# NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

# MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

# OF THE 45TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE SECOND SESSION (1990/1991) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD AT 2.00 P.M.

# ON MONDAY, 4TH MARCH, 1991

# IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (72)

# 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 (60)

# 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, U.R., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

# Other Deputy Prime Minister (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

# Senior Ministers (8)

- tt Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance
- Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Serior Minister in the Ministry of Planning and 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 (Absent on leave)
- \* 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
- 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
  - 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 and Social Development (Absent on leave)
    - + Cabinet Member
    - \* Non-elected Nember

# Government Chief Whip (1)

Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira

# Other Members (26)

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Cde. R.E. Jackson, O.R., M.P., (Absent)
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Cde. K.B. Bancroft, M.P.

Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P.

Cde. M. Corrica, 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. Amna 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. (Absent)

Cde. B. Persaud, J.P., M.P.

Cde. K. Sankar, A.A., M.P. (Absent)

Cd2. E.L. Fraser, M.P.

use. Mignon D. Griffith, M.P.

Cde. P.E. Rockliffe, 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/Supernaam)

Cde. E. Abrahams, M.S., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Island/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. 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 (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

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P., (Absent - on leave)

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

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. Cde. I. Basir, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

(There are two vacancies)

### (ii) United Force (2)

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

### (iii) Working Prople's Alliance (1)

(Vacant)

# **OFFICER**

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

# **PRAYERS**

The Acting Clerk read Prayers.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

### (i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Persico, Janet Jagan and Basir for that day's sitting.

### (ii) Vacation of Seats

The Speaker informed Members that Cdes. H. Nokta and C.C. Belgrave were absent from seven consecutive sittings of the National Assembly on -

- (i) Monday, 14th January, 1991
- (ii) Monday, 4th February, 1991
- (iii) Wednesday, 20th February, 1991
- (iv) Monday, 25th February, 1991
- (v) Tuesday, 26th February, 1991
- (vi) Wednesday, 27th February, 1991
- (vii) Thursday, 28th February, 1991

Therefore In accordance with articles 54 and 156(1)(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 77(2) they had vacated their seats in the National Assembly.

# INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

# Presentation and First Reading

# APPROPRIATION BILL 1991 - Bill No. 8/1991 - published 1991-02-28

The Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read a first time:

> A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sum necessary to meet the expenditure (Not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the financial year anding 31st December, 1991 estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of that sum for specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

# PUBLIC BUSINESS

# BILLs -Second and Third Readings

# ITEM 1 - APPROPRIATION BILL 1991 - Bill No. 8/1991 - published 1991-02-28

The Minister of Finance on a motion by the following was read a second and the third time and passed as printed:-

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sum necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the financial year ending 31st December, 1991 estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of that sum for specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

# ITEM 2 - BANKING LAWS BILL 1991 - Bill No. 3/1991 published 1991-01-22

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to authorise the issue of variable interest rate fixed date debentures and to include such debentures as liquid assets under the Banking Act.

The Bill was put and carried.

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

# ITEM 3 - ELECTION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1991 - Bill No. 6/1991 published 1991-02-15

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

A BlLL intituled AN ACT to amend the Representation of the People Act and the Election Law (Reform) Act.

The Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

The motion was put and carried.

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

# ITEM 4 - INSTITUTE OF CHARTERED ACCOUNTANTS OF GUYANA BILL 1991 - Bill No. 2/1991 published 1991-01-12

The Minister of Regional Development informed Members that the second reading of the above Bill would be taken on Tuesday, 5th March, 1991.

# MOTION

# ITEM 5 - EXPULSION OF CDE. ISAHAK BASIR, M.P.

 $\qquad \qquad \text{The Minister of Regional Development moved the following motion and amendment thereto:-} \\$ 

BE IT RESULVED:

That Cde. Isahak Basir, M.P., be expelled from the service of the Assembly.

# Amendment

Insertion of the following immediately before the word "BE":-

"WHEREAS on the 14th January, 1991, Cde. Isahak Basir, M.P., without lawful permission removed the mace from its accustomed place on the Table in the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS on the date aforesaid, Cde. Isahak Basir assaulted the Speaker by violently throwing a drinking glass at him;

AND WHEREAS such misconduct on the part of Cde. Isahak Basir is an insult to the Speaker and the dignity of Parliament;

AND WHEREAS the assault on the Speaker constitutes a crime punishable at law;

AND WHEREAS Cde. Isahak Basir's behaviour on the date aforesaid constitutes grossly disorderly conduct;

NOW THEREFORE".

Cde. Amna Ally and the Prime Minister spoke to the motion.

The amendment was put and carried.

Thereafter the motion as amended was put and carried.

# ADJOURNMENT

At 4.00 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Regional Development, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Tuesday, 5th March, 1991.

S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN.

1991-03-04.