

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FOURTH SESSION

1972 - 1973

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 29th Sitting of the National Assembly under the Constitution of Guyana, held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 23RD MAY, 1973

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. Sase Narain, J.P.

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (37)

Elected Ministers (12)

- The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., Prime Minister (Absent)
Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development and Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture
The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Works and Communications
The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour and Social Security
The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information, Culture and Youth
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister without Portfolio and Leader of the House
The Honourable D.A. Singh, Minister of Health
The Honourable U.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of State for the Public Service
The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of Co-operatives and Community Development (Absent)
The Honourable A. Salim, Minister of Local Government

Appointed Ministers (7)

- The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Attorney-General
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Public Affairs
The Honourable H.D. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests
The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird, Minister of Education
The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance and Trade
Dr. the Honourable K.F.S. King, Minister of Economic Development (Absent)
The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Housing and Reconstruction

Parliamentary Secretaries (4)

- Mr. J.G. Joaquin, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Trade
 Mr. P. Duncan, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development and Agriculture
 Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Information, Culture and Youth
 Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Communications

Other Members (14)

- Mr. J.N. Aaron
 Miss M.M. Ackman, Government Whip
 Mr. K. Bancroft
 Mr. N.J. Bissember
 Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.
 Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue
 Mr. M. Corrica
 Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
 Mr. R.J. Jordan
 Mr. S.M. Saffee
 Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman
 Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.
 Mrs. L.E. Willems
 Mr. J.G. Ramson

Members of the Opposition (23)People's Progressive Party (15)

- Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition
 Mr. Ram Karran
 Mr. R. Chandisingh
 Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C. (Absent)
 Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker
 Mr. E.M.G. Wilson ✓
 Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip
 Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P.
 Mr. M.Y. Ally
 Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P. ✓
 Mr. Balchand Persaud
 Mr. R. Ally
 Mr. Bholu Persaud (Absent)
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mr. V. Teekah ✓

United Force (3)

- Mr. M.F. Singh
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. J.A. Sutton

Independents (5)

- Mr. R.E. Cheeks
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose
 Mrs. L.M. Branco
 Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
 Mr. L.A. Durant

OFFICERS

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Dr. Reid for that day's sitting.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY
ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

The Leader of the Opposition sought leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing matters concerning hooliganism at public meetings.

His Honour the Speaker did not allow the claim as he was not satisfied that the matter qualified as one to be raised on a motion for the adjournment of the Assembly.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONMOTION ON THE GEORGETOWN ACCORD

Assembly resumed the debate on the following motion:

WHEREAS the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Free Trade Association with effect from 1 May, 1968, envisaged the ultimate creation of a viable economic community of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries;

AND WHEREAS over the past five years the Caribbean Free Trade Association and programmes of functional co-operation between Member States have laid the foundation for further progress in regional economic integration;

AND WHEREAS the hopes and aspirations of the peoples of the Commonwealth Caribbean for balanced development, full employment and improved standards of living can most rapidly be attained -

- (i) by the optimum utilization of the available human and natural resources of the area,
- (ii) by accelerated, coordinated and sustained economic development, and
- (iii) by effective functional cooperation between Commonwealth Caribbean Countries through regional institutions, services and programmes designed to enhance the economic, social and cultural development of the area;

AND WHEREAS for the achievement of these objectives the Eighth Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries meeting in Guyana reached agreement on certain measures set out in the Georgetown Accord:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly -

- (1) Welcomes the measures agreed upon by the Eighth Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries as set out in the Georgetown Accord.
- (2) Approves of Guyana participating in the Caribbean Community, including the Caribbean Common Market, and in the related mechanisms and arrangements for the economic, social and cultural development of the Commonwealth Caribbean Region as set out in that Accord.

Mr. Chandisingh resumed his speech and moved the following amendment to the motion:

Deletion of paragraphs (1) and (2) of the Resolve Clause and substitution of the following therefor:

" Refers the question of Guyana's participation in the Caribbean Community, including the Caribbean Common Market and the related mechanisms and arrangements for the Commonwealth Caribbean Region as set out in the Accord to the vote of the electors qualified to vote in an election. "

Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud seconded the amendment but reserved the right to speak later.

Mr. Lall, Mr. Balchand Persaud and Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 3.57 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.27 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mr. M.F. Singh 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 6.30 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.00 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

The Leader of the Opposition concluded his speech.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Attorney General was speaking to the motion when the proceedings were interrupted at 9.55 p.m. to enable the Minister without Portfolio and Leader of the House to move the suspension of Standing Order No. 9(1).

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 9(1)

On a motion by the Minister without Portfolio and Leader of the House, Standing Order No. 9(1) was suspended to enable the sitting to continue beyond 10.00 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE

The Assembly resumed the debate on the Georgetown Accord.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Attorney General concluded his speech.

The amendment by Mr. Chandisingh was put and negatived on the following division:

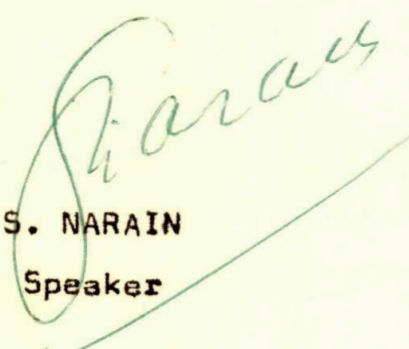
| <u>FOR</u> | <u>AGAINST</u> |
|-------------------------|-------------------|
| Mr. Teekah | Mr. Durant |
| Mr. Remington | Mr. Stoby |
| Mr. R. Ally | Mrs. Branco |
| Mr. Balchand Persaud | Mr. Sutton |
| Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud | Mr. M.F. Singh |
| Mr. M.Y. Ally | Mrs. DaSilva |
| Mr. Lall | Mr. Ramson |
| Mr. Hamid | Mrs. Willems |
| Mr. Wilson | Mr. Zaheeruddeen |
| Mr. D.C. Jagan | Mr. Van Sluytman |
| Mr. Ram Karan | Mr. Saffee |
| Dr. Jagan | Mr. Fowler |
| | Mr. Corrica |
| | Mr. Chan-A-Sue |
| | Mr. Bissember |
| | Mr. Bancroft |
| | Miss Ackman |
| | Mr. Aaron |
| | Mr. Wrights |
| | Mr. Thomas |
| | Mr. Duncan |
| | Mr. Joaquin |
| | Mr. Salim |
| | Mr. Mingo |
| | Mr. Clarke |
| | Mr. D.A. Singh |
| | Mr. Ramsaroop |
| | Miss Field-Ridley |
| | Mr. Hoyte |
| | Mr. Kasim |

The motion was then put and carried on the following division:

| <u>FOR</u> | <u>AGAINST</u> | <u>DECLINED TO VOTE</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------|-------------------------|
| Mr. Durant | Mr. Taekah | Mr. Sutton |
| Mr. Stoby | Mr. Remington | Mr. M.F. Singh |
| Mrs. Branco | Mr. R. Ally | Mrs. DaSilva |
| Mr. Ramson | Mr. Balchand Persaud | |
| Mrs. Willems | Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud | |
| Mr. Zaheeruddeen | Mr. M.Y. Ally | |
| Mr. Van Sluytman | Mr. Lall | |
| Mr. Saffee | Mr. Hamid | |
| Mr. Fowler | Mr. Wilson | |
| Mr. Corrica | Mr. D.C. Jagan | |
| Mr. Chan-A-Sue | Mr. Ram Karran | |
| Mr. Bissember | Dr. Jagan | |
| Mr. Bancroft | | |
| Miss Ackman | | |
| Mr. Aaron | | |
| Mr. Wrights | | |
| Mr. Thomas | | |
| Mr. Duncan | | |
| Mr. Joaquin | | |
| Mr. Salim | | |
| Mr. Mingo | | |
| Mr. Clarke | | |
| Mr. D.A. Singh | | |
| Mr. Ramsaroop | | |
| Miss Field-Ridley | | |
| Mr. Hoyte | | |
| Mr. Kasim | | |
| — 27 — | — 12 — | — 3 — |

ADJOURNMENT

At 10.45 p.m., on a motion by the Minister without Portfolio and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, the 24th of May, 1973.


S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

24th May, 1973.