

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION.

1973 1979

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 176th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

MONDAY, 12TH MARCH, 1979

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (63)

Speaker.

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

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (46)

Prime Minister (1)

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

Deputy Prime Minister (1)

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

Senior Ministers (12)

Cde. H.D. Hoyto, 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

* Cde. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Health, Housing and Labour

* Cde. H.O. Jack, M.P., Minister of Energy and Natural Resources Resources (Absent)

* Cde. F.E. Hope, M.P., Minister of Finance

* Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture

* Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, C.C.H., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Justice

* Cde. V.R. Teekah, M.P., Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture

* Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

* Cde. J.A. Tyndall, A.A., M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent - on leave)

Ministers (2)

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

Cde. C.A. Nascimento, Minister, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)

* 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. K.D. 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, Office of the Prime Minister
- Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, 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)
- * Cde. F.U.A. Campbell, M.P., Minister of State for Information, Ministry of National Development

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
- 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 (15)

- Cde. W.G. Carrington, C.C.H., M.P.
- Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
- Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
- Cde. A. Salim, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- 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. L.E. Willems, M.P.
- Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, M.P. (Absent)

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)

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.
 Cde. Reepu Daman Porsaud, J.P., M.P., Opposition Chief Whip
 Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.
 Cde. C. Collymore, M.P.
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, 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.
 Cde. P. Sukhai, M.P.

(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.

OATH Cde. Frank Ulan August Campbell

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Cde. Frank Ulan August Campbell had been appointed a Minister and had been designated Minister of State for Information, Ministry of National Development, with effect from 1st March, 1979. Although Cde. Campbell was not an elected Member of the National Assembly at the time of his appointment he had, nevertheless, in accordance with article 34(6) of the Constitution, by virtue of holding the Office of Minister, become a member of the Assembly.

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

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cdes. Nascimento and Salim for that sitting,
- (b) Cde. Field-Ridley from 12th to 31st March, 1979, and,
- (c) Cde. C. Jagan for 2 weeks from 3rd March, 1979.

(ii) Resignation of Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley as a Minister

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley had resigned as a Minister with effect from 1st March, 1979.

(iii) Congratulations to New Minister

On behalf of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker congratulated Cde. Campbell on his appointment as a Minister and welcomed him to the Assembly.

(iv) Congratulations on National Honours

The Speaker stated that in the recent announcement of appointments to and awards within the Orders of Guyana, made by His Excellency the President on the occasion of the Ninth Anniversary of the Republic of Guyana, one Member and two former Members of the National Assembly had been granted awards.

Cde. Winslow Carrington, a Member of the National Assembly and Director of the Critchlow Labour College, had been awarded the Cacique Crown of Honour for political and Trade Union services of exceptionally high quality.

Cde. Mohamed Kasim, a former Minister of State for Agriculture had been awarded the Cacique Crown of Honour for political services of exceptionally high quality.

Cde. Rupert Tello, a former Member of the National Assembly, had been awarded the Medal of Service for dedicated service as a Trade Unionist and politician.

On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker extended congratulations to the three persons.

(v) Acting Leader of the Opposition

The Speaker stated that he had been advised that during the period of absence of Cde. Cheddi Jagan, Cde. Ram Karran would be acting as Leader of the Opposition.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS, AND REPORTS, ETC.(1) By the Prime Minister:

Public Corporations (Broadcasting) (Amendment) Order 1979 (No. 11), made under section 46 of the Public Corporations Act, Chapter 19:05, on the 27th of January, 1979, and published in the Gazette on the 10th of February, 1979.

(GSC: 1/309/4)(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives:

Estimates of the Revenues and Expenditure for the financial year 1979.

(E.1^{VII})(Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Finance:

(a) State Pension (DOROTHY KING) Order 1979 (No. 9), made under section 4 of the State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on the 15th of January, 1979, and published in the Gazette on the 27th of January, 1979.

(ST: 4/24)(Circulated)

5.

- (b) Development Credit Agreement (Black Bush Irrigation Project) between Guyana and International Development Association - Dated December 4, 1978 - Credit Number 820 GUA.

(ST: 3/2/2/1/1)

- (c) Loan Agreement (Black Bush Irrigation Project) between Guyana and International Fund for Agricultural Development - Dated December 4, 1978 - Loan Number 3 - GUA.

(ST: 3/2/2/1/1)

- (d) Loan Contract between Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Project for the Irrigation and Drainage of the Black Bush Area) - December 4, 1978 - Loan Number 559/SF-GY - Resolution No. DE-147/78.

(ST: 3/2/2/1/1)

- (e) Loan Agreement (Caribbean Development Facility) between Caribbean Development Bank and Guyana - Dated November 20, 1978 - Loan No. 4/SFR-GU.

(ST: 3/2/6/12)

- (f) Project Loan Agreement between Guyana and the United States of America for Rural Roads - Dated December 30, 1978 - A.I.D. Project - No. 504-0068.

(ST: 3/2/4/13)

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY
AND MOVED BY A MINISTER -

Suspension of Standing Orders Nos. 9(2) and 32(9)

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, Standing Orders Nos. 9(2) and 32(9) were suspended to enable the Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives to complete the reading of the Budget Speech uninterrupted, and to enable the sitting to continue without being suspended at 4.00 o'clock.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONBUDGET FOR 1979


In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution the Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives signified that Cabinet had recommended that the Assembly should proceed upon the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1979 of a total sum of \$620,270,952, net of appropriation-in-aid, and excluding \$248,393,517, which is chargeable by law. (See Appendix).

The Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives then moved the motion for the approval of the estimates of expenditure for 1979, and read the Budget Speech.

Thereafter, the Minister named Thursday, 15th March, 1979, as the day for the resumption of the debate on the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.56 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 Thursday, 15th March, 1979.


S. NARAIN
Speaker
15/3/79

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
15th March, 1979.

APPENDIX

MOTION BY THE MINISTER OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT
AND CO-OPERATIVES

WHEREAS the Constitution of Guyana require that estimates of the revenue and expenditure of Guyana for any financial year should be laid before the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the Constitution also provides that when the estimates of expenditure have been approved by the Assembly an Appropriation Bill shall be introduced in the Assembly providing for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet that expenditure;

AND WHEREAS estimates of revenue and expenditure of Guyana for the financial year 1979 have been prepared and laid before the Assembly on 12th March, 1979:

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approve the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1979, of a total sum of six hundred and twenty-million, two hundred and seventy thousand, nine hundred and fifty-two dollars, net of appropriation-in-aid, and excluding two hundred and forty-eight million, three hundred and nine-thousand, five hundred and seventeen dollars, which is chargeable by law, as detailed therein and summarized in the undermentioned schedule, and agree that it is expedient to amend the law and to make further provision in respect of finance.

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)	2.	AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current
	1	Office of the President		199,403
I		President		
	2	Supreme Court of Judicature		1,109,493
	3	Magistrates		1,460,306
II		Judiciary		
	4	Parliament Office		210,914
III		Parliament		
	5	Audit		1,098,323
	6	Ombudsman		36,821
	7	Public and Police Service Commissions		812,909
	8	Teaching Service Commission		207,219
	9	Public Prosecutions		264,609
IV		Other Services not under Ministerial Control		
	10	Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet		1,402,510
	11	Guyana Defence Force		39,900,000
	12	Internal Security		
V		Prime Minister	15,345,000	
	13	Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs		29,483
VI		Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs		
	14	Ministry of Public Corporations		17,793
VII		Ministry of Public Corporations		
	15	Public Service Ministry		1,736,172
VIII		Public Service Ministry	12,493,000	
	16	Ministry of Foreign Affairs		13,637,859
IX		Ministry of Foreign Affairs	380,000	
	17	Attorney General		621,765

Division No. Ca ital	Head No. Current	3.	AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current
	18	Attorney General - Official Receiver		141,282
	19	Attorney General - Deeds Registry		247,394
X		Attorney General		
	20	Ministry of Information		3,716,921
XI		Ministry of Information	796,000	
	21	Ministry of Home Affairs		1,353,655
	22	Ministry of Home Affairs - Police		23,655,907
	23	Ministry of Home Affairs - Prisons		2,789,606
	24	Ministry of Home Affairs - Fire Protection Services		2,251,682
	25	Ministry of Home Affairs - Registration and Elections -		3,658,044
	26	Ministry of Home Affairs - Registration, Immigration, Births, etc.		220,365
XII		Ministry of Home Affairs	1,230,000	
	27	Ministry of Agriculture		2,256,713
	28	Ministry of Agriculture - Agriculture		7,785,721
	29	Ministry of Agriculture - Lands and Surveys		4,051,665
	30	Ministry of Agriculture - Hydraulics		4,108,097
XIII		Ministry of Agriculture	52,722,000	
XIV		Ministry of Agriculture IBRD/IDA Projects Livestock Development		
XV		Ministry of Agriculture IBRD/IDA Projects Second Soa Defence Project	1,735,000	
XVI		Ministry of Agriculture IBRD/IDA Projects Tapakuma Irrigation Project	15,350,000	
XVI A		Ministry of Agriculture Tapakuma Irrigation Project	7,600,000	
	31	Ministry of National Development		7,890,145

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)	4.	AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current
XVII		Ministry of National Development		
	32	Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources		2,825,472
XVIII		Ministry of Energy and Natural Resources	4,756,600	
	33	Ministry of Economic Development		2,432,039
XIX		Ministry of Economic Development	20,476,000	
	34	Ministry of Regional Development		7,002,789
XX		Ministry of Regional Development	3,979,600	
	35	Ministry of Housing		1,669,224
XXI		Ministry of Housing	3,237,000	
	36	Ministry of Works and Transport (Works)		35,857,578
XXII		Ministry of Works and Transport (Works)	36,727,600	
XXIII		Ministry of Works and Transport (Works) - IBRD/IDA Projects West Coast Demerara Road Project	6,786,000	
	37	Ministry of Works and Transport (Transport)		989,017
	38	Ministry of Works and Transport (Transport) - Post Office		29
	39	Ministry of Works and Transport (Transport) - Transport and Harbours		3,500,000
	40	Ministry of Works and Transport (Transport) - Civil Aviation		2,199,923
XXIV		Ministry of Works and Transport (Transport)	17,425,000	
	41	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture		16,171,497
	42	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Culture		1,386,533
	43	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - In Service Teacher Training Programme		370,081

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)	AMOUNT	
		Capital \$	Current
44	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Primary and Secondary Schools		49,742,679
45	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Nursery Schools		8,156,000
46	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Practical Instruction Centres		3,110,966
47	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Cyril Potter College of Education		1,111,976
48	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Technical Institute Georgetown		1,053,936
49	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Carnegie School of Home Economics		194,755
50	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Queen's College		573,428
51	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Bishops' High School		460,660
52	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Anna Regina Secondary School		2
53	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Berbice High School		281,772
54	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - New Amsterdam Technical Institute		759,407
55	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Lilian Dewar College of Education		313,665
	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Curriculum Development Unit		874,996
57	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Guyana Industrial Training Centre		229,703
58	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture Probation and Welfare Service		863,054

Division No. (Capital)	Head No. (Current)		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
	59	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Gygeval/Mahaica Secondary School - Multilateral		522,800
	60	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Anna Regina Secondary School - Multilateral		734,336
	61	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Bladen Hall Secondary School - Multilateral		582,026
	62	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - New Amsterdam Secondary School - Multilateral		622,801
	63	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Christainburg/Wismar Secondary School - Multilateral		494,031
	64	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Ruimveldt Secondary School - Multilateral		560,040
	65	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Port Kaituma Community High School (Residential)		577,700
	66	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Kwakwani Residential Secondary School		
	67	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - Mabaruma Residential Secondary School		
	68	Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - St. Ignatius Residential Secondary School		
XXV		Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture	7,543,000	
XXVI		Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - IBRD/IDA Projects First Education Project		

7.

Division No. Ca ital	Head No. Current		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
XXVII		Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture - IBRD/IDA Projects Second Education Project	10,000,000	
	69	Ministry of Health		1,805,731
	70	Ministry of Health - Medical		7,631,910
	71	Ministry of Health - Pathological		1,116,432
	72	Ministry of Health - Radiological		448,323
	73	Ministry of Health - Hospitals and Dispensaries		27,270,806
	74	Ministry of Health - Analyst		404,626
	75	Ministry of Health - Palms		1,032,806
XXVIII		Ministry of Health	8,932,000	
	76	Ministry of Labour		1,151,131
	77	Ministry of Labour - Employment Exchange Service		120,848
	78	Ministry of Labour - Social Assistance		6,198,726
XXIX		Ministry of Labour		
	79	Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection		2,574,087
XXX		Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection	30,000	
	80	Ministry of Finance		868,932
	81	Ministry of Finance - Accountant General		3,189,578
	82	Ministry of Finance - Customs and Excise		3,166,632
	83	Ministry of Finance - Inland Revenue		4,304,526
	84	Ministry of Finance - Pensions and Gratuities		4,186,791

Division No. Ca ital	Head No. Current		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current
	85	Ministry of Finance - Public Debt		150,123
	86	Ministry of Finance - Revision of Wages, Salaries and Related Payments		300
	87	Ministry of Finance - Post Office Savings Bank		5
XXXI		Ministry of Finance	<u>54,399,098</u>	
		TOTAL	281,942,898	338,328,054