

FIRST SESSION

1973 1976

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 106th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 30TH DECEMBER, 1976

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

Cdo. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

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

Primo Minister (1)

Cdo. L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., M.P., Primo Minister

Deputy Prime Minister (1)

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

Senior Ministers (9)

Cdo. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minister of Economic Development

* Cdo. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation

* Cdo. H.O. Jack, M.P., Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

* Cdo. F.E. Hope, M.P., Minister of Finance

* Cdo. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P., Minister of Works and Housing (Absent - on leave)

* Cdo. G.A. King, M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

* Cdo. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture

* Cdo. C.L. Baird, M.P., Minister of Education and Social Development

* Cdo. F.R. Wills, S.C., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice

Ministers (5)

Cdo. W.G. Carrington, M.P., Minister of Labour

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

Cdo. B. Ramsaroop, M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House

* Cdo. O.M.R. Harper, M.P., Minister of Health

* Cdo. C.V. Mingo, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Ministers of State (9)

Cdo. M. Kasim, A.A., M.P., Minister of State for Agriculture

Cdo. O.E. Clarke, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)

Cdo. P. Duncan, J.P., M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi)

* Non elected Minister

- Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P., Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister
- Cde. K.B. Bancroft, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro)
- Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Essequibo Coast/West Demerara)
- * W. Haynes, M.P., Minister of State for Consumer Protection (Absent)
- * A. Salim, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice)
- * Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (North West)

Parliamentary Secretaries (6)

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

Other Members (19)

- Cde. L.M. Branco, M.P.
- Cde. E.M. Bynoe, M.P.
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.
- Cde. S. Jaisorisingh, M.P.
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P.
- Cde. M. Nissar, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye, M.P.
- Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
- Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
- Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P., M.P.
- Cde. C. Sukul, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. H.A. Taylor, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Willems, M.P.
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., M.P.

Members of the Opposition (16)

(i) People's Progressive Party (14)

Leader of the Opposition (1)

- Cde. C. Jagan, M.P., Leader of the Opposition.

Deputy Speaker (1)

- Cde. Ram Karran, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Other Members (12)

- Cde. J. Jagan, M.P.
- Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Opposition Chief Whip
- Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.
- Cde. C. Cullymore, M.P.
- Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.

Cde. L. Lalbahadur, M.P., (Absent)
Cde. B. James, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.
Cde. R. Ally, M.P.
Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P.
Cde. Dindayal, M.P.
Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
Mrs. E. Da Silva, M.P.

OFFICERS

Clerk of the National Assembly (F.A. Narain)
Acting Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (A. Knight)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (i) Cde. S.S. Naraine, Minister of Works and Housing, up to 9th January 1977, and
- (ii) Mr. Singh for that sitting.

(ii) Death of Deputy Clerk's wife

The Speaker announced that since the last sitting the Acting Deputy Clerk, Cde. Knight, had lost his wife.

On behalf of the Assembly and himself, he extended deepest sympathy to Cde. Knight.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure for the financial year 1977.

(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

NURSES AND MIDWIVES REGISTRATION AMENDMENT BILL 1976
Bill No. 20/1976 published 15.12 76

The Minister of Health, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
NURSES AND MIDWIVES REGISTRATION
ORDINANCE AND TO MAKE CONSEQUENTIAL
AMENDMENTS TO OTHER LAWS.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONBUDGET SPEECH - APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1977

In accordance with article 80 (2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified that Cabinet had recommended that the Assembly should proceed upon the motion for the approval of the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1977, of a total sum of \$417,283,736, net of appropriation-in-aid, and excluding \$128,751,121, which is chargeable by law. (See Appendix).

Broadcasting of Budget Speech and Debate

As the Minister of Finance was about to move the motion, the Leader of the Opposition rose and enquired if permission had been given for the Budget Speech to be broadcast live and whether broadcasting facilities would also be given to the Opposition.

The Speaker informed the Assembly that in accordance with practice, permission had been given for the Budget Speech to be broadcast live. He also informed the Assembly that in accordance with the undertaking given by the Radio Stations, he would permit broadcasting time on the general debate to be given in proportion to the Party representation in the Assembly.

Approval of Estimates of Expenditure for 1977

The Minister of Finance then moved the motion for the approval of the estimates of expenditure for 1977.

Suspension of Standing Order No.9(2)

The Minister of Finance was reading the Budget Speech, when at 3.56 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, Standing Order No. 9(2) was suspended to enable the sitting to continue without being suspended at 4 o'clock, so as to permit the Minister to complete his speech.

Resumption of Budget Speech

The Minister of Finance completed reading the Budget Speech.

The motion was then proposed.

Thereafter the Minister named Wednesday, 5th January, 1977, as the day for the resumption of the debate on the motion.

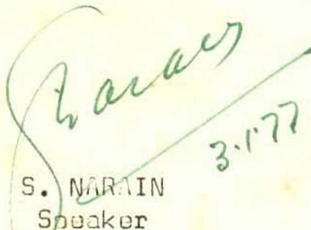
NEW YEAR WISHES

The Speaker, on behalf of his wife and himself, extended New Year Wishes to the Members of the Assembly and their families and to the Staff of the Parliament Office and the Press.

Mrs. Da Silva, the Leader of the Opposition and the Prime Minister, thanked the Speaker, reciprocated the wishes to him and his family, and also extended greetings to the other members of the Assembly, the Staff of Parliament Office and the Press.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.23 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 Wednesday, 5th January, 1977.



S. NARAIN
Speaker

3.1.77

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
3rd January, 1977.

APPENDIX

MOTION BY THE MINISTER OF FINANCE

WHEREAS the Constitution of Guyana requires that estimates of the revenue and expenditure of Guyana for any financial year should be laid before the National Assembly not later than sixty days after the commencement of that year;

AND WHEREAS the Constitution also provides that when the estimates of expenditure have been approved by the Assembly an Appropriation Bill shall be introduced in the Assembly providing for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet that expenditure;

AND WHEREAS estimates of revenue and expenditure of Guyana for the financial year 1977 have been prepared and laid before the Assembly on 30th December, 1976:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approve the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1977, of a total sum of four hundred and seventeen million, two hundred and eighty-three thousand, seven hundred and thirty-six dollars, net of appropriation-in-aid, and excluding one hundred and twenty-eight million, seven hundred and fifty-one thousand, one hundred and twenty-one dollars, which is chargeable by law, as detailed therein and summarized in the undermentioned schedule, and agree that it is expedient to amend the law and to make further provision in respect of finance.

SCHEDULE 2

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital	Current
I	1	Office of the President		150,188
		President		
II	2	Supreme Court of Judicature	-	869,674
	3	Magistrates	-	1,110,451
		Judiciary		
III	4	Parliament Office	-	182,765
		Parliament		
IV	5	Audit		784,075
	6	Ombudsman		33,939
	7	Public & Police Service Commissions		560,846
	8	Teaching Service Commission		118,916
	9	Public Prosecutions	-	212,051
V		Other Services not under Ministerial Control		
	10	Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet		1,476,280
	11	Guyana Defence Force		29,026,762
VI	12	Internal Security	-	3,500,000
		Prime Minister	21,770,000	
VII	13	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs		24,741
	14	Ministry of Public Corporations		17,530
VII		Ministry of Public Corporations		

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
	15	Public Service Ministry		797,251
VIII		Public Service Ministry	6,000,000	-
	16	Ministry of Foreign Affairs	-	11,039,568
IX		Ministry of Foreign Affairs	-	-
	17	Attorney General	-	456,413
	18	Attorney General - Official Receiver	-	120,880
	19	Attorney General - Deeds Registry	-	204,573
X		Attorney General	-	-
	20	Ministry of Information & Culture	-	3,845,348
XI		Ministry of Information & Culture	746,500	-
	21	Ministry of Home Affairs	-	823,475
	22	Ministry of Home Affairs - Police	-	18,259,074
	23	Ministry of Home Affairs - Prisons	-	2,164,219
	24	Ministry of Home Affairs - Fire Protection Services	-	1,577,249
	25	Ministry of Home Affairs - Registration & Elections	-	562,570
	26	Ministry of Home Affairs - Registration, Immigration, Births, etc.	-	185,280
XII		Ministry of Home Affairs	1,380,000	-
	27	Ministry of Agriculture	-	2,060,542
	28	Ministry of Agriculture - Agriculture	-	9,748,544
	29	Ministry of Agriculture - Lands and Surveys	-	2,550,457

AMOUNT

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		Capital \$	Current \$
	30	Ministry of Agriculture - Hydraulics	-	2,893,284
XIII		Ministry of Agriculture	14,689,000	-
XIV		Ministry of Agriculture IBRD/IDA Projects Livestock Development	2,600,000	-
XV		Ministry of Agriculture IBRD/IDA Projects Second Sea Defence Project	-	-
XVI		Ministry of Agriculture IBRD/IDA Projects Tapakuma Irrigation Project	5,500,000	-
	31	Ministry of National Development	-	5,856,956
XVII		Ministry of National Development	-	-
	32	Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources	-	2,897,732
XVIII		Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources	7,402,000	-
	33	Ministry of Economic Development	-	2,171,546
XIX		Ministry of Economic Develop- ment	18,860,000	-
	34	Ministry of Regional Development	-	1,131,420
	35	Ministry of Regional Development - Interior Development	-	918,843
XX		Ministry of Regional Development	2,235,000	-
	36	Ministry of Works & Housing (Works)	-	28,108,727
XXI		Ministry of Works & Housing (Works)	31,325,000	-

Division No. (Capital	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
XXII		Ministry of Works & Housing (Works) + IBRD/IDA Projects: West Coast Demerara Road Project	3,300,000	-
	37	Ministry of Works and Housing - (Housing)	-	2,086,611
XXIII		Ministry of Works and Housing - (Housing)	3,200,000	-
	38	Ministry of Works and Housing (Communications)	-	803,522
	39	Ministry of Works & Housing, (Communications) - Post Office	-	40
	40	Ministry of Works & Housing (Comms.) - Transport and Harbours Department	-	1,500,000
	41	Ministry of Works and Housing (Comms.) - Civil Aviation	-	1,519,451
XXIV		Ministry of Works & Housing (Communications)	2,000,000	-
	42	Ministry of Education and Social Development	-	13,335,175
	43	Ministry of Education and Social Development - In Service Teacher Training Programme	-	357,432
	44	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Primary and Secondary Schools	-	42,801,097
	45	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Nursery Schools	-	5,366,600
	46	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Practical Instruction Centres	-	2,054,598
	47	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Government Training College Pre Service Teacher Training Programme	-	1,062,080
	48	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Technical Institute Georgetown	-	1,129,867

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
49		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Carnegie School of Home Economics	-	179,724
50		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Queen's College	-	515,072
51		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Bishops' High School	-	431,424
52		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Anna Regina Secondary School	-	16
53		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Berbice High School	-	244,558
54		Ministry of Education and Social Development - New Amsterdam Technical Institute	-	718,222
55		Ministry of Education and Social Development - College of Education for Secondary Teachers	-	314,501
56		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Curriculum Develop- ment Unit	-	1,138,671
57		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Guyana Industrial Training Centre	-	207,369
58		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Probation and Welfare Service	-	743,715
59		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Bygeval/Mahaica Secondary School - Multilateral	-	442,604
60		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Anna Regina Secondary School - Multilateral	-	661,390
61		Ministry of Education and Social Development - Bladenhall Secondary School - Multilateral	-	525,660

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
	62	Ministry of Education and Social Development - New Amsterdam Secondary School - Multilateral	-	472,640
	63	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Christianburg/Wismar Secondary School - Multilateral	-	493,650
	64	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Ruimveldt Secondary School - Multilateral	-	443,538
	65	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Port Kaituma Residential Secondary School	-	445,348
	66	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Kwakwani Residential Secondary School	-	12
	67	Ministry of Education and Social Development - Mabaruma Residential Secondary School	-	12
	68	Ministry of Education and Social Development - St. Ignatius Residential Secondary School	-	12
XXV		Ministry of Education and Social Development	3,500,000	-
XXVI		Ministry of Education and Social Development IBRD/IDA Projects - First Education Project	-	-
XXVII		Ministry of Education and Social Development IBRD/IDA Projects Second Education Project	2,500,000	-
	69	Ministry of Health	-	1,442,062
	70	Ministry of Health - Medical	-	5,815,863
	71	Ministry of Health - Bacteriological	-	1,012,124
	72	Ministry of Health - X-Ray	-	412,063

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
	73	Ministry of Health - Hospitals and Dispensaries		18,338,561
	74	Ministry of Health Analyst		232,500
	75	Ministry of Health Palms		881,343
XXVIII		Ministry of Health	4,000,000	
	76	Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation		2,151,335
XXIX		Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation	740,000	
		Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation - Local Govt.		2,082,806
XXX		Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation - (Local Government)	265,000	
	78	Ministry of Labour and Social Security		1,078,632
	79	Ministry of Labour and Social Security - Employment Exchange Service		93,766
	80	Ministry of Labour and Social Security - Social Assistance		5,447,435
XXXI		Ministry of Labour and Social Security		
	81	Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection		13,528,962
XXXII		Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection		
	82	Ministry of Finance		714,308
	83	Ministry of Finance - Accountant General		1,876,643

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital	Current
			\$	\$
	84	Ministry of Finance - Customs and Excise	-	2,806,019
	85	Ministry of Finance - Inland Revenue	-	4,733,365
	86	Ministry of Finance - Pensions and Gratuities	-	2,910,351
	87	Ministry of Finance - Public Debt	-	504,546
	88	Ministry of Finance - Revision of Wages, Salaries and Related Payments	-	200
	89	Ministry of Finance - Post Office Savings Bank	-	7
XXXIII		Ministry of Finance	<u>2,831,700</u>	<u>-</u>
		TOTAL	<u>134,844,200</u>	<u>282,439,536</u>

