

FIRST SESSION

1973 1976

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 96th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

FRIDAY, 18TH JUNE, 1976

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly
Members of the Government - People's National Congress (50)

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., M.P., Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)

Deputy Prime Minister (1)

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

Senior Ministers (9)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minister of Economic Development (Absent - on leave)

- * Cde. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation
- * Cde. H.O. Jack, M.P., Minister of Energy and Natural Resources
- * Cde. F.E. Hope, M.P., Minister of Finance
- * Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P., Minister of Works and Housing
- * Cde. G.A. King, M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection
- * Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C., M.P., Minister of Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
- * Cde. C.L. Baird, M.P., Minister of Education and Social Development (Absent)
- * Cde. F.R. Wills, S.C., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice

Ministers (5)

Cde. W.G. Carrington, M.P., Minister of Labour (Absent)

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

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

- * Cde. O.M.R. Harper, M.P., Minister of Health (Absent)
- * Cde. C.V. Mingo, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Ministers of State (9)

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

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

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

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

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

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

- * Cde. W. Haynes, M.P., Minister of State for Consumer Protection (Absent)
- * Cde. A. Salim, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice)
- * Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (North West)

Parliamentary Secretaries (6)

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

Other Members (19)

- Cde. L.M. Branco, M.P.
- Cde. E.M. Bynoe, M.P.
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.
- Cde. S. Jaiserrisingh, M.P.
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. M. Nissar, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye, M.P.
- Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
- Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
- Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., J.P., M.P.
- Cde. C. Sukul, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. H.A. Taylor, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Willems, M.P.
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. M. Zaheruddeen, J.P., M.P.

Members of the Opposition (16)
(1) People's Progressive Party (14)

Leader of the Opposition (1)

- Cde. C. Jagan, M.P., Leader of the Opposition

Deputy Speaker (1)

- Cde. Ram Karran, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Other Members (12)

- Cde. J. Jagan, M.P.
- Cde. Reopu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. N. Persaud, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. C. Collymore, M.P.
- Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.
- Cde. L. Lalbahadur, M.P.
- Cde. B. James, M.P.
- Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.
- Cde. R. Ally, M.P.
- Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. Dindoyal, M.P.
- Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.

(2) Liberator Party (2)

- Mr. M.F. Singh, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Mrs. E. Da Silva, M.P.

OFFICERS

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

Cde. Janet Jagan, one of the 14 Candidates whose name was extracted from the People's Progressive Party List and who had been declared to have become a Member of the National Assembly, made and subscribed the oath of office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Welcome to New Member

The Speaker, on behalf of Members and himself, welcomed back to Parliament Cde. Janet Jagan and extended best wishes to her.

(ii) Office of the Leader of the Opposition

The Speaker announced that he had been informed that the office of Leader of the Opposition was vacated by Mr. M.F. Singh and that Cde. Cheddi Jagan, had been appointed to be Leader of the Opposition with effect from 1st June, 1976.

On behalf of the Members of the National Assembly and himself he congratulated Cde. Jagan on his appointment and extended best wishes to him.

(iii) Office of Parliamentary Secretary

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Cde. Corbin who had been a Parliamentary Secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, was appointed a Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Education and Social Development, with effect from 1st June, 1976.

On behalf of the Members and himself he extended best wishes to Cde. Corbin on his new appointment.

(iv) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to-

- (a) Cdes. Burnham, Hoyte and Kennard and Mr. Singh for that day,
- (b) Cde. Reid to the end of June, 1976, and
- (c) Cde. Narbada Persaud for three weeks from 9th June, 1976.

(v) Death of Speaker of Grenada

The Speaker informed the Assembly of the death of the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Parliament of Grenada, the Hon. R.C. F. Moore, and that on behalf of the Members, he had sent a cable expressing their shock at the news and conveying their deepest sympathy to the Parliament of Grenada and to the relatives of the Speaker.

PRESENTATION OF PETITIONS

Private Bill

The Clerk read a petition presented by Cde. Branco on behalf of the Moravian Mission Council, seeking to have introduced in the Assembly a Private Bill to incorporate the Provincial Board of the Moravian Church in Guyana.

(JNL: 3/2/2(3/1976))

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

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

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

(a) Review of the Operations of the Sugar Industry Labour Welfare Fund for the year 1975.

(PM: 20/2/3 VIII)(Circulated)

(b) Reports and Audited Accounts of the Guyana Telecommunication Corporation for the years ended 31st December, 1972 and 31st December, 1973.

(GSC: 9/404/2)(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Finance:

State Pension Order 1976 (No. 47) made under Section 4 of the State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on the 2nd of June, 1976, and published in the Gazette on the 12th of June, 1976.

(F: 5/1) (Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First ReadingCO-OPERATIVE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS BILL 1976

Bill No. 9/1976 published 10.6.76

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 MAKE PROVISIONS FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTIONS OF THE CO-OPERATIVE FINANCE ADMINISTRATION AND CO-OPERATIVE FINANCIAL INSTITUTIONS UNDER ITS JURISDICTION.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONS -

ITEM 1 - DECLARING VACANT THE SEATS OF MEMBERS OF THE ASSEMBLY

The Leader of the Opposition moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly recommends that steps be taken to amend the Constitution of Guyana to provide for declaring vacant the seats of Members of the Assembly who cease to support the Party on whose list they were elected to the Assembly.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak later.

5.

Mrs. Da Silva, Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud and the Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Leader of the Opposition replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

ITEM 2 - DECLARING VACANT THE SEATS OF MEMBERS OF MUNICIPALITIES, ETC.

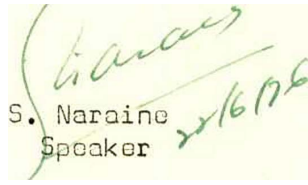
The Leader of the Opposition moved and Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud seconded the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly recommends that steps be taken to amend the respective laws of Guyana to provide for declaring vacant the seats of Members of Municipalities and other Local Authorities who cease to support the Party on whose list they were elected to the Municipalities and Local Authorities.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.25 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 23rd June, 1976.


S. Naraine
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
22nd June, 1976.