

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 44TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD
SESSION (1983-1985) OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 14:00 hrs

ON THURSDAY 1985-03-14

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (74)

Speaker (1)

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

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (61)

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)

Other Vice-President and First Deputy Prime Minister (1)

Cde. H. Green, M.P., Vice-President, Social Infrastructure and
First Deputy Prime Minister

Other Vice-Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

*Cde. Dr. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., M.P., Vice-President,
Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General (Absent)

Cde. R. Chandisingh, M.P., Vice-President, National Development and
Deputy Prime Minister

Other Deputy Prime Minister (1)

*Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Planning

Senior Ministers (9)

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

*Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of National Mobilisation (Absent)

Cde. H. Rashid, M.P., Minister of Energy and Mines (Absent - on leave)

*Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance

Cde. Sallahuddin, M.P., Minister of Forestry

Cde. Dr. R.A. Van West-Charles, M.P., Minister of Health and Public Welfare

*Cde. M.L. Parris, M.P., Minister of Education (Absent - on leave)

Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of Transport

Ministers (5)

Cde. Urmia E. Johnson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of
National Development (Absent - on leave)

Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn, M.P., Minister within the Ministry
of Education

*Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P., Minister of Manpower and Co-operatives

Cde. R.C. Fredericks, A.A., M.P., Minister of Youth and Sport within the
Ministry of Education

*Cde. Dr. S.P. DaSilva, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture

*Non-elected Member

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Ministers of State (3)

- Cde. M. Corrica, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent)
 Cde. H.L.B. Singh, M.S., M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Regional Development
 Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Minister of State in the Ministry of Education (Absent - on leave)

Parliamentary Secretaries (2)

- Cde. Agnes W. Bend-Kirton-Holder, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Housing, within the Ministry of Health and Public Welfare
 Cde. B. Bhaggan, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, National Development

Government Chief Whip (1)

- Cde. Bidiawattie Tiwari, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Other Members (24)

- Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. R.E. Williams, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P.
 Cde. J.B. Caldeira, M.P.
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.
 Cde. M. Ally, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. M. Armogan, M.S., J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Bissoondai Beniprashad, M.P.
 Cde. A.A. Chin, M.P.
 Cde. Elaine B. Davidson, M.P.
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
 Cde. A.B. Felix, M.P.
 Cde. Patricia Fredericks, M.P.
 Cde. E.F. Gilbert, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. A. McRae, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. R.N. Primo, M.P.
 Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P.
 Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
 Cde. Y. Khan, M.P.
 (One seat vacant)

Members from the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs (2)

- Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P.
 Cde. Bhagmatee Latchminarayan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

- Cde. Dianne Abraham, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
 Cde. W. Bipat, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
 Cde. Nellie R. Charles, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. I. Chowritmootoo, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Cde. D. Hinds, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
 Cde. K.V. Jairam, M.P. (Region No. 2 Pomeroon/Supenaam) (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. K.N. Jones, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
 Cde. H.I. London, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
 Cde. Cora A. Singh, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
 (Vacant) (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

Members of the Minority (12)

(i) People's Progressive Party (10)

Minority Leader (1)

Cde. Dr. C. Jagan, M.P., Minority Leader (Absent)

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Ram Karran, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent)

Other Members (8)

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P. Minority Chief Whip

Cde. N. Persaud, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P.

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. I. Basir, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. M.A. Abraham, M.P.

OFFICERS

Cde. F.A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

Cde. M.B. Henry, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Ministerial Changes

The Speaker announced that he had been informed that with effect from 1st March, 1985 -

(i) Cde. Seeram Prashad, Minister of Transport, had been appointed a Senior Minister, and

(ii) Cde. Donald Ainsworth, Parliamentary Secretary, Youth, had been appointed a Minister of State in the Ministry of Education.

On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself he congratulated Cdes. Prashad and Ainsworth on their new appointments and extended best wishes to them.

(ii) Congratulations to Cde. Sharma on National Award

The Speaker informed Members that in the recent announcement of National Honours on the occasion of the Fifteenth Anniversary of the Republic, one Member of Parliament had been granted an award. Cde. Chintaman Gowkarran Sharma received the award of the Golden Arrow of Achievement for long and dedicated service of a consistently high standard in political and social work and was entitled to have the initials "A.A." placed after his name.

On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, he extended congratulations and best wishes to Cde. Sharma.

(iii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave from that day's sitting had been granted to Cdes. Hoyte, Rashid, M.L. Parris, Johnson, Ainsworth, Clarke, Latchminarayan, Charles, and Jairam.

(iv) Death of Cde. Ram Karran's Wife

On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself the Speaker extended deepest sympathy to Cde. Ram Karran, Deputy Speaker, on the recent loss of his wife.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC. -

(1) By the Vice-President, Social Infrastructure and First Deputy Prime Minister, on behalf of the Prime Minister:

Review of the Operations of the Sugar Industry
Labour Welfare Fund Committee for the year
1982.

(OP: 6/5^{III})(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Finance:

- (a) Financial Paper No. 1/1985 - Schedule of
Supplementary Provision on the Current
and Capital Estimates totalling \$25,819.116,
for the period ended 1984-12-31 (Advances
made from the Contingencies Fund in 1984).

In terms of Standing Order No. 68(1) the Minister of Finance named Monday 1985-03-18 as the day for consideration of Financial Paper in Committee of Supply.

- (b) Annual Reports of the Customs and Excise
Department for the years 1981 and 1982.

(ST: 25/2/1/16)(Circulated)

- (c) Rate of Interest Order 1985 (No. 11) made
under section 6 of the Rate of Interest
Act 1979 (No. 13), on 18th February, 1985,
and published in the Gazette on 2nd March, 1985.

(ST: 1/8/10^{II})(Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Minister of Transport:

Annual Reports of the Transport and Harbours
Department for the years 1980 and 1981.

(MT: 12/3/1^{II})(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

ITEM 1 - CONDOLENCE ON DEATH OF WILLIAM ALEXANDER BLAIR

The Vice-President, Social Infrastructure and First Deputy Prime Minister, moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Cde. William Alexander Blair and pays tribute to the distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing widow and children.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud and Mr. M.F. Singh spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried with Members standing.

ITEM 2 - CONDOLENCE ON DEATH OF GOBERDHAN HARRY LALL

The Vice-President, National Development and Deputy Prime Minister, moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Cde. Goberdhan Harry Lall and pays tribute to the distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing widow and children.

Mr. M.F. Singh spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried with Members Standing.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 3 - POST AND TELEGRAPH (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 6/1985 published 1985-01-30

The Vice-President, Social Infrastructure and First Deputy Prime Minister, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Post and Telegraph Act.

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6.

Cde. Respu Daman Persaud and Mr. M.F. Singh spoke to the motion.

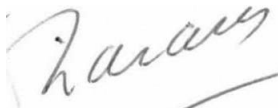
Thereafter the Vice-President, Social Infrastructure and First Deputy Prime Minister replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 15:04 hrs, on a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Assembly, was adjourned to 14:00 hrs on Monday 1985-03-18.


S. NARAIN
Speaker
05-03-16

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

1985-03-16