

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 12TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD SESSION
(1991) - (1992) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON FRIDAY, 10TH APRIL, 1992

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

Speaker

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

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (60)

Prime Minister

Cde. H. Green, M.P., 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

Deputy Prime Minister (2)

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Public Works,
Communications and Regional Development

Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Trade,
Tourism and Industry

Senior Ministers (6)

*Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance (Absent - on leave)

*Cde. Dr. P.L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Minister of Agriculture

*Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister of Education and Cultural
Development (Absent - on leave)

*Cde. J.R. Kranenburg, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public
Works, Communications and Regional Development

Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Senior Minister in the Office
of the President

*Cde. Rabbian Ali-Khan, M.P., Minister of Labour, Human Services and
Social Security

*Non-elected Member

Ministers (6)

- Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry
- *Cde. V.V. Parvatan, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. J.T. Kissoon, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health
- Cde. Dr. Faith Harding, M.P., Minister in the Office of the President/
Public Service Management (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs
- Cde. An M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Minister in the Ministry of
Labour, Human Services and Social Security

Government Chief Whip (1)

- Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P.

Other Members (32)

- Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., M.P.
- Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P.
- Cde. R.E. Jackson, O.R., M.P.
- Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P.
- Cde. S. Prashad, C.C.H., M.P.
- Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn, M.P.
- Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P.
- Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. K.B. Bancroft, A.A., M.P.
- Cde. M. Corrica, M.S., 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.S., M.P.
- Cde. Joyce Munroe, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
- Cde. Amna Ally, M.P.
- Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.
- Cde. F.M. Cumberbatch, M.P.
- Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.
- Cde. Cyrillda 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, A.A., M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. E.L. Fraser, M.P.
- Cde. Mignon D. Griffith, M.P.
- Cde. P.E. Rockcliffe, M.P.

There are two 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.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
 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)
 Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takatu/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)

Members of the Minority (11)(i) People's Progressive Party 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

Other Members (6)

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

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. M.A. Abrahams, A.A., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

(iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

Dr. R. Roopnarine, M.P. (Absent)

OFFICERS

Cde. M.B. Henry, Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.)
 Cde. S.E. Isaacs, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly.

PRAYERS

The Acting Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Bernard and Collymore for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Deputy Prime Minister, Trade, Tourism and Industry, on behalf of the Minister of Finance:

Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) (Designation) Order 1992 (No. 7), made under section 2 of the Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) Act, Chapter 27:03.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILLS - Second and Third ReadingsITEM 1 - ELECTION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 10/1992, published 1992-04-02

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to alter the Constitution in accordance with articles 66 and 164 thereof and to amend the laws relating to elections of members of the National Assembly and members of the regional democratic councils and for matters connected therewith.

The Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resumed consideration of the Election Laws (Amendment) Bill
1992 - Bill No. 10/1992

The Prime Minister spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried on the following division:

FOR

Cde. Fernandes
Cde. Ajoodhia
Cde. McGarrell
Cde. I. Ally
Cde. Abraham
Cde. Khan
Cde. Vandenburg
Cde. Bishop
Cde. Charles
Cde. P. Singh
Cde. Semple
Cde. Rockcliffe
Cde. Griffith
Cde. Fraser
Cde. B. Persaud
Cde. Marshall
Cde. Geddes
Cde. Edwards
Cde. Deygoo
Cde. DeJesus
Cde. Deen
Cde. Cumberbatch
Cde. Calistro
Cde. A. Ally
Cde. Melville
Cde. Munroe
Cde. Doobay
Cde. Gill-Mingo
Cde. Fowler
Cde. P. Rayman
Cde. Corrica
Cde. Bancroft
Cde. Johnson
Cde. Harewood-Benn
Cde. Prashad
Cde. Thomas
Cde. Jackson
Cde. Parris
Cde. Burnham
Cde. Ferreira
Cde. Persico
Cde. Odie-Ali
Cde. Kissoon
Cde. Sawh
Cde. Sharma
Cde. Murray
Cde. Corbin
Cde. Green

AGAINST

Cde. Dr. Luncheon
Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Nokta
Cde. R.D. Persaud

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

IN COMMITTEE

Clause 1 was passed as printed on the following division:

FOR

Cde. Fernandes
 Cde. Ajoodhia
 Cde. McGarrell
 Cde. I. Ally
 Cde. Abraham
 Cde. Khan
 Cde. Vandenburg
 Cde. Bishop
 Cde. Charles
 Cde. P. Singh
 Cde. Semple
 Cde. Rockcliffe
 Cde. Griffith
 Cde. Fraser
 Cde. B. Persaud
 Cde. Marshall
 Cde. Geddes
 Cde. Edwards
 Cde. Deygoo
 Cde. DeJesus
 Cde. Deen
 Cde. Cumberbatch
 Cde. Calistro
 Cde. A. Ally
 Cde. Melville
 Cde. Munroe
 Cde. Doobay
 Cde. Gill-Mingo
 Cde. Fowler
 Cde. P. Rayman
 Cde. Corrica
 Cde. Mancroft
 Cde. Johnson
 Cde. Harewood-Benn
 Cde. Prashad
 Cde. Thomas
 Cde. Jackson
 Cde. Parris
 Cde. Burnham
 Cde. Ferreira
 Cde. Persico
 Cde. Ddie-Ali
 Cde. Kisson
 Cde. Sawh
 Cde. Sharma
 Cde. Murray
 Cde. Corbin
 Cde. Green

AGAINST

Cde. Dr. Luncheon
 Cde. Belgrave
 Cde. Nokta
 Cde. R.D. Persaud

Clause 2 The following amendment by the Deputy Speaker was put and negatived:

Amendment of the proposed article 161 A of the Constitution as follows:

- (i) Deletion of the words "Chairman of the" in paragraph (1)
- (ii) In paragraph (3) -
 - (a) Deletion of the words "Chairman of the",
 - (b) Substitution of the word "it" for the word "he" wherever it appears, and
 - (c) Substitution of the word "its" for the word "his".
- (iii) Deletion of paragraph (4) and renumbering of paragraphs (5) and (6) as (4) and (5) respectively.

Clause 2 was then passed as printed.

Clause 3 was passed as printed.

Clause 4 The following amendment by the Deputy Speaker was put and negatived:

Clause 4(1)

- (i) Deletion of the words "be subject to the direction and control" and substitution of therefor the words "shall act only on the directions and be subject to the control and supervision" in subsection (1),
- (ii) Deletion of the words "Chairman of the" in subsection (1).

Clause 4 was then passed as printed.

Clause 5 The following amendment by the Deputy Speaker was put and negatived:

Renumbering the clause as clause 6 and insertion of the following as clause 5:

'5. Section 75 of the Representation of the People Act is hereby amended by the insertion immediately after the word "elector" where it first appears, the words "by any method approved by the Elections Commission".'

Clause 5 was then passed as printed.

Clause 6 The following amendment by the Deputy Speaker was put and negatived:

Renumbering of the clause as clause 7 and insertion of the the following as clause 6:

'6. Section 79 (1)(b) of the Representation of the People Act is hereby amended by the insertion of the following immediately after sub paragraph (VII) -

"(VII) such persons approved by the Elections Commissions".

Clause 6 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 7 and 8 were passed as printed.

Insertion of New PART V.

The following amendment by the Deputy Speaker was put and negatived:

Insertion of the following as PART V of the Bill -

'PART V.

9. Section 14(1) of the National Registration Act is hereby amended by the insertion of the following proviso

"Provided that where a person claims to be registered and his or her registration card has been lost, destroyed or is otherwise not available, and the number on such registration card cannot be located by the Commissioner, then it shall be sufficient for the preliminary list to contain the full name, the address and the occupation of the person".'

ASSEMBLY RESUMED.

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Bill was read the third time and passed as printed on the following division:

FOR.

Cde. Fernandes
Cde. Ajoodhia
Cde. McGarrell
Cde. I. Ally
Cde. Abrahams
Cde. Khan
Cde. Vandenburg
Cde. Bishop
Cde. Charles
Cde. P. Singh
Cde. Semple
Cde. Rockcliffe
Cde. Griffith
Cde. Fraser
Cde. B. Persaud
Cde. Marshall
Cde. Geddes
Cde. Edwards
Cde. Daygoo
Cde. DeJesus
Cde. Deen
Cde. Cumberbatch
Cde. Calistro
Cde. A. Ally
Cde. Melville
Cde. Munroe

AGAINST.

Cde. Dr. Luncheon
Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Nokta
Cde. R.D. Persaud

FORAGAINST

Cde. Doobay
 Cde. Gill-Mingo
 Cde. Fowler
 Cde. P. Rayman
 Cde. Corrica
 Cde. Bancroft
 Cde. Johnson
 Cde. Harewood-Benn
 Cde. Prashad
 Cde. Thomas
 Cde. Jackson
 Cde. Parris
 Cde. Burnham
 Cde. Ferreira
 Cde. Persico
 Cde. Odie-Ali
 Cde. Kisson
 Cde. Sawh
 Cde. Sharma
 Cde. Murray
 Cde. Corbin
 Cde. Green

48

4

ITEM 2 - GUYANA NATIONAL SERVICE (PENSIONS & GRATUITIES) BILL 1992
Bill No. 11/1992 published 1992-04-02

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the granting of pensions and gratuities to officers and other ranks of the Guyana National Service.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.35 p.m., on a motion by the Minister in the Ministry of Health, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

S. Narain
 S. Narain
 Speaker.

92-04-09

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
 Public Buildings,
 Georgetown,
 1992-04-14.