

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1975

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 85th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 18TH DECEMBER, 1975

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

Cde. Sase Narain, J.P., Speaker

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

Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (2)

Cde. L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., Prime Minister

Cde. P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development

Senior Ministers (9)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Economic Development

Cde. H. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation

Cde. H.O. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources (Absent)

Cde. F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance

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

Cde. G.A. King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture

Cde. C.L. Baird, Minister of Education and Social Development (Absent)

Cde. F.R. Wills, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice

Ministers (5)

Cde. W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour

Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information and Culture

Cde. B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House

Cde. O.M.R. Harper, Minister of Health (Absent)

Cde. C.V. Mingo, Minister of Home Affairs

Ministers of State (9)

Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture

Cde. O.E. Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbice/Coventryne)

Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi)

Cde. C.A. Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister

Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., Minister of State - Regional (Essequibo Coast/West Demerara)

Cde. K.B. Bancroft, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro)

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

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

Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West)

Non elected Minister

Parliamentary Secretaries (8)

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

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

Other Members (16)

- Cde. J.N. Aaron
 Cde. L.M. Branco
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler
 Cde. J. Gill
 Cde. W. Hussain
 Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh
 Cde. K.M.E. Jonas
 Cde. M. Nissar
 Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye
 Cde. J.G. Ramson
 Cde. P.A. Rayman
 Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
 Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P.
 Cde. C. Sukul, J.P.
 Cde. H.A. Taylor
 Cde. L.E. Willems

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, Leader of the Opposition
 Mrs. E. Da Silva

OFFICERS

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERCongratulations to the Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

The Speaker, on behalf of Members and himself congratulated the Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection on his election as **Chairman** of the African, Caribbean and Pacific Conference.

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILLS - Second and Third ReadingsITEM 1 - RENT CONTROL (SPECIAL PROVISIONS)(AMENDMENT) BILL 19
Bill No. 3 1 blished 1 .12.7

The Minister of Economic Development, on behalf of the Minister of Works and Housing, moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE RENT CONTROL (SPECIAL PROVISIONS) ACT 1974.

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 2 - CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1975 - Bill No. 34/1975
published 10.12.75

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO ALTER THE CONSTITUTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH ARTICLE 73 THEREOF AND TO EFFECT AMENDMENTS TO THE ACQUISITION OF LANDS FOR PUBLIC PURPOSES ACT.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice replied.

The motion was then put and carried on the following division:

FOR	AGAINST
Cde. Willems	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Taylor	Mr. Singh
Cde. Sukul	
Cde. Sukhu	
Cde. Stoby	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Branco	
Cde. Aaron	
Cde. Van Sluytman	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Thomas	

	FOR	AGAINST
Brought Forward:	25	2
	Cde. Bancroft Cde. Zaheeruddeen Cde. Nascimento Cde. Duncan Cde. Clarke Cde. Kasim Cde. Ramsaroop Cde. Field-Ridley Cde. Carrington Cde. Hoyte Cde. Reid Cde. Burnham	
	37	2

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 on the following division:

FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. Willems	Mrs. De Silva
Cde. Taylor	Mr. Singh
Cde. Sukul	
Cde. Sukhu	
Cde. Stoby	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Jones	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Branco	
Cde. Aaron	
Cde. Van Sluytman	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Kasim	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
Cde. Field-Ridley	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Hoyte	
Cde. Reid	
Cde. Burnham	

Clause 2 was passed as printed on the following division:

FOR	AGAINST
Cde. Willems	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Taylor	Mr. Singh
Cde. Sukul	
Cde. Sukhu	
Cde. Stoby	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Branco	
Cde. Aaron	
Cde. Van Sluytman	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Frashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Kasim	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
Cde. Field-Ridley	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Hoyte	
Cde. Reid	
Cde. Burnham	

37

2

Clause 3 was passed as printed on the following division:

FOR	AGAINST
Cde. Willems	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Taylor	Mr. Singh
Cde. Sukul	
Cde. Sukhu	
Cde. Stoby	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Branco	
Cde. Aaron	
Cde. Van Sluytman	

Carried Forward: 17

2

	FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	17	2
	Cde. Corrica	
	Cde. Corbin	
	Cde. Chowritmootoo	
	Cde. Frashad	
	Cde. Ambrose	
	Cde. Ackman	
	Cde. Wrights	
	Cde. Thomas	
	Cde. Bancroft	
	Cde. Zaheruddeen	
	Cde. Nascimento	
	Cde. Duncan	
	Cde. Clarke	
	Cde. Kasim	
	Cde. Ramsaroop	
	Cde. Field-Ridley	
	Cde. Carrington	
	Cde. Hoyte	
	Cde. Reid	
	Cde. Burnham	
	37	2

Clause 4: The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice moved the following amendments:

- (a) Deletion of the word "and" at the end of paragraph (c);
- (b) Substitution of "(d)" for "(a)" in the proposed section 19(2)(b) of paragraph (d);
- (c) Substitution of a semi-colon for the full stop at the end of clause 4 and addition of the word "and" immediately thereafter;
- (d) Insertion of the following paragraph as paragraph (e):

"(e) by the insertion of the following section as section 24A -

<p>"Payment in bonds at discretion of the Minister and issue thereof. Cap.62:07</p>	<p>24A. Where any land is acquired under this Act the compensation for the land may, in the discretion of the Minister, be paid either in whole or in part by the issue of land bonds under the Land Bonds Act of such type as the Minister determines to a nominal amount equal to the amount of compensation payable or to such part thereof as may be determined by the Minister, as the case may be, and the provisions of the Land Bonds Act shall apply <u>mutatis mutandis</u> for the purpose subject, however, to the following modifications -</p>
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- (a) section 5(1) shall not apply;
- (b) for the words "two million dollars" in section 6(2), there shall be substituted the words "one hundred million dollars or such greater value as may be approved by resolution of the National Assembly"
- (c) for the reference in section 6(3) to section 4 of the Land Bonds Act there shall be substituted a reference to this section;
- (d) for the words "the passing of this Act" in section 6(3) there shall be substituted the words "the **exercise** of his powers under section 24A of the Acquisition of Lands for Public Purposes Act";
- (e) the following section shall be substituted for section 8 -

"Interest 8.(1) Land bonds shall on land bear interest at bonds. such rate as the Minister shall determine.

- (2) The interest upon the principal represented by each land bond shall run from the date specified in that behalf in the bond. Payment of interest in the case of each fixed-date or drawing bond and of principal and interest in the case of each annuity bond shall be made half-yearly on the date specified in that behalf in the bond, at the office of the Accountant General.

The amendments were put and carried on the following division:

FOR

Cde. Willems
 Cde. Taylor
 Cde. Sukul
 Cde. Sukhu
 Cde. Stoby
 Cde. Rayman
 Cde. Ramson
 Cde. Ramsahoye

AGAINST

Mrs. Da Silva
 Mr. Singh

	FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	8	2
	Cde. Nissar	
	Cde. Jonas	
	Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
	Cde. Hussain	
	Cde. Gill	
	Cde. Fowler	
	Cde. Branco	
	Cde. Aaron	
	Cde. Van Sluytman	
	Cde. Corrica	
	Cde. Corbin	
	Cde. Chowritmootoo	
	Cde. Prashad	
	Cde. Ambrose	
	Cde. Ackman	
	Cde. Wrights	
	Cde. Thomas	
	Cde. Banoroft	
	Cde. Zaheeruddeen	
	Cde. Nascimento	
	Cde. Duncan	
	Cde. Clarke	
	Cde. Kasim	
	Cde. Ramsaroop	
	Cde. Field-Ridley	
	Cde. Carrington	
	Cde. Hoyte	
	Cde. Reid	
	Cde. Burnham	

37

· 2

Clause 4 was then passed as amended, on the following division:

FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. Willems	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Taylor	Mr. Singh
Cde. Sukul	
Cde. Sukhu	
Cde. Stoby	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Branco	
Cde. Aaron	
Cde. Van Sluytman	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Thomas	

Carried Forward:

25

2

	FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	25	2
	Cde. Bancroft Cde. Zaheeruddeen Cde. Nascimento Cde. Duncan Cde. Clarke Cde. Kasim Cde. Ramsaroop Cde. Field-Ridley Cde. Carrington Cde. Hoyte Cde. Reid Cde. Burnham	
	37	2

Clause 5: The following amendment by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice was put and carried:

Renumbering of clause 5 as clause 6 and insertion of the following clause as clause 5 -

"Amendment of section 30 of the Housing Act.	5. Section 30(1) of the Housing Act is hereby amended by the insertion of the words "and shall be paid": immediately after the word "assessed".
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Clause 5 was then passed as amended on the following division:

FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. Williams Cde. Taylor Cde. Sukul Cde. Sukhu Cde. Stoby Cde. Rayman Cde. Ramson Cde. Ramsahoye Cde. Nissar Cde. Jonas Cde. Jaiserrisingh Cde. Hussain Cde. Gill Cde. Fowler Cde. Branco Cde. Aaron Cde. Van Sluytman Cde. Corrica Cde. Corbin Cde. Chowritmootoo Cde. Prashad Cde. Ambrose Cde. Ackman Cde. Wrights Cde. Thomas	Mrs. Da Silva Mr. Singh

Carried Forward: 25 2

	FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	25	2

Cde. Bancroft
 Cde. Zaheeruddeen
 Cde. Nascimento
 Cde. Duncan
 Cde. Clarke
 Cde. Kasim
 Cde. Ramsaroop
 Cde. Field-Ridley
 Cde. Carrington
 Cde. Hoyte
 Cde. Reid
 Cde. Burnham

37

2

Clause 6 was passed as printed on the following division:

FOR	<u>DECLINED TO VOTE</u>
Cde. Willems	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Taylor	Mr. Singh
Cde. Sukul	
Cde. Sukhu	
Cde. Stoby	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Branco	
Cde. Aaron	
Cde. Van Sluytman	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Kasim	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
Cde. Field-Ridley	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Hoyte	
Cde. Reid	
Cde. Burnham	

37

2

On a motion by the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee on the following division:

FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. Willems	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Taylor	Mr. Singh
Cde. Sukul	
Cde. Sukhu	
Cde. Stoby	
Cde. Rayman	
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Branco	
Cde. Aaron	
Cde. Van Sluytman	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Kasim	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
Cde. Field-Ridley	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Hoyte	
Cde. Reid	
Cde. Burnham	

37

2

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS AND NEW YEAR WISHES

The Speaker on behalf of his wife and himself, extended Christmas Greetings and New Year Wishes to the Members of the Assembly and their families and to the Staff of the Parliament Office and the Press.

The Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition thanked the Speaker, reciprocated the Greetings to him and his family, and also extended greetings to the other Members of the Assembly, the Staff of Parliament Office and the Press.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.55 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
23.12.75