

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 52ND SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD
SESSION (1983-1985) OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 14:00 hrs

ON TUESDAY 1985-09-24

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

Speaker (1)

*Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., 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 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 Development and Deputy Prime Minister

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

Other Deputy Prime Minister (1)

*Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Planning

Senior Ministers (10)

*Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent - on leave)

Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of National Mobilisation

Cde. H. Rashid, M.P., Minister of Energy and Mines

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

Cde. Sallahuddin, M.P., Minister of Forestry

Cde. Dr. R.A. Van West-Charles, M.P., Minister of Health and Public Welfare (Absent)

*Cde. M.L. Parris, M.P., Minister of Education

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

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

Ministers (4)

Cde. U.E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of National Development

Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P., Minister of Manpower and Co-operatives

Cde. R.C. Fredericks, A.A., M.P., Minister of Youth and Sport within the Ministry of Education

*Cde. Dr. S.P. Da Silva, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Agriculture

*Non-elected Member

Ministers of State (3)

- Cde. M. Corrica, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection
 Cde. H.L.B. Singh, M.S., M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Regional Development
 Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Education (Absent - on leave)

Parliamentary Secretaries (2)

- Cde. Agnes W. Bend-Kirton-Holder, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Housing, within the Ministry of Health and Public Welfare
 Cde. B. Bhaggan, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, National Development

Government Chief Whip (1)

- Cde. Bidiawattie Tiwari, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Other Members (23)

- Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P.
 Cde. R.E. Williams, M.P.
 Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P.
 Cde. J.B. Caldeira, M.P.
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. M. Ally, M.P.
 Cde. M. Armogan, M.S., J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Bissoondai Beniprashad, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. A.A. Chin, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. Elaine Davidson, M.P.
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
 Cde. A.B. Felix, M.P.
 Cde. Patricia Fredericks, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. E.F. Gilbert, M.P.
 Cde. A. Mc Rae, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. R.N. Primo, M.P.
 Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P.
 Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
 Cde. Y. Khan, M.P.

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

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

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

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

Members of the Minority (12)

(i) People's Progressive Party (10)

Minority Leader (1)

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

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Ram Karran, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent - on leave)

Other Members (8)

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P.

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

Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.

Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.

Cde. I. Basir, M.P.

Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. H. Nokta, M.P. (Absent)

(ii) United Force (2)

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

Mr. M.A. Abraham, M.P. (Absent)

OFFICERS

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

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

(a) Cde. Jackson up to 1985-10-05, and

(b) Cdes. Gill-Mingo, Chin and Sharma for that day's sitting.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

By the Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, on the half-year budget review

The Deputy Prime Minister made a Statement on the half-year Review of the 1985 Budget. He explained that the review were intended to provide an update on what had been happening and, in the context of the strategies and tactics stated in the budget presentation, to indicate specific actions which needed to be taken.

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PERSONAL EXPLANATIONSBy the Minority Leader

The Minority Leader explained that on 1985-09-19 during the debate on the motion on the adjournment of the Assembly to discuss the shortage of rice in the country, it was erroneously stated that his absence from the sitting was due to his being out of Guyana as he was indeed in the country.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL PAPER No. 2/1985

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

In accordance with article 171(2) of the Constitution, the Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:-

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 2/1985 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$29,682,391 for the period ended 1985-07-09.

On a motion by the Minority Leader, Item 1 of Section "B" - Capital Estimates, was recomitted on the following division:-

FORAGAINST

Mr. Singh
 Cde. Basir
 Cde. Mohamed
 Cde. N. Persaud
 Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud
 Cde. J. Jagan
 Cde. C. Jagan
 Cde. C.A. Singh
 Cde. London
 Cde. Jones
 Cde. Jairam
 Cde. Hinds
 Cde. Charles
 Cde. Bipat
 Cde. Abraham
 Cde. Latchminarayan
 Cde. Bishop
 Cde. Khan
 Cde. Melville
 Cde. Vandenburg
 Cde. Prime
 Cde. Munroe
 Cde. Gilbert
 Cde. Felix

Carried

Forward:

24

Nil

	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	24	Nil
	Cde. Doobay	
	Cde. Davidson	
	Cde. Armogan	
	Cde. Ally	
	Cde. Fowler	
	Cde. Caldeira	
	Cde. Rayman	
	Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo	
	Cde. Williams	
	Cde. Clarke	
	Cde. Bhaggan	
	Cde. Bend-Kirton-Holder	
	Cde. H.L.B. Singh	
	Cde. Corrica	
	Cde. R.C. Fredericks	
	Cde. Denny	
	Cde. Johnson	
	Cde. Harewood-Benn	
	Cde. Prashad	
	Cde. Sallahuddin	
	Cde. Rashid	
	Cde. Corbin	
	Cde. Thomas	
	Cde. Chandisingh	
	Cde. Green	

Total:	49	Nil

After consideration of the Schedule, the motion was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly agrees with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

"RESOLVED, That this National Assembly approves of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 2/1985 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$29,682,391, for the period ended 1985-07-09."

ITEM 2 - APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL PAPER No. 3/1985

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

In accordance with article 171(2) of the Constitution, the Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 3/1985 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$29,941,600 for the period ended 1985-09-17.

After consideration of the Schedule, the motion was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Deputy Prime Minister, Planning, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

"RESOLVED, That this National Assembly approves of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 3/1985 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$29,941,600.00, for the period ended 1985-09-17."

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 3 - SALE OF TRAVEL TICKETS BILL 1985 - Bill No. 10/1985 published 1985-07-27

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

A Bill intituled An Act to provide for the regulation of the sale and purchase of travel tickets.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, Mr. M.F. Singh and the Vice-President, First Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Transport replied.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

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In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2 was passed as printed with the following correction:

Insertion of the word "a" between the words "such" and "manner in the fourth line of paragraph (f).

Clauses 3 to 5 were passed as printed.

Clause 6: The Minister of Transport moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

Insertion of the following after subsection (4):

"(5) Without prejudice to the provisions of subsection (4), where the Minister is satisfied that a scheduled journey by a citizen of Guyana, not ordinarily resident in Guyana, is for the purpose of -

- (a) medical ~~treatment~~ of the citizen; or
- (b) any course of study or research he seeks to undertake, being a course of study or research to undertake which he is adequately qualified,

and facilities for the medical treatment or the course of study or research, as the case may be, are not available in Guyana, and that the other circumstances of the case justify it, the Minister may, in writing, exempt that citizen from the provisions of subsection (1) in relation to that scheduled journey.

(6) Where the whole or part of -

- (a) the price of a travel ticket for a scheduled journey; or
- (b) the tax payable in accordance with the provisions of section 57 of the Tax Act or section 3 of the Travel Voucher Tax Act,

paid in a specified foreign currency, is required to be refunded under any law, or contract relating to the purchase of the travel ticket, the refund shall be made in the currency in which the payment of the price of the travel ticket or of the tax was made, in accordance with the procedure specified by order by the Minister assigned responsibility for finance".

Clause 6 was then passed as amended with the following correction:

Insertion of the word "Tax" between the words "Voucher" and "Act" in the sixth line of subsection (1).

Clauses 7 to 11 were passed as printed.

Clause 12: The following amendment by the Minister of Transport was put and carried:

Insertion of "or any order made under section 6(6)" immediately after the words "Section 6(1)".

Clause 12 was then passed as amended.

Clause 13 was passed as printed.

Clause 14: The following amendment by the Minister was put and carried:

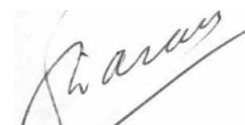
Deletion of the clause.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Transport the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended and corrected in Committee.

ADJOURNMENT

At 17:50 hrs on a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.


S. Narain
Speaker
85-10-16

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
Guyana.

1985-10-16