FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1976

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 87th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

OM.

DNESDAY, 28TH JANUARY, 1976

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
- # Cde. H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources # 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
- # Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture # Cde. C.L. Baird, Minister of Education and Social
- Development # Cle. \bar{F} .R. Wills, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (.bsent)

Ministers (5)

- Cde. W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour
- 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

 # Cde. C.V. Mingo, Minister of Home Affairs

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)
- Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State Regional (Rupununi) (Absent on leave)
- Cde. C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister
- Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., Minister of State → Regional
 (Esse Quibo Coast/West Demerara)(Absent)

- Cde. K.B. Bancroft, Minister of State Regional (Mazaruni/ Potaro)
- # Cde. W. Haynes, Minister of State for Consumer Protection
- # Cde. A. Salim, Minister of State Regional (East Demerara/ West Coast Berbice)
- # 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 (Absent)
- Cde. M.M. Ackman, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip (Absent - on leave)
- 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
 Cde. W. Hussain
 Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas
- 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 Cde. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

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

OFF ICERS

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 SPEAKER

(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cde, Ackman for that day's sitting, and
- (b) Cde. Nissar from 6th to 29th February, 1976.

(ii) Welcome to Cde. Harper

The Speaker welcomed back Cde. Harper who had been absent from sittings on account of illness.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

CUSTOM (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976 - Bill No. 4/1976 published 20.1.76

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, 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 CUSTOMS ACT.

PUELIC BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM 1 - APEROVAL OF PROPOSALS ON EQUALITY FOR WOMEN

The Prime Minister moved the following Motion:

BL IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves of the proposals outlined in the State Paper on Equality for women which was presented to the Assembly on 15th January, 1976.

 $\mbox{\sc Cde. Willems}$ and $\mbox{\sc Cde.}$ Ramsahoye spoke to the motion.

Mrs. Da Silva was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.40 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.20 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mrs. Da Silva concluded her speech.

The Minister of Information and Culture spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 - PUBLIC HEALTH (AMENDMENT) BILL 1976 - Bill No. 1/1976 published 6.1.76

The Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE FUBLIC HEALTH ORDINANCE.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

The Bill was then read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u>.

<u>ITEM 3</u> - L.COME TAX AMENDMENT BILL 1976 - Bill No.2 1976 published 10.1.7

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE INCOME TAX ACT.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

MOITOM

ITEM 4 - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(2)

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That paragraph (2) of Standing Order No. 46 be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its sitting on Wednesday, 28th January, 1976, with the second reading and the remaining stages of the CUSTOMS (ALENDMENT) BILL 1976 (Bill No. 4/1976 published 20.1.76).....

EILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 5 - CUSTOMS (.MENDMENT) BILL 1976 - Bill No. 4/1976 published 20.1.76

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS ACT.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.55 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. NARA IN Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Georgetown.

4th February, 1976.