

FIRST SESSION

1973 1976

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 91st Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

At 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 18TH MARCH, 1976

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLYSpeaker

Cde. Sase Narain, C.B., J.S., Speaker

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (49)Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister (2)

Cde. L.F.S. Burnham, C.B., S.C., Prime Minister (Absent)

Cde. F.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development (Absent - on leave)

Senior Ministers (9)

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

* Cde. E. Green, Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation (Absent)

* Cde. E.C. Jack, Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

* Cde. F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance

* Cde. S.S. Naraine, M.A., Minister of Works and Housing (Absent - on leave)

* Cde. G... King, Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent)

* Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., Minister of Agriculture (Absent)

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

* Cde. F.D. Wills, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice (Absent)

Ministers (5)

Cde. V.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour (Absent)

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

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

* Cde. O.H.B. Harper, Minister of Health (Absent)

* Cde. C.V. Mingo, Minister of Home Affairs (Absent)

Ministers of State (9)

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

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

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

Cde. C... Nascimento, Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)

- Cde. H. Saheeruddeen, J.P., Minister of State - Regional
(Essequibo Coast/West Demerara) (Absent)
- Cde. K.D. Bancroft, Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/
Potaro)(Absent)
- * Cde. W. Keynes, Minister of State for Consumer Protection(Absent)
- * Cde. M. Salin, Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West
Coast Berbice) (Absent)
- * Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, Minister of State - Regional (North West)(Absent)

Parliamentary Secretaries (8)

- Cde. J.B. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National
Development (Absent)
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of
Works and Housing
- Cde. H.M. Ackman, C.C.M., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the
Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip
- Cde. E.B. Ambrose, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. S. Prasad, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Co-operatives
and National Mobilisation
- Cde. J.P. Chowritnootoo, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of
Education and Social Development
- Cde. B.H.C. Corbin, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime
Minister (Absent)
- Cde. H. Corricea, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and
Housing

Deputy Speaker (1)

- Cde. B.C. Van Sluynman, Deputy Speaker

Other Members (15)

- Cde. L.M. Branco
- Cde. E.H.M. Fowler
- Cde. J. Gill
- Cde. W. Hussein
- Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas (Absent)
- Cde. H. Nissar (Absent)
- Cde. L.E. Benschoye
- Cde. J.S. Ranson
- Cde. P.A. Bayman
- Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
- Cde. S.E. Sukhu, M.C., J.P.
- Cde. S. Sukul, J.P.
- Cde. E.A. Taylor
- Cde. L.E. Willens

Members of the Opposition - Liberator Party (2)

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

OFFICERS

- Clerk of the National Assembly (F.L. Narain)
- Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (M.E. Henry, AMEM)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted

- (i) Cdes. Reid and Narcine for that day's sitting, and
- (ii) Mrs. Da Silva from 18th to 22nd March, 1976.

(ii) Letter from the President

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had received from His Excellency the President, Cde. Arthur Chung, a letter thanking Members for the congratulations and good wishes extended to him on 12th March, 1976, and recording his satisfaction with the arrangements made for his inauguration.

The Cde. President also requested that his thanks be conveyed to the Clerk of the National Assembly and the entire staff of the Parliament Office for their part on the occasion.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONSPrivate Bill

The Clerk read a petition presented by Cde. Gill on behalf of Cde. Mohamed Sherrief Boksh, of 24 Pike Street, Kitty, Georgetown, and Cde. Ibrahim Khan, of 14 Pitt Street, New Amsterdam, General Secretary and President, respectively, of the Tahrik-I-Jadid Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission in Guyana, seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to incorporate the Tahrik-I-Jadid Ahmadiyya Muslim Mission in Guyana.

The question that the Promoters be allowed to proceed was put and carried.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

- (1) Annual Report and Accounts of the Guyana Agricultural Co-operative Development Bank for 1974.
(F 52/1 TJ)(Circulated)
- (2) Amendment Number 1 dated 14th February, 1976, to Agreement dated 12th June, 1975, between the Government of Guyana and the Government of Canada in connection with a development loan for the purchase of water well drilling equipment.

(F 58/3)(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESSNOTICEINCREASE IN LIABILITY OF GOVERNMENT IN RESPECT OF GUARANTEES

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

WHEREAS in accordance with section 3(1) of the Guarantee of Loans (Public Corporations and Companies) Act, Cap 77:01, the Government may in such manner and on such terms and subject to such conditions as may be agreed between it and a lending agency -

- (a) guarantee the discharge by a Corporation of its obligations under any agreement which may be entered into by the Corporation with a lending agency in respect of any borrowing by that Corporation that is authorised by the Government;
- (b) assume such other obligations as may be agreed between the Government and a lending agency in relation to or pursuant to any such agreement;
- (c) undertake the repayment to a lending agency of ~~such~~ ~~sums~~ as the lending agency may have advanced to or for the benefit of the Government;

AND WHEREAS it is provided under section 4(1) of the aforesaid Act, that the aggregate amount of the liability of the Government in respect of guarantees given under section 3 of the Act shall not at any time exceed the sum of fifty million dollars or such greater sum as may from time to time be specified by the Resolution of the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it has become necessary to specify in accordance with the said section 4(1) a greater sum for the purpose of enabling the aggregate amount of liability of the Government in respect of guarantees to be increased due to the extended activities of the Government and those incorporated bodies to which the Act applies, **which activities** entail the acquisition of funds for capital outlay:

BE IT ENJOINED:

That this National Assembly approve that the aggregate amount of the liability of the Government under section 4 (1) of the Guarantee of Loans (Public Corporations and Companies) Act, in respect of guarantees given under section 3 of the Act, shall not at any time exceed the sum of two hundred million dollars.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.30 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.

Harain
S. Harain
Speaker 25/3/76.