

FIRST SESSION

1973 1975

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 79th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

MONDAY, 1ST DECEMBER, 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 (Absent - on leave)

Senior Ministers (9)

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

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

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

Cde. F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance

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

Cde. G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent - on leave)

Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture (Absent - on leave)

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

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

Ministers (5)

Cde. W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour

Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture (Absent - on leave)

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

Ministers of State (9)

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

Cde. D.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/ Corentyne)

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

Cde. C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister

#Non elected Minister

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

Parliamentary Secretaries (8)

- Cde. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development (Absent)
- 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 (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. E.L. Ambrase, 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 (Absent - on leave)
- 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
- Cde. W. Hussain
- Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. M. Nissar
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye
- 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 (Absent)
- Cde. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Leader of the Opposition
- Mrs. E. Da Silva

OFFICERS

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cdes. Reid, King, Field-Ridley, Ackman and Chowritmootoo for one week from 1st December, 1975,
- (b) Cde. Kennard for two days on 1st and 2nd December, 1975 and
- (c) Cde. Salim for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC

- (1) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Prime Minister:

Small Industries Corporation Audit Report on the Accounts for the year ended 31st December, 1974.

(GSC: 4/404/2)(Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Finance:

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

(G:692 II)(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1.- APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1976

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1976, totalling \$552,203,022.

Mrs. Da Silva and the Minister of Economic Development spoke to the motion.

The Leader of the Opposition was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.07 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.42 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

The Leader of the Opposition concluded his speech.

The Prime Minister spoke to the motion.

ITEM 2 - GUARANTEE TO CARIBBEAN DEVELOPMENT BANK FOR LOAN TO ACQUIRE VESSEL FOR WEST INDIES SHIPPING CORPORATION

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the West Indies Shipping Corporation in which Guyana participates is engaged in the operation of a regional shipping service between the member countries of the Caribbean Community;

AND WHEREAS the Corporation requires the sum of Four million, four hundred and ninety-one thousand, seven hundred and fifty-four Trinidad and Tobago dollars (TT\$4,491,754) to acquire a new vessel for the purpose of augmenting the number of vessels presently providing the regional shipping service;

AND WHEREAS the Caribbean Development Bank has agreed to lend the aforesaid sum on a joint and several guarantee being given by the Governments of Barbados, Guyana, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly authorises the Minister of Finance or such other person duly authorised by him, acting on behalf of the Government of Guyana, to give a joint and several guarantee with the Governments of Barbados, Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago to the Caribbean Development Bank in the sum of Four million, four hundred and ninety-one thousand, seven hundred and fifty-four Trinidad and Tobago dollars (TT4,491,754).

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7.35 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m., on Tuesday, 2nd December, 1975.

Narain
S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
2nd December, 1975.