

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1977

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 111th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

TUESDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 1977

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

Deputy Prime Minister (1)

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

Senior Ministers (9)

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

* 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 (Absent)

* 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.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture

* Cde. C.L. Baird, M.P., Minister of Education and Social Development

* 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

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

* Cde. C.V. Mingo, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

* Non elected Minister

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Ministers of State (9)

- Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., M.P., Minister of State for Agriculture
 Cde. D.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. Chowritmootoo, M.P., Minister of State - Regional
 (Essequibo Coast/West Demerara)
 * Cde. W. Haynes, M.P., Minister of State for Consumer Protection
 * 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
 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. Prashad, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of
 Co-operatives and National Mobilisation
 Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of
 Education and Social Development
 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.
 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.
 Ede. H.A. Taylor, M.P.
 Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, M.P.
 Cde. L.E. Willems, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P., M.P.

Members of the Opposition (15)(i) People's Progressive Party (13)Leader of the Opposition (1)

Cde. C. Jagan, M.P., Leader of the Opposition (Absent - on leave)

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

Other Members (11)

Cde. J. Jagan, M.P.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Opposition Chief Whip

Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.

Cde. C. Collymore, M.P.

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.

Cde. L. Lalbahadur, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.

Cde. R. Ally, M.P.

Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P.

Cde. Dindayal, M.P.

Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, M.P.

Mrs. E. Da Silva, M.P.

OFFICERS

Clerk of the National Assembly (F.A. Narain)

Acting Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (A. Knight)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

(a) the Leader of the Opposition for 3 weeks from 11th January, 1977, and

(b) Cde. Lalbahadur for two months from 7th January, 1977.

(ii) Vacation of Seat by Cde. Basil James

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Cde. Basil James, an elected Member of the National Assembly, had been absent from twelve sittings of the Assembly which had been held as follows:-

- (i) Thursday, 9th September, 1976
- (ii) Friday, 10th September, 1976
- (iii) Thursday, 16th September, 1976
- (iv) Wednesday, 24th November, 1976
- (v) Monday, 29th November, 1976
- (vi) Thursday, 9th December, 1976
- (vii) Monday, 13th December, 1976
- (viii) Thursday, 30th December, 1976
- (ix) Wednesday, 5th January, 1977
- (x) Thursday, 6th January, 1977
- (xi) Friday, 7th January, 1977
- (xii) Monday, 11th January, 1977

These were consecutive sittings and the last seven were held during the two calendar months of December, 1976 and January, 1977 within the present session of Parliament. The Speaker stated that Cde. James had not applied for and had not been granted leave of absence by him.

Cde. James had therefore, in accordance with the provision of article 61(2)(b) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 77, vacated his seat in the National Assembly.

He further stated that he would formally inform Cde. James of this and would take steps to have the vacancy filled as provided by article 70 of the Constitution.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister, on behalf of the Prime Minister:

Audited Accounts of the Guyana Broadcasting Service
for the year ended 31st December, 1973.

(GSC: 18/404/2)(Circulated)

PERSONAL EXPLANATIONS

The Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister, made an explanation relating to a statement made by Cde. Belgrave at the sitting on Monday, 10th January, 1977.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONITEM 1 - APPROVAL OF ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1977

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1977 totalling \$417,283,736.

Cde. Ally, the Minister of Health and Cde. Dindoyal spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.02 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Suspension of Standing Order No. 9(2)

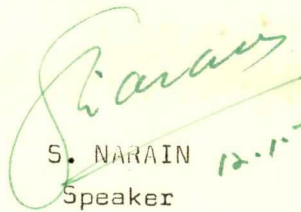
On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, Standing Order No. 9(2) was suspended to permit the sitting to continue without being suspended at 6.30 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF BUDGET DEBATE

Mr. Singh, the Deputy ~~Speaker~~ and the Prime Minister spoke to the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7.44 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, the sitting was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 12th January, 1977.


S. NARAIN
Speaker

12.1.77

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
12th January, 1977