

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 54TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD
SESSION (1983-1985) OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 14:00 hrs

ON FRIDAY 1985-10-25

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 (Absent - Performing the functions of
Office of the President)

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 (Absent - on leave)

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 (Absent - on leave)

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

*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 (Absent)

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

*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 (Absent)
 Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Education

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. (Absent)
 Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P.
 Cde. J.B. Caldeira, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.
 Cde. M. Ally, M.P.
 Cde. M. Armogan, M.S., J.P., M.P.
 Cde. Bissoondai Beniprashad, M.P.
 Cde. A.A. Chin, M.P.
 Cde. Elaine Davidson, M.P.
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
 Cde. A.B. Felix, M.P.
 Cde. Patricia Fredericks, M.P.
 Cde. E.F. Gilbert, M.P.
 Cde. A. Mc Rae, M.P.
 Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, M.P.
 Cde. R.N. Primo, M.P.
 Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P. (Absent)
 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. Chdowritmootoo, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 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) (Absent)
 Cde. H.I. London, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
 Cde. Cora Singh, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
 (Vacant) (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu 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. (Absent)

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 - on leave)

(ii) United Force (2)

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

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

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

(i) Thanks to Presiding Member

The Speaker thanked Cde. Clarke for presiding at the sitting held on 1985-10-17 during his unavoidable absence.

(ii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Haslyn Parris, Jackson, Sallahuddin, Latchminarayan, Bishop, Nokta and Mr. M.F. Singh for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Health and Public Welfare:

Cremation (Pyre System) (Amendment) Regulations 1985 (No. 11), made under sections 65 (c) and (d) and 157 of the Public Health Ordinance, Chapter 145, on 11th October, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 12th October, 1985.

(Circulated)

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PUBLIC BUSINESS -BILLS - Second and third readingsITEM 1 - RICE (REGULATION OF MANUFACTURING AND MARKETING) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 11/1985 published 1985-10-12

The Vice-President, First Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General, on behalf of the Prime Minister, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Rice (Regulation of Manufacturing and Marketing) Act 1985.

The Minority Leader spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Vice-President, First Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General replied.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 2 - NATIONAL SECURITY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 11/1985 published 1985-10-12

The Minister of Home Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the National Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 3 - MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 12/1985 published 1985-10-12

The Minister of Home Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Marriage Act and to repeal certain provisions of the Indian Labour Act.

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

The motion was put and carried.

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

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 15:55 hrs the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 16:30 hrs the sitting was resumed.

ITEM 4 REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL 18
BILL No. 15/1985 published 1985-10-12

The Minister of Home Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the
Representation of the People Act.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, the Minister of National Mobilisation, the Minority Leader and the Vice-President, First Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. C.A. Singh	Mr. Abraham
Cde. Hinds	Cde. Basir
Cde. I. Chowritmootoo	Cde. Mohamed
Cde. Bipat	Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. Khan	Cde. C. Jagan
Cde. Melville	
Cde. Primo	
Cde. Munroe	
Cde. McRae	
Cde. Gilbert	
Cde. P. Fredericks	
Cde. Felix	
Cde. Doobay	
Cde. Davidson	
Cde. Chin	
Cde. Beniprashad	
Cde. Armogan	
Cde. Ally	
Cde. Gill-Mingo	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Tiwari	
Cde. Bhaggan	
Cde. Bend-Kirton-Holder	
Cde. Ainsworth	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Denny	
Cde. Johnson	
Cde. Harewood-Benn	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Van West-Charles	
Cde. Rashid	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. J.R. Thomas	
Cde. Chandisingh	
Total 37	5

ITEM 5 - LOCAL DEMOCRATIC ORGANS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 13/1985
published 1985-10-12

The Minister of National Mobilisation moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Local Democratic Organs Act 1980.

The motion was put and carried.

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

MOTION

ITEM 6 - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(3)

With the leave of the Speaker, the Minister of Home Affairs moved the suspension of Standing Order No. 46(3) to enable the Assembly to proceed with the second reading of Bill No. 17/1985 at that sitting.

The motion was put and carried.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 7 - MISCELLANEOUS ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 17/1985
published 1985-10-19

The Minister of Home Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend certain enactments.

The motion was put and carried.

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

MOTION

ITEM 8 - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(3)

With the leave of the Speaker, the Minister of Home Affairs moved the suspension of Standing Order No. 46(3) to enable the Assembly to proceed with the second reading of Bill No. 16/1985 at that sitting.

The motion was put and carried.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 9 - INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985
Bill No. 16/1985 published 1985-10-19

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act.

The motion was put and carried.

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

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MOTIONSITEM 10 - CONFIRMATION OF CUSTOMS DUTIES (AMENDMENT) (No. 2) ORDER 1985 (No. 56)

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with section 9 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, confirm the Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1985 (No. 56), which was made on 26th September, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 28th September, 1985.

ITEM 11 - ADOPTION OF ILO CONVENTIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The Minister of Manpower and Co-operatives moved the following motion which was put and carried:

WHEREAS as a member state of the International Labour Organisation, Guyana is obligated to ~~examine~~ Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference in accordance with Article 19 of the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation;

AND WHEREAS Article 19 states that all Conventions and Recommendations adopted by the International Labour Conference must be submitted to the Competent Authority of member states whether ratification of such Conventions is contemplated or not;

AND WHEREAS the submission of Conventions and Recommendations adopted at sessions of that Conference should always be accompanied or followed by a statement or proposals setting out the Government's view as to the action to be taken on the instruments;

AND WHEREAS Guyana adheres to the Constitution of the International Labour Organisation of which it is a member since 1966;

AND WHEREAS the Guyana Government always as an aim of policy, makes proposals at the time of submission on the applicability of the Conventions and Recommendations adopted from time to time at Sessions of the International Labour Conference;

AND WHEREAS the Government of Guyana always takes steps to ratify those Conventions which are in keeping with the social philosophy of the Guyanese Society:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly adopts the proposals on the Conventions and Recommendations adopted at the 69th and 70th Sessions of the International Labour Conference held in Geneva in June, 1983 and June, 1984, respectively, as laid in the National Assembly on State Paper No. 2/1985:

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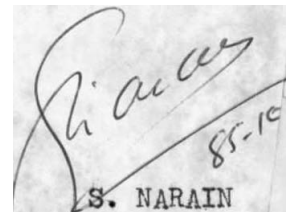
8.

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

That the decisions of this National Assembly be conveyed to the Director General of the International Labour Organisations and to the Workers' and Employers' Organisations and other interested groups in Guyana.

ADJOURNMENT

At 20:03 hrs, on a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.

A rectangular stamp containing a handwritten signature in cursive that reads "S. Narain". To the right of the signature, the date "85-10" is written. Below the signature and date, the name "S. NARAIN" is printed in a sans-serif font.

Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

1985-10-28.