

FIRST SESSION

1973 1975

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 73rd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

At 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY 4TH SEPTEMBER, 1975

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

Cde. Sase Narain, J.P., Speaker

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (50)

Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (2)

Cde. L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., Prime Minister

Cde. P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development

Senior Ministers (9)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Economic Development

Cde. H. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation (Absent)

Cde. H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources (Absent - on leave)

Cde. F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance (Absent)

Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Works and Housing

Cde. G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture

Cde. C.L. Baird, Minister of Education and Social Development (Absent)

Cde. F.R. Wills, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (Absent)

Ministers (5)

Cde. W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour (Absent - on leave)

Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture

Cde. B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House

Cde. O.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health (Absent)

Cde. C.V. Mingo, Minister of Home Affairs (Absent)

Ministers of State (9)

Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture

Cde. O.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne) (Absent - on leave)

Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi) (Absent)

Cde. C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)

Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Essequibo Coast/West Demerara) (Absent)

Cde. K.B. Bancroft, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro) (Absent)

Cde. W. Haynes, Minister of State for Consumer Protection (Absent)

Non elected Minister

- # Cde. A. Salim, Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice) (Absent)
- # Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West) (Absent)

Parliamentary Secretaries (8)

- Cde. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Housing
- Cde. M.M. Ackman, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip
- Cde. E.L. Ambrose, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. S. Prashad, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation
- Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education and Social Development
- Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister
- Cde. M. Corrica, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Housing

Deputy Speaker (1)

- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, Deputy Speaker

Other Members (16)

- Cde. J.N. Aaron
- Cde. L.M. Branco
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler
- Cde. J. Gill (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. W. Hussain
- Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. M. Nissar
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye (Absent)
- Cde. J.G. Ramson
- Cde. P.A. Rayman
- Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
- Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P.
- Cde. C. Sukul, J.P.
- Cde. H.A. Taylor
- Cde. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Leader of the Opposition
- Mrs. E. Da Silva (Absent - on leave)

OFFICERS

- Clerk of the National Assembly (F.A. Narain)
- Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (M.B. Henry, AMBIM)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

Non elected Minister

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (i) Cdes. Jack, Carrington, Clarke, Gill and Mrs. Da Silva for that day's sitting;
- (ii) Cde. Nascimento for one month from 28th August, 1975 and
- (iii) Cdes. Jaiserrisingh and Jonas for four months from 4th September, 1975.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONSPrivate Bill

The Clerk read a Petition presented by Cde. Ramson, on behalf of Marjorie Mc Garrell of K-27-987 Tucville, Georgetown, Lionel Burrowes of 65 Adelaide Street, Georgetown, and Samuel Klein of 141 Cato Street, Agricola, East Bank Demerara, Trustees of the West Millenium Evangelist Pilgrim Church, seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to incorporate the said Church.

(PARL: 3/2/2(5/1974))

The question that the promoters be allowed to proceed was put and carried.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC(1) By the Prime Minister:

- (a) Annual Report of the Guyana Rice Marketing Board for the year ended 30th September, 1972.

(GSC: 6/8/1) (Circulated)

- (b) Audited Accounts of the Guyana Airways Corporation for the year ended 31st December, 1973

(GSC: 2/8/1)(Circulated)

- (c) Audited Accounts of the Guyana Broadcasting Service for the year 31st December, 1972.

(GSC: 18/8/1) (Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Economic Development on behalf of the Minister of Finance

Statement of Guarentees given by the Minister of Finance under Section 3 of the Guarantee of Loans (Public Corporations and Companies) Act 1971 (No. 16), for the quarter ended 30th June, 1975.

(G.692 II) (Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Works and Housing:

Roads (Corentyne) Regulations 1975 (No. 11), made under section 25 of the Roads Act (Chapter 51:01), on the 17th of July, 1975, and published in the Gazette on the 19th of July, 1975.

(GN:14/10) (Circulated).

(4) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice:

Revision Pages of the Laws of Guyana as at 1st January, 1974.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERSApology to the Speaker

The Prime Minister referred to certain incident which took place on Friday, 29th August, 1975, and, on behalf of the Government, apologised to the Speaker for the inconvenience and embarrassment he had suffered by the subsequent actions on the part of officers through a misunderstanding of the relevant sections of the Foreign Exchange Control Regulations, and which could have led persons to believe that there was reason to suspect that he might have been involved in a breach of those Regulations. He took the opportunity to reiterate that his Government and himself had the greatest faith and confidence in the Speaker's integrity and uprightness.

The Speaker intimated his acceptance of the apology and stated that the law of the land must always be upheld irrespective of whom a person might be.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First ReadingSTATE ENTERPRISES (GUARANTEE) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975-
Bill No. 31/1975

The Minister of Economic Development, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND
THE STATE ENTERPRISES (GUARANTEE)
ACT 1974.

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILLS - Second Reading - DeferredDEFENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 29/1975
published 26.7.75

At the request of the Prime Minister consideration of the second reading of the following Bill was deferred:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
DEFENCE ACT.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.20 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



S, NARAIN
Speaker

9

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
23rd September, 1975.