

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 24th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 20TH 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 -
on leave)

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

The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National
Mobilisation

The Honourable H.D. 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 (Absent)

Dr. the Honourable O.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health

The Honourable G.A. King, Minister of Trade (Absent)

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) (Absent)

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)(Absent)
- # 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) (Absent)
- # The Honourable F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West)(Absent)

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. Chowritmootoo, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education
- Mr. R.H.D. 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 (Absent - on leave)
- 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.
- 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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

- # Non elected Minister

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

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

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

- (1) By the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development and Agriculture, on behalf of the Prime Minister:

State Paper on National Service for the
Co-operative Republic of Guyana.

(Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Finance:

Financial Paper No. 7/1973 - Schedule of
Supplementary Provision on the Current
Estimates for the period ending 15th
December, 1973.

(Circulated)

The Minister of Finance informed the Assembly that at the appropriate time a motion to suspend Standing Order No. 68(1) would be moved to enable the Assembly to consider the Financial Paper at that sitting.

- (3) By the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice:

Revised Laws of Guyana (12 Volumes)(Revised
under the authority of the Law Revision
Act 1972.)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (1) APPROPRIATION BILL 1973 - Bill No. 31/1973 published
20.12.73

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF THE SUM NECESSARY TO MEET THE EXPENDITURE (NOT OTHERWISE LAWFULLY CHARGED ON THE CONSOLIDATED FUND) OF GUYANA FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1974, ESTIMATES WHEREOF HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND FOR APPROPRIATION OF THAT SUM FOR SPECIFIED PURPOSES, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONSTITUTION.

(2) TAX (AMENDMENT)(NO. 3) BILL 1973 - Bill No. 32/1973
published 20.12.73

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE TAX ORDINANCE.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 - APPROPRIATION BILL 1973 - Bill No. 31/1973 published
20.12.73

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF THE SUM NECESSARY TO MEET THE EXPENDITURE (NOT OTHERWISE LAWFULLY CHARGED ON THE CONSOLIDATED FUND) OF GUYANA FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1974, ESTIMATES WHEREOF HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND FOR APPROPRIATION OF THAT SUM FOR SPECIFIED PURPOSES, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONSTITUTION.

The Bill was read a second time and the third time and was, thereafter, passed as printed.

MOTION

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(2) AND (3)

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, Standing Order No. 46(2) and (3) was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at that sitting with the second reading and remaining stages of the Tax (Amendment)(No. 3) Bill 1973.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 - TAX (AMENDMENT)(NO. 3) BILL 1973 - Bill No. 32/1973
published 20.12.73

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE TAX ORDINANCE.

The Deputy Speaker 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.

MOTIONS

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 68(1)

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, Standing Order No. 68(1) was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at that sitting with consideration of Financial Paper No. 7/1973.

ITEM 3 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 7/1973

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider Financial Paper No. 7/1973.

In Committee of Supply

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 7/1973 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current Estimates for the period ending 15th December, 1973.

After consideration of the Schedule to the Financial Paper, the motion was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

"RESOLVED, That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 7/1973 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current Estimates for the period ending 15th December, 1973."

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 4 TIMBER MARKETING BILL 1973 - Bill No. 28/1973 published 11.12.73

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE CONTROL OF THE SALE AND USE OF TIMBER AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

The Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources 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 was passed as printed.

Clause 2 was passed with the following corrections:

(i) Substitution of the word "or" for the word "of" immediately after the word "treatment" in the second line of the definition of "approved preservative treatment".

(ii) Substitution of the words "any one" ~~for the word~~ "anyone" and the word "erecting" for the word "erection" in the definition of "building operation".

Clauses 3 to 14 were passed as printed.

Clause 15 was passed with the following correction:

Insertion of the word "be" immediately after the word "may" in the last line of subsection (2).

Clause 16 was passed as printed.

Clause 17 was passed with the following correction:

Substitution of the words "to the owner without prejudice to the owner" for the words "penalty than is provided by this Act" in the last line.

Clauses 18 and 19 were passed as printed.

Clause 20: The following amendment by the Deputy Speaker was put and carried:

Deletion of the words "hammer or" in paragraph (d).

Clause 20 was then passed as amended.

Clause 21 was passed as printed.

Clause 22 was passed with the following correction:

Substitution of the word "or" for the word "on" in the second line of subsection (2).

Clauses 23 and 24 were passed as printed.

Clause 25 was passed with the following correction:

Insertion of the word "time" immediately before the word "of" in the last line of subsection (2).

Clauses 26 to 29 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee.

MOTION

ITEM 5 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(3)

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

That paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 46 be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its Sitting on Thursday, the 20th of December, 1973, with the second reading and the remaining stages of the GUYANA CREDIT CORPORATION (DISSOLUTION) BILL 1973 (Bill No. 29/1973 published on 14th December, 1973).

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 6 GUYANA CREDIT CORPORATION (DISSOLUTION) BILL 1973 -
Bill No. 29/1973 published 14.12.73

The Minister of Economic Development, on behalf of the Prime Minister, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE
DISSOLUTION OF THE GUYANA CREDIT CORPORATION
AND FOR RELATED MATTERS.

The Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Economic Development 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

Clauses 1 to 5 were passed as printed.

Clause 6 was passed with the following correction:

Substitution of the word "is" for the word "if" in the third line.

Clause 7 was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Economic Development, the Bill was read the third time and passed as printed.

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND NEW YEAR WISHES

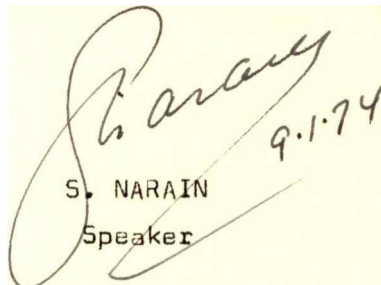
His Honour the Speaker, on behalf of the Staff of Parliament Office and himself, extended Christmas Greetings and New Year Wishes to the Members of the Assembly and their families and to the Press. He requested the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development and Agriculture to convey the greetings to the Prime Minister and his family and the good wishes to the Prime Minister for a speedy recovery from his illness.

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development and Agriculture and the Deputy Speaker thanked His Honour and reciprocated the greetings and wishes to him and his family and also extended greetings and good wishes to the other Members of the Assembly, the Staff of the Parliament Office and the Press.

His Honour the Speaker, on behalf of his family, the Staff of Parliament Office and himself, thanked the Members.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.55 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. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
8th January, 1974.