

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1979

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 186th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 28TH 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 (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. Naraino, 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 (Absent)

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

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

*Cde. C.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 (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 (Absent).

Ministers (2)

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

Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P., Minister, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)

*Non elected Minister

Ministers of State (10)

- Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi) (Absent)
- 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/WestDemerara)
- 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 (Absent)
- Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbico)
- 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 (Absent)

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. (Absent - on leave)
- 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. (Absent - on leave)
- 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.
- 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)

* Non elected Minister

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

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. (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.
Cde. P. Sukhai, M.P.

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
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

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cde. Salim from 28th to 31st March, 1979.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

Consumption Tax (Amendment) Order 1979 (No. 25), made under section 4 of the Consumption Tax Act, Chapter 80:02, on 21st March, 1979, and published in the Gazette on the 24th of March 1979.

(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979 - Bill No. 5/1979
published 24.3.79

The Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE CUSTOMS ACT.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONITEM 1 - ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1979

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1979.

In Committee of Supply

HEAD 27	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	...	\$2,256,713
HEAD 28	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - AGRICULTURE	...	7,785,721

With the leave of the Speaker under Standing Order No. 83, and on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture, Standing Order No. 66(1) was suspended, to enable amendments to be moved to this Head.

On a motion by the Minister of Agriculture, who signified Cabinet's recommendation, Head 28 - Ministry of Agriculture - Agriculture was amended as follows:

Sub-head 1 Personal Emoluments:

Insertion of the following after Item (9):

"2 Specialist Agriculture Economist ... A31 - \$23,280".

Sub-head 1(11) Personal Emoluments:

Substitution of "4 Agriculture Economist ... A26 - \$29,424"
for "1 Agricultural Economist ... A26 - \$10,272".

Sub-head 1(14) Personal Emoluments:

Substitution of "2 Statistical Officer ... A18 - \$10,270"
for "1 Statistical Officer ... A18 - \$5,135".

Total Personal Emoluments:

Substitution of "\$4,543,708" for "\$4,496,141".

Total of Head:

Substitution of \$7,833,288" for \$7,785,721".

HEAD 28 -	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - AGRICULTURE was <u>passed</u> as <u>amended</u> at	...	\$7,833,288
HEAD 29 -	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - LANDS AND SURVEYS was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at	...	4,051,665
HEAD 30 -	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - HYDRAULICS	...	4,108,097

With the leave of the Speaker under Standing Order No. 83, and on a Motion by the Minister of Agriculture, Standing Order No.66(1) was suspended, to enable amendments to be moved to this Head.

On a motion by the Minister of Agriculture, who signified Cabinet's recommendation, Head 30 - Ministry of Agriculture - Hydraulics was amended as follows:

Sub-head 1 Personal Emoluments:

Insertion of the following new Division after Item (25):

"MECHANICAL DIVISION

1 Chief Engineer, Mechanical ... A36 - \$13,620
 1 Specialist Engineer, Mechanical ... A31 - \$11,640
 4 Mechanical EngineerA24 - \$25,536
 3 Senior Mechanical Superintendent ... A23 - \$19,080
 3 Mechanical SuperintendentA16 - \$11,808".

Total Personal Emoluments :

Substitution of "\$1,431,311" for "\$1,349,627".

Total of Head:

Substitution of "\$4,189,781" for "\$4,108,097".

HEAD 30	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - HYDRAULICS was <u>passed as</u> <u>amended at</u>	... \$4,189,781
DIVISION XIII -	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE was <u>passed as printed at</u>	... 52,722,000
DIVISION XV -	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - IBRD/IDA PROJECTS - SECOND SEA DEFENCE PROJECT was <u>passed as</u> <u>printed at</u>	... 1,735,000
DIVISION XVI -	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - IBRD/IDA PROJECTS - TAPAKUMA IRRIGATION PROJECT was <u>passed as printed at</u>	... 15,350,000
DIVISION XVIIA-	MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE - TAPAKUMA IRRIGATION PROJECT was <u>passed as printed at</u>	... 7,600,000

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.57 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 5.26 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and resumed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for 1970.

In Committee of Supply

The Speaker informed the Assembly that it had been agreed that at the next sitting on Thursday, 29th March, 1979, the following would be considered:

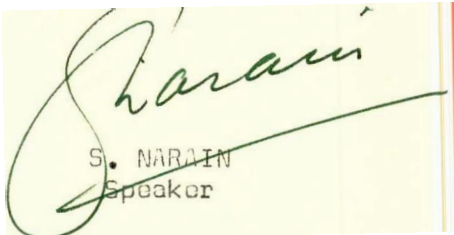
- (i) the Estimates of Expenditure for
 - (a) the Ministry of Foreign Affairs,
 - (b) the Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture, and
 - (c) the Ministry of Information, and
- (ii) the Appropriation Bill 1979.

HEAD 2	SUPREME COURT OF JUDICATURE was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at ...	-\$1,109,493
HEAD3	MAGISTRATES was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at ...	1,460,386
HEAD 6	OMBUDSMAN was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at ...	36,821
HEAD 9	PUBLIC PROSECUTIONS was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at ...	264,609
HEAD 17	ATTORNEY GENERAL was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at ...	621,765
HEAD 18	ATTORNEY GENERAL - OFFICIAL RECEIVER was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at ...	141,282
HEAD 19	ATTORNEY GENERAL - DEEDS REGISTRY was <u>passed</u> as <u>printed</u> at ...	247,394

Assembly resumed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.24 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, 29th March, 1979.



S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
29th March, 1979