

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 96TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1992-1997) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON MONDAY, 12TH MAY, 1997

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (74)

Speaker (1)

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

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (44)

- ✓ The Hon. Janet Jagan, O.E., M.P., Prime Minister and First Vice-President
- ✓ The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P., Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House)
- ✓ The Hon. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs (Government Chief Whip)
- ✓ The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Minister of Local Government
- ✓ *The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth Bisnauth, M.P., Minister of Education and Cultural Development
- ✓ *The Hon. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., Attorney-General and Minister of Legal Affairs (Absent)
- ✓ *The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social Security
- ✓ The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs
- ✓ The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Health
- ✓ The Hon. M. Shree Chan, M.P., Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry (Absent - on leave)
- ✓ The Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Minister of Finance
- The Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P., Minister of Information
- he Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Local Government
- ✓ 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. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public Works and Communications
- ✓ *The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture

*Non-elected Member

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- ~~✓~~ Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Local Government
~~✓~~ 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, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.
~~✓~~ Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.
~~✓~~ Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.
~~✓~~ Mrs. Una A. James, M.P.
~~✓~~ Mr. Alston A. Kisson, M.P. 22
~~✓~~ Dr. Moti Lall, M.P. 15-16
~~✓~~ Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P. 12-2
~~✓~~ Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P. 2-24
~~✓~~ Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P. 1-25
~~✓~~ Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P. 2-2
~~✓~~ Mr. Reuben A. Gilbert, M.P. 6-13
~~✓~~ Mr. Edward DaSilva, M.P. 7-37
~~✓~~ Mr. Thakoor Silas, M.P. 10
~~✓~~ Mr. Khadim Bacchus, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs) B-38
~~✓~~ Mr. Samad A. Baksh, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)
~~✓~~ Mr. Harrinarine Baldeo, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
~~✓~~ Mr. Joseph DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
~~✓~~ Eugene LaCruz, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)
~~✓~~ Mr. Bagot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)
~~✓~~ 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 Islands)

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. (Absent)
~~✓~~ Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
~~✓~~ Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P.
~~✓~~ Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P., Chief Whip
~~✓~~ 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. (Absent - on leave)
~~✓~~ Mr. Ivor Allen, 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 - on leave)
~~✓~~ Mr. David Subnauth, J.P., M.P.
~~✓~~ Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent)
~~✓~~ Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P. (Absent)
~~✓~~ Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.
~~✓~~ Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.
~~✓~~ 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 (Absent)
~~✓~~ 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.
~~✓~~ Dr. Abraham A.C. Fung-A-Fat, A.A., 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 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to:-

The Hon. M. Shree Chan up to 16th May, and
The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal
Miss Jean M.G. Persico, and
Mr. Simon Ng-See-Quan for that day's sitting.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILLS - Second Reading, Committee and Third Reading

ITEM 1 TIMEHRI INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT (CHANGE OF NAME) BILL 1997 -
Bill No. 2/1997 published 11.4.97

Second Reading

The Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), on behalf of the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to effect changes
in the names of Timehri International
Airport and Timehri Aerodrome.

(Read a first time on 17.4.97)

/...

The Minority Leader spoke to the motion.
(Thereafter, the Members of the People's National Congress
withdrew from the Chamber).

The following Members spoke to the motion:

The Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Local Government
Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine
The Minister in the Ministry of Local Government
(Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza)
Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

Thereafter, the Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture
(Leader of the House) replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

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

The following amendment by the Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture
(Leader of the House) was put and carried;

Insertion of the words "on or" between the words
"time" and "after" in the fifth line of subsection (1)

Clause 2 was passed as amended.

Clause 3 was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

Third Reading

On a motion by the Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture
(Leader of the House), the Timehri International Airport (Change of Name) Bill 1997
was read the third time and passed as amended.

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ITEM 2 - LAND REGISTRY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1997 - Bill No. 3/1997 published 11.4.97

Second Reading

The Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), on behalf of the Attorney-General and Minister of Legal Affairs, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
the Land Registry Act.

(Read a first time on 17.4.97)

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine spoke to the motion.

The motion was then put and carried.

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

Dr. Roopnaraine moved the following amendment:-

Deletion of the words after the word "may" in
the proviso to the new subsection (2) to be inserted, and

Substitution of the following therefor:-

"waive, with reasons stated and on the grounds of
poverty, or in respect of lands to be devoted
entirely to the relief of the poor, or of victims
of abuse, to education or religious purposes, or
for any other good cause, waive all, or any part
of the cost of the said surveys and plans."

The Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture
(Leader of the House) moved an amendment for Dr. Roopnaraine's
amendment to read as follows:

"for reasons stated and on grounds including
the relief of the poor or victims of abuse,
the promotion of education or religion or any
other good **cause**, waive all, or any part of the cost
of the said surveys or plans."

/...

The amendment by the Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), was put and carried.

Clause 2 was passed as amended.

Assembly resumed.

Third Reading

On a motion by the Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Land Registry (Amendment) Bill 1997 was read the third time and passed as amended.

BILL - Deferred

ITEM 3 - LAW REVISION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1997 - Bill No. 5/1997 published 11.4.97

At the request of the Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the second reading of the following Bill was deferred:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
the Law Revision Act.

(Read a first time on 17.4.97)

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.55 p.m., on a motion by the Second Vice-President and Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

12th May, 1997