

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1974

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 31st Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 10TH APRIL, 1974

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. Sase Narain, J.P.

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (50)

Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (2)

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., Prime Minister
Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development and Agriculture (Absent)

Senior Ministers (7)

- The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Works and Communications
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (Absent)
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation (Absent - on leave)
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance
Dr. the Honourable K.F.S. King, Minister of Economic Development
The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Housing

Ministers (6)

- The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour
The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House
The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird, Minister of Education (Absent)
Dr. the Honourable G.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health (Absent)
The Honourable G.A. King, Minister of Trade

Ministers of State (9)

- The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture
The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)
The Honourable P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi) (Absent)
The Honourable C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister

Non elected Minister

- The Honourable M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Essequibo Coast/West Demerara)
- # The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of State for Home Affairs
- # The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro) (Absent)
- # The Honourable A. Salim, Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice) (Absent - on leave)
- # The Honourable F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West)

Parliamentary Secretaries (8)

- Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Housing
- Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Communications
- Miss M.M. Ackman, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip (Absent - on leave)
- Mr. E.L. Ambrose, Parliamentary Secretary (Agriculture), Ministry of National Development and Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
- Mr. K.B. Bancroft, Parliamentary Secretary. (Hinterland), Ministry of National Development and Agriculture
- Mr. S. Prashad, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation (Absent)
- Mr. J.P. Chowritmootoo, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education
- Mr. R.H.O. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation

Deputy Speaker (1)

- Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman, Deputy Speaker

Other Members (17)

- Mr. J.N. Aaron
- Mrs. L.M. Branco
- Mr. M. Corrica
- Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
- Miss J. Gill
- Mr. W. Hussain
- Miss S. Jaiserrisingh
- Mr. K.M.E. Jones
- Mr. M. Nissar (Absent - on leave)
- Dr. L.E. Ramsahoye
- Mr. J.G. Ramson
- Mrs. P.A. Rayman
- Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P. (Absent)
- Mr. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P.
- Mr. C. Sukul, J.P.
- Mr. H.A. Taylor
- Mrs. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Leader of the Opposition
- Mrs. E. DaSilva (Absent - on leave)

OFFICERS

- Mr. F.A. Narain, Clerk of the National Assembly
- Mr. M.B. Henry, AMBIM, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

- # Non elected Minister

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (i) Mr. Green, Mr. Salim and Mr. Ambrose for that day's sitting, and
- (ii) Mr. Nissar for one month from 1st April, 1974.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

- (1) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice:

Age of Majority Order 1974 (No. 4), made under section 7(3) of the Representation of the People (Adaptation and Modification of Laws) Act 1973 (No. 7), on the 7th of January, 1974, and published in the Gazette on the 7th of January, 1974.

(CL: 94/63)(Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Finance:

Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Order 1974 (No. 44), made under section 5 of the Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Act, Chapter 27:11, on the 19th of March, 1974, and published in the Gazette on the 23rd of March, 1974.

(8/5)(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (1) NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SURTAX BILL 1974 - Bill No. 11/1974 published 4.4.74

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPOSITION OF A NATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SURTAX UPON THE CHARGEABLE INCOME OF INDIVIDUALS.

- (2) TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 12/1974 published 4.4.74

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE TAX ACT.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 DEFENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 10/1974 published 30.3.74

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Prime Minister signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE DEFENCE ACT.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Prime Minister replied.

The motion was put and carried.

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

MOTION

ITEM 2 SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(2) AND (3)

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That paragraphs (2) and (3) of Standing Order No. 46 be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its Sitting on Wednesday, the 10th of April, 1974, with the second reading and the remaining stages of the TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 (Bill No. 12/1974 published 4th April, 1974).

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 3 TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 12/1974 published 4.4.74

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE TAX ACT.

The Minister of Trade and the Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Trade replied on behalf of the Minister of Finance.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 4 CARIBBEAN METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION BILL 1974 - Bill No. 9/1974 published 23.3.74

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Works and Communications signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION BY GUYANA OF THE AGREEMENT ESTABLISHING THE CARIBBEAN METEOROLOGICAL ORGANISATION AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

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

MOTIONS

ITEM 5 CONFIRMATION OF THE CUSTOMS DUTIES ORDER 1974 (No. 40)

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in terms of section 9 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, confirm the Customs Duties Order 1974 (No. 40), which was made on the 4th of March, 1974, and published in the Gazette on the 18th of March, 1974.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

ITEM 6 CONFIRMATION OF THE CONSUMPTION TAX ORDER 1974 (No. 41)

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

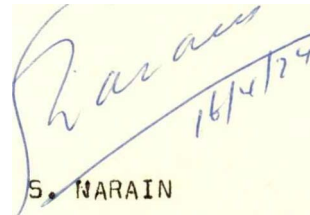
That this National Assembly, in terms of section 5 of the Consumption Tax Act, Chapter 80:02, confirm the Consumption Tax Order 1974 (No. 41), which was made on the 4th of March, 1974, and published in the Gazette on the 18th of March, 1974.

Business for Next Sitting

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House informed the Assembly that at the next Sitting the Assembly would debate the National Development Surtax Bill 1974 and the motion on the guarantee of credits to Guyana Bauxite Co. Ltd.

ADJURNMENT

At 4.08 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 17th of April, 1974.



S. NARAIN

Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

16th April, 1974.