

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1977

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 131st Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 9TH NOVEMBER, 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
(Absent - on leave)

* Cde. C.A. King, M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection

* Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture

* 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

* 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/Corentyne)

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

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 (Absent - on leave)
- 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. (Absent)
- 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. Jaiserrisingh, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P.
- Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., 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., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- 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. Zaheeruddeen, 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 (Absent)

Other Members (12)

Cde. J. Jagan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 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.
 Cde. I. Basir, M.P.
 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, J.P., M.P.
 Mrs. E. Da Silva, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

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 SPEAKERLeave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

Cdes. Naraine and Sukhu and
 Mrs Da Silva for that sitting.

Congratulations to Prime Minister

On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker extended congratulations and good wishes to Cde. Burnham, Prime Minister, on whom, during his recent visit to Canada, the Dalhousie University of Nova Scotia conferred the Honorary Doctor of Laws Degree for his outstanding leadership in Guyana and for his contribution towards the economic goals of developing nations of the Third World.

Cde. Burnham thanked the Speaker and Members for the congratulations extended to him.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Prime Minister:

Accounts (2) of the Guyana Rice Corporation for
 the years ended 31st August, 1972, and
 31st August, 1973.

(ESC: 7/8/1)(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONITEM 1 APPROVAL OF FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 3/1977

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider Financial Paper No. 3/1977.

In Committee of Supply

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 the Committee of supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 3/1977 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates for the period ended 31st October, 1977, totalling \$32,781,435.

(Notice was given on 3.11.77)

The items numbered 17 to 23 on pages 4 and 5 were renumbered as items 23a to 23g.

The Schedule to the Financial Paper was under consideration when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.07 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.32 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply and continued consideration of the Financial Paper.

In Committee of Supply

The Schedule to the Financial Paper was still under consideration when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

Assembly 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.

In Committee of Supply

After concluding consideration of the Financial Paper, the motion for its approval was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

"RESOLVED, That the Committee of supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 3/1977 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates for the period ended 31st October, 1977, totalling \$32,781,435."

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.46 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 Thursday, 17th November, 1977.

S. Narain
15/11/77
S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
15th November, 1977