### NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

#### MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

## OF THE 50<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND SESSION (2002-2005) OF THE EIGHTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD AT 2.00 P.M.

# ON TUESDAY, 1<sup>ST</sup> MARCH, 2005 IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, BRICKDAM, GEORGETOWN

#### **MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (68)**

#### Speaker (1)

The Hon. Hari N. Ramkarran, S.C., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

#### Members of the Government (37)

- (i) People's Progressive Party/Civic (34)
- (ii) Non-elected Ministers (2)
- (iii) The United Force (1)
- The Hon. Samuel A.A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister and Minister of Public Works and Communications
- The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs
- The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Foreign Trade and International Co-operation
- The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development
- The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sport
- The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Education
- The Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar, M.P., Minister of Finance
- The Hon. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water
- The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs (Region No. 3 -Essequibo Islands/West Demerara) (Absent on Leave)
- The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P., Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security
- The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development

The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister of Fisheries, Other Crops and Livestock (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

- \* The Hon. S. Rudolph Insanally, O.R., C.C.H., M.P., Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Foreign Affairs
- \* The Hon. Doodnauth Singh, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (Absent)

The Hon. Dr. Jennifer R.A. Westford, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

The Hon. Bibi S. Shadick, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

\*\* The Hon. Manzoor Nadir, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

The Hon. Carolyn Rodrigues, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

The Hon. Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P., Minister of Health

Mr. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Chief Whip

Mr. Cyril C.L. Belgrave, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Donald R. Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mrs. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Heeralall Mohan, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Ramesh C. Rajkumar, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

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

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Housing and Water

Mrs. Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

Mr. Zulfikar Mustapha, M.P.

Mr. Neendkumar, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne) (Absent)

\*Non-Elected Minister

<sup>\*\*</sup>Elected Member from The United Force

#### Members of the Opposition (30)

#### (i) People's National Congress/Reform (27)

Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent - on Leave)

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.

Mr. C. Stanley Ming, M.P.

Mr. Vincent L. Alexander, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P.

Mr. Basil Williams, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Dr. Dalgleish Joseph, M.D., M.P.

Miss Amna Ally, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

Miss Sandra M. Adams, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent - on Leave)

Mr. Jerome Khan, M.P.

Dr. George A. Norton, M.P.

Miss Myrna E.N. Peterkin, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. James K. Mc. Allister, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Dr. Carl Max Hanoman, M.P.

Miss Lurlene A. Nestor, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Abdul Kadir, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)

Mr. Ricky Khan, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini) (Absent)

Mrs. Rajcoomarie Bancroft, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)

Mr. Nasir Ally, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Miss Judith David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Miss Genevieve Allen, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

#### (ii) Guyana Action Party/Working People's Alliance (2)

Mrs. Sheila V.A. Holder, M.P.

Mrs. Shirley J. Melville, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo) (Absent)

#### (iii) Rise, Organise and Rebuild Party (1)

Mr. Ravindra Dev, M.P.

#### **OFFICERS**

Mrs. Lilawtie Coonjah, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

Mr. Maurice B. Henry, Head Committees Division

#### **COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The sitting commenced at 2.08p.m.

#### **PRAYERS**

The Deputy Clerk read prayers.

#### PUBLIC BUSINESS

#### **MOTION**

### BUDGET SPEECH 2005 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 2005

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2005.

(Moved by the Minister of Finance on 2005-02-21)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Vincent Alexander,

The Minister in the Ministry of Local Government and Regional Development,

Mr. Stanley Ming

and

The Minister of Housing and Water

#### Meeting of the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply

The Speaker reminded Members of the Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply that there would be a meeting of the Committee at 5.00 p.m., in his office.

#### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

At 4.50 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

#### RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.35 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:

Mr. Ravindra Dev,

Mr. Donald Ramotar,

Dr. George Norton

and

The Minister of Amerindian Affairs.

#### SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 8.05 p.m., the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

#### Provided that:

- (a) the deliberations of the Sectoral Committees and the Public Accounts

  Committee shall be held in public except where these Committees

  determine otherwise;
- (b) deliberations of the Parliamentary Management Committee shall not be held in public.

(Notice Paper No. 170 (M65 Govt60) published on 2004-12-10)

(Referred to Standing Orders Committee on 2004-12-16 in accordance with Standing Order 82(3))

#### BILL - Second Reading

\*7. <u>CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) (No. 3) BILL 2003 - Bill No. 10/2003 published on</u> 2003-07-04

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to alter the Constitution in accordance with articles 66 and 164.

(Read a first time on 2003-07-10)

#### **MOTION**

#### \*8. CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 1/2004

Assembly to resolve itself into Committee of Supply.

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

The Minister of Finance to signify the recommendation or consent of the Cabinet and to move the following motion:

#### BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 1/2004 - Supplementary Estimates (Capital) totalling \$330,000,000 for the period ending 2004-12-31

(Notice Paper No. 118 (M59 Govt55) published on 2004-09-29) (Paper presented on 2004-08-05)

> Leonyah L. COONJAH

**Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly** 

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Georgetown.

1<sup>ST</sup>March, 2005.

<sup>\*</sup>Not to be proceeded with at this sitting