

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 21st Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

MONDAY, 17TH DECEMBER, 1973

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

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

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

Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (2)

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

Senior Ministers (7)

The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Works and Communications  
# The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (Absent)  
# The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation  
# The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources  
# The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance  
# Dr. the Honourable K.F.S. King, Minister of Economic Development  
# The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Housing

Ministers (6)

The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour  
The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture  
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House  
# The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird, Minister of Education  
# Dr. the Honourable O.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health  
# The Honourable G.A. King, Minister of Trade

Ministers of State (9)

The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture  
The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)  
The Honourable P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi)  
The Honourable C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister

# Non elected Minister

- The Honourable M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Essequibo Coast/West Demerara)
- # The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of State for Home Affairs
- # The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro) (Absent)
- # The Honourable A. Salim, Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice)
- # The Honourable F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West)

Parliamentary Secretaries (8)

- Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Housing
- Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Communications
- Miss M.M. Ackman, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip
- Mr. E.L. Ambrose, Parliamentary Secretary (Agriculture), Ministry of National Development and Agriculture
- Mr. K.B. Bancroft, Parliamentary Secretary (Hinterland), Ministry of National Development and Agriculture
- Mr. S. Prashad, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation
- Mr. J.P. Chowritmootou, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education
- Mr. R.H.O. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation

Other Members (18)

- Mr. J.N. Aaron
- Mrs. L.M. Branco
- Mr. M. Corrica
- Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
- Miss J. Gill
- Mr. W. Hussain
- Miss S. Jaiserrisingh
- Mr. K.M.E. Jonas
- Mr. M. Nissar
- Dr. L.E. Ramsahoye (Absent - on leave)
- Mr. J.G. Ramson
- Mrs. P.A. Rayman
- Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Mr. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P.
- Mr. C. Sukul, J.P.
- Mr. H.A. Taylor
- Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman
- Mrs. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Deputy Speaker
- Mrs. E. DaSilva

OFFICERS

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

- # Non elected Minister

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

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

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading

- (1) HAND-IN-HAND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1973 - Bill No. 23/1973 published 1.12.73, 8.12.73 and 15.12.73

Mr. Fowler presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE HAND-IN-HAND FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY ORDINANCE.

- (2) DEMERARA MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1973 - Bill No. 24/1973 published 1.12.73, 8.12.73 and 15.12.73

Mrs. Willems presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEMERARA MUTUAL LIFE ASSURANCE SOCIETY ORDINANCE.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONITEM 1 APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1974

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1974 totalling \$337,303,105. (See Appendix to the Minutes of 10th December, 1973)

In Committee of Supply

HEAD 7	PUBLIC AND POLICE SERVICE COMMISSIONS		
	was passed as printed at	... \$	559,988
HEAD 9	OFFICE OF THE PRIME MINISTER AND CABINET		
	was passed as printed at	... \$	513,314
HEAD 10	PRIME MINISTER - GUYANA DEFENCE FORCE		
	was passed as printed at	... \$	13,598,366
	with the following correction:		
	<u>Substitution of "9,395,000" for</u>		
	"19,395,000" opposite "Total Personal		
	Emoluments" in the Column		
	"1974 Estimates".		

DIVISION V - PRIME MINISTER was passed as printed at	... \$ 3,120,000
HEAD 26 - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE was passed as printed at	... \$ 1,223,767
HEAD 27 - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE - AGRICULTURE was passed as printed at	... \$ 3,849,071
HEAD 28 - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE - LANDS was passed as printed at	... \$ 936,620
HEAD 29 - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE - INTERIOR DEVELOPMENT was passed as printed at	... \$ 606,810
HEAD 30 - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE - LAND DEVELOPMENT was passed as printed at	... \$ 1,356,453
DIVISION XIII - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE was passed as printed at	... \$29,914,000
DIVISION XIV - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE - IBRD/IDA PROJECTS - FIRST SEA DEFENCE LOAN was passed as printed at	... \$ 1,565,000
DIVISION XVI - MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT AND AGRICULTURE - IBRD/IDA PROJECTS - SECOND SEA DEFENCE PROJECT was passed as printed at	... \$ 4,000,000

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure.

In Committee of Supply

HEAD 31 - MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT was passed as printed at	... \$ 470,594
DIVISION XVII - MINISTRY OF REGIONAL DEVELOPMENT was passed as printed at	... \$ 516,640

HEAD 12 - MINISTRY OF PUBLIC CORPORATIONS was  
 passed as printed at ... \$ 17,530  
 with the following corrections:

(i) Insertion of "10,320" opposite  
 "item (1) Permanent Secretary"  
 and opposite "Total Personal  
 Emolument " in the "1972  
 Actual" column.

(ii) Substitution of "49,874" for  
 "39,554" opposite "GRAND TOTAL"  
 in the "1971 Actual" column.

HEAD 33 - MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT was  
 passed as printed at ... \$ 1,723,867

DIVISION XIX - MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
 was passed as printed at ... \$22,374,600

HEAD 18 - MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND CULTURE was  
 passed as printed at ... \$ 1,898,503  
 with the following corrections:

(i) Insertion of "44,223" as the  
 "Carried Forward" amount in the  
 last column.

(ii) Substitution of -

(a) "410,714" for "419,714" opposite  
 "Total Personal Emoluments" in the  
 "1973 Revised Estimates" column,

(b) "105,600", "80,000", and "72,278"  
 for "85,600", "30,000", and "88,278",  
 opposite "subhead 21 History and  
 Culture" in the "1974 Estimates",  
 "1973 Approved Estimates" and  
 "1972 Actual" columns, respectively,

(c) "19,000" for "15,000" opposite  
 "subhead 25 Sports Training" in the  
 "1974 Estimates" column,

(d) "36,000" for "60,000" opposite  
 "subhead 29 Staff, Technical and  
 Development" in the "1974 Estimates"  
 column,

(e) "New subhead created by Supple-  
 mentary Estimates in 1973, but no  
 longer required" for "Ditto" at  
 "b" of the "Explanatory Notes".

DIVISION XI - MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND  
 CULTURE was passed as printed at ... \$ 1,850,000

HEAD 19 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS was passed  
 as printed at ... \$ 691,394

HEAD 20 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - POLICE was  
passed as printed at ... \$14,366,518

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.30 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.00 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure.

In Committee

HEAD 21 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - PRISONS  
was passed as printed at \$ 1,689,407

HEAD 22 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - FIRE  
PROTECTION SERVICES was passed as  
printed at ... \$ 1,346,560

HEAD 23 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - REGISTRA-  
TION AND ELECTIONS was passed as  
printed at ... 645,822

HEAD 24 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - PROBATION  
AND WELFARE SERVICE ~~was~~ passed as  
printed at ... \$ 544,910  
with the following correction to  
the Explanatory Notes:

Substitution of "3. Previous provision  
inadequate" for "3. Part provision  
transferred to subhead 1".

HEAD 25 - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS - REGISTRA-  
TION, IMMIGRATION, BIRTHS, ETC. was  
passed as printed at ... 149,624

DIVISION XII - MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS was  
passed as printed at ... \$ 3,663,200  
with the following correction to  
the Explanatory Notes:

Substitution of the word "stallion"  
for the word "station" at subhead 8.

HEAD 13 - PUBLIC SERVICE MINISTRY was passed  
as printed at 519,684

DIVISION VIII - PUBLIC SERVICE MINISTRY was passed  
as printed at ... \$ 1,143,000

/...

At this stage consideration of the Estimates was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed with consideration of the following Bills:

- (i) Guyana Timber Export Board (Amendment) Bill 1973 - Bill No. 26/1973, and
- (ii) Municipal and District Councils (Amendment) Bill 1973 - Bill No. 25/1973.

Assembly resumed.

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2      GUYANA TIMBER EXPORT BOARD (AMENDMENT) BILL 1973  
Bill No. 26/1973 published 5.12.73

The Minister of Energy and Natural Resources moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE GUYANA  
TIMBER EXPORT BOARD ACT 1973.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 3      MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT COUNCILS (AMENDMENT) BILL  
1973 - Bill No. 25/1973 published 5.12.73

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE MUNICIPAL  
AND DISTRICT COUNCILS ACT 1969 AND OTHER  
LAWS.

The Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 - The following amendment by the Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation was put and carried:

Insertion of the words "(No. 2)" immediately after the word "(Amendment)".

Clause 1 was then passed as amended.

Clause 2 was passed with the following corrections:

Substitution of -

- (i) ' "town" means a town established under section 33;' for  
' "Town" means a town established under section 33;'
- (ii) ' "town council" means the municipal council in and  
for a town;' for  
' "Town Council" means the municipal council in and  
for a town;'

Clauses 3 to 20 were passed as printed.

Clause 21 was passed with the following correction:

Substitution of "Section 326" for "Section 324" in the  
first line.

Clauses 22 to 24 were passed as printed.

Clause 25 - The following amendment by the Minister of  
Co-operatives and National Mobilisation was put and  
carried:

Addition of the following subsection as  
subsection (4):

- " (4) Nothing in subsection (2) or (3)  
shall affect any proceedings in  
relation to the liability for the  
payment of rates or the recovery  
thereof, determined before the  
enactment of this Act."

Clause 25 was then passed as amended.

Clause 26 was passed as printed.

The Schedule was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Co-operatives and National  
Mobilisation the Bill was read the third time and passed as  
amended in Committee.

RESUMPTION OF CONSIDERATION OF THE ESTIMATES OF  
EXPENDITURE FOR 1974

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed  
consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure.

In Committee of Supply

HEAD 32 - MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND NATURAL RESOURCES  
was passed as printed at ... \$ 2,321,573

DIVISION XVIII - MINISTRY OF ENERGY AND NATURAL  
RESOURCES was passed as printed at... \$ 4,312,300

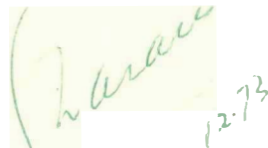


HEAD 69 - MINISTRY OF TRADE was passed as  
printed at ... 388,853

Assembly resumed.

AJJOURNMENT

At 10.10 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, the 18th of December, 1973.



S. NARAIN  
speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.  
18th December, 1973.