

**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**OF THE 98<sup>TH</sup> SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST**  
**SESSION (2020-2025) OF THE TWELFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD**  
**AT 10:00 A.M.**  
**ON MONDAY, 3<sup>RD</sup> FEBRUARY, 2025,**  
**IN THE DOME OF THE ARTHUR CHUNG CONFERENCE CENTRE,**  
**LILIENDAAL, GREATER GEORGETOWN**

**MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (71)**

**Speaker (1)**

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

**MEMBERS OF THE GOVERNMENT (38)**

**Peoples Progressive Party Civic (38)**

**Prime Minister (1)**

Hon. Brigadier (Ret'd) Mark A. Phillips, M.S.S., M.P., Prime Minister

**Vice-President (1)**

Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Vice-President

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

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

**Senior Ministers (16)**

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

Hon. Hugh H. Todd, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation

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

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

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

2.

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

Hon. Priya D. Manickchand, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara),  
Minister of Education

\*Hon. Brindley H.R. Benn, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

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

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

Hon. Joseph L.F. Hamilton, M.P., Minister of Labour

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

\*Hon. Oneidge Walrond, M.P., Minister of Tourism, Industry and Commerce

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

Hon. Vindhya V. H. Persaud, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister of  
Human Services and Social Security

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

Hon. Sonia S. Parag, M.P., Minister of Local Government and Regional Development

**Junior Ministers (4)**

Hon. Susan M. Rodrigues, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica), Minister within the  
Ministry of Housing and Water

Hon. Deodat Indar, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Public Works

Hon. Anand Persaud, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Local Government and Regional  
Development

Hon. Warren K.E. McCoy, M.P., Minister within the Office of the Prime Minister

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

**Other Members (15)**

Hon. Alister S. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 – Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

Hon. Dr. Vishwa D.B. Mahadeo, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)

Hon. Sanjeev J. Datadin, M.P.

Hon. Seepaul Narine, M.P.

Hon. Yvonne Pearson-Fredericks, M.P.

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

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

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

Hon. Dr. Tandika S. Smith, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Hon. Lee G.H. Williams, M.P.

\*Hon. Sarah Browne, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Amerindian Affairs

\*Hon. Vikash Ramkissoon, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Agriculture

Hon. Bhagmattie Veerasammy, M.P.

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

Hon. Suresh Singh, M.P.

**MEMBERS OF THE OPPOSITION (32)****(i) A Partnership For National Unity + Alliance For Change (APNU/AFC) (31)**

Hon. Aubrey Norton M.P., Leader of the Opposition (Absent)

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

Hon. Roysdale A. Forde, S.C., M.P. (Absent on – Leave)

Hon. Shurwayne F.K. Holder, M.P. (Region No. 2 – Pomeroon/Supenaam)

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

Hon. Geeta Chandan-Edmond, M.P.

Hon. Sherod A. Duncan, M.P.

Hon. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

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**\*Non-Elected Member**

Hon. Dawn Hastings-Williams, M.P. (Region No. 7 – Cuyuni/Mazaruni)  
Hon. Christopher A. Jones, M.P., Opposition Chief Whip  
Hon. Vinceroy H. Jordan, M.P. (Region No. 5 – Mahaica/Berbice)  
Hon. Amanza O.R. Walton-Desir, M.P.  
Hon. Coretta A. McDonald, A.A., M.P. (Virtual – Participation)  
Hon. Deonarine Ramsaroop, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)(Virtual – Participation)  
Hon. Vincent P. Henry, M.P.  
Hon. Dr. Karen Cummings, M.P.  
Hon. Tabitha J. Sarabo-Halley, M.P.  
Hon. Natasha Singh-Lewis, M.P.  
Hon. Annette N. Ferguson, M.P.  
Hon. Juretha V. Fernandes, M.P.  
Hon. David A. Patterson, M.P.  
Hon. Ronald Cox, M.P. (Region No. 1 – Barima/Waini)  
Hon. Jermaine A. Figueira, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper Demerara/Upper Berbice)  
Hon. Ganesh A. Mahipaul, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)  
Hon. Haimraj B. Rajkumar, M.P.  
Hon. Nima N. Flue-Bess, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)  
Hon. Dineshwar N. Jaiprakash, M.P. (Region No. 6 – East Berbice/Corentyne)  
Hon. Maureen A. Philadelphia, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)  
Hon. Beverley Alert, M.P. (Region No. 4 – Demerara/Mahaica)  
Hon. Richard E. Sinclair, M.P. (Region No. 8 –Potaro/Siparuni)  
Hon. Devin L. Sears, M.P. (Region No. 10 – Upper-Demerara/Upper-Berbice)

**A New and United Guyana, Liberty and Justice Party and The New Movement (ANUG, LJP & TNM) (1)**

Hon. Dr. Asha Kisoorn, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

**Officers (2)**

Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

Ms. Hermina Gilgeours, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

**COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING**

The Sitting commenced at 10.16 a.m.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**GOVERNMENT BUSINESS**

**MOTION**

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

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 2025.

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

**In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

**07 – PARLIAMENT OFFICE**

**Current Expenditure**

071 National Assembly

**Capital Expenditure**

071 National Assembly

**08 – AUDIT OFFICE OF GUYANA**

**Current Expenditure**

081 Audit Office

6.

**Capital Expenditure**

081 Audit Office

**09 – PUBLIC AND POLICE SERVICE COMMISSIONS**

**Current Expenditure**

091 Public and Police Service Commissions

**Capital Expenditure**

091 Public and Police Service Commissions

**10 – TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Current Expenditure**

101 Teaching Service Commission

**Capital Expenditure**

101 Teaching Service Commission

**11 – GUYANA ELECTIONS COMMISSION**

**Current Expenditure**

111 Elections Commission

**Capital Expenditure**

111 Elections Commission

**55 – SUPREME COURT**

**Current Expenditure**

551 Supreme Court of Judicature

**Capital Expenditure**

551 Supreme Court of Judicature

**56 – PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS**

**Current Expenditure**

561 Public Prosecutions

**Capital Expenditure**

561 Public Prosecutions

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**57 – OFFICE OF THE OMBUDSMAN**

**Current Expenditure**

571 Ombudsman

**Capital Expenditure**

571 Ombudsman

**58 – PUBLIC SERVICE APPELLATE TRIBUNAL**

**Current Expenditure**

581 Public Service Appellate Tribunal

**Capital Expenditure**

581 Public Service Appellate Tribunal

**59 – ETHNIC RELATIONS COMMISSION**

**Current Expenditure**

591 Ethnic Relations Commission

**Current Expenditure**

591 Ethnic Relations Commission

**60 – JUDICIAL SERVICE COMMISSION**

**Current Expenditure**

601 Judicial Service Commission

**Capital Expenditure**

601 Judicial Service Commission

**61 – RIGHTS COMMISSIONS OF GUYANA**

**Current Expenditure**

611 Rights Commissions of Guyana

**Capital Expenditure**

611 Rights Commissions of Guyana

## **62 – PUBLIC PROCUREMENT COMMISSION**

### **Current Expenditure**

621 Public Procurement Commission

### **Capital Expenditure**

621 Public Procurement Commission

### **Assembly resumed.**

## **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

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

## **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

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

### **In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

## **01 – OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT**

### **Current Expenditure**

011 Administration

012 National Policy Development and Presidential Advisory Services

013 Defence and National Security

014 Public Policy and Planning

015 Environmental Management and Compliance

016 Police Complaints Authority

### **Capital Expenditure**

011 Administration

012 National Policy Development and Presidential Advisory Services

013 Defence and National Security



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014 Public Policy and Planning

015 Environmental Management and Compliance

016 Police Complaints Authority

### **53-Guyana Defence Force**

#### **Current Expenditure**

531 Defence and Security Support

#### **Capital Expenditure**

531 Defence and Security Support

### **06 – MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND GOVERNANCE**

#### **Current Expenditure**

061 Policy Development and Administration

062 Parliamentary Affairs

063 Governance

#### **Capital Expenditure**

061 Policy Development and Administration

063 Governance

### **Assembly resumed.**

### **SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

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

### **RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

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

### **In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

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**02 – OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER**

**Current Expenditure**

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

**Capital Expenditure**

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

**Assembly resumed.**

**SUSPENSION OF SITTING**

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

**RESUMPTION OF SITTING**

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

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

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

### **In Committee of Supply**

The following Agencies and Programmes in the Estimates of Expenditure were considered and approved by the Committee as presented with the respective amounts allocated thereto:

### **52 – MINISTRY OF LEGAL AFFAIRS**

#### **Current Expenditure**

521 Policy Development and Administration

523 Attorney General's Chambers

524 State Solicitor

#### **Capital Expenditure**

521 Policy Development and Administration

523 Attorney General's Chambers

524 State Solicitor

### **12 – MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION**

#### **Current Expenditure**

121 Development of Foreign Policy

122 Foreign Policy Promotion

123 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

#### **Capital Expenditure**

121 Development of Foreign Policy

122 Foreign Policy Promotion

123 Development of Foreign Trade Policy

### **16 – MINISTRY OF AMERINDIAN AFFAIRS**

#### **Current Expenditure**

161 Policy Development and Administration

162 Community Development and Empowerment

#### **Capital Expenditure**

161 Policy Development and Administration

162 Community Development and Empowerment

**Assembly resumed.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

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

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Manzoor Nadi", is displayed on a light green rectangular background.

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

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

**3<sup>rd</sup> February, 2025.**