

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 3<sup>RD</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2025 - 2026) OF THE THIRTEENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 2.00 P.M.**  
**ON FEBRUARY 2, 3, 4, 5, 6, 9, 10, 11, 12 and 13, 2026,**  
**IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,**  
**LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN.**  
**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (72)**

**Speaker (1)**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (42)**

**People's Progressive Party Civic (42)**

**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 (Virtual Participation)

**Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)**

Hon. Mohabir A. Nandlall, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

**Senior Ministers (18)**

Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni), Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance

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

Hon. Hugh H. Todd, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

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. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne), Minister of Agriculture

Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara), Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

Hon. Collin D. Croal, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini), Minister of Housing

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

Hon. Sonia S. Parag, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice), Minister of Education

Hon. Susan M. Rodrigues, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Hon. Vickram O. Bharrat, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo), Minister of Natural Resources

Hon. Deodat Indar, M.P., Minister of Public Utilities and Aviation

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

Hon. Sarah Browne-Shadeek, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

\*Hon. Zulfikar Ally, M.P., Minister of the Public Service, Government Efficiency and Implementation

\*Hon. Keoma D. Griffith, M.P., Minister of Labour and Manpower Planning

**Junior Ministers (6)**

Hon. Pauline R.A. Sukhai, M.P. (Region No. 8 – Potaro/Siparuni), Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Hon. Warren K.E. McCoy, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister

Hon. Vikash Ramkissoon, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara), Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture

Hon. Vanessa I.S. Benn, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the Ministry of Housing

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

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\*Hon. Madanlall Ramraj, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Works

\*Hon. Steven Jacobs, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports

**Other Members (15)**

Hon. Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne), Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Hon. Lenox R.O. Shuman, M.P.

Hon. Anand Persaud, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Jennifer R. A. Westford, M.P.

Hon. Sanjeev J. Datadin, M.P.

Hon. Alister S. Charlie, M.P.

Hon. Seepaul Narine, M.P.

Hon. Bhagmattie S. Veerasammy, M.P.

Hon. Suresh Singh, M.P.

Hon. James A. Bond, M.P.

Hon. Peter R. Ramsaroop, M.P.

Hon. Sonia N. Latchman, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomereroon/Supenaam)

Hon. Zamal Hussain, M.P.

\*Hon. Thandi McAllister, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Public Utilities and Aviation

\*Hon. Mischka White-Griffith, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Education

**MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (29)**

**(i) We Invest In Nationhood (WIN) (16)**

Hon. Azruddin I. Mohamed, M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo- Halley, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Opposition Chief Whip

Hon. Natasha Singh, M.P.

Hon. Odessa T. Primus, M.P.

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**Non-Elected Member**

4.

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

Hon. Vishnu D. Panday, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Gordon N. Barker, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Hon. Nandranie Singh, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Andre A. Lewis, M.P.

Hon. Toshana T. Femey-Corlette, M.P.

Hon. Duarte O. Hetsberger, M.P.

Hon. Gobin H. Harbhajan, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Hon. Beverley A. Cornelius, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Hon. Deon W. La Cruz, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)

Hon. Janelle D. Sweatnam, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Hon. Dr. Ryan M. Richards, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

**(ii) A Partnership For National Unity (APNU) (12)**

Hon. Dr. Terrence I.E. Campbell, M.P.

Hon. Vinceroy H. Jordon, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)

Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.

Hon. Ganesh A. Mahipaul, M.P.

Hon. Dr. David S.A. Hinds, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Dexter M.G. Todd, M.P.

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

Hon. Coretta A. Mc Donald, A.A., M.P.

Hon. Sherod A. Duncan, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)

Hon. Riaz Z. Rupnarain, M.P.

Hon. Kuice S. Solomon, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)

Hon. Saiku F. Andrews, M.P.

**(iii) Forward Guyana Movement (FGM) (1)**

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

**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 2.20 p.m.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

The Hon. Speaker made the following announcements: -

**(1) Media Houses presence in the National Assembly**

“Hon. Members, first I want to deal with a narrative that is coming out of sections of the media regarding the Speaker barring media houses from the National Assembly. During the Twelfth Parliament representation was made by the Guyana Press Association, led by the President and we had agreed that five reporters from the private media would be allowed into the Chamber. Along with the five persons, two additional persons with still cameras would be allowed in and the Guyana Press Association will monitor how these seven representatives of the media would have access to the National Assembly. That stood until the end of the Twelfth Parliament.

I am being bombarded with messages from the private media and some from the public media about them not having access to the National Assembly. I want to make it pellucid, and if I could be redundant in the words of a famous President, pellucidly clear, clearly clear, that we have actually expanded from five to seven members of the private media, because most of them are using their phones to do the recording. So, our Public Relations (PR) Department reached out and said the two persons with the cameras could be replaced with two additional reporters who would be allowed to use their phones as they have been doing to record.

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So, it is being made out that this expansion of access to the National Assembly is a restriction. Again, pellucidly we have members of the state media downstairs and cannot be allowed in because the cameras that are allowed are contracted by the Parliament and like most Parliaments provide a feed to everyone else. If certain media houses persist in their claims as one did even before we started the Budget presentation when they said there were five, three of whom were Department of Public Information (DPI), totally inaccurate.”

**(2) Access to the Gallery in the National Assembly**

“Hon. Members, the second issue pertains to access to the gallery, the configuration of our National Assembly, this Thirteenth Parliament is affected by two criterions; I should say the configuration and seating. If we look to my left, when we use to have three rows, we now have four rows. The same thing to my oblique left and the Government’s side has expanded in terms of elected and non-elected Members; and they have four. So, all we have left in the Dome are the top two rows that have to accommodate the staff of the Ministries who support their Ministers, the staff of the Parliament and also persons who have written to the Clerk or I asking for access.

As of the list, we have in excess of 52 requests, in addition to what we have to provide for the media, ministry staff and the Parliamentary staff. I have asked some of the Parliamentary staff to step outside and monitor the proceedings via their video link. The Twelfth Parliament started during covid and a special section was provided for the media with a fee; that still exists. We want to be reinforcing that we pride ourselves on access and we will continue to provide access to the proceedings of the National Assembly.”

**(3) Visitors in the Gallery in the National Assembly**

“Hon. Members, during the last Sitting we had persons in the gallery cheering, gearing, recording, doing lives, and they are not accredited media, from the Chamber. I want to let the visitors to the National Assembly know Government and Opposition guests who have written to us and are allowed in, that you are not allowed to video, broadcast, cheer or gear. To every Member, if you

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want to invite someone, a simple message to the Clerk or I and we will try to accommodate your guest.”

**(4) Security arrangements at the Public Buildings and at the National Convention Centre**

“Hon. Members, there are also additional security issues, serious security issues, all over the world where Members of Parliament (MPs) are concerned; and one may feel that Canada, a place where we associate with stability and calm, that today, every MP wears a panic button. The issue of security of MPs, the Public Buildings and the National Convention Centre where we meet for Sittings have been on the agenda long before I was Speaker. The construction of the security facilities at the Public Buildings started and was completed during 2025; we have acquired scanners. It used to be a free-for-all; minibuses would use that as a bypass; other unsavory characters would come in. The damage and threats to staff and MPs are real and so provisions started before my time, and we are in an advanced state of making changes.

The instructions are very clear; no Member of Parliament will be prevented from driving into Public Buildings or any obstacle put in your way of executing your duties at any one of our facilities. I remain accessible as many of you have been reaching out and we have been responding. We review, we are in a state of continuous monitoring and improving, but we are not going to restrict the MP’s right to the Parliament and their service to the constituents. Thank you.”

**QUESTIONS ON NOTICE-**

**For Oral Replies**

1. **\*COUNSELLING FOR VICTIMS’ FAMILIES OF THE GAS STATION  
EXPLOSION**

Mr. Sherod Duncan, M.P., asked the Minister of Human Services and Social Security the following question:

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\*Can the Hon. Minister say what counselling and liaison arrangements were activated for the victims' families during and after the Georgetown gas station explosion of October 26, 2025?

**(Notice Paper No. 1(Q1 Opp.1) published on 2026-01-12)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Human Services and Social Security replied.

Mr. Sherod Duncan, M.P., asked the Minister of Human Services and Social Security a supplementary question.

Thereafter, the Minister of Human Services and Social Security replied.

2. **\*PSYCHOSOCIAL SUPPORT PROGRAMME FOR SURVIVING VICTIMS OF THE GAS STATION EXPLOSION**

Mr. Sherod Duncan, M.P., asked the Minister of Human Services and Social Security the following question:

\*Can the Hon. Minister say what psychosocial support programme is being provided for the surviving victims and their next-of-kin of the gas station explosion of October 26, 2025?

**(Notice Paper No. 2(Q2 Opp. 2) published on 2026-01-12)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Human Services and Social Security replied.

3. **\*PATIENTS AT THE GEORGETOWN PUBLIC HOSPITAL FOLLOWING GAS STATION EXPLOSION**

Mr. Sherod Duncan, M.P., asked the Minister of Health the following questions:

\**(i)* Can the Hon. Minister say what was the patient surge figure handled by the Georgetown Public Hospital within the first two hours following the blast at the Georgetown gas station on October 26, 2025?

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\***(ii)** Can the Minister also say how many operating theatres were mobilized?

**(Notice Paper No. 3(Q3 Opp. 3) published on 2026-01-12)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Health replied.

**4. \* ACCESS TO GRANTS BY THE SMALL BUSINESS BUREAU**

Ms. Juretha Fernandes, M.P., asked the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce the following question:

\*Will the Hon. Minister explain what outreach or training has been done in hinterland communities to improve access to Grants by the Small Business Bureau?

**(Notice Paper No. 10 (Q10 Opp. 10) published on 2026-01-12)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce replied.

Ms Juretha Fernandes, M.P., asked the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce supplementary questions.

Thereafter, the Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce replied.

**5. \* DIAMOND REGIONAL HOSPITAL**

Mrs. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P., asked the Minister of Health the following question:

\*Can the Hon. Minister say what is the current staff complement at the Diamond Regional Hospital?

**(Notice Paper No. 11 (Q11 Opp. 11) published on 2026-01-12)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Health replied.

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6. **\*GUYANA LANDS AND SURVEYS COMMISSION**

Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P., asked the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance the following question:

Section 7 and the Schedule of the Guyana Lands and Surveys Commission Act No. 15 of 1999 make the Board the governing body of the Commission. There has been no Board in place since 2020.

\*Can the Hon. Minister say who is exercising the Board's statutory responsibilities in practice and under what legal authority?

**(Notice Paper No. 13 (Q13 Opp. 13) published on 2026-01-12)**

Thereafter, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance replied.

Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P., asked the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance a supplementary question.

Thereafter, the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance replied.

**For Written Replies**

7. **INTER-ENERGY GROUP CONSULTANCY**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Sherod Duncan, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** Minister of Public Utilities and Aviation

Will the Hon. Minister lay before the National Assembly the complete procurement record for the InterEnergy Group Consultancy awarded to the Guyana Power & Light Inc. (GPL), including –

- (i) The procurement method used and the Tender Board Minutes;
- (ii) The evaluation criteria and scoring summary for all bidders; and
- (iii) The justification for selecting InterEnergy if no competitive tender was held.

**(Notice Paper No. 8 (Q8 Opp. 8) published on 2026-01-12)**

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**Answers:**

- (i) “The single source procurement method, in accordance with Section 28(a) and (d) of the Procurement Act of 2003.
- (ii) Not applicable.
- (iii) Given the critical and urgent need to stabilize and enhance the operational and financial performance of the Guyana Power and Light Inc. (GPL), the single-source procurement of InterEnergy Consulting is fully justified as they are uniquely qualified within the region with a proven track record in utility turnaround, possess immediate institutional knowledge for seamless continuity, and offers the strategic expertise required to meet national energy objectives.”

**8. PARIKA WATERFRONT DEVELOPMENT PROJECT**

**Member Asking:                      Mr. Saiku Andrews, M.P.**

**Minister Answering:                Minister of Public Works**

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister state what is the total projected cost and timeline(s) for completion, across all phases, of the Parika Waterfront Development Project, and what measures will be put in place to prevent cost overruns and costly time delays?
- (ii) In arriving at the Final Investment Decision (FID) to green-light this project, can the Minister indicate which studies, data, or projections, if any, were relied on to justify this investment?
- (iii) Can the Minister state whether these studies, data, or projections have been made public, and if not, when a copy of the same can be made available to the members of this House?

**(Notice Paper No. 9 (Q9 Opp. 9) published on 2026-01-12)**

## 12.

### Answers:

- (i) “The total projected cost for the project is G\$10.5 Billion.

It is envisaged that the overall project scope (all phases) will be implemented during the period 2026 – 2029. To ensure timely implementation, an experienced Project Management Team comprising senior engineers, project managers and senior management officials from the Ministry of Public Works, has been established to manage the execution of the project. The assigned team will continuously track the progress of the works and engage contractors and consultants on the implementation of recovery mechanisms to address delays, when required. A proactive approach will be adopted to problem resolution through objective stakeholder engagements. Construction supervision services will be outsourced for certain aspects of the works to supplement the technical supervisory oversight being provided by the Ministry’s Project Management Team. Where practicable, aspects of the project will be scoped in a strategic manner, in separate lots, to achieve concurrent implementation.”

- (ii) “The requisite studies for the project were implemented under the Transport Sector Enhancement Project: Conducting a Feasibility Study and Preparing Detailed Designs for the Construction of a New Stelling at Parika, during the period October 2019 to May 2021. Technical Assistance for the project was financially supported by the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB). Through its agreement with the CDB, the Government of Guyana engaged the services of the UK based consulting firm Mott MacDonald Ltd. in association with SRKN’gineering & Associates and Rossiprodi Associates to conduct the studies (feasibility study and ESIA) and engineering designs for the project. Consulting services will be engaged for the development of designs for additional structures and facilities not included in the scope of the original feasibility study. This includes proposed additional waterfront development interventions to facilitate commerce and tourism initiatives.”

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(iii) “Copies of the following reports were sent electronically to all members of the House.

1. Transport Sector Enhancement Project: Conducting a Feasibility Study and Preparing Detailed Designs for the Construction of a New Stelling at Parika – Consolidated Feasibility Study and Final Design Report
2. Transport Sector Enhancement Project: Conducting a Feasibility Study and Preparing Detailed Designs for the Construction of a New Stelling at Parika – Environmental and Social Impact Assessment Report.”

**9. GUYANESE STUDENTS AFFECTED BY HURRICANE IN JAMAICA**

**Member Asking: Mr. Riaz Rupnarain, M.P.**

**Minister Answering: Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation**

Reference to the Press Statement by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation on October 26, 2025, regarding Guyanese Students and other Guyanese living in Jamaica who were affected by Hurricane Mellissa.

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister state what specific consular measures have been implemented by the Ministry to assist Guyanese students affected by the recent hurricane in Jamaica?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister state whether the Guyana Consulate in Kingston established an emergency contact mechanism to directly engage affected students and coordinate relief with Jamaican authorities?

**(Notice Paper No. 12 (Q12 Opp. 12) published on 2026-01-12)**

## 14.

### Answers:

- (i) “Prior to Hurricane Melissa making landfall in Jamaica on Tuesday, 28<sup>th</sup> October, 2025, Ms Sharon Roopchand-Edwards, Permanent Secretary in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, made direct contact with Guyana’s Honorary Consul in Jamaica, Ms. Indera Persaud. Ms Persaud, based on those conversations on Sunday, 26<sup>th</sup> October, 2025, was mandated to provide daily updates on the plight of Guyanese residing in Jamaica, especially students, and to put in place measures to be able to contact Guyanese in Jamaica, particularly students, so as to be able to provide assistance, where needed, as soon as practicable and possible in the immediate aftermath of the passage of Hurricane Melissa.

On the very date a Google Form was created and circulated, on social media, via which Guyanese residing in Jamaica were invited to provide information on their immediate needs in the aftermath of the impact of Hurricane Melissa. As of 26<sup>th</sup> November, 2025, 124 persons had filled out the form and submitted it to Honorary Consul Persaud.

On Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> October, i.e., three days after the hurricane, 14 Guyanese students received car packages through the facilitation of Honorary Consul Persaud.

On Thursday, 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2025, students met virtually with the Honourable Sonia Parag, Minister of Education and from that conversation it was decided that each student would receive a grant of US\$200.00 to assist them with their recovery efforts. One student, whose laptop was damaged during the hurricane, was granted an HP laptop as a replacement.

The students were offered psychosocial support if needed, but to date there has been no request for this assistance.”

- (ii) “The Guyana Consulate collaborated closely with the Guyana Students Association Jamaica (GUYSAJ). Indeed, a Google Form was created and circulated, on social media, via which Guyanese residing in Jamaica, including Guyanese students, were invited to provide information on their immediate needs in the aftermath of the impact of Hurricane Melissa. This was circulated prior to Hurricane Melissa making landfall in Jamaica. The potential for facilitation of engagement with both Hurricane Relief Committee by Honorary Consul Persaud on 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2025. However, there were no matters that require the direct involvement of those authorities as it pertained to Guyanese students in Jamaica, but were required regarding the broader assistance of the Government of Guyana to the people of Jamaica in the aftermath of the hurricane.”

In accordance with Standing Order No. 22 (9), the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development requested that the following questions be deferred:

**10. PROJECT CODE 1904300 – “COMMUNITY DRIVEN ENTREPRENEURIAL INTERVENTIONS”**

**Member Asking: Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.**

**Minister Answering: Minister of Local Government and Regional Development**

For the year 2025, the National Assembly approved a sum of five billion dollars (\$5B) under Agency 13, Project Code 1904300 – “Community Driven Entrepreneurial Interventions.”

Could the Hon. Minister inform this Honourable House of the following:

- (i) The total amount of the approved \$5B that has been disbursed as of the 31<sup>st</sup> October, 2025, with a detailed breakdown by Administrative Region?
- (ii) The specific nature of the projects or initiatives funded under this programme in each region?

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- (iii) The number of persons trained under this project, including the type or field of training provided?
- (iv) What monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place to ensure accountability?

**(Notice Paper No. 14 (Q14 Opp. 14) published on 2026-01-12)**

In accordance with Standing Order No. 22 (9), the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development requested that the following questions be deferred:

**11. GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL PATHWAY WORKERS PROJECT**

**Member Asking: Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.**

**Minister Answering: Minister of Local Government and Regional Development**

With reference to the Government's National Pathway Workers Project, could the Hon. Minister inform this Honourable House of the following:

- (i) The total number of persons employed under the National Pathway Workers Project as of 30<sup>th</sup> October, 2025?
- (ii) A detailed breakdown by Administrative Region of the number of persons employed under this project?
- (iii) The specific locations where these workers are stationed or assigned?
- (iv) The total amount expended to date on wages, allowances, and any other related costs under this programme?

**(Notice Paper No. 15 (Q15 Opp. 15) published on 2026-01-12)**

In accordance with Standing Order No. 22 (9), the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development requested that the following questions be deferred:

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**12. OVERSIGHT OF THE GOVERNMENT'S NATIONAL PATHWAY WORKERS PROJECT**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

With reference to the Government's National Pathway Workers Project, could the Hon. Minister inform this Honourable House of the following:

- (i) What formal structure or management system exists for the administration of and oversight of the National Pathway Workers Project?
- (ii) What monitoring and evaluation mechanisms are in place to ensure accountability?
- (iii) What policies, guidelines, or systems are in place to ensure that these workers adhere to established work ethics, attendance standards, and codes of conduct applicable within the public service or the sector they are assigned to?

**(Notice Paper No. 16 (Q16 Opp. 16) published on 2026-01-12)**

**13. STATUS OF THE INCLUSION BODY HEPATITIS (IBH)**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Terrence Campbell, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** Minister of Agriculture

Could the Hon. Minister provide the most recent statistics on the incidence and prevalence of Inclusion Body Hepatitis (IBH) among boiler poultry flocks in Guyana, by region, by production unit size (small, medium, large) and indicate the trend (e.g., reduction/increase) over the past 12 months?

**(Notice Paper No. 17 (Q17 Opp. 17) published on 2026-01-12)**

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**Answer:****“Most Recent Prevalence (2025 Estimates) by region**

Surveillance data indicate that IBH remains present but is significantly reduced across the affected poultry-producing regions. Prevalence estimates (95% confidence level) are as follows:

- Region 3: 1,500 per 10,000 birds
- Region 4: 21,960 per 100,000 birds
- Region 5: 2,067 per 10,000 birds
- Region 6: 18,933 per 100,000 birds

Note: Incidence remains difficult to quantify in field conditions because broilers are reared in large groups and distinguishing new from existing cases is not feasible. Prevalence therefore remains the most reliable indicator of disease burden.

**By Production Unit Size**

- Small farms (<500 birds):
  - Lowest disease burden.
  - Many small units avoided IBH entirely when basic biosecurity was maintained.
- Medium farms (500–5,000 birds):
  - Moderate impact during peak outbreak; significant reduction over the past 12 months.
- Large farms (>5,000 birds):
  - Highest burden during 2021–2023 due to rapid flock-to-flock spread.
  - Marked improvement following vaccination and strengthened biosecurity.

**Trend Over the Past 12 Months**

IBH is under control in Guyana. Farmers have resumed production, and several have expanded operations. Moreso, national broiler output is now on an upward trajectory. Prevalence remains the primary metric for monitoring, and all indicators show a sustained downward trend over the past year. The combination of vaccination, improved farm management, transition from prolonged wet conditions (2021–mid-2023) to a long dry period that reduced environmental viral pressure, and supportive government interventions have restored confidence and production capacity in the poultry sector.”

**14. MEASURES IN PLACE FOR THE INCLUSION BODY HEPATITIS (IBH)**

**Member Asking:** Mr. Terrence Campbell, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** Minister of Agriculture

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister state what specific bio-security, vaccination and disease-surveillance measures have been deployed by the Guyana Livestock Development Authority and the Ministry to contain and reduce Inclusion Body Hepatitis (IBH)?
- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister state whether his office has been informed of any new or emerging strains of IBH (or related viruses) that may raise concern for cross-border or regional spread? If yes, what risk mitigation actions are in place?

**(Notice Paper No. 18 (Q18 Opp. 18) published on 2026-01-12)**

**Answers:**

- (i) **“Bio-security, vaccination and disease-surveillance measures**

**Biosecurity Measures**

1. Assessed biosecurity levels at poultry farms and hatcheries to identify gaps contributing to IBH spread.
2. Introduced minimum mandatory biosecurity standards tailored to farm size and production type.
3. Implemented a nationwide on-farm biosecurity programme to reduce pathogen transmission.
4. Trained farmers and farm workers in biosecurity best practices, including sanitation, movement control, and equipment hygiene.
5. For each commercial farm, a designated individual has been identified to oversee the biosecurity program.

**Vaccination Measures**

1. Conducted national serotype surveys to identify the IBH-associated viruses circulating in Guyana.

2. Developed and implemented standardized vaccination protocols for all hatcheries based on updated scientific guidance.
3. Established and implemented a vaccination quality-control system to verify correct vaccine handling, administration, and record-keeping to reduce IBH outbreaks.

**Disease-Surveillance Measures**

1. Conducted routine monitoring visits to hatcheries and poultry farms, with increased checks in high-risk areas.
2. Investigated all reported IBH-related mortality cases and collected diagnostic samples for confirmation.
3. Identified farms with abnormal mortality trends and carried out targeted follow-up assessments.
4. Implemented a risk-based surveillance approach, prioritizing regions with higher poultry density or previous IBH activity.
5. Conducted sero-surveillance
6. Analyzed surveillance data to track disease patterns and guide interventions.
7. Delivered husbandry and management seminars in high-risk regions to reduce vulnerability to IBH.

**(ii) Whether the Minister's Office has been informed of any new or emerging strains of IBH (or related viruses)**

The Minister's office has not been informed of any new or emerging strains of Infectious Bursal Hepatitis (IBH) or related viruses that raise concern for cross-border or regional spread. As no new strains have been detected, however, the Ministry remains vigilant and proactive to ensure that Guyana's poultry industry is protected from any potential cross-border or regional threats."

**15. IMPORT QUANTITIES OF POULTRY AND OTHER MEAT PRODUCTS IN GUYANA**

**Member Asking: Mr. Terrence Campbell, M.P.**

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

**21.**

- (i) Could the Hon. Minister provide annual figures (volume in metric tonnes and value in US\$ or GYD) for imports of poultry meat (chilled/frozen, processed) into Guyana for each year from 2019 to October 2025?
  
- (ii) Could the Hon. Minister provide annual import volume and values for other major meat categories (beef, mutton/goat, pork) for the same period (2019 to October 2025) by category?

**(Notice Paper No. 19 (Q19 Opp. 19) published on 2026-01-12)**

**Answers:**

**Answer (i)**

“Please see below table showing annual imports (volume in metric tonnes and Value in US\$) of poultry meat for the period 2019 to 2024.

<b>Poultry Meat Imports</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Qty (Tonnes)</b>	<b>Value (US\$)</b>
2019	87	252,805
2020	28	94,406
2021	38	149,440
2022	501	917,039
2023	330	649,050
2024	432	1,220,410

Source: Guyana Revenue Authority and the Bureau of Statistics

**Answer (ii)**

Please see the tables below showing annual imports (volume in metric tonnes and Value in US\$) of beef, mutton, and pork for the period 2019 to 2024.

<b>Beef Imports</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Qty (Tonnes)</b>	<b>Value (US\$)</b>
2019	165	915,281
2020	64	521,534
2021	83	698,313
2022	124	1,345,240
2023	177	1,785,355
2024	397	2,223,784

  

<b>Mutton Imports</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Qty (Tonnes)</b>	<b>Value (US\$)</b>
2019	18	130,183
2020	12	52,327
2021	12	113,968
2022	20	209,739
2023	54	275,567
2024	28	205,335

  

<b>Pork Imports</b>		
<b>Year</b>	<b>Qty (Tonnes)</b>	<b>Value (US\$)</b>
2019	163	744,815
2020	136	561,481
2021	163	946,161
2022	209	1,228,031
2023	616	2,576,688
2024	515	2,310,696

Source: Guyana Revenue Authority and the Bureau of Statistics

## 16. TRENDS IN POULTRY MEAT IMPORTS IN GUYANA

**Member Asking:** Mr. Terrence Campbell, M.P.

**Minister Answering:** Minister of Agriculture

- (i) Can the Hon. Minister state whether his Ministry has identified trends (upwards/downwards) in poultry meat imports since the Inclusion Body Hepatitis (IBH) outbreak and the import ban initiated in May 2023?
- (ii) Can the Hon. Minister state what percentage of domestic consumption is now satisfied by imports (latest estimate) versus local production?

**(Notice Paper No. 20 (Q20 Opp. 20) published on 2026-01-12)**

**Answers:**

- (i) “Since the Inclusion Body Hepatitis (IBH) outbreak and the import ban initiated in May 2023, the Ministry has observed a decline in poultry meat imports, and an increase in domestic production.
- (ii) Currently, it is estimated that imports satisfy approximately 0.5% of domestic consumption, while local production accounts for the remaining 99.5%.”

**17. IMPORTERS OF POULTRY PRODUCTS IN GUYANA**

**Member Asking:                      Mr. Terrence Campbell, M.P.**

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

- (i) Could the Minister provide for each of the years 2019 to October, 2025, an annual list of the Top ten Importers (business entities or individuals) of poultry products into Guyana (giving the name of the company/individual, volume/value imported, and country of origin, if available)?
- (ii) Could the Minister kindly identify the main countries of origin of the poultry products for those importers?

**(Notice Paper No. 21 (Q21 Opp. 21) published on 2026-01-12)**

**Answers:**

“Answers (i) and (ii) – It is not considered appropriate to provide the names of business entities or individuals.”

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**(i) GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTIONS**

**ITEM 1 - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 95(2)**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance moved that Standing Order No. 95(2) be suspended to enable the Committee of Selection to meet at today's Sitting, Monday, February 2, 2026, to nominate Members to the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply to the National Assembly.

The motion was put and carried.

**ITEM 2 - BUDGET SPEECH 2026 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026**

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance on 2026-01-26)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Dr. Andre Lewis, M.P.

Hon. Vinceroy Jordan, M.P.

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

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.30 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.02 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2026.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Natasha Singh, M.P.

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

Hon. Dr. Gordan Barker, M.P.

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

Hon. Sonia Parag, M.P., Minister of Education

Hon. Deon La Cruz, M.P.

**Suspension of Standing Order No. 10(1)**

At 9.14 p.m., the Minister of Local Government and Regional Development moved that Standing Order No. 10(1) be suspended to enable the Assembly to continue and conclude its business beyond 10.00 p.m.

**Presiding by Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

At 9.20 p.m., while Hon. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P., was speaking, the Speaker of the National Assembly withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, took the Chair.

Hon. Nima Flue-Bess, M.P., continued and concluded her speech.

Hon. Steven Jacobs, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, also spoke to the motion.

**Return of the Speaker**

At 9.40 p.m., while Hon. Steven Jacobs, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports, was speaking to the motion, the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

Hon. Steven Jacobs, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Mischka White-Griffith, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry of Education

Hon. Lenox Shuman, M.P.

Hon. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Jennifer Westford, M.P.

Hon. Seepaul Narine, M.P.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 11.58p.m., the Speaker of the National Assembly suspended the Sitting to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, February 3, 2026.

**End of First Day**

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 3, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.01 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2026.

Hon. Vishnu Panday, M.P., spoke to the motion

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 2.28 p.m., while Hon. Vishna Panday, M.P., was speaking, the Speaker of the National Assembly suspended the Sitting due to disorderly conduct by some Members.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.35 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

Hon. Vishna Panday, M.P., continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

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

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P.

Hon. Sherod Duncan, M.P.

Hon. Sarah Browne-Shadeek, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 5.05 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.10 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2026.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Gobin Harbhajan, M.P.

Hon. Susan Rodrigues, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Hon. Kuice Solomon, M.P.

Hon. Vickram Bharrat, M.P., Minister of Natural Resources

Hon. Riaz Rupnarain, M.P.

Hon. Madanlall Ramraj, M.P.

Hon. Saiku Andrews, M.P.

Hon. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

Hon. Alister Charlie, M.P.

**Presiding by Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

At 10.11 p.m., while Hon. Alister Charlie, M.P., was speaking, the Speaker of the National Assembly withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, took the Chair.

Hon. Alister Charlie, M.P., continued and concluded his speech.

Hon. Zamal Hussain, M.P., also spoke to the motion.

**Return of the Speaker**

At 10.34 p.m., while Hon. Zamal Hussain, M.P., was speaking, the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

Hon. Zamal Hussain, M.P., continued and concluded his speech.

Hon. Sonia Latchman, M.P., also spoke to the motion.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 11.17 p.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting to 2.00 p.m., on Wednesday, February 4, 2026.

**END OF DAY TWO**

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 4, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.03 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2026.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Nandranie Singh, M.P.

Hon. Juretha Fernandes, M.P.

Hon. Zulfikar Ally, M.P., Minister of the Public Service, Government Efficiency and Implementation

Hon. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.

Hon. Keoma Griffith, M.P., Minister of Labour and Manpower Planning

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.47 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.01 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2026.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Amanza Walton, M.P.

Hon. Hugh Todd, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation

Hon. Dr. Ryan Richards, M.P.

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

Hon. Dr. David Hinds, M.P.

Hon. Kwame McKoy, M.P., Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister

Hon. Beverley Cornelius, M.P.

**Presiding by Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

At 9.39 p.m., while Hon. Beverley Cornelius, M.P., was speaking, the Speaker of the National Assembly withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly took the Chair.

Hon. Beverley Cornelius, M.P., continued and concluded her speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Collin Croal, M.P., Minister of Housing

Hon. Vanessa Benn, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Housing

**Returned to the Chamber**

At 10.58 p.m., while Hon. Venessa Benn, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Housing was speaking, the Speake returned to the Chamber.

Hon. Venessa Benn, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Housing continued and concluded her speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Suresh Singh, M.P.

Hon. Anand Persaud, M.P.

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 12.17 a.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting to 2.00 p.m., today, Thursday, February 5, 2026.

**END OF THIRD DAY**

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**ON THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 5, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.17 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2026.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Odessa Primus, M.P.

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

Hon. Vikash Ramkissoon, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture

Hon. Duarte Hersberger, M.P.

Hon. Priya Manickchand, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 5.30 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.30 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 2026.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Dr. Dexter Todd, M.P.

Hon. Thandi McAllister, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary within the Ministry of Public Utilities and Aviation

Hon. Janelle Sweatnam, M.P.

Hon. Deodat Indar, M.P., Minister of Public Utilities and Aviation

Hon. Dr. Terrence Campbell, M.P.

Hon. Peter Ramsaroop, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Hon. Hon. James Bond, M.P.

Hon. Sanjeev Datadin, M.P.

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 10.33 p.m., the Speaker suspended the Assembly to 2.00 p.m., on Friday, February 6, 2026.

### **End of Fourth Day**

### **RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2026**

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.19 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

The Speaker made the following announcements:

**1. Condolences on the Death of the father of Hon. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P., Minister of Agriculture, Mr. Owal Mustafa Rahman**

“Hon. Members, I would like to inform you that the father of our Minister of Agriculture, the late Owal Mustafa Rahman, has passed away. Our Minister of Agriculture has been coming in and out of the House because he has been attending to his late dad’s medical issues. The Janazah for Muslims, which means the funeral prayers, most likely will be held on Sunday in Bloomfield, Berbice. We will inform Hon. Members about the arrangements. To the Minister and his family, on your behalf and on behalf of my family and I, I extend our sincerest condolences.

The late Mr. Mustafa Rahman was not just the father of our Minister; he spent some 70 years in community leadership and community organising, and working, especially, for the people of Region 6. We also thank his family for his services.”

**2. Medical Update on the injured Member of Parliament, Hon. Coretta McDonald**

“Hon. Members, I have an update on our Member of Parliament who was injured yesterday. There are two fractures in the leg. The Hon. Member will be in a cast for about six to eight weeks. I want to express our appreciation to the Member.

She is injured due to no fault of hers. In spite of all the efforts we have made to ensure the safety of everyone who uses this Chamber, there was an issue with the stairs. The cabling is put in a metal trunking that does not have any flexibility, and her heels hit that part. Unfortunately, she is going to be out for six to eight weeks. I say thanks to the Members, the staff, and the emergency medical team that was on site and who rendered immediate assistance.”

### **3. Update on the Video and Audio Feeds at the Arthur Chung Conference Centre**

“Hon. Members, the staff of the Arthur Chung Conference Centre and Parliament are working to address the issues with the video and audio feeds. We have been suffering from the Murphy’s Law. We have done this for five years, and whatever can go wrong, he says, will go wrong, and we have been experiencing a bit of that. Unfortunately, the equipment does not give you a warning when it is going to go down. We have replacement devices for many of the ones we know could go wrong, so we are working diligently to do that.

We have already had the occupational safety and health people in here, and they have recommended some changes because, fundamentally, we are blocking entrances. The cameras will be repositioned on Monday, so that there are not going to take up space on the stairs. There are some other issues that we will address as a matter of urgency.”

### **4. Suspension of the Standing Order**

“Hon. Members, especially for the new Members, we also owe you a duty to help inform you about our Standing Orders and our rules in the House. Today, we have to make some amendments to our Order Paper. That is in the form of suspending some Standing Orders. These are to allow for not only the debate and the consideration of the estimates, but also for passing the necessary legislation to ensure that those budget measures which are in the budget are fully legal. All of that happens during this process. The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance will be moving those.”

### **5. Training for Members of the National Assembly**

“Hon. Member, I want to say to the new Members also, the Parliament organises educational sessions on parliamentary procedures after every new Parliament. This is not done by the Clerk and the Speaker. We could assist. However, we invite the Commonwealth Parliamentary

Association (CPA) to conduct those sessions. While it is nice to see the Speaker travelling on business and attending these conferences, there are many other benefits. We network, bringing together the brightest and most experienced Members of Parliament. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association does not do this only for Guyana. So, that is under consideration.

Additionally, for the new Members, there is the Caribbean and Atlantic Branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. Guyana provides the secretariat services for the Regional Branch, and our Clerk is the Clerk for the entire Caribbean. We are going to get that session organised. We are looking at scheduling right now. We have two considerations: the number of festivals coming up and holidays, along with Ramadan in two weeks' time, and the availability of the international resource persons who will come here for, most likely, a week. To that end, we would also invite other Parliaments. Suriname wants to integrate further. A lot happens.

For the public, Parliament is not these Sittings alone; it is much more. We want to ensure we provide all the training and exposure to the representatives of the people so they can maximise, with efficiency, the service we provide for those who elected us, and more particularly, for the entire nation.”

### **SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 13(1)**

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Governance suspended Standing Order No. 13(1) to enable the National Assembly to proceed with the following Regulations and Bills at its 3rd Sitting:

- (i) The Excise Tax (Amendment of Schedule) Regulations 2026 – No. 3 of 2026, to be laid in the National Assembly;
- (ii) The Fiscal Enactments (Amendment) Bill 2026 – No. 3 of 2026; and
- (iii) The Marriage (Amendment) Bill 2026 – No. 4 of 2026, to be introduced and read for the first time in the Assembly.

The motion was put and carried.

## **PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS**

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

The Excise Tax (Amendment of Schedule) Regulations 2026 – No. 3 of 2026.

(Circulated)

## **INTRODUCTION OF BILLS**

### **Presentation and First Readings**

#### **1. FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2026 – Bill No. 3/2026**

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income Tax Act, the Corporation Tax Act, the Value-Added Tax Act, the Property Tax Act and the Customs Act.

(Circulated)

#### **2. MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2026 – Bill No. 4/2026**

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Marriage Act.

(Circulated)

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Toshana Famey-Corlette, M.P.

Hon. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Hon. Mohabir Nandlall, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

**Presiding by the Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly**

At 4.20 p.m., while Hon. Mohabir Nandlall, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs was speaking, the Speaker of the National Assembly withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Dr. Vishwa Mahadeo, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, took the Chair.

**Return of the Speaker**

At 4.35 p.m., the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip

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

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 6.04 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 7.23 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Hon. Mark Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister

Hon. Azruddin Mohamed, M.P., Leader of the Opposition

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

**Presiding by Hon. Sanjeev Datadin, M.P.**

At 9.58 p.m., while the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance was speaking, the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Sanjeev Datadin, M.P., took the Chair.

**Return of the Speaker**

At 10.40 p.m., the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

**CONCLUSION OF BUDGET DEBATE**

Following the conclusion of the general debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026, Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider and approve of the Report of the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply.

**In Committee of Supply**

The Speaker reported that the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply met on Wednesday, February 4, 2026, considered the allocation of time for the consideration of the 2026 Estimates of Expenditure in the Committee of Supply, and passed a Resolution on the matter.

Copies of the Sub-Committee's Minutes, Resolution and Timetable were circulated to Members at today's Sitting.

On a motion by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, the Committee of Supply agreed with the Business Sub-Committee in its Resolution.

The Speaker stated that in accordance with the Resolution, the Committee of Supply would commence consideration of the 2026 Estimates of Expenditure at 2.00 p.m., on Monday, February 9, 2026.

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF THE SITTING**

At 12.45 a.m., the Speaker of the National Assembly suspended the Sitting to 2.00 p.m., on Monday, February 9, 2026.

**END OF FIFTH DAY**

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ON MONDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.13 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

The Speaker made the following announcements:

**1. Chinese New Year**

“Hon. Members, we are entering a period of celebrations. Our Chinese community starts the celebration of their new year, the year of the horse, and it will culminate next Monday. It is just like Christmas or Diwali, where families come together. We are in the Arthur Chung Conference Centre (ACCC). We are in this important period.”

**2. Black History Month Celebration in the United States of America**

“Hon. Members, in the United States of America, I think they are celebrating “Black History Month”.

### **3. Expected Start of Ramadan**

“Hon. Members, shortly, we are going to be entering Ramadan, which is a very historic period for our country.

### **4. Guidance for First-Time Members of Parliament**

“Hon. Members, before we resume with Consideration of the Estimates. Before we start, just some guidance for our first-time Members of Parliament. This is the process where the entire Assembly goes into Committee to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the Financial Year 2026, line by line. What I will do is, allow Members to move laterally, for example, if the Hon. Member, Mr. Hinds, needs guidance from the Hon. Member, Mr. Mahipaul, he can step to the chair closer to Mr. Mahipaul. The rule is, you have to speak from your seat, so just move your name tag over to the seat, and I will allow that. You would not be able to move behind or in front, but you could move to your left or right, and I will allow that.”

## **PUBLIC BUSINESS**

### **GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

#### **MOTION**

### **BUDGET SPEECH 2026 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility  
for Finance on 2026-01-26)**

#### **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
- 014 Public Policy and Planning
- 015 Environmental Management and Compliance
- 016 Police Complaints Authority

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.06 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.36 p.m., the Sitting 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:

**53-Guyana Defence Force**

**Current Expenditure**

531 Defence and Security Support

**Capital Expenditure**

531 Defence and Security Support

**07 – PARLIAMENT OFFICE**

**Current Expenditure**

071 National Assembly

**Capital Expenditure**

071 National Assembly

**08 – AUDIT OFFICE OF GUYANA**

**Current Expenditure**

081 Audit Office

**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 Commission

**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

**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

**Capital Expenditure**

591 Ethnic Relations Commission

**60 – JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Current Expenditure**

601 Judicial Service Commission

45.

**61 – RIGHTS COMMISSIONS OF GUYANA**

**Current Expenditure**

611 Rights Commissions of Guyana

**Capital Expenditure**

611 Rights Commissions of Guyana

**62 – PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COMMISSION**

**Current Expenditure**

621 Public Procurement Commission

**Capital Expenditure**

621 Public Procurement Commission

**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

062 Parliamentary Affairs

063 Governance

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 7.59 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 8.32 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

46.

**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

**02 – OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**

**Current Expenditure**

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

**Capital Expenditure**

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

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 11.30 p.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting to Tuesday, February 10, 2026.

**End of Sixth Day**

/...47

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ON TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 10, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.03 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**BUDGET SPEECH 2026 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF  
EXPENDITURE FOR 2026**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility  
for Finance on 2026-01-26)**

**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:

**21 – MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE**

**Current Expenditure**

- 211 Ministry Administration
- 212 Agriculture Development and Support Services
- 213 Fisheries
- 214 Hydrometeorological Services

**Capital Expenditure**

- 211 Ministry Administration
- 212 Agriculture Development and Support Services
- 213 Fisheries
- 214 Hydrometeorological Services

**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

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.46 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.56 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**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

**34 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC UTILITIES AND AVIATION**

**Current Expenditure**

- 341 Policy Development and Administration
- 342 Electricity Services
- 343 Water Services
- 344 Aviation
- 345 Maritime Administration

**Capital Expenditure**

- 341 Policy Development and Administration
- 342 Electricity Services
- 343 Water Services
- 344 Aviation
- 345 Maritime Administration

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 8.34 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 9.11 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**23 – MINISTRY OF TOURISM, INDUSTRY AND COMMERCE**

**Current Expenditure**

- 231 Policy Development and Administration
- 232 Business Development, Support and Promotion
- 233 Consumer Protection
- 234 Tourism Development and Promotion

**Capital Expenditure**

- 231 Policy Development and Administration
- 232 Business Development, Support and Promotion
- 233 Consumer Protection
- 234 Tourism Development and Promotion

**26 – MINISTRY OF NATURAL RESOURCES**

**Current Expenditure**

- 261 Policy Development and Administration
- 262 Natural Resource Management
- 264 Petroleum Management

**Capital Expenditure**

- 261 Policy Development and Administration
- 262 Natural Resource Management
- 264 Petroleum Management

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 11.16 p.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting to 2.00 p.m., on Wednesday, February 11, 2026.

**End of Seventh Day**

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
ON WEDNESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.05 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**BUDGET SPEECH 2026 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility  
for Finance on 2026-01-26)**

**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:

**31 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC WORKS**

**Current Expenditure**

- 311 Policy Development and Administration
- 312 Public Works
- 313 Transport

**Capital Expenditure**

- 311 Policy Development and Administration
- 312 Public Works
- 313 Transport

**38 – MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND MANPOWER PLANNING**

**Current Expenditure**

- 381 Policy Development and Administration
- 382 Labour Administration Services
- 383 Manpower Planning

**Capital Expenditure**

- 381 Policy Development and Administration
- 382 Labour Administration Services
- 383 Manpower Planning

**39 – MINISTRY OF HUMAN SERVICES AND SOCIAL SECURITY**

**Current Expenditure**

- 391 Policy Development and Administration
- 392 Social Services
- 393 Child Care and Protection

**Capital Expenditure**

- 391 Policy Development and Administration
- 392 Social Services
- 393 Child Care and Protection

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.58 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.21 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**45 – MINISTRY OF HOUSING**

**Current Expenditure**

- 451 Policy Development and Administration
- 452 Housing Development

**Capital Expenditure**

- 451 Policy Development and Administration
- 452 Housing Development

**40 – MINISTRY OF EDUCATION**

**Capital Expenditure**

- 401 Policy Development and Administration
- 402 Training and Development
- 403 Nursery Education
- 404 Primary Education
- 405 Secondary Education
- 406 Post - Secondary/Tertiary  
Education

**Capital Expenditure**

- 401 Policy Development and Administration
- 402 Training and Development
- 403 Nursery Education
- 404 Primary Education
- 405 Secondary Education
- 406 Post - Secondary/Tertiary  
Education

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 9.10 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 9.46 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**44 – MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORTS**

**Current Expenditure**

- 441 Policy Development and Administration
- 442 Culture
- 443 Youth
- 444 Sports

**Capital Expenditure**

- 441 Policy Development and Administration
- 442 Culture
- 443 Youth
- 444 Sports

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 10.57 p.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting to 2.00 p.m., on Thursday, February 12, 2026.

**End of the Eighth Day**

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON  
THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 12, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.06 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

**BUDGET SPEECH 2026 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility  
for Finance on 2026-01-26)**

**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:

**13 – MINISTRY OF LOCAL GOVERNMENT AND REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

**Current Expenditure**

- 131 Policy Development and Administration
- 133 Regional Development
- 134 Local Government Development

**Capital Expenditure**

- 131 Policy Development and Administration
- 133 Regional Development
- 134 Local Government Development

**71 – REGION NO. 1: BARIMA/WAINI**

**Current Expenditure**

- 711 Regional Administration and Finance
- 712 Public Works
- 713 Education Delivery
- 714 Health Services
- 715 Agriculture

**Capital Expenditure**

- 711 Regional Administration and Finance
- 712 Public Works
- 713 Education Delivery
- 714 Health Services
- 715 Agriculture

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.17 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 5.28 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**72 – REGION NO.2: POMEROON/SUPENAAM**

**Current Expenditure**

- 721 Regional Administration and Finance
- 722 Agriculture
- 723 Public Works

**Capital Expenditure**

- 721 Regional Administration and Finance
- 722 Agriculture

**Presiding by Hon. Lenox Shuman, M.P.**

At 5.57 p.m., while the Committee of Supply was considering **Region No. 2 – Current Expenditures, Line Item 723 – Public Works**, the Speaker withdrew from the Chamber and Hon. Lenox Shuman, M.P., took the Chair.

The Assembly continued and concluded consideration of Line Item 723 – Public Works.

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:

**72 – REGION NO.2: POMEROON/SUPENAAM**

**Capital Expenditure**

723 Public Works

**Current Expenditure**

724 Education Delivery

725 Health Services

**Capital Expenditure**

724 Education Delivery

725 Health Services

**73 – REGION NO. 3 – ESSEQUIBO ISLANDS/WEST DEMERARA**

**Current Expenditure**

731 Regional Administration and Finance

732 Agriculture

733 Public Works

734 Education Delivery

735 Health Services

**Capital Expenditure**

731 Regional Administration and Finance

732 Agriculture

733 Public Works

734 Education Delivery

735 Health Services

**Assembly resumed**

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**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 7.36 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 8.15 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**74 – REGION NO. 4: DEMERARA/MAHAICA**

**Current Expenditure**

- 741 Regional Administration and Finance
- 742 Agriculture
- 743 Public Works
- 744 Education Delivery
- 745 Health Services

**Capital Expenditure**

- 741 Regional Administration and Finance
- 742 Agriculture
- 743 Public Works
- 744 Education Delivery
- 745 Health Services

**75 – REGION NO. 5: MAHAICA/BERBICE**

**Current Expenditure**

- 751 Regional Administration and Finance
- 752 Agriculture
- 753 Public Works
- 754 Education Delivery

755 Health Services

**Capital Expenditure**

751 Regional Administration and  
Finance

752 Agriculture

753 Public Works

754 Education Delivery

755 Health Services

**76 – REGION NO. 6:  
EAST BERBICE/CORENTYNE**

**Current Expenditure**

761 Regional Administration and  
Finance

762 Agriculture

763 Public Works

764 Education Delivery

765 Health Services

**Capital Expenditure**

761 Regional Administration and Finance

762 Agriculture

763 Public Works

764 Education Delivery

765 Health Services

**Return of the Speaker**

At 11.31 p.m., the Speaker returned to the Chamber.

**77 – REGION NO. 7: CUYUNI/MAZARUNI**

**Current Expenditure**

771 Regional Administration and  
Finance

772 Public Works

773 Education Delivery

774 Health Services

775 Agriculture

**Capital Expenditure**

- 771 Regional Administration and Finance
- 772 Public Works
- 773 Education Delivery
- 774 Health Services
- 775 Agriculture

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 12.22 a.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 12.41 a.m., the Sitting resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**78 – REGION NO. 8: POTARO/SIPARUNI**

**Current Expenditure**

- 781 Regional Administration and Finance
- 782 Public Works
- 783 Education Delivery
- 784 Health Services
- 785 Agriculture

**Capital Expenditure**

- 781 Regional Administration and Finance
- 782 Public Works
- 783 Education Delivery
- 784 Health Services
- 785 Agriculture

**79 – REGION NO. 9: UPPER TAKATU/UPPER ESSEQUIBO**

**Current Expenditure**

- 791 Regional Administration and Finance
- 792 Agriculture
- 793 Public Works
- 794 Education Delivery
- 795 Health Services

**Capital Expenditure**

- 791 Regional Administration and Finance
- 792 Agriculture
- 793 Public Works
- 794 Education Delivery
- 795 Health Services

**80 – REGION 10: UPPER DEMERARA/UPPER BERBICE**

**Current Expenditure**

- 801 Regional Administration and Finance
- 802 Public Works
- 803 Education Delivery
- 804 Health Services
- 805 Agriculture

**Capital Expenditure**

- 801 Regional Administration and Finance
- 802 Public Works
- 803 Education Delivery
- 804 Health Services
- 805 Agriculture

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 2.53 a.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting to 2.00 p.m., on Friday, February 13, 2026.

**End of Ninth Day**

**RESUMPTION OF THE 3RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY ON  
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 13, 2026**

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 2.38 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Clerk read the prayers.

**PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS**

By the Speaker of the National Assembly (Chairman of the Committee of Selection):

Minutes of Proceedings of the 1<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Committee of Selection held on Tuesday, 2<sup>nd</sup> February, 2026.

(Circulated)

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTIONS**

**ITEM 1 - BUDGET SPEECH 2026 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE  
ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2026**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026.

**(Moved by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility  
for Finance on 2026-01-26)**

**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:

**47 – MINISTRY OF HEALTH**

**Current Expenditure**

- 471 Policy Development and Administration
- 472 Disease Control - Communicable Diseases
- 473 Family and Primary Health Care Services
- 474 Regional and Clinical Services
- 475 Health Sciences Education
- 476 Standards and Technical Services
- 477 Disability and Rehabilitation Services
- 478 Disease Control - Non-Communicable Diseases

**Capital Expenditure**

- 471 Policy Development and Administration
- 472 Disease Control - Communicable Diseases
- 473 Family and Primary Health Care Services
- 474 Regional and Clinical Services
- 475 Health Sciences Education
- 476 Standards and Technical Services
- 477 Disability and Rehabilitation Services
- 478 Disease Control - Non-Communicable Diseases

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 5.30 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 6.39 p.m., the Sitting resumed.

64.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditure for 2026.

**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:

**51 – MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS**

**Current Expenditure**

- 511 Policy Development and Administration
- 512 Guyana Police Force
- 513 Guyana Prison Service
- 515 Guyana Fire Service
- 516 General Register Office
- 517 Customs Anti-Narcotics

**Capital Expenditure**

- 511 Policy Development and Administration
- 512 Guyana Police Force
- 513 Guyana Prison Service
- 515 Guyana Fire Service
- 516 General Register Office
- 517 Customs Anti-Narcotics

**14 – MINISTRY OF PUBLIC SERVICE, GOVERNMENT EFFICIENCY AND IMPLEMENTATION**

**Current Expenditure**

- 141 Policy Development and Administration
- 142 Human Resource Development
- 143 Human Resource Management & Technology
- 144 Government Efficiency and Implementation

**Capital Expenditure**

- 141 Policy Development and Administration
- 142 Human Resource Development
- 143 Human Resource Management & Technology
- 144 Government Efficiency and Implementation

**03 – MINISTRY OF FINANCE**

**Current Expenditure**

031 Policy and Administration

032 Public Financial Management Policies and Services

**Capital Expenditure**

031 Policy and Administration

032 Public Financial Management Policies and Services

**Assembly resumed**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 10.08 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 10.48 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

**MOTION**

**ITEM 2 - CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 2/2025 – 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. 2/2025 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) - Advances made from the Contingencies Fund totalling \$18,821,223,636 for the period 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 to 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.

**(Notice Paper No. 72 (M3 Govt 2) published on 2026-01-26)**

**(Paper presented on 2026-01-26)**

**Item 1 – Agency Code No. 12-121** – Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation –  
Development of Foreign Policy

**Item 2 – Agency Code No. 31-311** – Ministry of Public Works – Policy Development and  
Administration

**Agency Code No. 31-312** – Ministry of Public Works – Public Works

**Item 3 – Agency Code No. 39-392** – Ministry of Human Services and Social Security – Social  
Services

**Item 4 – Agency Code No. 40-404** – Ministry of Education – Primary Education

**Item 5 – Agency Code No. 45-453** – Ministry of Housing and Water – Water Service Expansion  
and Management

**Item 6 – Agency Code No. 71-711** – Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini – Regional Administration  
and Finance

**Agency Code No. 71-712** – Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini – Public Works

**Item 7 – Agency Code No. 72-721** – Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam – Regional  
Administration and Finance.

**Item 8 – Agency Code No. 75-751** – Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice – Regional Administration  
and Finance

**Item 9 – Agency Code No. 77-772** – Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Public Works

**Agency Code No. 77-773** – Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni – Education Delivery

**Item 10 – Agency Code No. 78-781 – Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni – Regional Administration and Finance**

**Agency Code 78-783 – Region No. 8- Potaro/Siparuni – Education Delivery**

**Agency Code 78-784 – Region No. 8 – Poyaro/Siparuni – Health Services**

**Item 11 – Agency Code No. 79-794 – Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo – Education Delivery**

The motion for the approval of Financial Paper No. 2 of 2025 was put and carried on the following division:

<b>AGAINST</b>	<b>FOR</b>
Ms. Walton	Mr. Hussain
Mr. Andrews	Ms. Latchman
Mr. Solomon	Mr. Ramsaroop
Mr. Rupnarain	Mr. Bond
Mr. Duncan	Mr. S. Singh
Ms. McDonald	Ms. Veerasammy
Ms. Flue-Bess	Mr. Narine
Dr. Todd	Mr. Charlie
Dr. Hinds	Mr. Datadin
Mr. Mahipaul	Dr. Westford
Ms. Fernandes	Mr. A. Persaud
Mr. Jordan	Mr. Shuman
Dr. Campbell	Dr. Mahadeo
Dr. Richards	Ms. Benn
Ms. Sweatnam	Mr. Ramkissoon
Mr. La Cruz	Mr. McCoy
Ms. Cornelius	Ms. Sukhai
Mr. Harbhajan	Mrs. Browne-Shadeek
Mr. Hetsberger	Mr. Ramson
Mrs. Famey-Corlette	Mr. Indar
Dr. Lewis	Mr. Bharrat
Ms. Nandranie Singh	Ms. Rodrigues
Dr. Barker	Ms. Parag

Mr. Panday	Dr. V. Persaud
Ms. Primus	Mr. Croal
Mrs. Hastings-Williams	Ms. Manickchand
Ms. Natasha Singh	Mr. Mustapha
Mrs. Sarabo-Halley	Ms. Walrond
	Dr. Anthony
	Bishop Edghill
	Mr. Todd
	Dr. A. Singh
	Ms. Teixeira
	Mr. Nandlall
	Mr. Phillips
<b>28</b>	<b>35</b>

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED,

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

RESOLVED:

Financial Paper No. 2/2025 – Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) - Advances made from the Contingencies Fund totalling \$18,821,223,636 for the period 18<sup>th</sup> November, 2025 to 16<sup>th</sup> December, 2025.

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

**ITEM 3 - SUPPLEMENTARY APPROPRIATION (NO. 2 FOR 2025) BILL 2026 – Bill No. 1/2026 published on 2025-01-26**

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Prime Minister, Standing Orders Nos.13(n) and 54 were suspended to enable the Supplementary Appropriation (No. 2 for 2025) Bill No.1/2026 to be introduced at that stage.

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, in accordance with paragraph (2) of Article 171 of the Constitution, signified Cabinet's recommendation for the Supplementary Appropriation (No.2 for 2025) Bill No. 1/2026 for consideration by the National Assembly.

Thereafter, on motions 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 the Cooperative Republic of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2025, 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.

**Assembly resumed.**

The Senior Minister within the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance reported that the Committee of Supply had considered the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026 and had approved the following as printed:

NOW, THEREFORE, RESOLVED,

That this National Assembly approves the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2026 of a total sum of one trillion, four hundred and fifty-five billion, nine hundred and twenty-five million, five hundred and thirty-six thousand, and six hundred and fourteen dollars (\$1,455,925,536,614), excluding one hundred and one billion, five hundred and ninety six million, seven hundred and twelve thousand, four hundred and

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twenty-two dollars (\$101,596,712,422) which is chargeable by law, as detailed therein and summarised in Schedule 1, and agree that it is expedient to amend the law and make further provision in respect of finance,

FURTHER RESOLVED,

That the National Assembly approves the recommended lump sum subvention for each Constitutional Agency for the financial year 2026 as stated in Schedule 2, amounting to a total sum of nineteen billion, nine hundred and fifty two million, one hundred and seventy-two thousand, and seven hundred and forty-six dollars (\$19,952,172,746) which is charged upon the Consolidated Fund by the Constitution and for the sums voted for the Constitutional Agencies to form part of the Estimates of Revenue and Expenditures of Guyana for the financial year 2026,

FURTHER RESOLVED;

That this National Assembly approves the sum of \$495,048,806,789 equivalent to US\$2,374,334,805 to be withdrawn from the Natural Resource Fund for the financial year 2026 in accordance with the Natural Resource Fund Act 2021.

**ITEM 4 – APPROPRIATION BILL 2026 – Bill No. 2/2026 published on 2026-01-26**

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Prime Minister, Standing Orders Nos. 13(n) and 54 were suspended to enable the Appropriation Bill No. 2/2026 to be introduced at that stage.

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, in accordance with paragraph (2) of Article 171 of the Constitution, signified Cabinet's recommendation for the Appropriation Bill No. 2/2026 for consideration by the National Assembly.

Thereafter, on motions 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 the Cooperative Republic of Guyana for the fiscal year ending 31<sup>st</sup> December, 2026, 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.

**BILLS – SECOND READINGS**

**ITEM 5 - FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 2026 – Bill No. 3/2026**

**published on 2026-02-06**

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income Tax Act, the Corporation Tax Act, the Value-Added Tax Act, the Property Tax Act and the Customs Act.

**(Read a first time on 2026-02-06)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley, M.P.

Hon. Lenox Shuman, M.P.

Hon. Dr. Terrence Campbell, M.P.

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

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

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 1.17 a.m., the Speaker suspended the Sitting due to disorderly conduct by some Members of the National Assembly.

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

At 1.24 a.m., the Sitting resumed.

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance continued and concluded his speech.

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 4** were passed as printed.

### **Clause 5**

The Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, moved the following amendments, which were put and carried:

“Clause 5 is amended by substituting for that section the following –

“Section 6 of the Property Tax Act is amended as follows –

(a) By renumbering section 6 as 6(1);

(b) in section 6(1) by inserting immediately after paragraph

73.

(x) the following paragraph-

“(y) notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, an individual.

(c) by inserting the following as subsection (2)-

“(2) Notwithstanding any provision of any other Act, the exemption in subsection (1)(y) applies only for the purposes of this Act.”.

Clause 5 was then passed as amended.

**Clause 6** was passed as printed.

### **Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Senior Minister in the Office of the President with Responsibility for Finance, the Fiscal Enactments (Amendment) Bill 2026 was read a third time and passed as amended.

### **ITEM 6 - MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2026 – Bill No. 4/2026 published on 2026-02-06**

The Minister of Home Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Marriage Act.

**(Read a first time on 2026-02-06)**

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Hon. Ganesh Mahipaul, M.P.

Hon. Susan Rodrigues, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

Hon. Nandranie Singh, M.P.

Thereafter, the Minister of Home 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 3** were passed as printed.

**Assembly resumed**

On a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Marriage (Amendment) Bill 2026 was read a third time and passed as printed.

**Thank You Greetings**

The Speaker thanked everyone and wished them a happy Valentine's Day. The Prime Minister, Mr. Ganesh Mahipaul and Mrs. Tabitha Sarabo-Halley joined the Speaker in expressing thanks and happy Valentine's Day wishes to everyone.

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 2.52 a.m., on a motion by the Prime Minister, the Sitting was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



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

**Parliament Office,  
Public Buildings,  
Brickdam,  
Georgetown.**

**February 13, 2026.**

