

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA.

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1979

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 174th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

At 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 8TH FEBRUARY, 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 - on leave)

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 (Absent)
- Cde. S.S. Naraino, A.A., M.P., Minister of Works and Transport (Absent - on leave)
- 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. 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 (Absent)
- * Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
- * Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, C.C.H., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Justice (Absent)
- * Cde. V.R. Teekah, M.P., Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture
- * Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent - on leave)
- * Cde. J.A. Tyndall, A.A., M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent)

Ministers (3)

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

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

Cde. C.A. Nascimonto, M.P., Minister, Office of the Prime Minister

* Non elected Minister

Ministers of State (9)

- 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. 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
- Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of National Development (Absent)
- 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.
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Hussain, 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. Williams, M.P.
- Cde. M. Zahocruddoon, 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)

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

Other Members (12)

Cde. J. Jagan, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. Roopu 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. (Absent)
Cde. R. Ally, M.P.
Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P. (Absent)
Cde. Dindyal, 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.
Mr. M.A. Abraham, 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 SPEAKER

(i) Designation of Cde. Nascimento as a Minister

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Cde. C.A. Nascimento, who had been a Minister of State, had been designated a Minister with effect from 1st February, 1979. On behalf of Members and himself, the Speaker extended congratulation to Cde. Nascimento on his preferment.

Cde. Nascimento thanked the Speaker and Members.

(ii) Return of Mr. Singh

The Speaker welcomed Mr. Singh back to the Assembly after an extended period of absence due to medical reasons.

Mr. Singh thanked the Speaker.

(iii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cdes. Burnham, Green and Kennard for that sitting,
- (b) Cde. S.S. Naraine up to 28th February, 1979, and
- (c) Cde. Jackson up to 22nd February, 1979.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

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

Pensions (Designated Service) Order 1978 (No. 2 of 1979) made under section 23 of the Pensions Act, Chapter 27:02, on the 22nd of December, 1978 and published in the Gazette on the 6th of January, 1979.

(PS: 24/10)(Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Finance:

Report and Accounts of the Guyana Co-operative Insurance Service for the year ended 31st December, 1977.

(Circulated)

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

Office of the Ombudsman

A claim by Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud to move the adjournment of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing the Office of the Ombudsman, was not allowed by the Speaker, as the matter did not qualify as one to be raised on a motion for the adjournment of the Assembly.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (1) MEDICAL SERVICE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979.- Bill No. 1/1979 published 27.1.79

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Health, Housing and Labour, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE COLONIAL MEDICAL SERVICE ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF RECONSTITUTING THE MEDICAL BOARD AND TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS PRACTISING OSTEOPATHY AND THE REGULATION OF THE PRACTICE OF OSTEOPATHY IN GUYANA.

5.

(2) RENT CONTROL SPECIAL PROVISIONS BILL 1979 -
Bill NO. 2 1979 published 27.1.79

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Health, Housing and Labour presented the following Bill which was read a first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION
FOR A FURTHER EXTENSION OF THE PERIOD
DURING WHICH RENTS WILL BE CONTROLLED
AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

(3) GUYANA MINING COMMISSION BILL 1979 - Bill No. 3/1979

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 AND THE FUNCTIONS OF
THE GUYANA MINING COMMISSION AND FOR
PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.18 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, 12th February, 1979.

S. Varain
S. VARAIN
Speaker 9.2.79.

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown
9th February, 1979