

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1977

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 122nd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1977

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (48)

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., M.P., Prime Minister (Absent)

Deputy Prime Minister (1)

Cde. P.A. Reid, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development (Absent - on leave)

Senior Ministers (8)

- Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives (Absent - on leave)
- * Cde. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Health, Housing and Labour (Absent - on leave)
 - * Cde. H.O. Jack, M.P., Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
 - * Cde. F.E. Hope, M.P., Minister of Finance
 - * Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P., Minister of Works and Transport
 - * Cde. G.A. King, M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent - on leave)
 - * Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture
 - * Cde. F.R. Wills, S.C., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (Absent)

Ministers (4)

- Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, M.P., Minister of Information
- Cde. B. Ramsaroop, M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House
- * Cde. C.V. Mingo, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs
 - * Cde. V.R. Teekah, M.P., Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture

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Ministers of State (9)

- Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/
Corentyne (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Economic
Development and Co-operatives
- Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P., Minister of State, Office of the Prime
Minister
- Cde. K.B. Bancroft, J.P., M.P., Minister of State - Regional
(Mazaruni/Potaro) (Absent)
- Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P., Minister of State - Regional
(Essequibo Coast/West Demerara) (Absent)
- Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Health,
Housing and Labour
- Cde. R.H.D. Corbin, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of National X
Development
- * Cde. A. Salim, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/
West Coast Berbice) (Absent)
- * Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (North
West) (Absent)

Parliamentary Secretaries (4)

- Cde. M.M. Ackman, C.C.H., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the
Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip
- Cde. E.L. Ambrose, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Economic
Development and Co-operatives
- Cde. M. Corrica, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education,
Social Development and Culture

Other Members (21)

- Cde. E.M. Bynoe, M.P.
- Cde. W.G. Carrington, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Haynes, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.
- Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh, M.P.
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. M. Nissar, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye, M.P.
- Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
- Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
- Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., M.P.
- Cde. C. Sukul, J.P., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. H.A. Taylor, M.P.
- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Willems, M.P.
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, M.P.

Members of the Opposition (16)(i) People's Progressive Party (14)Leader of the Opposition (1)

- Cde. C. Jagan, M.P., Leader of the Opposition (Absent - on leave)

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Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Ram Karran, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Other Members (12)

Cde. J. Jagan, M.P.
 Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Opposition Chief Whip
 Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.
 Cde. C. Collymore, M.P.
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.
 Cde. L. Lalbahadur, M.P.
 Cde. I. Basir, M.P.
 Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.
 Cde. R. Ally, M.P.
 Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Dindayal, M.P.
 Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P., M.P.
 Mrs. E. Da Silva, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

OFFICERS

Clerk of the National Assembly (F.A. Narain)
 Acting Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (A. Knight)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

OATH

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had been advised that Cde. Vincent Rambeer Teekah had been appointed to be a Minister and had been designated Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture, with effect from 4th April, 1977.

As Cde. Teekah was not an Elected Member of the National Assembly at the time of his appointment, he had, in accordance with article 34(6) of the Constitution, by virtue of holding the Office of Minister, become a Member of the Assembly.

Before Cde. Teekah could take part in the proceedings of the Assembly, he would have, as required by article 76 of the Constitution, to make and subscribe before the Assembly, the Oath of Office.

Cde. Teekah thereupon made and subscribed the Oath of Office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) Election of Member

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had been informed that Cde. William Haynes had ceased to be a Minister with effect from 4th April, 1977.

As Cde. Haynes was not an Elected Member of the National Assembly at the time of his appointment, he had also ceased to be a Member of the Assembly.

Following his call upon the Representative of the People's National Congress List of Candidates, the name William Haynes had been extracted from the list as the person to fill the seat in the National Assembly made vacant by the death of Cde. Branco and Cde. Haynes had been declared to be elected as a Member of the National Assembly.

(ii) Appointments and Changes, etc.

The Speaker announced for the information of Members and for the records of the Assembly, the further appointments and changes which had been made with effect from 4th April, 1977, as follows:-

- (a) Cde. Cecilene Leona Baird and Cde. Oliver Montgomery Roberts Harper had ceased to be Ministers. As they were not Elected Members of the Assembly, they had also ceased to be Members thereof.
- (b) Cde. Winslow George Carrington and Cde. Mohamed Kasim had ceased to be Ministers. As they were Elected Members of the Assembly, they continued to be Members thereof.
- (c) Cde. Robert Corbin and Cde. Jeffrey Thomas, who had been Parliamentary Secretaries, Ministry of Education and Social Development, and Ministry of National Development, had been appointed Ministers of State, Ministry of National Development, and Ministry of Health, Housing and Labour, respectively.
- (d) Cde. Seeram Prashad and Cde. Malcolm Corrica, who had been Parliamentary Secretaries, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation, and Ministry of Works and Housing, had been appointed to be Parliamentary Secretaries to assist the Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives, and the Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture, respectively.

(iii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cdes. Reid, Hoyte, Green, Clarke, Nascimento, Carrington, Haynes, Kasim and Mrs. Da Silva for that sitting,
- (b) Cde. King for the period 5th to 25th April, 1977,
- (c) Cde. Sukul for the period 1st to 15th April, 1977, and
- (d) Cde. C. Jagan for the period 7th April to 7th May, 1977.

(iv) Acting Leader of the Opposition

The Speaker announced that he had been informed by Cde. C. Jagan that during his absence, Cde. Ram Karran would act as Leader of the Opposition.

(v) Congratulations

On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker welcomed back to the Assembly, Cde. Vincent Teekah, and extended congratulations and best wishes to him and to the new Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries and also to the Acting Leader of the Opposition on their appointments and assignments.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading

MISCELLANEOUS ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 -
Bill No. 9/1977 published 16.4.77

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN
 ENACTMENTS.

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 - GENERAL LOCAL LOAN (AMENDMENT) BILL - Bill No. 6/1977
published 19.3.77

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
 GENERAL LOCAL LOAN ACT.

Cde. Lalbahadur spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 2 - NATIONAL DEFENCE BONDS BILL 1977 - Bill No. 8/1977
published 30.3.77

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AUTHORISE
 THE RAISING OF MONEY BY THE ISSUE
 OF DEFENCE BONDS.

The Acting Leader of the Opposition and Mr. Singh spoke to the motion.

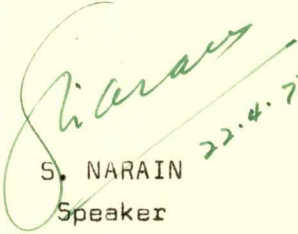
The Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.59 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.

22nd April, 1977