FIRST SESSION:

1973 - 1979

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 172md Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

 ΩN

THURSDAY, 4TH JANUARY, 1979

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (62)

Speaker

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

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (45)

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

Senior Ministers (12)

- Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives
- Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P., Minister of Works and Transport 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 on leave)
- 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 (Absent)
- Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture
- Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, C.E.H., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Justice (Absent - on leave)
- 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)
- Cde. J.A. Tyndall, A.A., M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

Ministers (2)

Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, M.P., Minister of Information (Absent- on leave) Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P., Minister - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)

^{*} Non elected Minister

Ministers of State (10)

- Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State Regional (Rupununi)
- 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 (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)
- Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Health, Housing and Labour (Absent on leave)
- Cde. R.H.O. Corbib, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of National Development
- Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of State Regional (East Demerara/ West Coast Berbice)
- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. L.A. Durant, M.P., Minister of State Regional (North West)

Parliamentary Secretaries (5)

- 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. M. Corrica, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture (Absent on leave)
- Cde. E.M. Bynoe, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Economic Development and Co-operatives

Other Members (14)

- Cde. W.G. Carrington, M.P. (Absent on leave)
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Hussian, M.P.
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P.
- Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
- Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
- Cde. A. Salim, 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.
- Cde. H.A. Taylor, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Willems, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. M. Zahoeruddeen, 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

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

Other Members (12)

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

Cde. N. Persaud, M.P. (Absent) Cde. C. Collymore, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. (Absent)

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. (Absent)

Cde. P. Sukhai, M.P. (Absent)

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P., M.P. (Absent) Mr. M.A. Abraham, M.P. (Absent)

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 SPEAKER

(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Mingo, Shahabuddeen, Field-Ridley, Thomas, Corrica and Carrington for that sitting.

(ii) Award to Cdo. C. Jagan by the U.S.S.R.

On behalf of Members and himself, the Speaker congratulated Cde. C. Jagan on the award to him of the Order of Friendship with the Peoples by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

(iii) New Year Greetings

The Speaker extended New Year Greetings to the Members of the Assembly, the Staff of Parliament Office and the Press.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House and the Leader of the Opposition reciprocated.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Erosion on the Esseguibo Coast

The Minister of Agriculture made a statement in connection with the erosion which was taking place along the eleven-mile stretch between La Belle Alliance and Somorset and Berks on the Essequibo Coast.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE.

Breaches in the sea defences on the Eesequibo Coast

The Leader of the Opposition sought leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing breaches in the sea defences on the Essequibo Coast.

The Speaker did not allow the claim as he was not satisfied that it qualified as a matter to be raised on a motion for the adjournment of the Assembly.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

(1) LOCAL AUTHORITIES POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS BILL 1978 - Bill No 26 1978 ublished 21.12.78

The Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

- A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE FURTHER POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS OF COUNCILLORS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.
- (2) GUYANA FORESTRY COMMISSION BILL 1978 Bill No. 27/1978 published 23.12.78

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 PROVIDE FOR THE.
ESTABLISHMENT AND THE FUNCTIONS OF THE:
GUYANA FORESTRY COMMISSION AND FOR PURPOSES.
CONNECTED THEREWITH.

ADJOURNMENT:

At 2.38 p.m., on © motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m on Monday, 8th January, 1979.

S.NARAIN

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Georgetown, 6th January, 1979.

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