

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY  
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS  
OF THE 18TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST  
SESSION (1992-1993) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 30TH SEPTEMBER, 1993

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (72)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Derek C. Jagan, S.C., J.P., M.P., Speaker  
of the National Assembly

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (42)

The Hon Samuel A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister (Absent)

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Senior Minister of  
Agriculture (Leader of the House)

The Hon. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Senior Minister of Home  
Affairs (Government Chief Whip)

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Senior Minister in the  
Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional  
Development (Absent - on leave)

\*The Hon. Asgar Ally, M.P., Senior Minister of Finance (Absent)

\*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth Bisnauth, M.P., Senior Minister of  
Education and Cultural Development

\*The Hon. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., Attorney General  
and Minister of Legal Affairs

\*The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Senior Minister of Labour,  
Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P., Senior Minister of Information  
in the Office of the President

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Senior Minister of Foreign  
Affairs (Absent)

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Senior Minister of Health

The Hon. M. Shree Chan, M.P., Senior Minister of Trade,  
Tourism and Industry

Mrs. Janet Jagan, O.E., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry  
of Agriculture

The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Minister in the Ministry  
of Labour, Human Services and Social Security

\*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of  
Public Works, Communications and Regional Development

\*The Hon. George E. Fung-On M.P., Minister in the Office of  
The President

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\*Non-elected Member

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.  
 Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.  
 Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.  
 Mr. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P.  
 Mr. Komal Chand, M.P. (Absent)  
 Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.  
 Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.  
 Mrs. Una A. James, M.P.  
 Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P.  
 Dr. Moti Lall, M.P.  
 Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.  
 Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.  
 Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P.  
 Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.  
 Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P.  
 Mr. Eugene A. Gilbert, M.P.  
 Mr. Khadim Bacchus, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)  
 Mr. Samad A. Baksh, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroun/Supenaam)  
 Mr. Harrinarine Baldeo, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)  
 Mr. Joseph DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)  
 Mr. Eugene La Cruz, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo) (Absent)  
 Mr. Bagot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)  
 Mr. Kum Karan Ramdas, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)  
 Mr. Ramrattan, M.P. a/k Balkarran (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)  
  
 (There is one vacancy)

Members of the Minority (29)

(i) People's National Congress (26)

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minority Leader  
 Mr. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., M.P.  
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.  
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.  
 Dr. Patrick K. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Chief Whip  
 Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P. (Absent - on leave)  
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. King, M.P.  
 Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.  
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P. (Absent - on leave)  
 Miss Amna Ally, M.P.  
 Miss Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.  
 Mr. Arthur A. Alexander, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly  
 Mr. Simon H. Ng-See-Quan, M.P.  
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P.  
 Mr. David Subnauth, M.P.  
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)  
 Mrs. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P.  
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P.  
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.  
 Mr. Phillip Bynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent - on leave)  
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P.  
 Mr. Hukumchand, M.P. a/k Parag  
 Miss Joan C. Richards, M.P. (Absent)  
 Miss Gwenneth A. Brouet, M.P.  
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.  
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas, M.P.

Mr. Matheson Williams, M.P. (Bational Congress of Local Democratic Organs) (Absent)

(iii) The United Force (1)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

OFFICERS

Mr. Frank A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The sitting commenced at 2.10 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER

Mr. Reuben Adolphus Gilbert, M.P.

The Speaker informed Members that following the resignation of Mr. Brindley Benn, the name of Mr. Reuben Adolphus Gilbert had been extracted from the People's Progressive Party/Civic List of Candidates and Mr. Gilbert was, on 28th September, 1993 declared to be an elected Member of the National Assembly to fill the vacancy.

Mr. Gilbert who was present made and subscribed the Oath of Office.

The Speaker, on behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, congratulated Mr. Gilbert on his election as a Member of the National Assembly and extended best wishes to him.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Resignation of Mr. Randolph Evans

The Speaker announced that he had received a letter from Mr. Randolph Evans, resigning his seat in the National Assembly, with effect from 14th August, 1993, consequent upon his appointment to the Office of Consul General in New York.

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The Speaker stated that with his resignation, Mr. Evans had, in accordance with paragraph (1)(c) of article 156 of the Constitution, vacated his seat in the Assembly.

The Speaker informed the Assembly that, in accordance with section 99A of the Representation of the People Act, Chapter 1:03, he had called upon the representative of the list of candidates in which Mr. Evan's name was included, to further extract from the said list the name of a person to fill the vacancy in the Assembly.

On behalf of the Members of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker expressed congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Evans.

(ii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to the following Members for that day's sitting:

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta,  
Mrs. Janet Jagan,  
Dr. Faith Harding,  
Mrs. Clarissa Riehl,  
and  
Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry, on behalf of the Senior Minister of Finance:

- (i) Report of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of Guyana and on the Accounts of Ministries/Departments/Regions for the Fiscal Year ended 31st December, 1992.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Financial Paper No 1/1993 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$587,953,690 for the period ended 31st December, 1992 (Advances made from the Contingencies Fund).

(Circulated)

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- (iii) Financial Paper No. 2/1993 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$28,743,654 for the period ended 4th August, 1993 (Advances made from the Contingencies Fund).

(Circulated)

In accordance with Standing Order No. 68(1), the Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry named Thursday, 14th October, 1993, as the day for consideration of the Financial Papers.

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

Crisis In Guyana's Rice Industry

A request by Mr. Winston Murray for leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly to discuss the crisis in Guyana's Rice Industry was not allowed by the Speaker as the matter did not qualify.

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

Suspension of Standing Order No. 46(2)

The Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House) moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 46(2) be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its sitting on Thursday, 30th September, 1993, with the second reading and the remaining stages of the Constitution (Amendment) Bill 1993 - Bill No. 22/1993 published 22.9.93.

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INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 22/1993  
published 22.9.93

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs,  
on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill  
which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to alter  
the Constitution in accordance  
with articles 66 and 164.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILL - Second and Third Readings

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 22/1993  
published 22.9.93

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs  
moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to alter  
the Constitution in accordance  
with articles 66 and 164.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Robert Corbin

Dr. Clive Thomas

Mr. Hukumchand

and

the Senior Minister of Agriculture

(Leader of the House).

The motion was put and carried with all of the  
following 49 elected Members present voting in favour thereof:

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|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dr. Thomas      | Mr. Baldeo      |
| Mr. Peters      | Mr. Baksh       |
| Mr. Fredericks  | Mr. Bacchus     |
| Miss Brouet     | Mr. Gilbert     |
| Mr. Hukumchand  | Mr. Zephyr      |
| Mr. Gouveia     | Mrs. Sukhai     |
| Mr. Tyndall     | Mr. Rodney      |
| Mr. Ahamad      | Mr. Ramotar     |
| Mrs. Ferreira   | Mr. Ramjattan   |
| Mr. David       | Dr. Lall        |
| Mr. Subnauth    | Mr. Kissoon     |
| Mr. Barrow      | Mrs. James      |
| Mr. Ng-See-Quan | Dr. Hanoman     |
| Mr. Alexander   | Mrs. Edwards    |
| Miss Persico    | Mr. Baksh       |
| Miss Ally       | Mr. Husman Alli |
| Dr. King        | Mr. Fazil Ali   |
| Dr. McKenzie    | Mr. Belgrave    |
| Mr. Murray      | Mrs. Chandarpal |
| Mr. Corbin      | Mr. Collymore   |
| Mr. Ramratan    | Mr. Chan        |
| Mr. Ramdass     | Miss Teixeira   |
| Mr. Paul        | Mr. Nagamootoo  |
| Mr. DeSouza     | Mr. Mohamed     |
|                 | Mr. Persaud     |

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Total 49

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The Bill was read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2 was passed with the following amendment:

Substitution of the words "Subject to article 161A(7), during" for the word "During" at the beginning of the clause.

Assembly resumed.

Third Reading

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the third reading of the Bill.

The motion was put and carried with all of the following 49 elected Members present voting in favour thereof:

|                 |                 |
|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dr. Thomas      | Mr. Baldeo      |
| Mr. Peters      | Mr. Baksh       |
| Mr. Fredericks  | Mr. Bacchus     |
| Miss Brouet     | Mr. Gilbert     |
| Mr. Hukumchand  | Mr. Zephyr      |
| Mr. Gouveia     | Mrs. Sukhai     |
| Mr. Tyndall     | Mr. Rodney      |
| Mr. Ahamad      | Mr. Ramotar     |
| Mrs. Ferreira   | Mr. Ramjattan   |
| Mr. David       | Dr. Lall        |
| Mr. Subnauth    | Mr. Kissoon     |
| Mr. Barrow      | Mrs. James      |
| Mr. Ng-See-Quan | Dr. Hanoman     |
| Mr. Alexander   | Mrs. Edwards    |
| Miss Persico    | Mr. Baksh       |
| Miss Ally       | Mr. Husman Alli |
| Dr. King        | Mr. Fazil Ali   |
| Dr. McKenzie    | Mr. Belgrave    |
| Mr. Murray      | Mrs. Chandarpal |
| Mr. Corbin      | Mr. Collymore   |
| Mr. Ramratan    | Mr. Chan        |
| Mr. Ramdass     | Miss Teixeira   |
| Mr. Paul        | Mr. Nagamootoo  |
| Mr. DeSouza     | Mr. Mohamed     |
|                 | Mr. Persaud     |

Total 49

The Bill was then read the third time and passed as amended.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.10 p.m., on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, 14th October, 1993.



D.C. JAGAN

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

1st October, 1993.