

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA.

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1978

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 157th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

FRIDAY, 12TH MAY, 1978

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (66)

Speaker:

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly
Members of the Government - People's National Congress (49)

Prime Minister (1)

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

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 (Absent)
- * 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
- * Cde. M. Shahabuddeen, C.C.H., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Justice

Ministers (5)

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

Ministers of State (9)

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

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

* Non elected Minister

- Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P., Minister of State, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)
- 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) (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. Jaiserrisingh, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P.
- Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. M. Nissar, M.P.
- Cde. L.E. Ramsahoye, M.P.
- Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
- Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- 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. (Absent)
- Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. M. Zaheeruddeen, 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 (Absent)

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

* Non elected Minister

Other Members (12)

Cde. J. Jagan, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Opposition Chief Whip(Absent)
Cde. N. Persaud, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. C. Collymore, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. L. Lalbahadur, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. I. Basir, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. R. Ally, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P.(Absent)
Cde. Dindayal, M.P. (Absent)
Cde. H. Nokta, M.P. (Absent)

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P., M.P.
Mr. M.A. Abraham, M.P.

OFFICERS

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cdes. Teekah, Kasim, Rayman and Basir for that sitting; and
- (b) Cde. Nascimento for three months from 14th April, 1978.

Letter from Belize

The Speaker informed the Assembly that a letter had been received from Belize formally acknowledging the Resolution concerning the future of Belize, which was passed by the Assembly on 8th March, 1978, and a copy of which was delivered to the Honourable Premier of Belize who was present in the Chamber on the occasion. In the letter sincere thanks for the Resolution was conveyed from the Government and People of Belize and the Government's appreciation was expressed for the support given by Guyana in the struggle of Belize to attain a secure and safe independence with all its territory.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Readings

- (1) SALE OF TRAVEL TICKETS BILL 1978 - Bill No. 9 1978
published 15.4. 8

The Minister of Works and Transport, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO IMPOSE
RESTRICTIONS ON THE SALE OF TRAVEL
TICKETS IN RESPECT OF JOURNEYS
BETWEEN GUYANA AND ANY OTHER COUNTRY.

- (2) WEIGHTS AND MEASURES AMENDMENT BILL 1978 -
Bill No. 10 1978 published 8.5.78

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 AMEND
THE WEIGHTS AND MEASURES ACT.

- (3) SHIPPING CASUALTIES INVESTIGATION AND PREVENTION
AMENDMENT BILL 1978 - Bill No. 11 1978 published 8 5 78

The Minister of Works and Transport, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
SHIPPING CASUALTIES (INVESTIGATION
AND PREVENTION) ACT.

Correction to Clause 2(a)

The Speaker informed Members of a printing error, the omission of the word "of" before the word "the" in the first line of paragraph (a) of Clause 2, and requested Members to note the correction and to make it on their copies of the Bill.

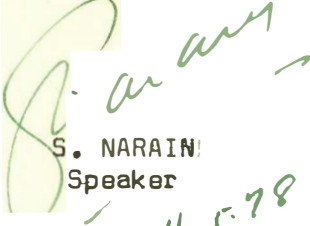
- (4) REFERENDUM AMENDMENT OF THE CONSTITUTION BILL 1978
Bill No. 12 1978 published 8 5.78

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE
SUBMISSION OF THE CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT)
BILL 1978 TO THE VOTE OF THE ELECTORS
QUALIFIED TO VOTE IN AN ELECTION OF MEMBERS
OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY, IN ACCORDANCE
WITH ARTICLE 73 OF THE CONSTITUTION.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.24 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, 17th May, 1978.


S. NARAIN
Speaker
16.5.78

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
16th May, 1978.