

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 15TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1986) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 14:00 HRS

ON WEDNESDAY 1986-06-18

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

Speaker (1)

*Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., Speaker of the National
Assembly

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (61)

Ministers in the Cabinet (10)

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. H. Green, M.P., Prime Minister

Other Vice-President and First Deputy Prime Minister (1)

Cde. Dr. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., M.P., Vice-President,
First Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General

Other Vice-Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

Cde. R. Chandisingh, M.P., Vice-President, National Mobilisation
and Deputy Prime Minister

Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., M.P., Vice-President, Education and
Social Development, and Deputy Prime Minister

Other Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister,
Planning and Development

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Agriculture -
(Absent - on leave)

Senior Ministers (4)

Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

*Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance

Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of Transport

*Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Trade

Other Ministers (11)

Senior Ministers (3)

Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment

Cde. Dr. R.A. Van West-Charles, M.P., Minister of Health

Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn, M.P., Minister of Information and
Public Service

Ministers (4)

Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of
National Mobilisation

*Cde. R.C. Fredericks, A.A., M.P., Minister of Youth and Sport
within the Ministry of Education

Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Minister within the Office
of the President

*Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of
Education

*Non-elected Member

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Ministers of State (4)

- *Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Manpower, Housing and Environment (Absent)
- Cde. J.T. Kissoon, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Forestry
- *Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.F., Minister of State within the Ministry of Planning and Development

Parliamentary Secretaries (3)

- Cde. A.K. Habibulla, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the President
- Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Home Affairs
- *Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Education (Absent - on leave)

Government Chief Whip (1)

- Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Other Members (24)

- Cde. R.E. Williams, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. Agnes W. Bend-Kirton, M.P., (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.
- Cde. M. Ally, M.P.
- Cde. Bissoondai Deniprashad-Rayman, M.P.
- Cde. Elaine B. Davidson, M.P.
- Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
- Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, J.F., M.P.
- Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. Anna Ally, M.P.
- Cde. L.R. Arthur, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. J.R.L. Bovell-Drakes, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.
- Cde. G.W. Chin, J.F., M.P.
- Cde. F.M. Cumberbatch, M.P.
- Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.
- Cde. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.
- Cde. Edith Deygoo, M.P.
- Cde. Clarice A. Edwards, M.P.
- Cde. C.L. Geddes, M.P.
- Cde. G. Marshall, M.P.
- Cde. B. Persaud, M.P.
- Cde. E.W. Trotman, M.P.

Members from the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs (2)

- Cde. E. Mohamed, M.P.
- Cde. Rose I. Semple, M.P.

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

- Cde. Nellie R. Charles, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
- Cde. Bhagmatee Latchminarayan, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
- Cde. Y. Khan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)
- Cde. Enid E. Abrahams, M.S., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
- Cde. I. Ally, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
- Cde. Patricia A. Daniel, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
- Cde. B.L. Domingo, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini) (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. S.I. McGarrell, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo (Absent)

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Members of the Minority (11)

(i) People's Progressive Party (8)

Minority Leader (1)

Cde. Dr. C. Jagan, M.F., Minority Leader

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Rcepu Daman Fersaud, J.P., M.P., Deputy Speaker of National Assembly

Other Members (6)

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P.
Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P.
Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P., Minority Chief Whip
Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.
Cde. I. Basir, M.P.
Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.
Mr. N.A. Abraham, M.F.

(iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

Mr. E. Kwayana, M.F., (Absent - on leave)

OFFICERS

Cde. F.A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly
Cde. M.B. Henry, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to:

(a) Cdes. Persico, Bend-Kirton, Bovell-Drakes, Charles, Domingo and Mc Garrell for that day's sitting, and

(b) Mr. Eusi Kwayana to 1986-07-05

(ii) Mr. Kwayana's Request to defer his Motions and Questions

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Mr. Kwayana had requested in his letter applying for leave, that his questions and motions should not be taken during his absence. The Speaker said that as it was not in his authority to defer the business of the Assembly, he had referred the matter to the Government and Mr. Kwayana's request had been granted.

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PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Prime Minister:

Annual Report of the Office of the President
for the year 1985,

including the

Annual Report of the Institute of Applied
Science and Technology for the year 1985.

(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

The Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment, on behalf of the Minister of Finance presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

EXPORT AND IMPORT (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1986 - Bill No. 8/1986

A Bill intituled An Act to make certain special provisions of a temporary nature in respect of the export and import of goods from and into Guyana, including the payment of export and import duties in certain cases in specified foreign currency, for the purpose of increasing the foreign exchange earnings of the Government.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MCTIONS

ITEM 1 - RESTRICTIONS ON IMPORTATION OF WHEATEN FLOUR AND SPLIT PEAS -
Notice Paper No. 11 published 1986-02-28

Cde. Rocco Daman Persaud, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, moved the following motion:

BE IT RES LVED:

That this National Assembly requests the Government to remove all restrictions that impede the importation of wheaten flour and split peas.

The Deputy Speaker, thereafter, moved the following amendment:

"Insertion of the words "or wheat"
after the word "flour".

Mr. M.F. Singh seconded the motion and amendment and spoke to the motion.

Cde. Nokta, the Minister of Trade, and the Minority Leader spoke to the motion.

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Thereafter the motion and amendment were put and negatived on the following division:

AGAINST

Mr. Abraham
Mr. Singh
Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Basir
Cde. Nokta
Cde. Collymore
Cde. R.D. Persaud
Cde. J. Jagan
Cde. C. Jagan

Cde. Daniel
Cde. I. Ally
Cde. Abrahams
Cde. Khan
Cde. Latchminarayan
Cde. Bishop
Cde. Semple
Cde. E. Mohamed
Cde. Trotman
Cde. B. Persaud
Cde. Marshall
Cde. Geddes
Cde. Edwards
Cde. Deygoc
Cde. DeJesus
Cde. Deen
Cde. Cumberbatch
Cde. Chin
Cde. Calistro
Cde. A. Ally
Cde. Munroe
Cde. Doobay
Cde. Davidson
Cde. Beniprashad-Rayman
Cde. M. Ally
Cde. Gill-Mingo
Cde. Fowler
Cde. Ferreira
Cde. Odie-Ali
Cde. Habibulla
Cde. Sawh
Cde. Kissoon
Cde. Sharma
Cde. Johnson
Cde. Harewood-Benn
Cde. Van West-Charles
Cde. Thomas
Cde. Prashad
Cde. Jackson
Cde. Farris
Cde. Burnham
Cde. Chandisingh
Cde. Shahabuddeen
Cde. Green

Total 9

44

ITEM 2 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT ELECTIONS - Notice Paper No. 16 published 1986-03-06

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls on the Government to hold Local Government Elections immediately after a re-constituted Elections Commission has been appointed, a new voters' list prepared and the presence of a Caricom or Commonwealth Observers' Team agreed upon.

The Deputy Speaker was speaking to his motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 16:00 hrs the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 16:30 hrs the sitting was resumed.

The Deputy Speaker concluded his speech.

Cde. Nokta seconded the motion.

The Prime Minister and the Minority Leader spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Deputy Speaker replied.

The Prime Minister concluded the debate on the motion. The motion was put and negatived.

ITEM 3 - MEDICAL FACILITIES IN THE INTERIOR - Notice Paper No. 13 published 1986-03-06

Cde. Janet Jagan moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly recommends that adequate medical personnel be provided in all rural and interior districts and that all health centres be staffed and also provided with sufficient drugs, medical supplies and means of communication so that they can give positive assistance.

Mr. M.A. Abraham seconded and spoke to the motion.

Cde. Nokta and the Minister of Health spoke to the motion.

Thereafter Cde. J. Jagan replied.


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The Minister of Health concluded the debate on the motion.

The motion was put and negatived.

ADJOURNMENT

At 19:00 hrs, on a motion by the Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment, the Assembly was adjourned to 14:00 hrs on Wednesday 1986-06-25.


S. NARAIN
Speaker
86 06 25

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

1986-06-25