

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 98TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (2020-2025) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 10:00 A.M.
ON MONDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 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 (Absent)

Hon. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Absent)

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.

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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. Vinceroy 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. (Virtual – Participation)
Hon. Deonarine Ramsaroop, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)(Virtual – Participation)
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.
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 Kisoorn, 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 10.16 a.m.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

GOVERNMENT BUSINESS

MOTION

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

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider 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)

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:

07 – PARLIAMENT OFFICE

Current Expenditure

071 National Assembly

Capital Expenditure

071 National Assembly

08 – AUDIT OFFICE OF GUYANA

Current Expenditure

081 Audit Office

6.

Capital Expenditure

081 Audit Office

09 – PUBLIC AND POLICE SERVICE COMMISSIONS

Current Expenditure

091 Public and Police Service Commissions

Capital Expenditure

091 Public and Police Service Commissions

10 – TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION

Current Expenditure

101 Teaching Service Commission

Capital Expenditure

101 Teaching Service Commission

11 – GUYANA ELECTIONS COMMISSION

Current Expenditure

111 Elections Commission

Capital Expenditure

111 Elections Commission

55 – SUPREME COURT

Current Expenditure

551 Supreme Court of Judicature

Capital Expenditure

551 Supreme Court of Judicature

56 – PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS

Current Expenditure

561 Public Prosecutions

Capital Expenditure

561 Public Prosecutions

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57 – OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN

Current Expenditure

571 Ombudsman

Capital Expenditure

571 Ombudsman

58 – PUBLIC SERVICE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL

Current Expenditure

581 Public Service Appellate Tribunal

Capital Expenditure

581 Public Service Appellate Tribunal

59 – ETHNIC RELATIONS COMMISSION

Current Expenditure

591 Ethnic Relations Commission

Current Expenditure

591 Ethnic Relations Commission

60 – JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION

Current Expenditure

601 Judicial Service Commission

Capital Expenditure

601 Judicial Service Commission

61 – RIGHTS COMMISSIONS OF GUYANA

Current Expenditure

611 Rights Commissions of Guyana

Capital Expenditure

611 Rights Commissions of Guyana

8.

62 – PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COMMISSION

Current Expenditure

621 Public Procurement Commission

Capital Expenditure

621 Public Procurement Commission

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 1.00 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 1.51 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

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:

01 – OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

Current Expenditure

011 Administration

012 National Policy Development and Presidential Advisory Services

013 Defence and National Security

014 Public Policy and Planning

015 Environmental Management and Compliance

016 Police Complaints Authority

Capital Expenditure

011 Administration

012 National Policy Development and Presidential Advisory Services

013 Defence and National Security

9.

014 Public Policy and Planning

015 Environmental Management and Compliance

016 Police Complaints Authority

53-Guyana Defence Force

Current Expenditure

531 Defence and Security Support

Capital Expenditure

531 Defence and Security Support

06 – MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND GOVERNANCE

Current Expenditure

061 Policy Development and Administration

062 Parliamentary Affairs

063 Governance

Capital Expenditure

061 Policy Development and Administration

063 Governance

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.33 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.05 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

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:

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02 – OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER

Current Expenditure

- 021 Prime Minister's Secretariat
- 022 Disaster Preparedness, Response and Management
- 023 Power Generation
- 024 Telecommunications and Innovation
- 025 Government Information and Communication Services

Capital Expenditure

- 021 Prime Minister's Secretariat
- 022 Disaster Preparedness, Response and Management
- 023 Power Generation
- 024 Telecommunications and Innovation
- 025 Government Information and Communication Services

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 7.12 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 7.58 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 10(1)

At 7.59 p.m., the Hon. Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue and conclude its business for the day.

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 Policy Development and Administration

523 Attorney General's Chambers

524 State Solicitor

Capital Expenditure

521 Policy Development and Administration

523 Attorney General's Chambers

524 State Solicitor

12 – MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

Current Expenditure

121 Development of Foreign Policy

122 Foreign Policy Promotion

123 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

Capital Expenditure

121 Development of Foreign Policy

122 Foreign Policy Promotion

123 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

16 – MINISTRY OF AMERINDIAN AFFAIRS

Current Expenditure

161 Policy Development and Administration

162 Community Development and Empowerment

Capital Expenditure

161 Policy Development and Administration

162 Community Development and Empowerment

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7.55 p.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Assembly was adjourned to 10.00 a.m., on Tuesday, 4th February, 2025.



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

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Brickdam,
Georgetown.

3rd February, 2025.