

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY**  
**MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS**  
OF THE 80TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST  
SESSION (1992-1996) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

**AT 2.00 P.M.**

**ON MONDAY, 6TH MAY, 1996**

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

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 and Communications (Absent-on leave)

\*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. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Senior Minister of Foreign  
Affairs

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

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

\*The Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Senior Minister of Finance

Mrs. Janet Jagan, O.E., M.P.

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 (Absent-on leave)

\*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of  
Local Government

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

The Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P., Senior Minister of Local  
Government

\*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. Reuben A. Gilbert, M.P.  
 Mr. Edward DaSilva, M.P.  
 Mr. Khadim Bacchus, M.P. (National Congress of Local<sup>†</sup> Democratic Organs)  
 Mr. Samad A. Baksh, M.P. (Region No.2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam) (Absent)  
 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)

**Members of the Minority (29)**

(i) **People's National Congress (26)**

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minority Leader  
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.  
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent-on leave)  
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. King, M.P.  
 Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P.  
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P.  
 Mr. M. Idris Deen, M.P.  
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.  
 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 (Absent)  
 Mr. Dharamdeo Sawh, M.P.  
 Mr. Simon Ng-See-Quan, M.P. (Absent)  
 Mr. David Subnauth, M.P.  
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)  
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P. (Absent)  
 Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.  
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P. (Absent)  
 Mr. Phillip Bynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent)  
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P. (Absent)  
 Mr. Hukumchand, M.P. a/k Parag  
 Miss Joan C. Richards, M.P.  
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.  
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)  
 Mr. Hubert K.H. Hyman, M.P.  
 Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P.

(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P.

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

(iii) The United Force (1)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

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 2.08 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER

Dr. Faith Azalea Harding

Following the last general elections on 5th October, 1992, the name of Dr. Faith Azalea Harding was extracted from the People's National Congress List of Candidates and Dr. Harding was, on 24th November, 1992, declared to be and became an elected Member of the National Assembly.

Dr. Harding resigned as a Member of the National Assembly with effect from 11th July, 1994.

The Speaker informed the Assembly that the President had, under article 156(1)(a) of the Constitution, certified that Dr. Harding had resigned for the purpose of giving further service to the public. She therefore became eligible for re-election as a Member of the National Assembly.

The Speaker stated that he had been informed that Dr. Faith Azalea Harding was declared on and became an elected Member of the National Assembly with effect from 6th May, 1996, to fill the vacancy which was created in the Assembly by the resignation of Dr. Patrick McKenzie from 1st March, 1996.

As Dr. Harding was present, the oath was administered to her by the Clerk.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**

(i) **Congratulations and Welcome to Dr. Faith Azalea Harding**

The Speaker, on behalf of Members of the National Assembly and himself, congratulated Dr. Faith Azalea Harding on her re-election as a Member of the National Assembly.

He welcomed back Dr. Harding to the Assembly and extended best wishes to her.

(ii) **Leave**

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

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta  
The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal,  
Mr. Winston Murray.

(iii) **Sympathy to Mr. Nokta on Death of Brother**

The Speaker, on behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, extended deep sympathy to the Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, Senior Minister of Public Works and Communications, on the death of his brother.

**PUBLIC BUSINESS**

**BILLS - Second Reading, Committee and Third Reading**

**ITEM 1 - ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BILL 1995 - Bill No. 20/1995 published 9.3.96**

**Second Reading**

The Prime Minister moved the second reading of the following Bill:-

BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the management, conservation, protection and improvement of the environment, the prevention or control of pollution, the assessment of the impact of economic development on the environment, the sustainable use of natural resources and for matters incidental thereto or connected therewith.

(Read a first time on 24.11.95)

The following Members spoke to the motion:-

Dr. Kenneth King  
Mr. Kheeraj Ramjattan  
Mr. Dunstan Barrow.

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m., the sitting suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m., the sitting was resumed.

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON SECOND READING OF THE ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION BILL 1995

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine continued and concluded his speech.

The following Members also spoke to the motion:-

The Senior Minister of Health  
Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

Thereafter, the Prime Minister replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was, thereafter, read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed with the following amendment:-

The year "1996" was substituted for the year "1995".

Clauses 2 and 3 were passed as printed.

Clause 4

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was negatived:-

Deletion of paragraphs (h) and (i) of subsection (1).

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of the word "co-ordinate" for the word "establish" in subsection (1)(h).

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was negatived:-

Addition of the following as paragraph (p) of subsection (1):-

"(p) to establish for use where appropriate processes and/or rules for the obtaining of informed consent from communities deemed likely to be affected by the activities of a developer."

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Deletion of the words "made thereunder" in subsection (2)(d).

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was agreed to:-

Insertion of the words "and amend from time to time" between the words "compile" and "with" in subsection (3)(a).

The following amendment Dr. Roopnaraine was negatived:-

Insertion of the words "and after consultation with environmental organisations and institutions of Guyana and with the Caricom Secretariat" between the words "groups" and "a" in subsection (3)(a).

Clause 4 was passed as amended.

Clause 5 was passed as printed.

Clause 6

The following amendments by the Prime Minister were agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "Appointments, remuneration." for the marginal note.

Addition of the following as subsections (3), (4), (5) and (6):-

"(3) The remuneration and other terms and conditions of appointment of a Director, including the Executive Director shall be such as may be determined by the President.

(4) The remuneration and other terms and conditions of employment of the secretary and other officers and employees of the Agency employed under subsections 1(b) and (2) shall be such as may be determined or varied by the Agency from time to time.

(5) Where a public officer, or any other person employed by the Government, is transferred to the Agency as an officer or employee, or vice versa, he shall be entitled to have his aggregate service in the public service, under the Government and as an officer or employee of the Agency counted for the purposes of superannuation benefits and he shall, on his ultimate retirement, be entitled to receive such benefits calculated in accordance with the Pension Act, in respect of the aggregate of such service, from the Agency or the Government as the case may be, with, or in connection with, which he was last employed.

(6) The Agency may, with the approval of the Minister, make such provisions as it thinks appropriate for the payment of pension, gratuity or other allowance in respect of the service of the officers and employees of the Agency on their retirement therefrom."

Clause 6 was passed as amended.



Clauses 7 to 10 were passed as printed.

Clause 11

An amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine for the substitution of the words "ninety days" for the words "thirty-five days" in subsection (3)(a) was further amended to "sixty days".

The further amendment was agreed to.

The following amendments by Dr. Roopnaraine were negatived:-

Substitution of the words "person drawn from the approved list compiled in accordance with section 4(3)(a)" for the words "person approved by the Agency" in subsection (4).

Substitution of the words "ninety days" for the words "sixty days" in subsection (10).

Addition of the words "provided that a copy shall be available on request to environmental groups which are active and which are not in receipt of a subvention from the Government" after the words "copies of such documents" in subsection (11).

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of the word "submit" for the word "send" in subsection (13).

Clause 11 was passed as amended.

Clause 12 was passed as printed.

Clause 13

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was agreed to:-

Insertion of the words "human health and" between the words "protect" and "the" in subsection (1).

The following amendment by Dr. King was agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "most appropriate" for the words "best available" in subsection (1)(b).

Clause 13 was passed as amended.

Clauses 14 and 15 were passed as printed.

Clause 16

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "Regulations to determine projects affecting the environment." for the marginal note.

Clause 16 was passed as amended.

Clauses 17 to 19 were passed as printed.

Clause 20

An amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine for the insertion of the words "storage and" between the words "the" and "disposal" in subsection (1), was further amended to "storage or".

The further amendment was agreed to.

The following amendments by Dr. Roopnaraine were agreed to:-

Insertion of the words ",toxic and hazardous materials" between the words "waste" and "or" in subsection (1).

Addition of the following as paragraph (c) of subsection (1):-

"(c) a pollution prevention plan for the facility,".

Clause 20 was passed as amended.

Clauses 21 to 23 were passed as printed.

Clause 24

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "section 22" for the words "section 21" in subsection (3)(b).

Clause 24 was passed as amended.

Clauses 25 to 28 were passed as printed.

Clause 29

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "Part VIII" for the words "Part IX".

Clause 29 was passed as amended.

Clauses 30 to 33 were passed as printed.

Clause 34

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "Certain specific offences." for the marginal note.

Clause 34 was passed as amended.

Clauses 35 to 49 were passed as printed.

Clause 50

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Deletion of the words ", not being a member of the Agency,".

Clause 50 was passed as amended.

Clauses 51 to 53 were passed as printed.

Clause 54

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "two other members" for the words "one other member" in subsection (1).



Clause 54 was passed as amended.  
Clauses 55 to 57 were passed as printed.

New Clauses 58 to 67 - New Part IX

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Insertion of the following as a new Part IX with new Clauses 58 to 67:-

"PART IX

ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND AND FINANCES

- |   |        |   |
|---|--------|---|
| Establishment and purposes of the Fund. | 58.    | There is hereby established an Environmental Trust Fund, hereinafter in this Part referred to as the Fund, which shall be used to fund the operations of the Agency and for other purposes authorised under this Act, including <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) protecting the environment and conserving natural resources;</li> <li>(b) incentive measures for reducing environmental pollution;</li> <li>(c) public awareness and education programmes, to enhance the understanding of environmental protection and natural resources management issues within Guyana.</li> </ul>                        |
| Trustees for the Fund.                  | 59.(1) | Four members of the Board of Directors of the Agency, including the Executive Director, shall be designated by the President as Trustees of the Fund.   |
|   | (2)    | Service as a Trustee shall terminate at such time as a Trustee ceases to be a member of the Board of Directors.   |
| Resources of the Fund.                  | 60.(1) | The resources of the Fund shall consist of - <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) such sums as may be provided by Parliament;</li> <li>(b) sums allocated from time to time to the Agency from loan funds;</li> <li>(c) such sums which are provided to the Agency or the Government by foreign states, international organizations, multilateral or bilateral lending agencies, private individuals, foundations, corporations or other entities to further the objects of this Act;</li> <li>(d) revenue obtained under this Act or the regulations including fixed penalties paid under section 46;</li> </ul> |

- (e) such moneys or other assets as may accrue to, or vest in the Agency by way of grants, subsidies, bequests, donations or gifts;
  - (f) sums borrowed by the Agency under section 63;
  - (g) all other sums or property that may in any manner become payable to or vested in the Agency.
- (2) In this section, the expression "loan funds" means such sums as may be made available from time to time to the Government by way of loan.
- Investment of Fund monies. 61.(1) All monies which comprise the Fund and which do not have to be used immediately to defray expenses as provided for in section 64 shall be invested in such a manner as the trustees consider fit which is designed to preserve the principal and achieve a reasonable rate of return and such investments shall be approved either generally or specifically by the Governing Board.
- (2) The trustees shall possess the authority necessary, either directly or through authorised agents, to undertake such investments as are authorised under subsection (1), including the power to buy and sell such securities or other obligations as the Governing Board determines to be appropriate.
- Exemption from taxation. 62. The Fund and the Agency shall, be exempt from all forms of taxation whatsoever, including customs duties, consumption tax, capital gains tax, corporation tax, income tax, property tax, purchase tax, motor vehicles taxes and licence fees, other fees, charges, assessments, levies and imposts on any income or profits or on assets acquired for use by the Fund or the Agency.
- Borrowing by the Agency. 63.(1) Subject to subsection (2), the Agency may borrow any money required by it for the efficient exercise of its functions or for meeting its obligations.
- (2) Borrowing may be effected only with the approval of the Minister to whom responsibility for finance is assigned as to the amount, the sources of borrowing, and the terms and conditions of the loan, and may be either general or limited to a particular transaction and may be either unconditional or subject to conditions.
- (3) The Agency may not pledge its assets as security for any loan without the written approval of the Minister to whom responsibility for the environment is assigned.
- Use of Fund monies. 64.(1) Contributions to the Fund may be designated for specific projects or made subject to specific conditions, in which case such contributions shall be preserved and utilised solely for the designated purpose. In all other instances, the trustees are authorised to pay for any of the following matters out of the general resources of the Fund -

- (a) the expenses of the Agency including the remuneration of its directors, officers and employees;
- (b) the capital expenses, including maintenance and insurance of the property under the administration and control of the Agency;
- (c) any payment toward the purchase of immovable property by the Agency to further the objects of this Act; and
- (d) any other expenses which are lawfully related to the activities of the Agency.

(2) While funding for the Agency generally shall be processed through the Fund, the Agency shall also be authorised to receive and utilise direct financial assistance or other support for specific projects or activities which will not be processed through or accounted for by the Fund where such method of financial management is required as a condition established by an entity providing support to the Agency.

(3) Any sums of money recovered against the Agency for an action of the Agency, its directors, officers and other authorised persons acting in good faith in the course of the operations of the Agency, shall be paid out of the Fund.

Accounts and audit of the Agency.

65.(1) The financial year of the Agency shall end on the thirty-first day of December.

(2) The Agency shall keep proper accounts and other records in respect of its operations and the accounts shall be audited annually by the Auditor General.

(3) All books of account kept by the Agency shall be subject to examination and audit at any time by the Auditor General.

(4) The members, officers and employees of the Agency shall grant to the Auditor General access to all books, documents, cash and securities of the Agency and shall give him on request all such information as may be within their knowledge in relation to the operation of the Agency.

Report of the Agency.

66.(1) The Agency shall not later than six months after the end of each financial year submit a report to the Minister containing -

(a) an account of its transactions throughout the preceding financial year in such detail as the Minister may direct; and

(b) a statement of the accounts of the Agency audited in accordance with section 65.

(2) A copy of the report together with a copy of the Auditor General's report shall be printed and laid before the National Assembly.

Financial  
accounting  
by the  
Trustees.

- 67.(1) The Trustees shall keep proper accounts and other records in respect of the Fund, and the Fund shall be audited annually by the Auditor General.
- (2) The Trustees of the Fund shall, not later than three months after the end of each financial year, submit to the Board of Directors a report dealing generally with the proceedings and policies of the Fund during the preceding financial year and also containing financial statements and any other information relating to the Fund and its support of activities through the Agency as may be requested by the Board.
- (3) The financial year of the Fund shall end on the thirty-first day of December.
- (4) The Chairman of the Board shall submit to the Minister a copy of every report submitted under this section."

The new Clauses 58 to 67 - Part IX - were passed as inserted.

Former Clauses 58 to 61 - Former Part IX  
Renumbered as Clauses 68 to 71 - Part X

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

The renumbering of the former Clauses 58 to 61 and the former Part IX as Clauses 68 to 71 and Part X.

Clause 68 (Previously Clause 58)

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Substitution of "68.(1)" for "68" (previously "58") in the numbering of the Clause.

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was negatived:-

Substitution of the words "point and non point sources" for the words "any source of contaminant or any class thereof" in subsection (1)(k).

A proposal by Dr. Roopnaraine for an amendment to subsection (1), to include the following in the list of matters in respect of which regulations are to be made, was agreed to:-

"the principles and processes to facilitate the participation of communities which are deemed likely to be adversely affected, or which fear that they may be affected by the activity of a developer, taking fully into account the time necessary for delivering information to and receiving comments from communities with poor communication services and taking into account also the rights of indigenous communities."

The amendment was subsequently re-drafted and was added as paragraph (z) of subsection (1), as follows:-

"(z) the principles to facilitate the participation of communities which are likely to be adversely affected by the activity of a developer, taking into account the rights of indigenous communities;"

A proposal by Dr. King for an amendment to subsection (1), to include 'mining' and 'forestry' in the list of matters in respect of which regulations are to be made, was agreed to.

The amendment was subsequently drafted and was added as paragraph (aa) of subsection (1), as follows:-

"(aa) the utilisation of forest resources and the extraction of mineral resources;"

Consequent upon the amendments by Dr. Roopnaraine and by Dr. King, paragraph (z) of subsection (1), as printed, was re-lettered as paragraph (bb).

The following amendment by the Prime Minister was agreed to:-

Insertion of the following as subsection (2):-

"(2) The Minister may by regulations which shall be subject to negative resolution of the National Assembly amend any penalty prescribed by this Act."

Clause 68 was passed as amended.

Clauses 69 to 71 (Previously Clauses 59 to 61) were passed as printed.

Clause 72 (New Clause proposed)

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was negatived:-

Addition of the following as Clause 72:-

"Operators of undertakings of the classes which are regulated by this Act, and which are in operation on the date of the coming into force of this Act shall be allowed by the Agency a period of no less than six months and no more than one year to make application to the Agency for the permits necessary to bring it into compliance with the Act. Upon receipt of applications from such operators, the Agency may enter into an agreement with the operator to allow time for the operator to bring the undertaking into full compliance with the Act."

A new Clause 72 was not therefore inserted.



First Schedule

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was negatived:-

Addition of the words "with a branch in each of the Regions of Guyana" after the word "Georgetown" in paragraph 4.

The following amendments by the Prime Minister were agreed to:-

Insertion of the following as a new paragraph 5:-

"Charging of fees for services rendered.	5	Subject to the provisions of this Act or the regulations the Agency may charge fees in respect of any services rendered by it under this Act or the regulations."
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Deletion of the previous paragraph 5 and also of paragraphs 6 to 8.

The First Schedule was passed as amended.

Second Schedule

The following amendments by Dr. Roopnaraine were agreed to:-

Insertion of the words "use of the" between the words "the" and "natural" in paragraph 1.

Insertion of the word "protection" between the words "environmental" and "conservation" in paragraph 1.

The following amendments Dr. Roopnaraine were negatived:-

Substitution of the words "include representatives of public interest groups and persons" for the word "be" in paragraph 1.

Insertion of the following as a proviso to paragraph 1:-

"Provided that in appointing the members of the Board, the Minister shall hold prior consultations with the Leaders of all the parties in the National Assembly and shall appoint no person against the clear objection, signified in writing without reason given, of any one unless the Minister has the consent of a majority of the parties in the National Assembly."

The Second Schedule was passed as amended.



Third Schedule

The following amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was negatived:-

Substitution of the following for paragraph 6(3):-

"(3) Thirty days' notice of all hearings shall be given by publication in all Sunday newspapers and by announcements on radio, and similar notice should be served individually on all interested parties."

The following amendments by the Prime Minister were agreed to:-

Substitution of the words "Fourteen days' notice" for the words "Seven days' notice" in paragraph 6(3).

Insertion of the words "at least" between the words "in" and "one" in paragraph 6(3).

The Third Schedule was passed as amended.

Fourth Schedule

The following amendment by Dr. King was agreed to:-

Addition of the following as paragraphs 8 and 9:-

"8. The harvesting and utilisation of forest resources.

9. The extraction and conversion of mineral resources."

The Fourth Schedule was passed as amended.

Fifth Schedule

The following amendments by the Prime Minister were agreed

Deletion of the words "Where the offender is an individual:" under the heading "PENALTIES".

Substitution of a semi-colon for the full stop at the end of paragraphs (a) to (g).

Substitution of a colon for the full stop at the end of paragraph (h) and addition thereafter of the following proviso:-

" Provided, that where the offender, liable to a prescribed fine under any of the aforesaid paragraphs is a body corporate, the body corporate shall be liable to a fine of not less than twice such prescribed minimum fine nor more than twice such prescribed maximum fine, and, where the offender liable to a prescribed term of imprisonment under any of the aforesaid paragraphs is a body corporate, the body corporate shall be liable to twice such term of imprisonment."

Deletion of the remainder of the Schedule (after the new proviso).

The Fifth Schedule was passed as amended.

Arrangement of Sections

Following the amendments made to the Clauses of the Bill, the following consequential amendments to the Arrangement of Sections were agreed to:-

Clause 6

The words "Appointments, remuneration." were substituted for the words "Appointment of staff."

Clause 16

The words "Regulations to determine projects affecting the environment." were substituted for the words "Regulations."

Clause 34

The words "Certain specific offences." were substituted for the words "Specific offences."

New Part IX - New Clauses 58 to 67

A new Part IX with new Clauses 58 to 67, was inserted after Clause 57, as follows:-

"Part IX

ENVIRONMENTAL TRUST FUND AND FINANCES

58. Establishment and purposes of the Fund.
59. Trustees for the Fund.
60. Resources of the Fund.
61. Investment of Fund monies.
62. Exemption from taxation.
63. Borrowing by the Fund.
64. Use of Fund monies.
65. Accounts and audit of the Agency.
66. Report of the Agency.
67. Financial accounting by the Trustees."

**Part IX**

Part IX, as printed, was renumbered as Part X.

**Clauses 58 to 61**

Clauses 58 to 61, as printed, were renumbered as Clauses 68 to 71.

**Assembly resumed.**

**Third Reading**

On a motion by the Prime Minister, the Environmental Protection Bill was read the third time and was passed as amended.

**ITEM 2 - FOREIGN EXCHANGE (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) BILL 1996 - Bill No. 7/1996**  
**published 25.4.96**

The Senior Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to regulate certain dealings in gold, foreign currency, money or securities, and the bringing in or taking out of Guyana foreign currency.

(Read a first time on 25.4.96)

The following Members spoke to the motion:-

Dr. Kenneth King  
Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed with the following amendment to Clause 2:-

18.

Insertion of the words "by order amend the said schedule," between the words "time" and "either" in paragraph (d).

ITEM 3 - FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1996 - Bill No. 8/1996  
published 25.4.1996

The Senior Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the  
Financial Institutions Act 1995.

(Read a first time on 25.4.96)

The following Members spoke to the motion:-

Dr. Kenneth King

Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed with the following amendment to Clause 2:-

Insertion of the words "owns or"  
between the words "who" and "has" in  
the new subsection(12).

ITEM 4 - BANK OF GUYANA (AMENDMENT) BILL 1996 - Bill No. 9/1996 published 25.4.96

On a motion by the Senior Minister of Finance, the following Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed:-

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend  
the Bank of Guyana Act 1995.

(Read a first time on 25.4.96)

**ADJOURNMENT**

At 8.05 p.m., on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



**D.C. JAGAN**

Speaker of the National Assembly

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.**

**6th May, 1996**