

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1979

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 173rd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

At 2.00 P.M.

ON

MONDAY, 8TH JANUARY, 1979

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (62)

Speaker

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

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (45)

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 (12)

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

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

Cde. B. Ramsaroo, 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. 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 (Absent)

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

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

\* 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

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

Ministers (2)

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

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

\* Non elected Minister

Ministers of State (10)

- Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi) (Absent)
- 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) (Absent - on leave)
- 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. 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 (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. L.A. Durant, M.P., Minister of State, Regional (North West)

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
- Cde. M. Corrica, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education, Social Development and Culture (Absent - on leave)
- 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 (14)

- Cde. W.G. Carrington, M.P.
- 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. J.G. Ramson, M.P.
- Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
- 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. (Absent)

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

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

(ii) Liberator Party (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, J.P., M.P., (Absent - on leave)  
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. Mingo, Teekah, Bancroft and Van Sluytman, and Mr. Singh for that sitting, and
- (b) Cde. Corrica up to 28th February, 1979.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILLS -- Second Reading

ITEM 1 - LOCAL AUTHORITIES (POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS BILL 1978 - Bill No. 26/1978 published 21.12.78

The Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION FOR THE FURTHER POSTPONEMENT OF ELECTIONS OF COUNCILLORS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

The Leader of the Opposition and Cdes. Dalchand and Basir spoke to the motion.

Cde. Ally 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 4.25 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Cde. Ally concluded his speech.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud and the Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives replied.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed with the following correction:-

"1979" was substituted for "1978" in the second line.

. Clauses 2 and 3 were passed as printed.

Clause 4 was passed with the following corrections:-

- (i) "deemed" and "and" were substituted for "doemd" and "and" in the sixth line of subsection (1)
- (ii) "Chairmon" was substituted for "Chairman" in the first line of subsection (2).

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives, the Bill was read the third time and passed as corrected on the following division:

FOR	AGAINST
Cde. Willems	Mr. Abraham
Cde. Taylor	Cde. Sukhai
Cde. Sukul	Cde. Nokta
Cde. Sukhu	Cde. Dalchand
Cde. Salim	Cde. Ally
Cde. Rayman	Cde. Belgrave
Cde. Ramson	Cde. Collymore
Cde. Jonas	Cde. N. Persaud
Cde. Hussain	Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud
Cde. Gill	Cde. Ram Karran
Cde. Fowler	
Cde. Carrington	
Cde. Wrights	
Cde. Bynoe	
Cde. Ambrose	
Cde. Ackman	
Cde. Durant	

Carried  
Forward 17

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	FOR	<u>AGAINST</u>
Brought Forward:	17	10
Cde. Prashad		
Cde. Thomas		
Cde. Chowritmootoo		
Cde. Nascimento		
Cde. Duncan		
Cde. Clarke		
Cde. Ramsaroop		
Cde. Naraine		
Cde. Hoyte		

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ITEM 2 - GUYANA FORESTRY COMMISSION BILL 1978 - Bill No. 27/1978  
published 23.12.78

Corrections

Before the second reading of this Bill was proceeded with, the Speaker drew Members' attention to the following corrections to be made:

Clause 1

Substitution of "1979" for "1978" in the second line.

Clause 2

Substitution of "Forests" for "Forest" in the last line.

Clause 4

Substitution of a colon for the semicolon after "value" in the sixth line of paragraph (f).

Clause 10

Deletion of the comma after "Act" in the third line.

First Schedule

Paragraph 1

Substitution of "appointment" for "appointed" in the third line of sub-paragraph (2)

Paragraph 4

Deletion of "the Commission," in the fourth line of sub-paragraph (3).

Renumbering of paragraph 4 (1) as sub-paragraph (4).

Substitution of "Five members of the Commission shall constitute a" for the first line of the renumbered sub-paragraph (4).

Substitution of "co-opt" for "coopt" in sub-paragraph (6).

Paragraph (8)

Substitution of "allowances" for "allowance" in the third line.

Insertion of a closing bracket after "member" in the seventh line.

Second ScheduleForests Act (Cap. 67:01)

Insertion of closing quotation marks after "Commission" in the amendment to section 5(1) (b).

Guyana Timber Export Board Act (Cap. 67:03)

Insertion of "Act" after "Board" in the title.

Timber Marketing Act (Cap. 67:04)

Substitution of a single closing quotation mark for the double closing quotation marks in the last line of the amendment to section 2.

Second Reading

The Minister of Energy and Natural Resources moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT AND THE FUNCTIONS OF THE GUYANA FORESTRY COMMISSION AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 9(2)

On a motion by the Minister of Parliamentary Affairs and Leader of the House, Standing Order 9(2) was suspended to permit the sitting to continue without being suspended at 6.30 p.m.

The Deputy Speaker and Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Energy and Natural Resources replied.

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

Clauses 1 to 3 were passed as printed.

Clause 4 was passed with the following amendment which was moved by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources:

Renumbering of the clause as clause 4(1) and insertion of the following as subsection (2) -

"(2) Where the exercise of any function by the Commission under this Act or any other law is subject to the approval of the Minister, it shall not be necessary to obtain that approval if the Minister is the Chairman of the Commission."

Clauses 5 to 35 were passed as printed.

First Schedule was passed as printed.

Second Schedule was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

Third Reading.

On a motion by the Minister of Energy and Natural Resources, the Bill was read the third time and passed as corrected and amended.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7.17 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

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown,  
31st January, 1979.