

THIRD PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1973 - 1979

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 193rd Sitting of the National Assembly held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 26TH JULY, 1979

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (63)

Speaker

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

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (46)

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

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

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)

\* Cde. H. Green, M.P., Minister of Health, Housing and Labour (Absent)

\* Cde. H.D. Jack, M.P., Minister of Energy and Natural Resources

\* 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 (Absent)

\* Cde. V.R. Teekah, M.P., Minister of Education, Social Development and Culture (Absent)

\* 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)

Ministers (2)

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

Cde. C.A. Nascimento, M.P., Minister, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)

\* Non elected Minister

Ministers of State (10)

- Cde. F.U.A. Carmichael, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (Rupununi)  
 Cde. P. Duncan, J.P., M.P., Minister of State, Ministry of Economic Development and Co-operatives  
 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, Office of the Prime Minister (Absent)  
 Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of State for Youth and Sport, Ministry of National Development (Absent)  
 Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of State - Regional (East Demerara/West Coast Berbice) (Absent)  
 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. Campbell, M.P., Minister of State for Information, Ministry of National Development (Absent)

Parliamentary Secretaries (5)

- Cde. M.M. Ackman, C.C.H., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister, and Government Chief Whip (Absent - on leave)  
 Cde. E.L. Ambrose, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture (Absent)  
 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 (15)

- Cde. W.G. Carrington, C.C.H., M.P.  
 Cde. S.M. Field-Ridley, M.P. (Absent)  
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.  
 Cde. J. Gill, M.P.  
 Cde. W. Hussain, M.P.  
 Cde. K.M.E. Jonas, M.P. (Absent)  
 Cde. J.G. Ramson, M.P. (Absent - on leave)  
 Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.  
 Cde. A. Salim, 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. 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 (Absent)

\* 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. (Absent)  
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. (Absent)  
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. (Absent)  
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.)  
Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (M.B. Henry, AMBIM)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Cde. Kennard for the period 8th July to 4th August, 1979,
- (b) Cde. Jackson for a period of 3 weeks from 24th July, 1979,
- (c) Cde. Ackman for a period of 4 months from 23rd July, 1979,
- (d) Cde. Corrica for that sitting,
- (e) Cde. Ramson for a period of 2 months from 18th July, 1979, and
- (f) Mr. M.F. Singh for that sitting.

(ii) Acting Government Chief Whip

The Speaker informed the Assembly that during the absence of Cde. Ackman, the duties of Government Chief Whip would be performed by Cde. Salim.

(iii) Resumption of Duty of Deputy Clerk

The Speaker welcomed back the Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Cde. Maurice Henry, who had been on study leave at the University of Guyana.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

Guyana - Extended Arrangement.

(ST: 53/5/1<sup>II</sup>)(Circulated)

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

Cde. Ram Karran - Breakdown of Law and Order

The Deputy Speaker sought leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly to discuss incidents which took place on the 14th of July, 1979, near the Brickdam Police Station and which appeared to have resulted from a breakdown of law and order.

The Speaker did not allow the claim since the matters were sub judice.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

NATIONAL CANE FARMING COMMITTEE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1979 -  
Bill No. 9/1979 published 9.7.79

The Minister of State, Ministry of Agriculture, on behalf of the Minister of Agriculture, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE  
NATIONAL CANE FARMING COMMITTEE ACT.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

GUYANA - EXTENDED AGREEMENT

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the duly authorised representatives of the Government of Guyana on 12th May, 1979, signed a Letter of Intent for a Stand-By Agreement with the International Monetary Fund, hereinafter referred to as the Fund, under which the Government of Guyana requested, over a period of three years, commencing 26th June, 1979, the right to purchase from the Fund up to the equivalent of SDR 62.75 million i.e. approximately 206.42 million Guyana dollars;

AND WHEREAS the Board of the Fund approved of the request on 25th June, 1979, and the request was accordingly countersigned by the Fund, thereby constituting a Stand-By Agreement with the Fund:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approve of the action taken by the Government of Guyana in relation to the Stand-By Agreement with the Fund signed on 12th May, 1979.

Cde. N. Persaud spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives was speaking to the motion when the proceedings were interrupted to permit a motion for the suspension of Standing Order No. 9(2) to be moved.

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 4.00 p.m.

The Minister of Economic Development and Co-operatives concluded his speech.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.30 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 4/8/79.

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

4th August, 1979