

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE ST SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
FIRST SESSION (1981) OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON FRIDAY, 30TH JANUARY, 1981,

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (82)

Speaker (1)

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., M.P.

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (69)

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. P.A. Reid, O.E., M.P.

Other Vice-Presidents (4)

Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P., (Works and Transport)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P. (Economic Planning and Finance)

Cde. H. Green, M.P. (Public Welfare)

Cde. B. Ramsaroop, M.P. (Parliamentary Affairs and Party/State Relations)

Senior Ministers (10)

Cde. R. Chandisingh, M.P. (Higher Education)

Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P. (Regional Development)

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P. (National Development)

* Cde. F.E. Hope, M.P. (Trade and Consumer Protection)

* Cde. H.O. Jack, M.P. (Energy and Mines)

* Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., M.P., Attorney General (Justice)

* Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P. (Foreign Affairs)

* Cde. J.A. Tyndall, A.A., M.P. (Agriculture)

* Cde. S. Moore, M.P. (Home Affairs)

* Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P. (Education)

Ministers (13)

Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P. (Environment and Water Supply, in the Ministry of Public Welfare)

Cde. U. Johnson, M.P. (Co-operatives)

Cde. J. Maitland-Singh, M.P. (Consumer Protection, in the Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection)

Cde. S. Prashad, M.P. (Crops and Livestock, in the Ministry of Agriculture)

Cde. Sallahuddin, M.P. (Finance, in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance)

Cde. R. Williams, M.P. (Fisheries, in the Ministry of Agriculture)

* Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P. (Mechanical Equipment, in the Ministry of Works and Transport)

* Cde. F.U.A. Campbell, M.P. (Information)

* Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P. (Forestry, in the Ministry of Agriculture)

* Cde. Y. Harewood-Benn, M.P. (Public Service)

* Cde. H. Rashid, M.P. (Office of the President)

* Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, M.P. (Drainage and Irrigation, in the Ministry of Agriculture)

* Cde. R. Van West-Charles, M.P. (Health, in the Ministry of Public Welfare)

*Non elected Member

Ministers of State (3)

- Cde. M. Corrica, M.P. (Culture, in the Ministry of Education)
 Cde. R. Fredericks, A.A., M.P. (Sport and Youth, in the Ministry of National Development)
 *Cde. C.E. Wright M.P. (Construction, in the Ministry of Works and Transport)

Parliamentary Secretaries (3)

- Cde. A. Bend-Kirton, M.P. (Women's Affairs and Housing)
 Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P. (Office of the Prime Minister)
 *Cde. E.M. Bynoe, M.P. (Office of the Prime Minister)

Other Members (23)

- Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P.
 Cde. M. Ally, M.P.
 Cde. M. Armogan, M.P.
 Cde. B. Beniprashad, M.P.
 Cde. B. Bhagga, M.P.
 Cde. J.B. Caldeira, M.P.
 Cde. A.A. Chin, M.P.
 Cde. E.B. Davidson, M.P.
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
 Cde. A.B. Felix, M.P.
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. P. Fredericks, M.P.
 Cde. E.F. Gilbert, M.P.
 Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
 Cde. A. McRae, M.P.
 Cde. J.M. Munroe, M.P.
 Cde. R.N. Primo, M.P.
 Cde. C.G. Sharma, M.P.
 Cde. H.L.B. Singh, M.P.
 Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., M.P.
 Cde. B. Tiwari, M.P.
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P.
 Cde. H.B. Walcott, J.P., M.P., Government Chief Whip

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

- Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P.
 Cde. B. Latchminarayan, M.P.

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

- Cde. K. Jones, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
 Cde. K.V. Jairam, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supernumerary)
 Cde. C.A. Singh, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
 Cde. W. Bipat, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
 Cde. H. London, M.S., M.P., (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
 Cde. I. Chowritmootoo, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Cde. N. Charles, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
 Cde. D. Abraham, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
 Cde. A. Dorrick, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)
 Cde. D. Hinds, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)

*Non elected Member

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Members of the Minority (12)

(i) People's Progressive Party (10)

Minority Leader (1)

Cde. C. Jagan, M.P.

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Ram Karran, M.P.

Other Members (8)

Cde. J. Jagan, M.P.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Minority Chief Whip

Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.

Cde. C. Collymore, M.P.

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

Cde. I. Basir, M.P.

Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.

Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P.

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P., M.P.

Mr. M.A. Abraham, M.P.

OFFICERS

Clerk of the National Assembly, Cde. F.A. Narain, A.A.,
with

Cde. C.G. Pompey, Hansard Editor, performing the duties of Deputy
Clerk of the National Assembly, in the absence on account of
illness of Cde. M.B. Henry.

PROCLAMATION SUMMONING THE SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

The Clerk read the Proclamation which was made by the
President and published in an extraordinary issue of the Official Gazette
on 27th January, 1981, appointing the Parliament Chamber, Public Buildings,
Georgetown, Guyana, as the place where a Session of Parliament shall be
held and 2.00 p.m. in the afternoon on 30th January, 1981, as the time
when such Session shall begin.

ROLL CALL OF MEMBERS

The Clerk called the names of those persons who became Members
of the National Assembly.

- (1) Members (53) who were elected following the elections on
15th December, 1980, and whose names were announced
by the Elections Commission on 28th December, 1980, and
published in the Official Gazette on 29th December, 1980:

People's National Congress (41)

Donald A. Ainsworth
Mohamed Ally
Milton Armogan
Agnes Bend-Kirton

Bissoondai Beniprashad
 Basdeo Bhaggan
 Joseph B. Caldeira
 Ranji Chandisingh
 Allan A. Chin
 Joshua Chowritmootoo
 Oscar E. Clarke
 Robert H.O. Corbin
 Malcolm Corrica
 Elaine B. Davidson
 Harry Doobay
 Abel Benjamin Felix
 Eugene H.A. Fowler
 Patricia Fredericks
 Roy Fredericks
 Eugene F. Gilbert
 Joyce Gill
 Hamilton Green
 Hugh D. Hoyte
 Urmia Johnson
 Jean N. Maitland-Singh
 Albert McRae
 Joyce M. Munroe
 Shiw S. Naraine
 Seeram Prashad
 Ryburn N. Primo
 Bishwaishwar Ramsaroop
 Philomena A. Rayman
 Ptolemy A. Reid
 Sallahuddin
 Chintaman G. Sharma
 Harold L.B. Singh
 Sydney H. Sukhu
 Bidiawattie Tiwari
 Calvin Vandenburg
 Huldah B. Walcott
 Robert E. Williams

People's Progressive Party (10)

Cheddi Jagan
 Ram Karran
 Janet Jagan
 Reepu Daman Persaud
 Narbada Persaud
 Clinton Collymore
 Sheik Feroze Mohamed
 Isahak Basir
 Cyril Belgrave
 Dalchand

United Force (2)

Michael Anthony Abraham
 Marcellus Feilden Singh

- (2) Persons (16) who are not elected Members of the National Assembly, who have been appointed as Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries and whose appointments were announced on 1st January, 1981, and published in the Official Gazette on 3rd January, 1981:

Hubert Oliver Jack
 Franklin Eleazer Hope
 Mohamed Shahabuddeen
 Rashleigh Esmond Jackson
 Joseph Adolphus Tyndall
 Jeffrey R. Thomas
 Stanley Moore
 Christopher Anthony Nascimento
 F.U.A. Carmichael
 Ralph Van Sluytman
 Frank Campbell
 Harun Rashid
 Yvonne Harewood-Benn
 Richard Van West-Charles
 Conrad Wright
 Edith Bynoe

- (3) Persons (10) who were elected by the Regional Democratic Councils on 17th January, 1981, and whose names were announced by the Elections Commission and published in the Official Gazette on 20th January, 1981:

Kenneth Jones
 Khelanand V. Jairam
 Cora A. Singh
 Walter Bipat
 Howard London
 Isaac Chowritmootoo
 Nellie Charles
 Dianne Abraham
 Abel Dorrick
 Denzil Hinds

- (4) Persons (2) who were elected by the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs on 26th January, 1981, and whose names were announced by the Elections Commission and published in the Official Gazette on 26th January, 1981:

Rudy Bishop
 Bagmatee Latchminarayan

Members answered as their names were called, with the exception of the following who were absent at the time of the call:

Eline B. Davidson
 Clinton Collymore
 Sheik Feroze Mohamed
 Denzil Hinds

ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Clerk invited Members to elect the Speaker of the National Assembly (in accordance with article 56 of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 2).

Cde. Reid nominated and Cde. Ramsaroop seconded the proposal of Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P.

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And as there was no other nomination, the Clerk declared Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., to be Speaker of the National Assembly.

Cde. Sase Narain who was present was escorted by his proposer and seconder to the Chair.

ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

In accordance with article 56(3) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 3, the Speaker invited Members to make nominations for the Office of Deputy Speaker.

Cde. Reid nominated and Cde. Ramsaroop seconded the proposal of Cde. Ram Karran.

As there was no other nomination, the Speaker declared Cde. Ram Karran to be Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

OATHS

The oath of office was made and subscribed by the following Members who were present at the time:

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., Speaker
 Cde. Ram Karran, Deputy Speaker
 Cde. P.A. Reid, O.E., Prime Minister
 Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., Vice-President (Works and Transport)
 Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Vice-President (Economic Planning and Finance)
 Cde. H. Green, Vice-President (Public Welfare)
 Cde. B. Ramsaroop, Vice-President (Parliamentary Affairs and Party/State Relations)
 Cde. R. Chandisingh, Senior Minister (Higher Education)
 Cde. O.E. Clarke, Senior Minister (Regional Development)
 Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, Senior Minister (National Development)
 Cde. F.E. Hope, Senior Minister (Trade and Consumer Protection)
 Cde. H.O. Jack, Senior Minister (Energy and Mines)
 Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., Senior Minister, Attorney General (Justice)
 Cde. R.E. Jackson, Senior Minister (Foreign Affairs)
 Cde. J.A. Tyndall, A.A., Senior Minister (Agriculture)
 Cde. S. Moore, Senior Minister (Home Affairs)
 Cde. J.R. Thomas, Senior Minister (Education)
 Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., Minister (Environment and Water Supply, in the Ministry of Public Welfare)
 Cde. U. Johnson, Minister (Co-operatives)
 Cde. J. Maitland-Singh, Minister (Consumer Protection, in the Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection)
 Cde. S. Prashad, Minister (Crops and Livestock, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. Sallahuddin, Minister (Finance, in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance)
 Cde. R. Williams, Minister (Fisheries, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. C.A. Nascimento, Minister (Mechanical Equipment, in the Ministry of Works and Transport)
 Cde. F.U.A. Campbell, Minister (Information)
 Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister (Forestry, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. Y. Harewood-Benn, Minister (Public Service)
 Cde. H. Rashid, Minister (Office of the President)
 Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, Minister (Drainage and Irrigation, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. R. Van West-Charles, Minister (Health, in the Ministry of Public Welfare)

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Cde. M. Corrica, Minister of State (Culture, in the Ministry of Education)
Cde. R. Fredericks, A.A., Minister of State (Sport and Youth, in the Ministry of National Development)
Cde. C.E. Wright, Minister of State (Construction, in the Ministry of Works and Transport)
Cde. A. Bend-Kirton, Parliamentary Secretary (Women's Affairs and Housing)
Cde. P.A. Rayman, Parliamentary Secretary (Office of the Prime Minister)
Cde. E.M. Bynoe, Parliamentary Secretary (Office of the Prime Minister)
Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth
Cde. M. Ally
Cde. M. Armogan
Cde. B. Beniprashad
Cde. B. Bhaggan
Cde. J.B. Caldeira
Cde. A.A. Chin
Cde. E.B. Davidson
Cde. H. Doobay
Cde. A.B. Felix
Cde. E.H.A. Fowler
Cde. P. Fredericks
Cde. E.F. Gilbert
Cde. J. Gill
Cde. A. McRae
Cde. J.M. Munroe
Cde. R.N. Primo
Cde. C.G. Sharma
Cde. H.L.B. Singh
Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S.
Cde. B. Tiwari
Cde. C. Vandenburg
Cde. H.B. Walcott, J.P., Government Chief Whip
Cde. R. Bishop, M.S.
Cde. B. Latchminarayan
Cde. K. Jones
Cde. K.V. Jairam
Cde. C.A. Singh
Cde. W. Bipat
Cde. H. London, M.S.
Cde. I. Chowritmootoo
Cde. N. Charles
Cde. D. Abraham
Cde. A. Dorrick
Cde. D. Hinds
Cde. C. Jagan, Minority Leader
Cde. J. Jagan
Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., Minority Chief Whip
Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. C. Collymore
Cde. I. Basir
Cde. C.C. Belgrave
Cde. Dalchand, J.P.
Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P.
Mr. M.A. Abraham

(Absent - Cde. S.F. Mohamed)

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PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

REMARKS BY THE PRIME MINISTER

At this stage, the Prime Minister rose and made some remarks on the occasion of the first Sitting of the National Assembly. In his remarks he congratulated Cde. Sase Narain and Cde. Ram Karran on behalf of the President, the Members of the People's National Congress, and himself, on their election as Speaker and Deputy Speaker, respectively, and extended best wishes to them.

The Prime Minister also welcomed the Members of the Minority and the Members from the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs and the Regional Democratic Councils.

REMARKS BY THE SPEAKER

The Speaker also spoke on the occasion. He congratulated the President on his election and extended best wishes to him and to his spouse.

He also thanked the Prime Minister and Members for their good wishes and extended congratulations and best wishes to all Members of the National Assembly on their election and on the appointments made.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERAppointments(i) Ministers and Parliamentary Secretaries

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had been advised that the following appointments had been made with effect from 1st January, 1981:

Prime Minister

Cde. P.A. Reid, O.E.

Other Vice-Presidents

Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A. (Works and Transport)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C. (Economic Planning and Finance)

Cde. H. Green (Public Welfare)

Cde. B. Ramsaroo (Parliamentary Affairs and Party/State Relations)

Senior Ministers

Cde. R. Chandisingh (Higher Education)

Cde. O.E. Clarke (Regional Development)

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin (National Development)

Cde. F.E. Hope (Trade and Consumer Protection)

Cde. H.O. Jack (Energy and Mines)

Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., Attorney General (Justice)

Cde. R.E. Jackson (Foreign Affairs)

Cde. J.A. Tyndall, A.A. (Agriculture)

Cde. S. Moore (Home Affairs)

Cde. J.R. Thomas (Education)

Ministers

Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P. (Environment and Water Supply, in the Ministry of Public Welfare)

Cde. U. Johnson (Co-operatives)

Cde. J. Maitland-Singh (Consumer Protection, in the Ministry of Trade and Consumer Protection)

/...

Cde. S. Prashad (Crops and Livestock, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. Sallahuddin (Finance, in the Ministry of Economic Planning and Finance)
 Cde. R. Williams (Fisheries, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. C.A. Nascimento (Mechanical Equipment, in the Ministry of Works and Transport)
 Cde. F.U.A. Campbell (Information)
 Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, (Forestry, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. Y. Harewood-Benn (Public Service)
 Cde. H. Rashid (Office of the President)
 Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman (Drainage and Irrigation, in the Ministry of Agriculture)
 Cde. R. Van West-Charles (Health, in the Ministry of Public Welfare)

Ministers of State

Cde. M. Corrica (Culture, in the Ministry of Education)
 Cde. R. Fredericks A.A., (Sport and Youth, in the Ministry of National Development)
 Cde. C.E. Wright. (Construction, in the Ministry of Works and Transport)

Parliamentary Secretaries

Cde. A. Bend-Kirton (Women's Affairs and Housing)
 Cde. P.A. Rayman (Office of the Prime Minister)
 Cde. E.M. Bynoe (Office of the Prime Minister)

(ii) Minority Leader

The Speaker informed the Assembly that the Minority Leader was Cde. C. Jagan.

(iii) Chief Whips

The Speaker informed the Assembly that the following had been appointed Chief Whips:

- (a) Cde. H.B. Walcott, J.P., Government Chief Whip
- (b) Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., Minority Chief Whip

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

On proposals by the Vice-President (Parliamentary Affairs and Party/State Relations) and by the Deputy Speaker, the Assembly nominated the following to be Members of the Committee of Selection, with the Speaker as Chairman, in accordance with Standing Order No. 70(1):

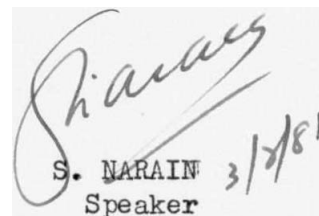
Cde. B. Ramsaroop, Vice-President (Parliamentary Affairs and Party/State Relations)
 Cde. O.E. Clarke, Senior Minister (Regional Development)

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Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, Senior Minister (National .
Development)
Cde. U. Johnson, Minister (Co-operatives)
Cde. P.A. Rayman, Parliamentary Secretary (Office of
the Prime Minister)
Cde. E.F. Gilbert
Cde. H.L.B. Singh
Cde. H.B. Walcott, J.P., Government Chief Whip.
Cde. Ram Karran, Deputy Speaker
Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., Minority Chief Whip

ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by the Vice-President (Parliamentary Affairs
and Party/State Relations), the Assembly was adjourned to 4.30 p.m.
on Monday, 9th February, 1981.



S. NARAIN 3/2/81
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
3rd February, 1981.