

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1975

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 56th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 29TH JANUARY, 1975

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

Senior Ministers (8)

- The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Economic Development  
# 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 (Absent) ✓  
# The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources (Absent)  
# The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance  
# The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Works and Housing  
# The Honourable G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent- on leave)  
# The Honourable G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture

Ministers (5)

- The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour (Absent)  
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 and Social Development  
# Dr. the Honourable G.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health

Ministers of State (10)

- The Honourable M. Kusim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture (Absent- on leave)  
The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)  
# Non elected Minister

- The Honourable P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional  
(Rupununi)
- The Honourable C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the  
Prime Minister
- The Honourable M. Zagheruddeen, J.P., Minister of State - Regional  
(Essequibo Coast/West Demerara)
- Honourable K.B. Bancroft, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/  
Potaro)
- # The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of State for Home Affairs
- # The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State for Consumer Protection  
(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 (7)

- Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and  
Housing
- Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P. Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works  
and Housing
- Miss M.M. Ackman, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime  
Minister, and Government Chief Whip
- Mr. E.L. Ambrose, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture
- Mr. S. Prashad, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Cooperatives  
and National Mobilisation
- Mr. J.P. Chawmootoo, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of  
Education and Social Development
- Mr. R.H.O. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister

#### Deputy Speaker (1)

- Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman,

#### Other Members (17)

- Mr. J.N. Aaron
- Mrs. L.M. Branco
- Mr. M. Corrica (Absent- on leave)
- 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
- Mr. J.G. Ramson
- Mrs. P.A. Rayman (Absent- on leave)
- Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
- Mr. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P.
- Mr. C. Sukul, J.P.
- Mr. H.A. Taylor
- Mrs. L.E. Williams

#### Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Leader of the Opposition
- 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 SPEAKERLeave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (i) Mr. King for the period 27th January to 7th February, 1975, and
- (ii) Mr. Kasim, Mr. Corrica and Mrs. Rayman for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

- (1) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice:

Offences (Application of Certain Provisions) Order 1974 (No. 167), made under section 8 of the Summary Jurisdiction (Procedure) Act, Chapter 10:02, on the 30th of December, 1974, and published in the Gazette on the 31st of December, 1974.

(L 92/4 II)

- (2) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation:

Annual Report of the Local Government Division of the Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation for the year 1973.

(LG:10/11 VII;(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading

- (1) PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 4/1975 published 21.1.75

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE PENSIONS ACT.

(2) MINERS ASSISTANCE BILL 1975 - Bill No. 5/1975

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MINERS ASSISTANCE FUND TO AID MINERS IN THE ORDERLY AND EFFECTIVE EXTRACTION OF VALUABLE MINERALS.

(3) DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 6/1975

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION ACT.

(4) EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (INCORPORATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 1/1975 published 11.1.75, 18.1.75 and 25.1.75

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (INCORPORATION) ORDINANCE.

PUBLIC BUSINESSCongratulations to the Speaker on his 50th birthday

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Government, and the Leader of the Opposition, on behalf of the Opposition, congratulated His Honour the Speaker on his attainment of his fiftieth birthday on 27th January, 1975.

His Honour the Speaker thanked the Members for the expression of their kind sentiments.

BILL - Second and Third ReadingsITEM 1 - TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION BILL 1974 - Bill No. 43/1974 published 28.12.74

The Minister of Education and Social Development moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION, TO PRESCRIBE THE FUNCTIONS OF THE COMMISSION AND TO PROVIDE FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Mrs. Da Silva spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Education and Social 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

Clause 1: The Chairman requested that "1975" be substituted for "1974" in Clause 1 and wherever it appeared in the Bill.

Clause 1 was then passed as corrected.

Clause 2: The following amendments by the Minister of Education and Social Development were put and carried:

(a) Insertion of the word "a" immediately after the word "be" in paragraph (b) in the definition of the expression "government school".

(b) Substitution of the following paragraph for paragraph (d) -

"(d) any other school or other place of education established and maintained wholly out of monies provided by Parliament as may be specified as being included in the expression for the purposes of this Act by the Minister by order;"

Clause 2 was then passed as amended.

Clause 3: The following amendments by Mrs. Da Silva were put and negatived:

(a) Insertion of the words "with the Leader of the Opposition and" between the word "consulted" and the word "with" in subsection (2)(a).

(b) Addition of the words "after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition" after the words "Prime Minister" in subsection (2)(e).

(c) Addition of the words "after consultation with the Leader of the Opposition" after the words "Prime Minister" in subsection (4).

Clause 3 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 4 to 11 were passed as printed.

Clause 12: The following amendment by the Leader of the Opposition was put and negatived:

Substitution of the words "affirmative resolution" for the words "negative resolution" in subsection (1).

Clause 12 was then passed as printed.

Clause 13: (1) The following amendment by Mrs. DaSilva was put and negatived:

Deletion of subsection 2(c) and substitution of the following therefor:

"(c) with the concurrence of the governing body, appoint an applicant to fill the vacancy notwithstanding that there is no agreement between the Commission and the governing body on the list compiled by the governing body."

(2) The following amendments by the Minister of Education and Social Development were put and carried:

(a) Insertion of the words "to fill the vacancy" immediately after the word "teacher" in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2);

(b) Substitution of a full stop for the semi-colon after the word "list" at the end of paragraph (b) of subsection (2) and deletion of all the words following thereafter in that subsection; and

(c) Insertion of the following subsection as subsection (3) of the section -

"(3) Where the Commission and the governing body have failed to reach agreement on the list compiled by the governing body the Commission may, after consultation with the governing body, appoint an applicant to fill the vacancy."

Clause 13 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 14 to 16 were passed as printed.

Clause 17: The following amendment by the Minister of Education and Social Development was put and carried:

Substitution of the word "Minister" for the word "President" in subsection (1).

Clauses 18 to 23 were passed as printed.

The First, Second and Third Schedules were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Education and Social Development the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee.

#### SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.15 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

#### RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.40 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

#### MOTION

#### ITEM 2 - GUARANTEE OF CREDITS TO GUYANA RICE BOARD

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Guyana Rice Board requires overdraft facilities of up to thirty-five million dollars to carry out its functions properly;

AND WHEREAS the Guyana National Co-operative Bank, the Royal Bank of Canada and Barclays Bank International Limited, are prepared to enter into Agreements with the Board to provide overdraft facilities not exceeding the sum of \$35 million provided the credits are guaranteed by the Government of Guyana:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly authorises the Minister of Finance or such other person duly authorised by him, acting on behalf of the Government of Guyana, to enter into Agreements as guarantor to the Guyana National Co-operative Bank, the Royal Bank of Canada and Barclays Bank International Limited for the purpose of guaranteeing credits by way of overdraft facilities to the Guyana Rice Board amounting in the aggregate to \$35 million.

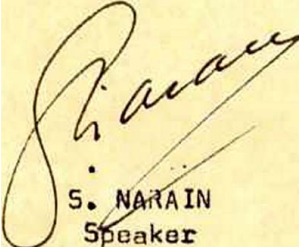
The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.20 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.

1st February, 1975.