

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1977

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 129th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

FRIDAY, 16TH SEPTEMBER, 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 (48)

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 (8)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives

- * Cde. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Health, Housing and Labour
- * 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 Transport
- * Cde. G.A. King, M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection
- * Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture (Absent - on leave)
- * Cde. F.R. Wills, S.C., M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice

Ministers (4)

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

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

- * Cde. C.V. Mingo, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs (Absent - on leave)
- * Cde. V.R. Teekah, M.P., Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture

Ministers of State (9)

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

Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Economic Development and Co-operatives

- Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P., Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister
- Cde. K.B. Bancroft, J.P., M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Mazaruni/Potaro)
- Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Essequibo Coast/West Demorara)
- Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Health, Housing and Labour
- Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of National Development
- * Cde. A. Salim, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice) (Absent)
- * Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (North West) (Absent)

Parliamentary Secretaries (4)

- 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 Economic Development and Co-operatives
- Cde. M. Corrica, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture

Other Members (21)

- Cde. E.M. Bynoe, M.P.
- Cde. W.G. Carrington, M.P.
- Cde. L.A. Durant, M.P.
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
- Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.
- Cde. S. Jaisarrisingh, M.P.
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P.
- Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., M.P.
- Cde. M. Nissar, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoyo, 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., M.P.
- Cde. C. Sukul, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. H.A. Taylor, M.P.
- Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Willems, M.P.
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. M. Zaheruddeon, M.P.

Members of the Opposition (16)

(i) 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. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Opposition Chief Whip
 Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.
 Cde. C. Collymore, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. L. Lalbahadur, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. I. Basir, 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.

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

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

Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (on special assignment) (M.B. Henry)
 Acting Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (A. Knight)

PRAYERS

The Deputy Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave:

The Speaker announced that leave has been granted to -

- (i) Cde. Reid from 5th to 18th September, 1977,
- (ii) Cde. Kennard for that sitting,
- (iii) Cde. Ramsaroop from 17th September to 7th October, 1977,
- (iv) Cde. Mingo from 10th September to 7th October, 1977,
- (v) Cde. Collymore from 28th August to 28th September, 1977,
- (vi) Cde. Mohamed from 10th to 30th September, 1977, and
- (vii) Cde. Singh for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

(1) By the Minister of Finance:

- (a) Travel Voucher Tax (Amendment) Order 1977 (No. 65), made under section 3 of the Travel Voucher Tax Act, Chapter 80:09, on the 9th of September, 1977, and published in the Gazette on the 12th of September, 1977.

- (b) Travel Tax Regulations 1977 (No. 11), made under section 57 (13) of the Tax Act, Chapter 80:01, on the 5th of September, 1977, and published in the Gazette on the 12th of September, 1977.

(IT: 47)(Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Works and Transport:

Annual Report of the Postmaster-General for the year 1973.

(PO: 5/1/5)(Circulated)

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

Annual Report and Audited Statements of the Guyana Liquor Corporation - 1976.

(A: 5/12)(Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

Question No. 18

Cde. Ram Karran asked the Minister of Agriculture the following question:

- QUESTION: Will the Minister of Agriculture state -
- (i) the authority under which Uitvlugt earth-moving and other machines are engaged in land works around the Uitvlugt Scots Church including the fencing of the Compound;
 - (ii) the cost of the works;
 - (iii) whether tenders were invited, giving the names of the tenderers with quotations and how payments are to be effected.

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture gave the following reply:

ANSWER: No earth moving equipment from Uitvlugt was ever used on the area named. Nor was the Compound ever fenced by the Estate. The only equipment owned by Uitvlugt which entered the area named were lorries which were engaged in disposing of mill dock spoil to low lying areas in the Community. This is a normal operation on every Estate.

Items (ii), (iii) and (iv) of the question do not arise.

Question No. 13

Cde. Nokta asked the Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives the following question:

- QUESTION:
- I. Will the Minister say how much cash was advanced as a loan to the "Sampson's Loggers Co-operative Society, Ltd.", Registered No. 688, situate at Kimbia, Berbice River?
 - II. Will he say how many instalments have been paid on the loan and the amount of ~~the~~ balance outstanding; and further what steps are being taken to have the entire amount repaid?
 - III. Will the Minister say whether the Mill is still owned by a Co-operative Society or by an individual; and if by an individual, what is his name?

The Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives gave the following reply:

- ANSWER:
- I. (i) Guyana Agricultural Co-operative Development approved a loan and a working capital credit facility for Sampson's Logging Co-operative Society Limited, a duly-registered Co-operative Society.
 - (a) The loan which was approved on 4th August, 1976, in the amount of \$69,000, was for the purchase of machinery and equipment and for infrastructural works in connection with the Society's operations.
 - (b) The credit facility for working capital with a ceiling of \$38,523 was approved on the said date.
 (ii) The approval of these financial arrangements was in keeping with the Party and Government's publicly stated and unapologetic policy of promoting co-operativism in Guyana and of giving moral, material and financial support to the development of co-operativism. It accorded with the Bank's lending guidelines, after due investigation into the management, operations, objectives and viability of the Society.
 - II. (i) In respect of the loan, the Society has so far drawn down \$65,452.18.
 - (ii) Under the provisions of the loan agreement, the loan is to be repaid in thirty-five monthly instalments of \$1,000 to be followed by thirty-four monthly instalments of \$2,000 each.

(iii) The first instalment was payable on 31st May, 1977. To date the Society has paid all instalments due, owing and payable on the abovementioned loan.

(iv) In terms of the agreement to provide working capital, the proceeds of the sale of the Society's output are assigned to the Bank which then deducts any amounts due, owing and payable, and releases the balance to the Society.

(v) To date the Society has met all its obligations and is not in arrears.

III. (i) The mill which is operated by the Society is the property of the Society.

(ii) The Party and the Government reiterate their unqualified support for Co-operatives and will continue to provide training, financial credits and other forms of support to ensure that Co-operatives are afforded every opportunity to become strong and viable institutions. The Party and the Government are convinced not only that Co-operatives and Co-operativism can have a great impact on the growth of the economy, but also that they can be important institutions for the development of a human, productive and democratic society in which the people are involved in economic enterprises not as mere wage-earners but as owners, managers and decision makers.

(iii) It may be of general interest to note that the Government, as a matter of deliberate policy, is affording the following facilities and concessions to Co-operative Societies:

- (a) The Minister of Finance has power to guarantee (and does in suitable cases guarantee) loans for Co-operatives, under the provisions of the Guarantee of Loans (Public Corporations and Companies) Act, 1971.
- (b) In accordance with the Party and Government's policy and within clearly defined guidelines, Co-operatives Societies are given preferential treatment in respect of the purchase of their products, the awarding of contracts, the lease of land, the procurement of machinery and other equipment, and in many other ways.
- (c) Government and other Public Sector specialists officers, e.g. engineers, accountants, managers, quantity surveyors, provide free technical advice and assistance to Co-operative Societies. These officers are sometimes seconded to work full-time with Societies.

- (d) The Government, through the Ministry of Economic Development and Co-operatives, grants loans on concessionary terms (e.g. with a maximum interest rate of 2%) to certain categories of Co-operative Societies.
- (e) Government, through the Guyana Co-operative Mortgage Finance Bank, grants loans to Housing Co-operatives at concessionary rates of interest.
- (f) Government also provides substantial grants and subsidies to Co-operative Societies from time to time depending upon the nature of the Societies' activities and the circumstances of each case. For example, all Co-operative Housing Societies are subsidised in that no cost is attributed to building land made available to such societies and only part of the cost of the land development (including infrastructure) is passed on to the societies.

A supplementary question was asked by the Leader of the Opposition.

Question No. 14

Cde. Basir asked the Minister of Works and Transport the following question:

- QUESTION:
- (i) Is the Minister of Works and Transport aware of the dilapidated state of the La Bonne Mere wharf in the Lower Pomeroon?
 - (ii) If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Minister state what steps, if any, are being taken to effect the necessary repairs.

The Minister of Works and Transport gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The La Bonne Mere wharf in the Pomeroon River is a wharf which was originally erected by the residents in the area.

During 1976, the Transport and Harbours Department undertook, as a job, to drive piles for the wharf at the request of the then Ministry of Co-operatives and National Mobilisation. The remaining work is to be done by self-help which is being organised.

Supplementary questions were asked by Cde. Basir.

Question No. 15

Cde. Basir asked the Minister of Agriculture the following question:

- QUESTION:
- (i) Is the Minister of Agriculture aware that the Charity Land Development Scheme is under bush and that the house lots are unoccupied?
 - (ii) Is the Minister also aware that many persons to whom lots were allocated are no longer interested and that the Public Health Authority has been refusing permission to build to those who have been allocated lots are willing to erect houses?
 - (iii) Will the Minister inform the Assembly what is the state of the Scheme and if any action is being taken to re-allocate the house lots?

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The Ministry of Agriculture is taking the necessary legal steps to cancel leases of those persons who have failed without good reason to occupy their lots and to re-allocate them to deserving persons. Meanwhile the Public Health Authority cannot grant permits for the construction of houses where environmental conditions are unsatisfactory. In addition the area will benefit from improved drainage under the Tapakuma Extension Project thereby encouraging its full occupation and settlement.

Question No. 16

Cde. Ally asked the Minister of Agriculture the following question:

QUESTION: Is the Minister of Agriculture aware that the rice farmers occupying the front lands - that is to say, the first and second depths - from No. 51 to Bloomfield, Corentyne, are wholly dependent on rain for their rice crop and that consequently most of them suffer losses? What action, if any, is being taken to remedy the situation?

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, gave the following reply:

ANSWER: The Rice Farmers occupying the Frontlands of Black Bush Polder receive their requirements of irrigation water from rainfall and by pumping from the Black Bush Polder main canal. This irrigation is at no cost to the farmers at present and is borne exclusively by Government with the exception of Whim/Bloomfield drainage and irrigation area. However, since the Black Bush Scheme was not designed to serve this area, the supply of irrigation water is often inadequate.

The Government of Guyana has completed feasibility studies aimed at providing adequate supplies of water and is in negotiation with the I.B.R.D. for a loan to improve both irrigation and drainage facilities of the area in addition to Block III and the rear of the Manaribisi Cattle pasture.

A supplementary question was asked by Cde. Ally.

Question No. 17

Cde. Dalchand asked the Minister of Agriculture the following question:

- QUESTION:
- (i) Is the Minister of Agriculture aware that -
 - (a) the Success River Sluice at Leguan, Essequibo, has been out of order since 1969?
 - (b) repair works on this structure have been going on since 1971?
 - (ii) Will the Minister say -
 - (a) why this work is not yet completed?
 - (b) whether this work is being done by direct labour or by a Contractor?
 - (c) how much money was approved for this structure?
 - (d) how much money has been spent to date?
 - (e) how soon will this work be completed?

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, gave the following reply:

- ANSWER:
- (i) The Success River Sluice **at Leguan** is private property and responsibility for its maintenance is the proprietor's.
 - (ii) Nevertheless, because of the persistent indifference of the owner to maintain and repair the Sluice as far back as 1960, Government acting in the interest of farmers and residents of the area decided in 1976 to reconstruct it and to seek to recover the costs thereof through the Courts.
 - (iii) The sum of \$100,000 was advanced for this purpose of which \$63,500 has been spent. The work which is being done by the Ministry of Agriculture should be completed by the end of September of this year.

REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY
ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE -

Matters relating to the strike in the Sugar Industry

The Leader of the Opposition sought leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing the use of public servants, and military and para-military forces as strike breakers in the strike of the Guyana Agricultural and General Workers' Union and strikes before that, and also the denial of the Police to permit the Union to hold public meetings.

The Speaker did not allow the claim as he was satisfied that:

- (i) the first matter was not raised at the earliest opportunity;
- (ii) the second matter involved the ordinary administration of the law.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 - CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1977 - Bill No. 21/1977
published 31.8.77

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 THE PROVISIONS OF ARTICLE 73 THEREOF AND TO MAKE CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO OTHER WRITTEN LAWS.

Cde. Ram Karran, Mrs. Da Silva and the Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Foreign Affairs and Justice replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mrs. Da Silva	Cde. Nokta
Cde. Zahueruddeen	Cde. Dindayal
Cde. Wrights	Cde. Dalchand
Cde. Willoms	Cde. Ally
Cde. Van Sluytman	Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Basir
Cde. Sukul	Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. Sukhu	Cde. J. Jagan
Cde. Stoby	Cde. Ram Karran
Cde. Rayman	Cde. C. Jagan
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	

Carried Forward: 12

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<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward: 12	10
Cdo. Nissar	
Cdo. Kasim	
Cdo. Jonas	
Cdo. Jaiserrisingh	
Cdo. Hussain	
Cdo. Gill	
Cdo. Fowlur	
Cdo. Durant	
Cdo. Carrington	
Cdo. Bynoe	
Cdo. Corrica	
Cdo. Prashad	
Cdo. Ambrose	
Cdo. Ackman	
Cdo. Corbin	
Cdo. Thomas	
Cdo. Chowritmootoo	
Cdo. Bancroft	
Cdo. Nascimento	
Cdo. Duncan	
Cdo. Clarke	
Cdo. Ramsaroop	
Cdo. Field-Ridley	
Cdo. Hoyte	
Cdo. Reid	
Cdo. Burnham	
<u>38</u>	<u>10</u>

The Bill was then read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 was put and carried on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mrs. Da Silva	Cdo. Nokta
Cdo. Zaheeruddeen	Cdo. Dindayal
Cdo. Wrights	Cdo. Dalchand
Cdo. Willems	Cdo. Ally
Cdo. Van Sluytman	Cdo. Belgrave
Cdo. Taylor	Cdo. Basir
Cdo. Sukul	Cdo. N. Pansaud
Cdo. Sukhu	Cdo. J. Jagan
Cdo. Stoby	Cdo. Ram. Karan
Cdo. Rayman	Cdo. C. Jagan
Cdo. Ramson	
Cdo. Ramsahoye	
Cdo. Nissar	
Cdo. Kasim	
Cdo. Jonas	
Cdo. Jaiserrisingh	
Cdo. Hussain	
Cdo. Gill	

Carried Forward

18

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	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	18	10
	Cde. Fowler	
	Cde. Durant	
	Cde. Carrington	
	Cde. Bynoe	
	Cde. Corrica	
	Cde. Prashad	
	Cde. Ambrose	
	Cde. Ackman	
	Cde. Corbin	
	Cde. Thomas	
	Cde. Chowritmootoo	
	Cde. Bancroft	
	Cde. Nascimonto	
	Cde. Duncan	
	Cde. Clarke	
	Cde. Ramsaroop	
	Cde. Field-Ridley	
	Cde. Hoyto	
	Cde. Reid	
	Cde. Burnham	
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Clause 2 was put and carried on the following division:

	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
	Mrs. Da Silva	Cde. Nokta
	Cde. Zahæeruddeen	Cde. Dindayal
	Cde. Wrights	Cde. Dalchand
	Cde. Willems	Cde. Ally
	Cde. Van Sluytman	Cde. Belgrave
	Cde. Taylor	Cde. Basir
	Cde. Sukul	Cde. N. Parsaud
	Cde. Sukhu	Cde. J. Jagan
	Cde. Stoby	Cde. Ram Karran
	Cde. Rayman	Cde. C. Jagan
	Cde. Ramson	
	Cde. Ramsahoye	
	Cde. Nissar	
	Cde. Kasim	
	Cde. Jonas	
	Cde. Jaisorrisingh	
	Cde. Hussain	
	Cde. Gill	
	Cde. Fowler	
	Cde. Durant	
	Cde. Carrington	
	Cde. Bynoe	
	Cde. Corrica	
	Cde. Prashad	
	Cde. Ambroso	
	Cde. Ackman	
	Cde. Corbin	
	Cde. Thomas	
	Cde. Chowritmootoo	
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Carried Forward:	29	10
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<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward: 29	10
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
Cde. Field-Ridley	
Cde. Hoyte	
Cde. Reid	
Cde. Burnham	
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Clause 3 was put and carried on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mrs. Da Silva	Cde. Nokta
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	Cde. Dindayal
Cde. Wrights	Cde. Dalchand
Cde. Willoms	Cde. Ally
Cde. Van Sluytman	Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Basir
Cde. Sukul	Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. Sukhu	Cde. J. Jagan
Cde. Stoby	Cde. Ram Karran
Cde. Rayman	Cde. C. Jagan
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Kasim	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaisorrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Durant	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Bynoe	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
Cde. Field-Ridley	
Cde. Hoyte	
Cde. Reid	
Cde. Burnham	
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38	10
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Clause 4 was put and carried on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mrs. Da Silva	Cde. Nokta
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	Cde. Dindayal
Cde. Wrights	Cde. Dalchand
Cde. Willems	Cde. Ally
Cde. Van Sluytman	Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Basir
Cde. Sukul	Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. Sukhu	Cde. J. Jagan
Cde. Stoby	Cde. Ram Karan
Cde. Rayman	Cde. C. Jagan
Cde. Ramson	
Cde. Ramsahoye	
Cde. Nissar	
Cde. Kasim	
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Jaiserrisingh	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Durant	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Bynoe	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Chowritmootoo	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Clarke	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
Cde. Field-Ridley	
Cde. Hoyte	
Cde. Reid	
Cde. Burnham	

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Assembly resumed.

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

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mrs. Da Silva	Cde. Nokta
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	Cde. Dindayal
Cde. Wrights	Cde. Dalchand
Cde. Willems	Cde. Ally
Cde. Van Sluytman	Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Basir
Cde. Sukul	Cde. N. Persaud

Carried Forward: 7

7

FORAGAINST

Brought Forward: 7

7

Cde. Sukhu
 Cde. Stoby
 Cde. Rayman
 Cde. Ramson
 Cde. Ramsahoyo
 Cde. Nissar
 Cde. Kasim
 Cde. Jonas
 Cde. Jaiserrisingh
 Cde. Hussain
 Cde. Gill
 Cde. Fowler
 Cde. Durant
 Cde. Carrington
 Cde. Bynoe
 Cde. Corrica
 Cde. Prashad
 Cde. Ambrose
 Cde. Ackman
 Cde. Corbin
 Cde. Thomas
 Cde. Chowritmootoo
 Cde. Bancroft
 Cde. Nascimento
 Cde. Duncan
 Cde. Clarko
 Cde. Ramsaroop
 Cde. Field-Ridley
 Cde. Hoyte
 Cde. Reid
 Cde. Burnham

Cde. J. Jagan
 Cde. Ram Karran
 Cde. C. Jagan

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ITEM 2 - MISCELLANEOUS ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) (NO. 2) BILL 1977
Bill No. 18, 1977 published 13.8.77

The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND
 CERTAIN ENACTMENTS.

Cde. Ram Karran and Mrs. Da Silva spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ITEM 3 - TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 -
Bill No. 16/1977 published 13.8.77

The Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
 TEACHING SERVICE COMMISSION ACT.

Cde. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.08 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.33 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mrs. Da Silva and the Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

The Bill was then read a second time.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - Cde. Ram Karran moved the following amendment:

Renumbering of paragraphs (f), (g), (h), (i), (j) and (k), as paragraphs (h), (i), (j), (k), (l) and (m), respectively, and insertion of the following as paragraphs (f) and (g):

(f) By the addition of a new paragraph (e) of section 3(2), as follows -

"(e) two persons appointed by the President on the recommendation of the Prime Minister after those persons have been nominated by the Leader of the Opposition;"

(g) By the substitution of the word "nine" for the word "seven" in section 3(1) of the Principal Act, and of the word "Eight" for the word "Six" in section 3(2);

The amendment was put and negatived on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mrs. Da Silva	Cde. Zaheeruddeen
Cde. Nokta	Cde. Willems
Cde. Dindyal	Cde. Van Sluytman
Cde. Dalchand	Cde. Taylor
Cde. Ally	Cde. Sukul
Cde. Belgrave	Cde. Sukhu
Cde. Basir	Cde. Stoby
Cde. N. Persaud	Cde. Rayman
Cde. J. Jagan	Cde. Ramson
Cde. Ram Karran	Cde. Ramsahoye
Cde. C. Jagan	Cde. Nissar
	Cde. Hussain
	Cde. Gill
	Cde. Fowler
	Cde. Durant
	Cde. Carrington
	Cde. Bynoe
	Cde. Corrica
	Cde. Prashad
	Cde. Ambrose
	Cde. Corbin
	Cde. Thomas
	Cde. Chowritmootoo
	Cde. Bancroft
	Cde. Nascimento
	Cde. Duncan
	Cde. Clarke
	Cde. Ramsaroop
	Cde. Field-Ridley
	Cde. Burnham
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11	30
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Clause 2 was then passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture the Bill was read the third time and passed as printed.

ITEM 4 - UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA (AMENDMENT) BILL 1977 - Bill No.17/1977
published 13.8.77

The Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA ACT FOR THE
PURPOSE OF CHANGING THE NAME OF THE
BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE UNIVERSITY
OF GUYANA, TO CONFER CERTAIN FUNCTIONS
ON THE PRO-CHANCELLOR OF THE UNIVERSITY
AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Mrs. Da Silva and Cde. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ITEM 5 * PUBLIC OFFICERS' PENSIONS BILL 1977 - Bill No. 22/1977
published 31.8.77

The Minister of Finance moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO IMPLEMENT THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF GUYANA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND CONCERNING THE PENSIONS OF CERTAIN PUBLIC OFFICERS AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Cde. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

INTERRUPTION OF DEBATE ON BILL NO. 22/1977

The debate on Bill No. 22/1977 was interrupted to allow the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House to move the suspension of the Standing Order No. 9(2).

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 DEBATE ON BILL NO. 22/1977

The Assembly resumed the debate on the Public Officers' Pensions Bill 1977.

Mrs. DaSilva spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken **through** its remaining stages and passed as printed.

MOTIONS

ITEM - 6 CONFIRMATION OF THE TRAVEL VOUCHER TAX (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1977 (No. 65)

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution the Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly in terms of section 4 of the Travel Voucher Tax Act, Chapter 80:09, confirm the Travel Voucher Tax (Amendment) Order 1977 (No. 65), which was made on the 9th of September, 1977, and published in the Gazette on the 12th of September, 1977.

Cde. N. Persaud, Mrs. Da Silva and the Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance replied.

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

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Willems	Cde. Nokta
Cde. Van Sluytman	Cde. Dindayal
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Dalchand
Cde. Sukul	Cde. Ally
Cde. Stoby	Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Rayman	Cde. Basir
Cde. Ramson	Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. Ramsahoye	Cde. Ram Karran
Cde. Nissar	Cde. C. Jagan
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Durant	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Bynoe	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Nascimento	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
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26	10
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ITEM - 7 AFFIRMATION OF TRAVEL TAX REGULATIONS 1977 (No. 11)

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution the Minister of Finance signified Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly in terms of section 57(13) of the Tax Act, Chapter 80:01, affirm the Travel Tax Regulations 1977 (No. 11), which were made on the 5th of September, 1977, and published in the Gazette on 12th September, 1977.

The leader of the Opposition and Mrs. Da Silva spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance replied.

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

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. Zaheruddin	Mrs. Da Silva
Cde. Willems	Cde. Nokta
Cde. Van Sluytman	Cde. Dindyal
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Dalchand
Cde. Sukul	Cde. Ally
Cde. Stoby	Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Rayman	Cde. Basir
Cde. Ramson	Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. Ramsahoye	Cde. Ram Karran
Cde. Nissar	Cde. C. Jagan
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Durant	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Bynoe	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Prashad	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Corbin	
Cde. Thomas	
Cde. Bancroft	
Cde. Duncan	
Cde. Ramsaroop	
25	10

ITEM - 8 EXAMINATION OF RECORDS OF PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

Cde. N. Persaud, Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, moved and Cde. Van Sluytman seconded the following motion:

WHEREAS the Public Accounts Committee appointed during the Sessions of the Second Parliament of Guyana (3rd January, 1969 to 6th June, 1973) examined the Public Accounts for the year 1966, and some of the Public Accounts for the year 1967;

AND WHEREAS Parliament was dissolved before the Report of the Public Accounts Committee on its examination of the 1966 Public Accounts could have been finalised and submitted to the National Assembly and before the examination of the 1967 Public Accounts could have been completed;

AND WHEREAS it is desirable that the outstanding Report and examination should be finalised and completed by the Public Accounts Committee of the present Session of Parliament:


BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly authorises the Public Accounts Committee of the present Session of Parliament to use and examine the records and evidence taken, in respect of the examination, by previous Public Accounts Committees, of the Public Accounts for the years 1966 and 1967 which have not yet been reported on to the National Assembly, so as to enable the present Committee to complete the examination and to finalise and submit to the National Assembly Reports on the Public Accounts for the years 1966 and 1967.

The motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.20 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 30.9.77
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

26th September, 1977