

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

ON THE 25TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND
SESSION (1990) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 19TH JULY, 1990

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (74)

Speaker (1)

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

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

Prime Minister (1)

- + Cde. H. Green, M.P., Prime Minister

Other Vice-President and Deputy Prime Minister (1)

- + Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., M.P., Vice-President, Culture and Social Development and Deputy Prime Minister

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)

- +* Cde. K.S. Massiah, O.R., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Other Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

- + Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Planning and Development (Absent)
- + Cde. R.H.Q. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Public Utilities (Absent)

Senior Ministers (9)

- + Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent)
- +* Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance
- + Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Senior Minister in the Ministry of Planning and Development
- + Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Trade and Tourism (Absent)
- + Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Regional Development
- Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn, M.P., Senior Minister in the Office of the President
- * Cde. Dr. P.L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Minister of Agriculture
- * Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister of Education (Absent)
- * Cde. J.R. Kranenburg, M.P., Minister of Communications and Works

Ministers (8)

- + Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Regional Development
- + Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Minister of Labour and Co-operatives (Absent)
- Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public Utilities
- * Cde. V.V. Parvatan, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. J.T. Kissoon, M.P., Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)
- Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P., Minister of the Public Service (Absent)
- Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs
- Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Culture & Social Development

+ Cabinet Member

+* Non-elected Member

Parliamentary Secretary (1)

- * Cde. L.E. Scotland, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)

Government Chief Whip (1)

Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Other Members (25)

Cde. K.B. Bancroft, M.P.
 Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. A.K. Habibulla, M.P.
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.
 Cde. M. Ally, M.P.
 Cde. Elaine B. Davidson, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
 Cde. Anna Ally, M.P.
 Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.
 Cde. F.M. Cumberbatch, M.P.
 Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.
 Cde. Cyricula A. DeJesus, M.P.
 Cde. Edith Deygoo, M.P.
 Cde. Clarice A. Edwards, M.P.
 Cde. C.L. Geddes, M.P.
 Cde. G. Marshall, M.P.
 Cde. B. Persaud, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. K. Sankar, M.S., M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. E.L. Fraser, M.P.
 Cde. Mignon D. Griffith, M.P.
 Cde. P.E. Rockcliffe, M.P.

(There is one Vacancy)

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

Cde. Rose I. Semple, M.P.
 Cde. P. Singh, J.P., M.P.

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

Cde. Nellie R. Charles, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent)
 Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica) (Absent)
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent)
 Cde. Y. Khan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)
 Cde. Enid E. Abrams, M.S., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
 Cde. I. Ally, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Cde. S.I. McGarrell, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)
 Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo) (Absent)
 Cde. M. Ajoodhia, J.P., M.P., (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
 Cde. D. Fernandes, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini) (Absent)

Members of the Minority (11)

- (i) People's Progressive Party (8)

Minority Leader (1)

Cde. Dr. C. Jagan, M.P. Minority Leader

*Non-elected Member

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Other Members (6)

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P.
 Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P.
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P., Minority Chief Whip
 Cde. H. Nokta, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. I. Basir, M.P.
 Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. M.A. Abraham, A.A., M.P. (Absent)

(iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

Mr. E. Kwayana, M.P.

OFFICERS

Cde. F.A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly
 Cde. G.E.F. Moses, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. M. Ally and Vandenburg for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.(1) By the Minister of Finance:

Consumption Tax (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1990 (No. 43), made under section 4 of the Consumption Tax Act, Chapter 80:02 on 26th June, 1990 and published in the Gazette (Extraordinary) on 18th July, 1990.

(ST: 34/2/1/9) (Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Communications and Works:

- (i) Roads (Demerara Harbour Bridge) (Amendment) By-Laws 1990 (No. 2).
- (ii) Roads (Amendment) Regulations 1990 (No. 4).
- (iii) Roads (Corentyne) (Amendment) Regulations 1990 (No. 5)
- (iv) Demerara Harbour Bridge (Amendment) Regulations 1990 (No. 6)

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILLS - Second Reading1. EQUAL RIGHTS BILL 1990 - Bill No. 5/1990 published 1990-03-17

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

A Bill intituled An Act to make provision for the enforcement of the principles enshrined in article 29 of the Constitution so as to secure equality for women and for matters connected therewith.

Cdes. Janet Jagan, Melville, Anna Ally and Mr. Kwayana spoke to the motion. The Vice-President, Culture and Social Development and Deputy Prime Minister was speaking to the motion when the time for the Suspension of the Sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION

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

RESUMPTION

At 4.28 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

The Vice-President, Minister of Culture and Social Development and Deputy Prime Minister continued and concluded her speech.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The motion was put and carried.

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

IN COMMITTEE

Clauses 1 to 5 were passed as printed

Schedule The following amendments by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs were put and carried.

PENSIONS ACT, Cap. 27:02

Pages 28 and 29
Section 22
column 2
paragraph (6)

Substitute -

"(6) For subsection (1) (v)
substitute the following -

"(1)(v) if the deceased officer does not leave a spouse, or if no pension is granted to that officer's spouse, and if that officer's mother or father or both were wholly or mainly dependent on him or her for support, a pension to the mother or father or both, while without adequate means of support, of an amount not exceeding the pension which might have been granted to that officer's spouse, such pension being equally divided between the mother and father where payable to both;"

Page 29

paragraph (7) Substitute -
"(7) Delete subsection (1) (vi).";

MUNICIPAL AND DISTRICT
COUNCILS ACT, Cap. 28:01

Pages 31 and 32
Section 85(1)
column 2
Page 32

- (a) For the word "parent" in the three places where it occurs substitute the words "parents or parent as the case may be";
- (b) For the full stop at the end substitute a colon and insert the following proviso -
"Provided that where payment is to be made to the parents of the officer the sum to be paid shall be equally divided between them.";

Page 33
column 2
Section 89(1)

For the word "parent" substitute the words "parents or parent as the case may be".

The Schedule was then passed as amended.

ASSEMBLY RESUMED

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Bill was read a third time and passed as amended in Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.35 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Regional Development, the Assembly adjourned to 2.00 p.m. Friday, 25th July, 1990.

S. NARAIN
SPEAKER

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.