

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973-- 1978

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 166th Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 5TH OCTOBER, 1978

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (64)

Speaker

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (47)

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 (Absent)

Senior Ministers (12)

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

Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P., Minister of Works and Transport

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

* Cde. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Health, Housing and Labour

* Cde. H.O. Jack, M.P., Minister of Energy and Natural Resources (Absent - on leave)

* Cde. F.E. Hope, M.P., Minister of Finance

* Cde. G.B. Kennard, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Agriculture (Absent - on leave)

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

* 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 (Absent - on leave)

* Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent - on leave)

* Cde. J.A. Tyndall, A.A., M.P., Minister of Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent)

* Non elected Minister

Ministers (2)

Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, M.P., Minister of Information
 Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P., Minister - Regional (East Berbice/
 Corentyne)

Ministers of State (10)

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 (Absent)
 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) (Absent - on leave)
 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. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/
 West Coast Berbice)
 Cde. R.C. Van Sluytman, M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of
 Agriculture
 Cde. L.A. Durant, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (North West)
 * Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional
 (Rupununi)

Parliamentary Secretaries (5)

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. M. Corrica, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of
 Education, Social Development and Culture
 Cde. E.M. Bynoe, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Trade
 and Consumer Protection
 Cde. C.E. Wrights, J.P., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry
 of Economic Development and Co-operatives

Other Members (16)

Cde. W.G. Carrington, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. J. Gill, M.P.
 Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.
 Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P.
 Cde. M. Kasim, A.A., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. M. Nissar, M.P.
 Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
 Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. A. Salim, M.P.
 Cde. E.M. Stoby, J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., M.P.
 Cde. C. Sukul, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. H.A. Taylor, M.P.
 Cde. L.E. Willems, 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

* Non elected Minister

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. (Absent)
 Cde. C. Collymore, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. I. Basir, M.P.
 Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. R. Ally, M.P.
 Cde. Dalchand, J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Cde. Dindayal, M.P.
 Cde. H. Nokta, M.P. (Absent → on leave)
 Cde. P. Sukhai, M.P.

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

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

OFFICERS

Acting Clerk of the National Assembly (M.B. Henry, AMBIM)
 Acting Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (A. Knight)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(1) Redesignation of Ministers

The Speaker informed the Assembly that he had been advised that the following Ministers had been redesignated Senior Ministers with effect from 8th August, 1978:-

- (i) Cde. B. Ramsaroop
- (ii) Cde. C.V. Mingo
- (iii) Cde. V.R. Teekah
- (iv) Cde. R.E. Jackson
- (v) Cde. J.A. Tyndall;

and that Cde. Oscar Clarke, Minister of State - Regional (East Berbic Corentyne) had been redesignated Minister with effect from 8th August, 1978.

On behalf of the Assembly and himself he extended congratulations to the Ministers.

(2) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (i) Cde. Jackson for three weeks from 2nd September, 1978,
- (ii) Cde. Kasim from 15th September to 31st October, 1978,
- (iii) Cde. Rayman 1st to 7th October, 1978, and
- (iv) Cdes. Jack, Kennard, Mingo, Teekah, Chowritmootoo and Ambrose for that sitting.

(3) Acting Clerk of the National Assembly

The Speaker informed the Assembly that the President, acting in accordance with his advice under article 63(1) of the Constitution, had appointed Cde. M.B. Henry, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, to act as Clerk of the National Assembly with effect from 20th September, 1978, during the period of absence from that office of the Clerk of the National Assembly.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.(1) By the Minister of Works and Transport:

- (a) Parcel Post (Surface Mail and Air Rates) Order 1978 (No. 100), made under section 16 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.

(GSC: 16/102/13) (Circulated)

- (b) Parcel Post (Inland) (Surface Mail and Air Rates) Order 1978 (No. 101), made under section 16 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.

(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)

- (c) Rates of Postage (Surface Mail and Fees for Services)(Amendment) Order 1978 (No. 102), made under section 16 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.

(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)

- (d) Overseas Money Orders (Rates of Commission) (Amendment) Order 1978 (No. 103), made under section 35 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.

(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)

- (e) Rates of Postage (Inland)(Air Rates)(Amendment) Order 1978 (No. 104), made under section 16 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.

(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)

- (f) Air Mail Postage Rates (Amendment) Order 1978 (No. 106), made under section 16 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.

(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)

- (g) Private Letter Boxes (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 19), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (h) Inland Postal Order (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 20), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (i) British Postal Order (Amendment) Regulations, 1978 (No. 21), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (j) Telegraph (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 22), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (k) Telegraph Money Orders (Inland)(Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 23), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (l) Post Office Money Order (Amendment) Regulations, 1978 (No. 24), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (m) Telegraph Money Orders (Guyana and the United Kingdom)(Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 25), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (n) Business Reply Service (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 27), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)

- (o) Post and Telegraph (Late Fee)(Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 28), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (p) Payment of Customs Charges by Sender (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 29), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (q) Cash on Delivery (Inland Parcels Post) (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 30), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (r) Cash on Delivery (Overseas Parcels Post) (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 31), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (s) Private Letter Bags (Amendment) Regulations 1978 (No. 32), made under section 97 of the Post and Telegraph Act, Chapter 47:01, on the 2nd of September, 1978, and published in the Gazette on the 9th of September, 1978.
(GSC: 16/102/13)(Circulated)
- (2) By the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House on behalf of the Minister of Finance:
- (a) Loan Contract between Guyana and the Inter-American Bank (Health Care Delivery System Programme) - August 11, 1978 - Loan No. 544/SF-GY.
(ST: 36/19)
- (b) Agreement for Nonreimbursable Technical Cooperation between Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Institutional Strengthening of the Ministry of Health, Housing and Labour) - 1978 - ATN/SF-1644-GY.
(ST: 36/19)
- (c) Agreement for Contingent Repayment Technical Co-operation between Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Georgetown Hospital Complex Feasibility Study) - 1978 ATC/SF-1645-GY.
(ST: 36/19)

- (d) Loan Agreement between Guyana and the United States of America for Small Farm Development (Black Bush Region) Dated August 3, 1978 (AID Loan No. 504-T-014).
(ST: 3/2/2/1)(Circulated)
- (e) Amendment to the United Kingdom/Guyana (Miscellaneous Capital Goods) Loan 1978.
(ST: 3/2/1/12)(Circulated)
- (f) Loan Agreement between Guyana and the United States of America for Rice Modernization II. AID Loan No. 504-T-015. (Dated August 31, 1978).
(ST: 3/2/4/8/1)(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM 1 - DEATH OF CDE. L.I. CHAN-A-SUE

The Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Cde. Leonard Ignatius Chan-A-Sue and pays tribute to the distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing widow and children.

The Deputy Speaker and Mr. Singh spoke to the motion.

The motion was then put and carried with Members standing.

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 - LABOUR CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN WORKERS BILL
1978 Bill No. 19 1978 published 2.9.78

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO REPEAL AND, WITH CERTAIN AMENDMENTS, RE-ENACT THE LABOUR (CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN WORKERS) ACT, CHAPTER 99:03, REGULATING THE CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT OF CERTAIN WORKERS.

Cde. J. Jagan and the Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clauses 1 to 3 were passed as printed.

Clause 4 - The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour moved the following amendment which was put and carried:

Insertion of the word "eight" after the word "exceeding" in paragraph (a) of subsection (2).

Clause 4 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 5 to 13 were passed as printed.

FIRST SCHEDULE - The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour moved the following amendments which were put and carried:

- (a) Insertion of the following in the appropriate columns in Part 1:
"General Worker 30.00 per week"
 - (b) Deletion of the following from Part 3:
"Blender \$200.00 per month"
 - (c) (i) Substitution of the figure "30.00" for the figure "40.00" in relation to a Dishwasher;
 - (ii) Substitution of the figure "30.00" for the figure "35.00" in relation to a Cleaner;
 - (iii) Insertion of the following in the appropriate columns -
"General Worker 30.00 per week"
- in Part 5.

The following correction was made to Part 2:

Substitution of "week" for "month" opposite Head Barman.

The FIRST SCHEDULE was then passed as amended on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Cde. Zaheeruddeen	Mr. Abraham
Cde. Willems	Cde. Sukhai
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Dindyal
Cde. Sukul	Cde. Ally
Cde. Sukhu	Cde. Basir
Cde. Salim	Cde. R.D. Persaud
Cde. Ramson	Cde. J. Jagan
Cde. Nissar	Cde. Ram Karran
Cde. Jonas	
Cde. Hussain	
Cde. Gill	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Bynoe	
Cde. Corrica	
Cde. Ackman	

Carried 15
Forward:

8

	FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	15	8
Cde. Durant		
Cde. Van Sluytman		
Cde. Prashad		
Cde. Corbin		
Cde. Thomas		
Cde. Bancroft		
Cde. Duncan		
Cde. Clarke		
Cde. Field-Ridley		
Cde. Ramsaroop		
Cde. Naraine		
	26	8

The SECOND SCHEDULE was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Minister of Health, Housing and Labour, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended.

ITEM 3 - MEDEX BILL 1978 - Bill No. 21/1978 published 20.9.78

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE REGISTRATION OF PERSONS AS MEDEX FOR THE PURPOSE OF PROVIDING PRIMARY HEALTH CARE AS AUXILIARIES TO MEDICAL PRACTITIONERS EMPLOYED IN THE SERVICE OF THE GOVERNMENT.

The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.21 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour concluded his speech.

Cde. J. Jagan, Mr. Abraham and Cde. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Health, Housing and Labour replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

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

ITEM 4 - STAMP DUTIES (MANAGEMENT) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1978 - Bill NO. 22/1978 published 20.9.78

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE
STAMP DUTIES (MANAGEMENT) ACT.

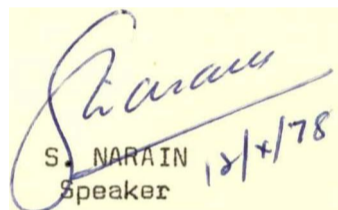
Cde. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

The motion was then put and carried.

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

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.35 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
Speaker 12/10/78

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
12th October, 1978.