

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1974

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 43rd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 9th OCTOBER, 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 (Absent)
Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development

Senior Ministers (8)

- # The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Economic Development
- # 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
- # The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
- # The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance (Absent)
- # The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Works and Housing
- # The Honourable G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection
- # The Honourable G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture

Ministers (5)

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

Ministers of State (10)

- The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture
- The Honourable D.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne)
- The Honourable P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi)
- 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 K.B. Bancroft, Minister of State - Regional
(Mazaruni/Potaro)(Absent-on-leave)
- # The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of State for Home Affairs
- # The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State for Consumer
Protection (Absent)
- # The Honourable A. Salim, Minister of State - Regional (East
Demerara/West Coast Berbice)
- # The Honourable F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional
(North West)(Absent)

Parliamentary Secretaries (7)

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

Deputy Speaker (1)

- Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman, Deputy Speaker (Absent)

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 (Absent)
- Mr. K.M.E. Jonas (Absent) ✓
- Mr. M. Nissar
- Dr. L.E. Ramsahoye
- Mr. J.G. Ramson
- Mrs. P.A. Rayman (Absent)
- 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 ✓

OFFICERS

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

- # Non elected Minister

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Wrights for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.(1) By the Speaker:

Report of the Ombudsman for the year ended
31st December, 1970.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development, on behalf of the Prime Minister

Report on the Operations of the Guyana Credit Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 1973.

(GSC: 3/8/1)(Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Economic Development, on behalf of the Minister of Finance:

Loan Agreement (Tapakuma Irrigation Project) between Guyana and International Bank for Reconstruction and Development dated June 25, 1974 (Loan Number 1016 GUA)

(4/2/5/6)(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading(1) NEW AMSTERDAM TOWN COUNCIL (APPRAISEMENT) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 32/1974 published 7.10.74

The Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE MAKING OF APPRAISEMENTS IN THE TOWN OF NEW AMSTERDAM PURSUANT TO THE CONTINUANCE IN OPERATION OF CERTAIN PROVISIONS OF THE NEW AMSTERDAM TOWN COUNCIL ORDINANCE.

(2) DENTAL PRACTITIONERS- (TEMPORARY REGISTRATION) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 33/1974 published 7.10.74

The Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation, on behalf of the Minister of Health, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE TEMPORARY REGISTRATION OF CERTAIN PERSONS PRACTISING DENTISTRY.

(3) STAMP DUTIES (MANAGEMENT) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 Bill No. 34, 1974 published 7.10.74

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE STAMP DUTIES (MANAGEMENT) ACT.

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILLS - Second and Third ReadingsITEM 1 - UNIFICATION CHURCH (INCORPORATION) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 25/1974
published 3.8.74, 10.8.74 and 17.8.74

Mr. Ramson moved and the Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip seconded the second reading of the following Private Bill :

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE
UNIFICATION CHURCH.

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 - LOCAL AUTHORITIES (POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT)
BILL 1974 - Bill No. 30/1974 published 21.9.74

The Minister of State for Home Affairs, on behalf of the Prime Minister, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE LOCAL
AUTHORITIES (POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS)
ACT 1972.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of State for Home Affairs replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

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

ITEM 3 - PUBLIC HEALTH (SCHOOL CHILDREN) IMMUNISATION BILL 1974
Bill No. 29/1974 published 21.9.74

The Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation, on behalf of the Minister of Health moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR
THE IMMUNISATION OF PERSONS SEEKING ENTRY
INTO SCHOOLS AND DAY-CARE CENTRES AGAINST
CERTAIN COMMUNICABLE DISEASES, AND FOR
OTHER PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Mrs Da Silva spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2. The following amendment by the Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation was put and carried.

Substitution of the word "persons" for the word "children" in the definition of school.

Clause 2 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 3 to 8 were passed as printed.

The Schedule was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee.

ITEM 4 - DEBENTURES (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 27/1974
published 19.8.74

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE ISSUE OF DEBENTURES BY THE STATE IN SATISFACTION WHOLLY OR PARTLY OF THE PURCHASE PRICE OF PROPERTY ACQUIRED BY THE STATE BY PURCHASE.

Mrs. Da Silva spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Economic Development replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

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

ITEM 5 - LEGAL PRACTITIONERS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1974 - Bill No. 28/1974
published 9.9.74

The Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, on behalf of the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE LEGAL PRACTITIONERS ACT AND TO PROVIDE FOR INCIDENTAL MATTERS.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources replied.

The motion was then 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 - CONTRACT BETWEEN GUYANA TIMBER EXPORT BOARD AND IRAQI PORTS ADMINISTRATION FOR THE SALE OF GREENHEART

The Minister of Economic Development, on behalf of the Minister of Finance, moved the following motion:

WHEREAS a contract has been negotiated between the Guyana Timber Export Board and the Iraqi Ports Administration for the sale by the Board of a quantity of greenheart to the Administration at a purchase price of US\$1,018,780.00;

AND WHEREAS under the said contract the Board is required to provide the Administration with a Guarantee securing, in the event of the failure of the Board to carry out its obligations under the contract, the refund by the Board of advance payments made by the administration under the contract which will amount to ninety per cent of the purchase price;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly do authorise the Government of Guyana to effect the guarantee in favour of the Iraqi Ports Administration as is required under the contract negotiated between the Guyana Timber Export Board and the Administration.

The Leader of the Opposition and the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT,

At 3.45 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
15th October, 1974