

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 94<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020-2025) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10:00 A.M.**  
**ON TUESDAY, 28<sup>TH</sup> JANUARY, 2025,**  
**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

**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 (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. Dr. Ashni K. Singh, M.P., Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance and the Public Service

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 Local Government and Regional Development

**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 (15)**

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.

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

Hon. Suresh Singh, 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. (Absent on – Leave)

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.

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.  
Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.  
Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P. (Virtual – Participation)  
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. Jaiprashad, 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)  
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 Kisooson, 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 10.21 a.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

The Speaker made the following announcement:

**1. Visitors**

The Speaker welcomed teachers and students from Richard Ishmael Secondary and Christ Church Secondary School. He also welcomed H.E. Dr. Gillian Smith to the Assembly.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**BUDGET SPEECH 2025 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2025**

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2025.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance and the Public Service on 2025-01-17)**

**The following Members spoke to the motion:**

Hon. Vinceroy Jordan, M.P.,

Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P., Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P.

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

6.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 1:03 p.m., the Sitting was suspended.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2:35 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2025.**

**The following Members also spoke to the motion:**

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P.

Hon. Alister Charlie, M.P.,

Hon. Dineshwar Jaiprashad, M.P.,

Hon. Seepaul Narine, M.P.

Hon. Coretta McDonald, M.P.

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

Hon. Haimraj Rajkumar, M.P.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 6:11 p.m., the Sitting was suspended.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 7:07 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**The Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2025.**

**The following Members also spoke to the motion:**

Hon. Pauline Campbell-Sukhai, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

7.

Hon. Devin Sears, M.P.

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

At 7.58 p.m., while Hon. Devin Sears, M.P., was speaking to the motion the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance and Government Chief Whip, moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue and conclude its business for the day.

Hon. Devin Sears, M.P., continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Dr. Tandika Smith, M.P.

Hon. Beverley Alert, M.P.

Hon. Nandranie Coonjah, M.P.

Hon. Faizal Jaffarally, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Bheri Ramsaran, M.P.

8.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 9.54 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m., on Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> January, 2025.

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Manzoor Nadir". The signature is written in a cursive style and is centered on a light green rectangular background.

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

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

**28<sup>th</sup> January 2025.**