

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1975

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 57th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 12TH FEBRUARY, 1975

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 (Absent)
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources (Absent)
The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance
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 (6)

- The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour (Absent)
The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture
The Honourable B. Ramsarup, 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 O.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health (Absent)
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Home Affairs

Ministers of State (9)

- The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture (Absent)
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) (Absent)

The Honourable K.B. Bancroft, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro) (Absent)

The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State for Consumer Protection (Absent)

The Honourable A. Salim, Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice) (Absent)

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

Mr. R.H.O. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)

Deputy Speaker (1)

Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman, Deputy Speaker

Other Members (17)

Mr. J.N. Aaron

Mrs. L.M. Branco

Mr. M. Corrica (Absent)

Mr. E.H.A. Fowler

Miss J. Gill

Mr. W. Hussain

Miss S. Jaiserrisingh

Mr. K.M.E. Jonas

Mr. M. Nissar

Dr. L.E. Ramsahoye

Mr. J.G. Ramson (Absent- on leave)

Mrs. P.A. Rayman

Mr. E.M. Stuby, J.P.

Mr. S.H. Suktu, M.S., J.P.

Mr. C. Sukul, J.P.

Mr. H.A. Taylor

Mrs. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberators 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 SPEAKER(1) Leave

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

- (i) Mr Wrights for that day's sitting, and
- (ii) Mr. Ramson for two weeks from 12th February, 1975.

(2) Sympathy to Mrs. Rayman

On behalf of the Members and Himself, His Honour extended sympathy to Mrs. Rayman on the death of her mother.

(3) Congratulations to the Minister of Home Affairs

His Honour the Speaker, on behalf of the Members and himself, congratulated Mr. Mingo on his elevation to Minister of Home Affairs.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

Statement of Guarantees given by the Minister of Finance under section 3 of the Guarantee of Loans (Public Corporation and Companies), Act 1971 (No. 16 of 1971) for quarter ended 30th September, 1974.

(TJ:6692 II)(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading(1) WESLEYAN CHURCH IN GUYANA (INCORPORATION) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 2/1975 published 18.1.75, 25.1.75 and 1.2.75

Mr. Aaron presented the following Private Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE WESLEYAN CHURCH OF GUYANA TO HOLD THE PROPERTY IN GUYANA OF THE PILGRIM HOLINESS CHURCH AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

(2) PEOPLES TEMPLE OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST CHURCH (INCORPORATION) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 3/1975 published 25.1.75, 1.2.75 and 8.2.75

Mr. Fowler presented the following Private Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE PEOPLES TEMPLE OF THE DISCIPLES OF CHRIST CHURCH IN GUYANA AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

(3) PROPERTY TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 7/1975

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 PROPERTY TAX (AMENDMENT) ACT 1974.

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILLS - Second and Third ReadingsItem 1 - EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (INCORPORATION) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 1/1975 published 11.1.75, 18.1.75 and 25.1.75

Mr. Sukul moved and Mr. Aaron seconded the second reading of the following Private Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH (INCORPORATION) ORDINANCE.

The motion was put and carried.

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

Item 2 - PENSIONS (AMENDMENT BILL 1975 - Bill No. 4/1975 published 21.1.75

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 PENSIONS ACT.

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.

Item 3 - MINERS ASSISTANCE BILL 1975 - Bill No. 5/1975 published 1.2.75

At the request of the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, in consultation with the Leader of the Opposition, the second reading of the following Bill was deferred:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A MINERS ASSISTANCE FUND TO AID MINERS IN THE ORDERLY AND EFFECTIVE EXTRACTION OF VALUABLE MINERALS.

Item 4.- DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 6/1975 published 1.2.75

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE DRAINAGE AND IRRIGATION ACT.

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.

MOTION**Item 5** GUARANTEE OF LOAN TO BERBICE MINING ENTERPRISE LIMITED

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

WHEREAS Berbice Mining Enterprise Limited, a company wholly owned by the Government of Guyana, which has been established to take over and carry on the bauxite undertaking Reynolds (Guyana) Mines Limited nationalised pursuant to and in terms of the Bauxite Nationalisation Act 1971 needs working capital of G\$16,500,000 (sixteen million five hundred thousand Guyana Dollars) in the early stages of its operations;

AND WHEREAS lending agencies (within the meaning of the State Enterprises (Guarantee) Act 1974) are willing to lend this sum on a guarantee given by the Government:

BE IT RESOLVED:

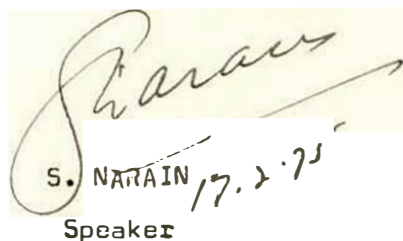
That this National Assembly do hereby authorise the Minister of Finance to give the guarantee in the sum of G.16,500,000 (sixteen million five hundred thousand Guyana Dollars), in accordance with the State Enterprises (Guarantee) Act 1974.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.45 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 17.2.75
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

17th February, 1975.