, 2023?

**(Notice Paper No. 302 (Q227 Opp.227) published on 2023-10-30)**

**Answer:**

With regard to questions #1 and #2 above, no monies, were expended from the \$500M allocated and approved in the 2023 Budget under the Office of the President between the months of February 1<sup>st</sup> to June 17, 2023.

**3. MECHANISMS IN LAW USED BY THE GOVERNMENT FOR THE DISBURSEMENT OF SUBVENTION TO MUNICIPALITIES**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister within the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Can the Hon. Minister inform this House what mechanisms in Law were used by the Ministry/ Central Government to ascertain whether a municipality qualifies for subvention and how much subvention, by cash transfer, each municipality is entitled to?

**(Notice Paper No. 313 (Q238 Opp.238) published on 2023-10-30)**

**Answer**

“The mechanism in Law used by the Ministry/Central Government to ascertain whether a municipality qualifies for subvention and how much subvention, by cash transfer each municipality is entitled to is the Approved Estimates of the Public Sector and the Fiscal Transfers Act 2013”.



**4. NAMES OF NEIGHBOURHOOD DEMOCRATIC COUNCILS THAT RECEIVED SUBVENTIONS FROM THE GOVERNMENT**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister within the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Can the Hon. Minister inform this House of the names of each Neighborhood Democratic Council that received subvention (in the form of cash transfer) from the Ministry of Local Government, for the years 2020, 2021, 2022, and up to June 2023, and state the amount that was received, per year, by each of the Council?

(Notice Paper No. 314 (Q239 Opp.239) published on 2023-10-30)

**Answer:**

See **Appendix (2)** for the answer to the above question.

**5. THE NUMBER OF BUSINESS VISAS ISSUED**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Amanza Walton-Desir, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Home Affairs

Can the Minister indicate the number of business visas issued for the period 1<sup>st</sup> September, 2020 to 30<sup>th</sup> June, 2023 and the total number per nationality?

(Notice Paper No. 321 (Q246 Opp.246) published on 2023-10-30)

**Answer:**

See **Appendix (3)** for the answer to the above question.

**For Oral Replies**

**6. \*MECHANISM IN PLACE TO FACILITATE A 100% CENSUS SURVEY**

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P., asked the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance the following question:

10.

The Guyana National Population and Housing Census 2022 was launched on August 22, 2022, and the National Assembly approved the sum of \$2B via Supplementary Paper on August 8, 2022.

\*Can the Hon. Senior Minister inform the National Assembly whether arrangements are in place to facilitate or accommodate persons who were not at home, at the time visits were made by enumerators?

**(Notice Paper No. 288 (Q218 Opp.218) published on 2023-06-09)**

Thereafter, the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance replied.

**7. \*NUMBER OF ENUMERATORS AND STIPEND PAID FOR CENSUS 2022**

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P., asked the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance the following question:

The Guyana National Population and Housing Census 2022 was launched on August 22, 2022, and the National Assembly approved the sum of \$2B via Supplementary Paper on August 8, 2022.

\*Can the Hon. Senior Minister, inform the National Assembly of the total number of enumerators and the stipend paid to each enumerator for Census 2022?

**(Notice Paper No. 289 (Q219 Opp.219) published on 2023-06-09)**

Thereafter, the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance replied.

8. **\*PROJECTION DATE OF NATIONAL CENSUS EXERCISE**

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P., asked the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance the following question:

The Guyana National Population and Housing Census 2022 was launched on August 22, 2022, and the National Assembly approved the sum of \$2B via Supplementary Paper on August 8, 2022.

\*Can the Hon. Senior Minister, inform the National Assembly when the 2022 Census Exercise is likely to be completed and the final report laid in the National Assembly?

**(Notice Paper No. 290 (Q220 Opp.220) published on 2023-06-09)**

Thereafter, the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance replied.

Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P., asked the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance supplementary questions.

Thereafter, the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance replied.

9. **\*SKILLS GAP ANALYSIS OF THE LOCAL LABOUR MARKET**

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P., asked the Minister of Labour the following question:

\*Can the Hon. Minister inform the House whether the Ministry of Labour has conducted a skills gap analysis of the local labour market at any time between 2020 and June 16, 2023?

**(Notice Paper No. 306 (Q231 Opp.231) published on 2023-10-30)**

12.

Thereafter, the Minister of Labour replied.

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P., asked the Minister of Labour supplementary questions.

Thereafter, the Minister of Labour replied.

**10. \*MODERNIZATION OF THE GOVERNMENT RECRUITMENT AGENCIES**

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P., asked the Minister of Labour the following question:

\*Can the Hon. Minister state whether there has been any modernization of the government recruitment agencies to be able to respond to changing trends in the labour market? If yes, please state the modernization policy and or practice?

**(Notice Paper No. 307 (Q232 Opp.232) published on 2023-10-30)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Labour replied.

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P., asked the Minister of Labour supplementary questions.

Thereafter, the Minister of Labour replied.

Hon. Juretha Fernandes, M.P., asked the Minister of Labour supplementary questions.

Thereafter, the Minister of Labour replied.

**11. \*ESTABLISHMENT AND IMPLEMENTATION OF A LABOUR MARKET INFORMATION SYSTEM**

**Member Asking:** Mrs. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** The Minister of Labour

\*Can the Hon. Minister state whether the Ministry of Labour has established and implemented a labour market information system (LMIS)? If yes, please state when and, if no, please state why not?

(Notice Paper No. 308 (Q233 Opp.233) published on 2023-10-30)

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

**Establishment of a Multi-Party, Multi-Stakeholder Task Force**

Hon. David Patterson, M.P., presented a motion re. Establishment of a Multi-Party, Multi-Stakeholder Task Force to address all aspects of the clear and present danger that Venezuela's actions portend against the good order, safety, and security of the territorial integrity of Guyana, and for the well-being of its citizens. The motion was *disallowed* by His Honour the Speaker.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 11.20 p.m., the Sitting was suspended.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 11.46 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS, INCLUDING POLICY STATEMENTS-**

**Guyana/Venezuela Border Controversy**

The Minister of Foreign Affairs made a statement re. Guyana/Venezuela Border Controversy.

**ORAL QUESTIONS WITHOUT NOTICE**

**1. Argyle Declaration**

Hon. Amanza Walton-Desir, M.P., asked the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation the following question:

**On December 1, 2023 the International Criminal Court indicated provisional measures to wit:**

“(1) Unanimously,

Pending a final decision in the case, the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela shall refrain from taking any action which would modify the situation that currently prevails in the territory in dispute, whereby the Co-operative Republic of Guyana administers and exercises control over that area;

(2) Unanimously,

Both Parties shall refrain from any action which might aggravate or extend the dispute before the Court or make it more difficult to resolve.”

The Argyle Declaration appears to consider the second limb of the ICJ decision in paragraphs 1 and 6 of the Declaration, particularly as it relates to the aggravation of the controversy.

Could the Honourable Minister of Foreign Affairs indicate to the House whether during the course of the negotiations which resulted in the Argyle Declaration, the Government of Guyana specifically requested that the first limb of the interim decision of the ICJ which enjoins Venezuela from interfering with Guyana's administration and control of the Essequibo of the ICJ, form a part of the Declaration?

Thereafter, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation replied.

15.

Hon. Amanza Walton-Desir, M.P., asked the Minister of Home Affairs supplementary questions.

Thereafter, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation replied.

## **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

### **Presentation and First Reading**

#### **SEA AND RIVER DEFENCE BILL 2023 – Bill No. 21/2023**

The Minister of Public Works, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill, which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to repeal and replace existing legislation on sea and river defence, to make provision for protection from inundation from the sea or rivers and to provide for the establishment, construction and maintenance of sea and river defences, natural defences and to provide for related matters.

## **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

### **(i) GOVERNMENT'S BUSINESS**

#### **MOTIONS**

#### **ITEM 1 - CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 4/2023 – CURRENT AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

#### **In Committee of Supply**

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance signified the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 4/2023 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) –  
Advances made from the Contingency Fund totalling \$1,899,647,334 for the period  
2023-10-01 to 2023-12-08.

(Notice Paper No. 325 (M74 Govt 38) published on 2023-12-11)

(Paper presented on 2023-12-11)

1. **12-121 – MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL  
COOPERATION – DEVELOPMENT OF FOREIGN POLICY  
CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6322 – Subsidies & Contributions to International Organizations

2. **21-212 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE – AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT  
AND SUPPORT SERVICES  
CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6321 – Subsidies and Contributions to Local Organizations

3. **40-401 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION – POLICY DEVELOPMENT &  
ADMINISTRATION  
CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6291 – National and Other Events

**40-404 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION – PRIMARY EDUCATION  
CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

2607400 – School Furniture & Equipment

4. **51-515 – MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS – GUYANA FIRE SERVICE  
CURRENT ESTIMATES**

2607400 – Fuel & Lubricants



5. **71-711 – REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI - REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**71-712 – REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI – PUBLIC WORKS**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**71-713 – REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI – EDUCATION DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**71-714 – REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI – HEALTH SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

6. **72-724 – REGION #2 – POMEROON/SUPENAAM – EDUCATION DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

7. **76-761 – REGION #6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE - REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**76-762 – REGION #6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE - AGRICULTURE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

18.

**76-763 – REGION #6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE – PUBLIC WORKS**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**76-764 – REGION #6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE – EDUCATION  
DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**76-765 – REGION #6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE – HEALTH SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**8. 79-791 – REGION #9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO - REGIONAL  
ADMINISTRATION & FINANCE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**79-793 – REGION #9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO – PUBLIC  
WORKS**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**79-794 – REGION #9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO – EDUCATION  
DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

19.

**79-794 – REGION #9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO – EDUCATION  
DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6292 – Dietary

**79-795 – REGION #9 – UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO – HEALTH  
SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6281 – Security Services

**Assembly resumed.**

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly doth agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

RESOLVED,

Financial Paper No. 4/2023 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) – Advances made from the Contingency Fund totalling \$1,899,647,334 for the period 2023-10-01 to 2023-12-08.

**ITEM 2 - CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 5/2023 – CURRENT  
AND CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

**In Committee of Supply**

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance signified the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 5/2023 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital)  
totalling \$24,044,095,908 for the period ending 2023-12-31

(Notice Paper No. 326 (M75 Govt 39) published on 2023-12-11)

(Paper presented on 2023-12-11)

1. **02-023 – OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER – POWER GENERATION**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6321 – Subsidies and Contributions to Local Organizations

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

2610000 – Solar System Project

2. **03-031 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE – POLICY AND ADMINISTRATION**

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

4502400 – Technical Assistance

3. **21-212 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE – AGRICULTURE DEVELOPMENT  
AND SUPPORT SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6321 – Subsidies and Contributions to Local Organizations

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

1301600 – National Drainage and Irrigation Authority

2802900 – Sustainable Agriculture Development Project

2803000 – Hinterland Environmentally Sustainable Agriculture Development Project

4. **26-264 – MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES – PETROLEUM  
MANAGEMENT**

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

4404600 – Oil and Gas Sector Development Programme

5. **31-311 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS – POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6321 – Subsidies and Contributions to Local Organizations

**31-312 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS – PUBLIC WORKS**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6251 – Maintenance of Roads

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

1902800 – Equipment

6. **40-406 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION – POST-SECONDARY/ TERTIARY EDUCATION**

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

2608100 – Skills Development and Employability Project

7. **47-471– MINISTRY OF HEALTH – POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6294 – Other

**47-474 – MINISTRY OF HEALTH – REGIONAL AND CLINICAL SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

6284 – Other

**Presiding by Hon. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P.**

At 5.26 p.m., during consideration of Agency 47-474 – Ministry of Health – Regional and Clinical Services, 6284 – Other, the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Dharamkumar Seeraj, M.P., took the Chair.

21.

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

4405600 – Health Sector Improvement Programme

**8. 51-512 – MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS – GUYANA POLICE FORCE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6222 – Field and Materials Supplies

6223 – Office Materials and Supplies

6261 – Local Travel and Subsistence

6284 – Other

6292 – Dietary

6302 – Training (including Scholarships)

**51-515 – MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS – GUYANA FIRE SERVICE**

**CAPITAL ESTIMATES**

2406100 – Land and Water Transport – Fire

**9. 53-531 – GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE – DEFENCE AND SECURITY SUPPORT**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6224 – Print and Non-Print Materials

6231 – Fuel and Lubricant

6243 – Janitorial and Cleaning Supplies

6264 – Vehicle Spares and Services

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

6284 – Other

6292 – Dietary

6294 – Other

**10. 71-711-REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI – REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6261 – Local Travel and Subsistence

**71-712-REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI – PUBLIC WORKS**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

**71-713-REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI – EDUCATION DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6222 – Field Materials and Supplies

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6261 – Local Travel and Subsistence

6291 – National and Other Events

6292 – Dietary

**71-714-REGION #1 – BARIMA/WAINI – HEALTH SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6261 – Local Travel and Subsistence

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

6283 – Cleaning and Extermination Services

**11. 76-762-REGION #6 – EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE – AGRICULTURE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

23.

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

**12. 77-773–REGION #7 – CUYUNI/MAZARUNI – EDUCATION DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

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

At 8.10 p.m., during consideration of Agency 77-773- Region #7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Education Delivery – Agency Code 6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage the Prime Minister moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue and conclude the business for that day.

**77-774–REGION #7 – CUYUNI/MAZARUNI – HEALTH SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

**13. 78-781–REGION #8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI – REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION  
AND FINANCE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6272 – Electricity Charges

**78-783–REGION #8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI – EDUCATION DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

6292 – Dietary

6302 – Training (including Scholarships)



24.

**Speaker's Return to the Chamber**

At 7.25 p.m. during consideration of Line Item – 6302 – Training (including Scholarships), the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

**78-784-REGION #8 – POTARO/SIPARUNI – HEALTH SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6261 – Local Travel and Subsistence

**14. 79-791-REGION #8 – UPPER TAKATU/ UPPER ESSEQUIBO – REGIONAL ADMINISTRATION AND FINANCE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6264 – Vehicle Spares and Service

**79-792-REGION #8 – UPPER TAKATU/ UPPER ESSEQUIBO – AGRICULTURE**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

**79-794-REGION #8 – UPPER TAKATU/ UPPER ESSEQUIBO – EDUCATION DELIVERY**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

6264 – Vehicle Spares and Service

**79-795-REGION #8 – UPPER TAKATU/ UPPER ESSEQUIBO – HEALTH SERVICES**

**CURRENT ESTIMATES**

6222 – Field Materials and Supplies

6231 – Fuel and Lubricants

26.

6265 – Other Transport, Travel and Postage

6292 – Dietary

**Assembly resumed.**

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly doth agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

RESOLVED,

Financial Paper No. 5/2023 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital)  
totalling \$24,044,095,908 for the period ending 2023-12-31.

**BILL – FIRST, SECOND AND THIRD READINGS**

**ITEM 3 – SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (NO. 3 FOR 2023) BILL 2023 –**  
**Bill No. 20/2023 published on 2023-12-11**

With the Leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, on behalf of the Prime Minister, Standing Order Nos. 13(n) and 54 were suspended to enable the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 3 for 2023) Bill No.20/2023 to be introduced at this stage and to be further proceeded with at that Sitting.

On a motion by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and passed as printed:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2023, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly and for the appropriation of those sums for the specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

**CHRISTMAS GREETINGS**

The Speaker extended Christmas Greetings to Members of the National Assembly, Staff of the Parliament Office, staff of the Arthur Chung Conference Centre, Security, Police Officers, Caterers, and the Media. Hon. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P., and the Prime Minister joined the Speaker in extending Christmas Greetings.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9.37 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



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

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

**19<sup>th</sup> December, 2023.**