

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1978

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 152nd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

FRIDAY, 17TH MARCH, 1978

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

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

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (49)

Prime Minister (1)

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

Deputy Prime Minister (1)

Cde. P.A. Reid, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development

Senior Ministers (8)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives (Absent)

- \* Cde. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Health, Housing and Labour (Absent)
- \* 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 (Absent)
- \* Cde. G.A. King, M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection
- \* Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture (Absent)
- \* Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, C.C.H., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Justice (Absent)

Ministers (5)

Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, M.P., Minister of Information (Absent)

Cde. B. Ramsaroop, M.P., Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House

- \* Cde. C.V. Mingo, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs (Absent)
- \* Cde. V.R. Teekah, M.P., Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture (Absent)
- \* Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent - on leave)

Ministers of State (9)

Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)

Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Economic Development and Co-operatives

\* Non elected Minister

- Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P., Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)
- Cde. K.B. Bancroft, J.P., M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro)
- 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.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of National Development (Absent)
- \* Cde. A. Salim, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice)
- \* Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (North West)

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. L. Durant, M.P.
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.
- Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh, M.P.
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P.
- Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., M.P.
- 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. (Absent)
- Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., M.P.
- Cde. C. Sukul, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. H.A. Taylor, M.P.
- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Willems, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, M.P.

Members of the Opposition (15)

(i) People's Progressive Party (14)

Leader of the Opposition (1)

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

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

\* Non elected Minister

Other Members (12)

Cde. J. Jagan, M.P. (Absent)  
 Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Opposition Chief Whip  
 Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.  
 Cde. C. Collymore, M.P. (Absent)  
 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 (1)

Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P., M.P.

OFFICERS

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Burnham and Carrington for that sitting.

Expression of Thanks

The Speaker informed Members that he had received a letter from Mr. C.C. Da Silva, widower of the late Mrs. Elinor Da Silva, M.P., expressing thanks for the Motion of Condolence passed by the Assembly at its sitting on 13th March, 1978.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

Financial Paper No. 1/1978 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates (Advances made from the Contingencies Fund in 1977) for the period ended 31st December, 1977, totalling \$13,159,040.

(ST:10/4)(Circulated)

In terms of Standing Order No. 68, the Minister of Finance named Monday, 20th March, 1978, as the day for the consideration of the Financial Paper.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONITEM 1 RESUMPTION OF APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1978

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1978, totalling \$476,515,775.

In Committee of Supply

HEAD 5	AUDIT was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 901,238
HEAD 80	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 847,732
HEAD 81	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE • ACCOUNTANT GENERAL was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 3,144,674
HEAD 82	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE - CUSTOMS AND EXCISE was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 3,006,232
HEAD 83	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE - INLAND REVENUE was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 4,341,426
HEAD 84	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE - PENSIONS AND GRATUITIES was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 3,136,791
HEAD 85	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE - PUBLIC DEBT was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 160,144
HEAD 86	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE - REVISION OF WAGES, SALARIES AND RETIRED PAYMENTS was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 300
HEAD 87	MINISTRY OF FINANCE - POST OFFICE SAVINGS BANK was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$ 7
DIVISION XXXI	- MINISTRY OF FINANCE was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	... \$27,217,768

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 3.57 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.20 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

RESUMPTION OF APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1978

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1978.

In Committee of Supply

HEAD 16 - MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS was  
passed as printed at ... \$11,923,418

DIVISION IX - MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS was  
passed as printed at ... \$ 200,000

Assembly resumed.

The Minister of Finance reported to the Assembly that the Committee of Supply had concluded consideration and had approved of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1978.

Thereafter, the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1978 totalling \$476,515,775, was put and carried.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 12

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, and with the leave of the Speaker, Standing Order No. 12 was suspended to enable the Minister of Finance to introduce the APPROPRIATION BILL 1978 at that stage.

APPROPRIATION BILL 1978 - Bill No. 7/1978  
published 17.3.78

Presentation and First Reading

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

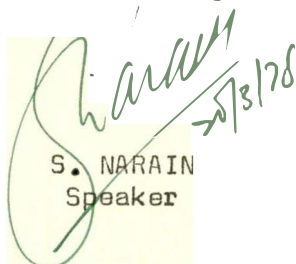
A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUE FROM THE CONSOLIDATED FUND OF THE SUM NECESSARY TO MEET THE EXPENDITURE (NOT OTHERWISE LAWFULLY CHARGED ON THE CONSOLIDATED FUND) OF GUYANA FOR THE FINANCIAL YEAR ENDING 31ST DECEMBER, 1978, ESTIMATES WHEREOF HAVE BEEN APPROVED BY THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, AND FOR THE APPROPRIATION OF THAT SUM FOR SPECIFIED PURPOSES, IN CONFORMITY WITH THE CONSTITUTION.

Second and Third Readings

On motions by the Minister of Finance, the Bill was read a second and the third times and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.50 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 Monday, 20th March, 1978.

 20/3/78  
 S. NARAIN  
 Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
 Public Buildings,  
 Georgetown.  
 20th March, 1978.