

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 34TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1986-1987) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY, 18TH MARCH, 1987

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 (61)

Ministers in the Cabinet (10)

Prime Minister (1)

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

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

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

Other Vice-Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

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

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

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.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Public
Utilities (Absent - on leave)

Senior Ministers (4)

Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

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

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

Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Trade and Tourism

Other Ministers (14)

Senior Ministers (7)

Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Regional Development

Cde. Dr. R.A. Van West-Charles, M.P., Minister of Medical Education,
Environment and Food Policy

Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn, M.P., Minister of Information
and the Public Service

*Cde. Dr. P.L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Senior Minister in the Ministry
of Agriculture

*Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Education

*Cde. J.R. Kranenburg, M.P., Minister of Communications and Works

*Cde. Dr. N.E. Blackman, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health

*Non-elected Member

Ministers (5)

- Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of National Mobilisation
Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Minister in the Office of the President (Absent - on leave)
Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister of Forestry
*Cde. V.V. Parvatan, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture
Cde. J.T. Kissoon, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Medical Education, Environment and Food Policy (Absent)

Ministers of State (2)

- Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P., Minister of State in the Ministry of Planning and Development
Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Minister of State in the Ministry of Home Affairs

Parliamentary Secretary (1)

- *Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Education (Absent - on leave)

Government Chief Whip (1)

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

Other Members (23)

- Cde. Agnes W. Bend-Kirton, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
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 F. Davidson, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, J.P., M.P.
Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
Cde. Anna Ally, M.P.
Cde. L.R. Arthur, M.P.
Cde. J.R.L. Bovell-Drakes, M.P. (Absent)
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. (Absent - on leave)
Cde. G. Marshall, M.P.
Cde. B. Persaud, J.P., M.P.
Cde. E.W. Trotman, M.P.
Cde. K. Sankar, M.S., M.P.

*Non-elected Member

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

Cde. E. Mohamed, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. Rose I. Semple, M.P. (Absent)

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) (Absent)
Cde. Bhagmattee Latchminarayan, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice) (Absent - on leave)
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. B.L. Domingo, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini) (Absent)
Cde. S.I. McGarrell, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo) (Absent - on leave)
Cde. Joycelyn Thom-Lindie, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent)

Members of the Minority (11)(i) People's Progressive Party (8)Minority Leader (1)

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

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. (Absent)
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 - on leave)
Mr. M.A. Abraham, 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. I. Hartman, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cdes. Corbin, ~~Sharma~~, ~~Peralico~~, ~~Sodice~~, ~~Stephens~~ and Mr. M.F. Singh, for that sitting, and
- (b) Cde. Bend-Kirton for one week from 18th March, 1987.

(ii) Revocation of Appointment of Cde. Ainsworth as a Minister of State

The Speaker informed Members that the appointment of Cde. Donald Ainsworth as a Minister of State ceased with effect from 13th March, 1987. As Cde. Ainsworth was a non-elected Minister, he had also ceased to be a Member of the National Assembly.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) (Designation of Office of Member of the Co-operative Finance Administration) Order 1986 (No. 65), made under section 2 of the Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) Act, Chapter 27:03, on 12th November, 1986, and published in the Gazette on 24th January, 1987.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Rate of Interest (Amendment) Order 1987 (No. 8), made under section 6 of the Rate of Interest Act 1979 (No. 13), on 20th January, 1987, and published in the Gazette on 24th January, 1987.

(ST:1/8/10) (Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS -(1) For Written ReplyNo. 9 - Foreign Exchange Component on Expenditure

Mr. Kwavana asked the Minister of Finance the following question:-

QUESTION: Will the Minister say what is the foreign exchange component of actual total expenditure in the years 1981, 1982, 1983, 1984 and, if available, 1985 on the following:-

- (a) Fire Service?
- (b) Police Service?
- (c) Guyana National Service?
- (d) Guyana Defence Force?
- (e) Pure Water Supply?
- (f) Non-drug hospital supplies?

(Notice Paper No. 41 published 1986-05-20)

The Minister of Finance gave the following written reply:-

ANSWER: This question cannot be answered because few of the agencies listed import supplies directly. When licences are granted to importers they are not required to submit details about the end-users. Many of the services utilized domestically embody imported materials and the problems of estimating these are legion. It would be very difficult and time-consuming to engage in this exercise which is hardly likely to yield any clear practical results.

(2) For Oral Answers

No. 10 - Private Members' Business

Mr. Kwayana asked the Minister of Regional Development the following question:

QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister say how many motions in the last Parliament by Minority Parties were -

- (a) given as notice, and
- (b) debated in the National Assembly?

(ii) Will the Minister say -

- (a) how many sittings of the National Assembly were held during the Fourth Parliament, and
- (b) how many sittings were devoted to Private Members' motions?

(iii) Is it the Government's policy to delay the answers to questions until they are no longer useful?

(iv) Is it the Government's policy to answer questions as soon as the efficiency of the respective Ministries will allow?

(Notice Paper No. 42 published 1986-05-20)

The Minister of Regional Development gave the following reply:

ANSWER: (i) (a) 44
(b) 8

(ii) (a) 26 in the First Session
20 in the Second Session
54 in the Third Session

(b) 7

(iii) No.

(iv) Yes.

No. 11 - Housing Accommodation

Mr. Kwayana asked the Prime Minister the following question:

- QUESTION:** (i) Is the Prime Minister aware of the eviction of Ms Christine Edgill from her lawful occupancy of a dwelling in North East La Penitence, YY24, on or about April 24, 1986?
- (ii) Will the Prime Minister name the authority responsible for the eviction of Ms Edgill from her lawful tenancy of YY 24 North East La Penitence on or about April 24, 1986?
- (iii) Does the Prime Minister maintain the statement in the Assembly on March 17 that no strangers have been imposed by the Ministry on the lawful occupants of houses in the Government housing estates?
- (iv) Does the Prime Minister propose to promote an enquiry into the allegations against a senior housing officer of demanding sexual favours from female applicants for housing accommodation?

(Notice Paper No. 43 published 1986-05-20)

The Prime Minister gave the following reply:-

- ANSWER:** (i) The Minister is aware of the eviction of Ms Christine Edghill from the occupancy of YY 24, North East La Penitence. Facts and events leading up to the eviction are hereunder stated:-

Gerald James was the legal tenant of Apartment YY 24 situated at North East La Penitence with effect from 27.5.77. He paid rental at the rate of sixteen dollars \$(16.00) per month.

Gerald James died on 82-07-13. Copy of death certificate is with the Ministry.

His wife, Olga James worked as a domestic until she took ill with a stroke and was cared for by a friend, one Winifred Younge.

During the month of March 1985, Ms. Christine Edghill reported to this office, requesting permission to share the apartment under the pretext that she loved old people and would join along with the other neighbours to take care of the tenant who was very ill. After two weeks elapsed, oral permission was given to Ms. Edghill to visit the apartment and assist in the caring of Cde. James.

Ms. Edghill moved in and began to identify a number of defects in the apartment. The apartment was very dark, there was need for some electrical work to be done as well.

Problems began to surface whereby Ms. Edghill and another person were trying to determine who should have total control over Cde. James.

Cde. James died subsequently and Ms. Edghill continued to occupy the apartment.

By this time a Ms. Soodo shared the apartment with Ms. Edghill.

Problems continued to surface and all the parties involved were summoned to Head Office to see the Parliamentary Secretary - Housing.

Soodo would report to the Office stating that Edghill's daughter could be heard using words to the effect, "I don't want anybody to be living with me". The matter was further compounded when she encouraged her son to throw Soodoo's clothes off the clothes' line. It was further reported that Ms. Christine Edghill would allow her son to take his friends into the apartment and there they would start to play marbles and make a lot of noise in the process. Soodo also alleged that Edghill would throw a mixture of egg and urine plus water among other things at her. Several reports of this nature are at the East La Penitence Police Station. During the month of December, 1986, Edghill's son, along with his friends would light squibs and fire-crackers and throw same into Soodo's room.

The lawlessness reached such a peak that Community Leaders, concerned citizens in the area viz. Verna Welshman, Stella Assannah and Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P., were forced to intervene on occasions in an effort to effect a peaceful solution.

It was the consensus of the Ministry officials that the aggressor was Ms. Edghill.

The matter was finally discussed with the appropriate authority and it was agreed that Ms. Edghill should be put out of the apartment.

A letter dated 85-11-20 to this effect was sent.

The assistance of the Police was sought and the family was ejected. The Edghill's immediately re-entered the apartment with their belongings by forcing open the door.

On the Morning of Tuesday 15-4-86, concerned citizens residing in the same area came to Head Office to report that Ms. Edghill's daughter assaulted Soodo, leaving her on the ground helpless. It was only after persons intervened that Soodo was rescued. It must be known that Soodo is a pensioner, 70 years of age. The Edghills were finally thrown out of the apartment.

- (ii) The Ministry of Housing has the responsibility for protecting its property and encouraging decent living in all its housing estates. Ms. Edghill was a nuisance to her neighbours and, therefore, the Ministry of Housing decided to remove the Edghill's family from the occupancy of YY 24, North East La Penitence.
- (iii) The answer is yes.
- (iv) No such allegations have been made nor brought to my attention. However, I wish to assure this Honourable House that when such allegations are brought to my attention, they would be investigated with promptness, vigour and vitality.

Mr. Kwayana asked a supplementary question.

No. 12 - Compensation for Loss of Employment

Mr. Kwayana asked the Minister of Labour the following question:

QUESTION: Will the Minister say what compensatory arrangements exist for employees of the private sector who have given over 15 years' service and lose their jobs because the firm ceased operation?

(Notice Paper No. 44 published 1986-05-20)

The Minister of Labour gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The eligibility for compensation depends on the terms of the particular employment.

Mr. Kwayana asked a supplementary question.

No. 23 - Rice Mill from the G.D.R.

The Minority Leader asked the Senior Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture the following question:

- QUESTION:
- (i) Will the Minister say when the Rice Mill from the GDR arrived in the country?
 - (ii) Will the Minister say also when will work commence on the installation of the Mill and where will it be set up?

(Notice Paper No. 57 published 1986-05-31)

The Senior Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture gave the following reply:

ANSWER: (i) The various components of the Rice Mill from the German Democratic Republic arrived in Guyana between November 1985 and November 1986.

(ii) The Mill is being established at ANNA REGINA, Region No. 2 and work started on 12th February, 1986.

The Minority Leader asked a supplementary question.

No. 24 - Market at Parika

Cde. Nokta asked the Minister of Regional Development the following question:

QUESTION: Will the Minister say how soon the construction of a market at Parika, East Bank Essequibo, which was commenced in October, 1984, and was due to be completed by December 31 that year, will be resumed and when the market will be opened?

(Notice Paper No. 58 published 1986-05-31)

The Minister of Regional Development gave the following reply:

ANSWER: As is well-known, farmers and other vendors of produce from and around Parika and the riverain areas of the Essequibo River, have traditionally sold their produce on the Parika Stelling. Within recent years the numbers of these vendors and the quantities of produce offered for sale have increased significantly, and this has impeded the movement of passengers to and from the ferry boats and caused much inconvenience. In these circumstances, the Regional Development Council for Region 3 began to develop a project to construct a market to accommodate these vendors.

2. In 1984, an area of land was identified in the vicinity of the Parika Stelling. In October, 1984 work began to clear, back-fill and level it.
3. In the meantime, the Regional Development Council instructed the Regional Engineer to prepare the technical drawings and cost estimates for the project. In carrying out this assignment, the Regional Engineer was in consultation with the Chief Works Officer and the Town and Country Planning Officer. The drawings and estimates were completed in December, 1985. The cost of the project was originally estimated at \$1.5 mn., but was subsequently increased to \$2.0 mn.

4. Unfortunately, in the context of the financial stringencies, the market project was not considered a top priority and no allocations were made in 1986 and 1987 for the work to proceed. However, the project is still active and the Regional Development Council is hopeful that it would be able to commence construction next year.

Cde. Nokta sked a supplementary question.

No. 25 - Cost of Gasolene

The Minority Leader asked the Minister of Trade and Tourism the following question:

QUESTION: Of the current retail price - \$7.45 per gallon - of gasolene, will the Minister say what is the landed cost per gallon, the Government tax and the profit margin to the filling stations?

(Notice Paper No. 59 published 1986-05-31)

The Minister of Trade and Tourism gave the following reply:

ANSWER: There was never any retail price of \$7.45 per gallon for gasolene. The initial premise of the question being faulty it is not possible to give any intelligible answer to the question.

The Minority Leader asked a supplementary question.

No. 26 - Tabling and Circulation of Publications

The Minority Leader asked the Minister of Information and the Public Service the following question:

QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister say whether the two publications -

(a) An Analysis of the Presidential, National and Regional Elections of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, December 9, 1985, and

(b) Guyana General Elections, December 9, 1985 -

will be tabled in the National Assembly, and if so, when?

(ii) If not, why not?

(iii) Will the Minister ensure that all publications by the Ministry of Information and by other Ministries, for local and overseas distribution are circulated to Members of Parliament?

(Notice Paper No. 60 published 1986-05-31)

The Minister of Information and the Public Service gave the following reply:

ANSWER: (i) The Publications referred to were not sessional papers, but, were put out for general information. Copies are available however, if the Minority Leader so proposes, the Government would be prepared to lay them as a matter of record in the National Assembly.

(ii) This is answered in No. 1.

(iii) This will be difficult because of the variety and numbers of publications; however, we are prepared as far as practicable to distribute on request.

The Minority Leader asked a supplementary question.

No. 33 - Availability of Wheaten Flour

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud asked the Minister of Trade and Tourism the following question:

QUESTION: Will the Minister say what steps, have been taken, since the President's announcement that wheat will be imported, to make wheaten flour available to the public?

(Notice Paper No. 74 published 1986-06-05)

The Minister of Trade and Tourism gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The President's announcement was made on February 22, 1986. A PL 480 Agreement was signed on August 7, 1986 and the first shipment of wheat arrived in Guyana on September 12, 1986. Since then wheaten flour has been freely available to all Guyanese.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud asked a supplementary question.

No. 34 - Advertisements in the New Nation, Etc.

Cde. S.F. Mohamed asked the Minister of Information and Public Service the following question:

QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister say how much has been paid by the Government, its agencies, Corporations and state enterprises to the New Nation during the year 1985?

(ii) What advertisements have been given to other publications, aside from the Guyana Chronicle & Sunday Chronicle and the two radio stations?

(Notice Paper No. 75 published 1986-06-05)

The Minister of Information and the Public Service gave the following reply:

ANSWER: (i) The question is not properly put. The Minister of Information and the Public Service has nothing to do with the operations of New Nation.

The Minister of Information and the Public Service also, is not involved in the running of Corporations.

(ii) This is answered in No. 1.

No. 35 - Repairs to Sacred Heart Primary School, N.W.D.

Cde. Nokta asked the Vice-President, Education and Social Development, and Deputy Prime Minister the following question:

QUESTION: (i) Is the Minister aware that the Sacred Heart Primary School, Arouou River, North West District, was blown down by wind because of lack of repairs?

(ii) Will the Minister say if repairs to the building have commenced and if so when will they be completed?

(Notice Paper No. 76 published 1986-06-05.)

The Vice-President, Education and Social Development and Deputy Prime Minister gave the following reply:-

ANSWER: (i) The Minister is aware that this school building fell from its blocks in October, 1985.

(ii) The school is now being rebuilt. After the land was cleared and drained, work was started on 20th October, 1986 and will be completed by the end of April, 1987.

The education of the children was not disrupted because shortly after the incident, they were housed in alternative accommodation in a building twenty (20) yards east of the old school building.

Cde. Nokta asked supplementary questions.

No. 36 - Schedule of Georgetown/North West Steamers

Cde. Nokta asked the Minister of Communications and Works the following question:

QUESTION: (i) Is the Minister aware that -

- (a) the Georgetown-Northwest District passenger and cargo steamers often do not travel on schedule, thus causing much frustration from commuters at both ends; and
 - (b) that large quantities of agricultural produce perish every time this occurs?
- (ii) Could the Minister say how soon this situation will be corrected?

(Notice Paper No. 77 published 1986-06-05)

The Minister of Communications and Works gave the following reply:-

ANSWER: The Minister is aware that there was a problem with maintaining a strict schedule on this route. This was particularly so when the passenger cargo vessel had to service this route as well as the Berbice river route.

Corrective measures have been taken and with the introduction of the M.V. Barima on the Berbice river service in February of this year, following extensive repairs, there has been a significant improvement in the reliability of the North West service.

It is not true to say that large quantities of agriculture produce perish every time there is a delay. Many of the delays are for periods of less than six hours and the type of produce transported can withstand this period of delay. Because of the nature of the vessels, handling methods, and climatic conditions, there has always been some degree of spoilage on this service, but it has been kept within acceptable limits as far as perishables are concerned.

Cde. Nokta asked a Supplementary Question.

No. 38 - Inspection of Employers' Registers of Workers

Cde. Janet Jagan asked the Minister of Labour the following question:

- QUESTION: (i) Will the Minister say how many inspections have been made by Labour Department Officers or registers, which are required to be kept by employers under the Household Service Workers (Hours of Work) Act 1980 (No. 17)?
- (ii) Will the Minister say how many registers, approximately, are being kept.
- (iii) Have there been any prosecutions under the law?
(Notice Paper No. 80 published 1986-06-11)

The Minister of Labour gave the following reply:

- ANSWER: (i) 26
(ii) Two by each employer
(iii) Yes.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS.Thallium Sulphate Contamination

The Prime Minister informed Members that work done in the country by a PAHO/WHO team of experts and other Medical Specialists as a result of the problem of Thallium Sulphate contamination did not indicate so far that there was widespread illness in the Community.

In addition to the work carried out by the experts, all fifty-two samples of foodstuff sent to the Food and Drugs Administration's Elemental Analysis Research Centre in Cincinnati, Ohio, U.S.A., were certified free from any Thallium Sulphate contamination. Also, other Medical Experts arrived in the country in connection with the establishment of a Toxicology Unit and in upgrading Laboratory facilities.

The Prime Minister thanked all those who worked so hard to bring about the welcomed conclusion. The Government's special gratitude went to PAHO/WHO and the Government of the U.S.A.

PUBLIC BUSINESS -MOTIONSITEM 1 - SALE OF GUYANA TIMBERS LIMITED

At the request of Mr. Kwayana this motion was deferred.

ITEM 2 - CLOSING OF LEONORA SUGAR FACTORY

At the request of Mr. Kwayana, this motion was withdrawn.

ITEM 3 - TRANSPORTATION IN THE RUPUNUNI

Mr. Kwayana moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Ministry of Transport take immediate steps to introduce a system of public transport in the Rupununi in order to break the leaden isolation of communities within the northern villages, within the southern villages and between north and south, and to serve school children;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the service should be so ordered as to be available to persons outside the money economy.

(Notice Paper No. 64 published 1986-06-04)

Cde. Nokta seconded and spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Communications and Works and the Minority Leader spoke to the motion.

Mr. Kwayana replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and negatived on the following division.

FOR

Cde. Kwayana
Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Basir
Cde. Nokta
Cde. S.F. Mohamed
Cde. R.D. Persaud
Cde. J. Jagan
Cde. C. Jagan

AGAINST

Cde. McGarrell
Cde. I. Ally
Cde. Abrahams
Cde. Khan
Cde. Charles
Cde. Sankar
Cde. Trotman
Cde. B. Persaud
Cde. Marshall
Cde. Edwards
Cde. Deygoo
Cde. DeJesus
Cde. Deen
Cde. Cumberbatch
Cde. Calistro
Cde. Bovell-Drakes
Cde. Arthur
Cde. A. Ally
Cde. Munroe
Cde. Doohay
Cde. M. Ally
Cde. Gill-Mingo
Cde. Fowler
Cde. Habibulla
Cde. Ferreira
Cde. Odie-Ali
Cde. Harding
Cde. Sawh
Cde. Johnson
Cde. Thomas
Cde. Murray
Cde. Prashad
Cde. Jackson
Cde. Burnham
Cde. Chandisingh
Cde. Shahabuddeen
Cde. Green

TOTAL 8

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ITEM 4 - ROAD MAKING MATERIALS

Mr. Kwayana moved the following motion:

BE **IT** RESOLVED:

That the Government appoint a task force to study all reports on the tests of road making materials available in Guyana, report on the supply possibilities and recommend on the most efficient materials for use on building and up-grading community roads;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That Government on the basis of these reports or on other reliable information launch a programme of building upgrading and repairing dams, streets and roads within all communities so as to raise them to a level now below a prescribed minimum standard of all-weather roads;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the present period of low fuel prices is an appropriate time to launch such a programme.

(Notice Paper No. 65 published 1986-06-04)

Cde. Nokta seconded and spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Communications and Works spoke to the motion.

The motion was put and carried.

ITEM 5 - REDUCTION IN PRICES OF GASOLENE, DIESELENE AND KEROSENE

Mr. Kwayana moved the following motion:

BE **IT** RESOLVED:

That in the opinion of this Assembly the wholesale and retail prices of gasolene, dieselene, kerosene as maintained in Guyana by the Ministry of Trade are inflationary and tend to higher production costs leading to reduced competitiveness of both the private and public sectors and ought to be reduced by a minimum of 25% thus reducing the cost of living, inducing more competitive production in all areas of the economy

(Notice Paper No. 66 published 1986-06-04)

Cde. Nokta seconded and spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Trade and Tourism and the Minority Leader spoke to the motion.

Mr. Kwayana replied.

The Minister of Finance concluded the debate.

The motion was put and negatived.

ITEM 6 COUNTING OF VOTES AT PLACE OF POLL

The Minority Leader moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly calls upon the Government to take steps to ensure that at all elections the votes shall be counted at the place of poll in the presence of the polling agents of the parties contesting the elections.

(Notice Paper No. 67 published 1986-06-05)

Mr. Kwayana seconded and spoke to the motion.

The Prime Minister spoke to the motion.

The Minority Leader replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and negatived on the following Division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Kwayana	Cde. McGarrell
Cde. Belgrave	Cde. I. Ally
Cde. Basir	Cde. Abrahams
Cde. Nokta	Cde. Khan
Cde. S.F. Mohamed	Cde. Charles
Cde. R.D. Persaud	Cde. Sankar
Cde. C. Jagan	Cde. Trotman
	Cde. B. Persaud
	Cde. Marshall
	Cde. Edwards
	Cde. Deygoo
	Cde. DeJesus
	Cde. Deen
	Cde. Cumberbatch
	Cde. Calistro
	Cde. A. Ally
	Cde. Munroe
	Cde. Doobay
	Cde. M. Ally
	Cde. Gill-Mingo
	Cde. Fowler
	Cde. Habibulla
	Cde. Ferreira
	Cde. Odie-Ali
	Cde. Harding
	Cde. Sawh
	Cde. Johnson
	Cde. Thomas
	Cde. Murray
	Cde. Prashad
	Cde. Chandisingh
	Cde. Shahabuddeen
	Cde. Green

TOTAL 7

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ADJOURNMENT

At 6.26 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Regional Development, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

S. Narain
S. NARAIN
Speaker
87-03-25

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

1987-03-25.