

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 35TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND
SESSION (1990) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

ON THURSDAY, 20TH DECEMBER, 1990

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

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 (62)

+ 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-on Leave)
- + Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Public Utilities

Senior Ministers (8)

- + * Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance
- + Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Senior Minister in the Ministry of Planning & Development
- + Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Trade and Tourism
- + 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
- * Cde. J.R. Kranenburg, M.P., Minister of Communications and Works (Absent)

Ministers (8)

- Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Regional Development (Absent)
- + Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Minister of Labour and Co-operatives
- 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. Kisoan, M.P., Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister
- Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P., Minister of the Public Service
- 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

Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. K.B. Bancroft, M.P.
 Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P.
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.
 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. Cyrilda 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. Rockliffe, M.P.

(There are four Vacancies)

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)
 Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.F. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent)
 Cde. Y. Khan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)
 Cde. Enid E. Abrahams, 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 (Absent-on leave)

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

* Non-elected Member

Other Members (6).

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P. (Absent-on leave)
Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P.
Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P., Minority Chief Whip
Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.
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.

(iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

Mr. E. Kwayana, M.P.

OFFICER

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

PRAYERS

The Acting Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Resignation of Cde. Rashleigh E. Jackson, M.P., Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs and Member of the Cabinet

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had been advised that Cde. Rashleigh E. Jackson resigned his office as Senior Minister of Foreign Affairs and a Member of the Cabinet with effect from 26th November, 1990. Cde. Jackson who had been declared an elected member of the National Assembly on 24th December, 1985 remained a Member of the National Assembly.

(ii) Death of Cde. Mohamed Ally

The Speaker reported with deep regret the death of Cde. Mohamed Ally which occurred on 4th December, 1990. He said that with his death a vacancy had been created in the National Assembly and, 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 from which Cde. Ally's name was extracted, to further extract from the said List, the name of a person to fill the vacancy.

(iii) Resignation of Cde. Azamudeen K. Habibulla

The Speaker informed Members that he had received a letter from Cde. Azamudeen K. Habibulla tendering his resignation as a Member of the National Assembly with effect from 30th November, 1990 and that with Cde. Habibulla's resignation, a vacancy had been created in the National Assembly.

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 from which Cde. Habibulla's name was extracted, to further extract from the said List, the name of a person to fill the vacancy.

(iv) Appointment of Cde. Maurice B. Henry to act as Clerk

The Speaker informed Members Cde. Maurice Henry, a former Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, had been appointed to act as Clerk of the National Assembly during the absence of Cde. Frank Narain on leave from 10th November, 1990.

(v) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cde. Parris for that day's Sitting,
- (b) Cde. Cheddi Jagan, from 19th December, 1990 to 9th January, 1991 and
- (c) Cde. Janet Jagan, from 19th December, 1990 to 9th January, 1991

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

(1) By the Speaker of the National Assembly:

Minutes of Sessional Committee of Selection.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Prime Minister:

Annual Report of the Guyana Agency for Health Sciences Education, Environment and Food Policy for the year 1989.

(GAHEF: 11/8^{II}) (Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Annual Report of the Island Revenue Department for the year 1989.

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

- (ii) Economic and Policy Framework Paper (1990/1992)

(Circulated)

- (iii) Fourth ACP-EEC Convention signed in Lome on 15 December, 1989.

(Circulated)

- (iv) Consumption Tax (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 1990 (No. 73), made under section 4 of the Consumption Tax Act, Chapter 80:02, and published in the Gazette on 31st October, 1990.

(Circulated)

- (v) State Pension (ERIC BARRINGTON WEEKES) Order 1990 (No. 48), made under section 4 of the State Pension Act, Chapter 27:04, on the 28th of July, 1990, and published in the Gazette on the 11th August, 1990.

(Circulated)

- (vi) State Pension (SHER MOHAMED) Order 1990 (No. 49), made under section 4 of the State Pension Act, Chapter 27:04, on the 28th July, 1990, and published in the Gazette on the 11th August, 1990.

(Circulated)

- (vii) State Pension (KEITH ILES ROLLOX KIRPATRICK) Order 1990 (No. 76), made under section 4 of the State Pension Act, Chapter 27:04, on the 28th July, 1990, and published in the Gazette on the 11th August, 1990.

(Circulated)

- (viii) Financial Paper No. 3/1990 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$169,561,985 for period ended 1990-12-14.

(Circulated)

- (ix) Financial Paper No. 4/1990 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$381,738,000 for period ended 1990-12-14.

(Circulated)

In terms of Standing Order No. 68(1) the Minister named Friday, 28th December, 1990 as the day for the consideration of the Financial Papers.

- (x) National Insurance and Social Security (Collection of Contributions) (Amendment) Regulations 1990, (No. 9), made under sections 13, 16, 17, 18 and 51 of the National Insurance and Social Security Act, Chapter 36:01 on 30th November, 1990.

(Circulated)

- (xi) National Insurance and Social Security (Benefit) (Amendment) Regulations 1990, (No. 10), made under sections 14, 20, 21, 39 and 51 of the National Insurance and Social Security Act, Chapter 36:01 on 30th November, 1990.

(Circulated)

- (xii) National Insurance and Social Security (Persons Abroad and Voluntary Contributors) (Amendment) Regulations 1990 (No. 11), made under section 11, 15, 48 and 51 of the National Insurance and Social Security Act, Chapter 36:01 on 30th November, 1990.

(Circulated)

- (4) By the Minister of Regional Development on behalf of the Minister of Communications and Works:

Annual Report of the Plant Maintenance and Hire Division Ministry of Communications and Works for the year 1989.

(Circulated)

(5) By the Minister of the Public Service:

Annual Report of the Public Service
Minister for the year 1989.

(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

(1) ELECTION LAWS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1990 - Bill No. 34/1990

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 amend the
Election Laws (Amendment) Act 1990.

(2) REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1990 -
Bill No. 35/1990

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 amend the
Representation of the People Act.

(3) GUYANA AND TRINIDAD MUTUAL LIFE INSURANCE COMPANY (AMENDMENT)
BILL 1990 - Bill No. 32/1990

Cde K.B. Bancroft, M.P., presented the following private Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the
Guyana and Trinidad Mutual Life Insurance
Company Ordinance.

(4) GUYANA AND TRINIDAD MUTUAL FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY (AMENDMENT)
BILL 1990 - Bill No. 33/1990

Cde. K.B. Bancroft, M.P., presented the following private Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the
Guyana and Trinidad Mutual Fire Insurance
Company Ordinance.

MOTIONS

ITEM 1 - SYMPATHY ON DEATH OF CDE. MOHAMED ALLY

The Prime Minister moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Cde. Mohamed Ally 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 family and relatives.

The Deputy Speaker, Mr M. Abraham and Mr. E. Kwayana spoke to the motion.

The motion was put and carried with Members standing.

ITEM 2 - CONFIRMATION OF CONSUMPTION TAX (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3), ORDER 1990 (NO.73)
ORDER 1990 (NO. 73).

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly in accordance with section 5(1) of the Consumption Tax Act (Chapter 80:02) confirm the Consumption Tax (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 1990 (No. 73), which was made on 30th October, 1990 under section 4 of the Consumption Tax Act (Chapter 80:02) and published in the Gazette on 31st October, 1990.

The Deputy Speaker and Mr. Kwayana spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

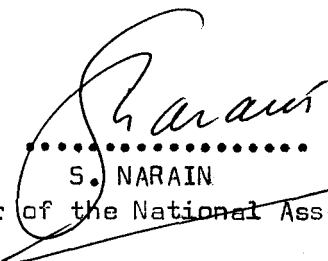
CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

The Speaker extended Christmas Greetings to Members of the National Assembly, the Staff of Parliament Office, the Press and other Officials, and their families.

The Prime Minister and the Deputy Speaker reciprocated the wishes to the Speaker and also extended greetings to other Members of the Assembly the Staff of Parliament Office, the Press and their families.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.50 p.m., on a motion by Minister of Regional Development, /the the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 28th December, 1990.


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S. NARAIN
Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

28th December, 1990.