

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1975

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 63rd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

MONDAY, 5TH MAY, 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 - on leave)

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development (Absent - on leave)

Senior Ministers (8)

The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Economic Development (Absent - on leave)

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

The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance (Absent)

The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Works and Housing (Absent)

The Honourable G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

The Honourable G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture (Absent)

Ministers (6)

The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour (Absent)

The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture (Absent - on leave)

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 D.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 - on leave)

The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Corentyne) (Absent - on leave)

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) (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
- Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Housing
- 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

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. Jonas
- Mr. M. Nissar (Absent - on leave)
- Dr. L.E. Ramsahoye
- Mr. J.G. Ramson
- Mrs. P.A. Rayman
- Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
- 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 (Absent - on leave)
- Mrs. E. DaSilva

OFFICERS

- Mr. M.B. Henry, AMBIM, Acting Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to

- (i) Mr. Burnham up to 7th May, 1975,
- (ii) Dr. Reid, Mr. Hoyte, Mr. Jack, Miss Field-Ridley, Mr. Clarke and Mr. Nissar for that day's sitting, and
- (iii) Mr. Singh from 5th May to 13th June, 1975.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

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

Audited Accounts of Guyana State Corporation
for the year ended 31st December, 1973.

(GSC: 1/6/8) (Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Finance:

(a) Statement of Guarantees given by the
Minister of Finance under section 3
of the Guarantee of Loans (Public
Corporations and Companies) Act 1971
(No. 16 of 1971) for quarter ended
31st December, 1974.

(G. 692 II) (Circulated)

(b) Loan Agreement between the Caribbean
Development Bank and Guyana and Guyana
Agricultural Co-operative Development
Bank (Agricultural Credit) (Loan
No. 2/OR-GU).

(F. 52/1 III)(Circulated)

- (3) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Labour:

Minimum Wages (Watchmen)(Amendment) Order
1975 (No. 39), made under section 8(1)
of the Labour Act, Chapter 98:01, on the
30th of April, 1975, and published in
the Gazette on the 3rd of May, 1975.

(60/821 IV)

- (4) By the Minister of Home Affairs:

(a) Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic
(Registration of Premises and Register
of Repairs and Sales) Regulations 1975
(No. 3), made under section 103 of the
Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act,
Chapter 51:02, on the 9th of April, 1975,
and published in the Gazette on the 12th
of April, 1975.

(P: 16/22/1)(Circulated)

- (b) Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations 1975 (No. 4), made under section 103 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chapter 51:02, on the 9th of April, 1975, and published in the Gazette on the 12th of April, 1975.

(P:16/22/1)(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (1) CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY (INCORPORATION OF TRUSTEES) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 16/1975 published 12.4.75, 19.4.75 and 26.4.75

Mrs. Branco presented the following Private Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHURCH OF GOD OF PROPHECY.

- (2) CHURCH OF CHRIST (INCORPORATION OF TRUSTEES) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 17/1975 published 12.4.75, 19.4.75 and 26.4.75

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE CHURCH OF CHRIST IN GUYANA AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

- (3) UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF SCIENTIFIC TRUTH (INCORPORATION OF TRUSTEES) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 18/1975 published 12.4.75, 19.4.75 and 26.4.75

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO INCORPORATE THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE UNIVERSAL CHURCH OF SCIENTIFIC TRUTH IN GUYANA AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

- (4) SEA DEFENCE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 19/1975 published 15.4.75

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE SEA DEFENCE ACT.

(5) BAUXITE NATIONALISATION (MODIFICATION) BILL 1975 -
Bill No. 20/1975 published 30.4.75

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MODIFY THE BAUXITE NATIONALISATION ACT 1971 CONSEQUENT ON THE INCORPORATION OF THE BERBICE MINING ENTERPRISE LIMITED.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 23(3)

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, Standing Order No. 23(3) was suspended to enable him to move a motion congratulating the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice.

ITEM 1 - CONGRATULATIONS TO THE HONOURABLE SHRIDATH SURENDRANATH RAMPHAL, S.C., M.P.

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly extends congratulations to the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice, the Honourable Shridath Surendranath Ramphal, S.C., M.P., on his appointment to the office of Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Secretariat.

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 - SEA DEFENCES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 14/1975
published 15.4.75

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE SEA DEFENCES ACT.

Mrs. DaSilva 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 - POLICE (DISCIPLINE) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 15/1975 published 15.4.75

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO ENABLE MEMBERS OF THE POLICE FORCE TO APPEAL TO THE POLICE SERVICE COMMISSION IN DISCIPLINARY MATTERS PURSUANT TO ARTICLE 108(5) OF THE CONSTITUTION AND TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE EXERCISE OF DISCIPLINARY POWERS IN THE POLICE FORCE.

Mrs. DaSilva spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of 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.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.10 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
S. NARAIN
Speaker

7.5.75

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

9th May, 1975.