

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FOURTH SESSION

1972 - 1973

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 28th Sitting of the National Assembly under the Constitution of Guyana, held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

TUESDAY, 22ND MAY, 1973

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

Speaker

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. Sase Narain, J.P.

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (37)

Elected Ministers (12)

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, O.E., S.C., Prime Minister
Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of National Development and Agriculture
The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of State for Agriculture
The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Works and Communications
The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour and Social Security
The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Information, Culture and Youth
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister without Portfolio and Leader of the House
The Honourable J.A. Singh, Minister of Health
The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs (Absent)
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of State for the Public Service
The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of Co-operatives and Community Development
The Honourable A. Salim, Minister of Local Government

Appointed Ministers (7)

The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Minister of Foreign Affairs and Attorney-General
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Public Affairs
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests
The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird, Minister of Education
The Honourable F.E. Hope, Minister of Finance and Trade
Dr. the Honourable K.F.S. King, Minister of Economic Development
The Honourable S.S. Naraine, A.A., Minister of Housing and Reconstruction

Parliamentary Secretaries (4)

- Mr. J.G. Joaquin, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Finance and Trade
 Mr. P. Duncan, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of National Development and Agriculture
 Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Information, Culture and Youth (Absent)
 Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Communications

Other Members (14)

- Mr. J.N. Aaron
 Miss M.M. Ackman, Government Whip
 Mr. K. Bancroft
 Mr. N.J. Bissember
 Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.
 Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue
 Mr. M. Corrica
 Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
 Mr. R.J. Jordan
 Mr. S.M. Saffee
 Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman
 Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.
 Mrs. L.E. Willems (Absent)
 Mr. J.G. Ramson

Members of the OppositionPeople's Progressive Party (15)

- Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition
 Mr. Ram Karran
 Mr. R. Chandisingh
 Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C. (Absent)
 Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker
 Mr. E.M.G. Wilson ✓
 Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip
 Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P.
 Mr. M.Y. Ally
 Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P. ✓
 Mr. R. Ally
 Mr. Balchand Persaud
 Mr. Bhola Persaud
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mr. V. Teekah ✓

United Force (3)

- Mr. M.F. Singh
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. J.A. Sutton

Independents (5)

- Mr. R.E. Cheeks
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose
 Mrs. L.M. Branco
 Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
 Mr. L.A. Durant

OFFICERS

- Mr. F.A. Narain, Clerk of the National Assembly
 Mr. M.B. Henry, AMBIM, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Order of Business

His Honour the Speaker announced that it was agreed that items 2 and 3 would be considered before item 1 under Public Business of the Order Paper for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance and Trade:

- (a) Financial Paper No. 3/1973 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$1,469,579, for the period ending 30th April, 1973.
(2/5 VII)(Circulated)

In accordance with Standing Order No. 68(1), the Minister of Finance and Trade named Thursday, the 24th of May, 1973, as the day for the consideration of the Financial Paper.

- (b) Credit Agreement dated 2nd May, 1973 between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana, Barclays Bank International, Limited, and the Export-Import Bank of the United States (Eximbank Credit No. 3699).
(4/2/2/1 II)(Circulated)

- (c) Customs Duties (Amendment)(No. 3) Order 1973 (No. 40), made under section 8 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, on the 8th of May, 1973, and published in the Gazette on the 12th of May, 1973.
(F. 34/1)(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (1) WALLS PENSION BILL 1973 - Bill No. 6/1973
published 19.5.73

The Minister of State for the Public Service, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE SPECIAL PROVISION WITH RESPECT TO THE PENSION-ABLE SERVICE OF GEORGE WALLS.

(2) TRAVEL VOUCHER TAX BILL 1973 - Bill No. 7/1973
published 22.5.73

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE IMPOSITION AND COLLECTION IN GUYANA OF A TAX ON TRAVEL TICKETS USED FOR THE PURPOSE OF TRAVEL ORIGINATING FROM GUYANA.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM 1 - MOTION TO CONFIRM THE CUSTOMS DUTIES (CARIFTA RATE) (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1973 (No. 37)

The Minister of Finance and Trade moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly in terms of section 9 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, confirm Customs Duties (Carifta Rate)(Amendment) Order 1973 (No. 37), which was made on the 26th of April, 1973, and published in the Gazette on the 28th of April, 1973.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 - MISCELLANEOUS GOVERNMENT SECURITIES BILL 1973 - Bill No. 4/1973 published 5.5.73

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ISSUE OF DUPLICATES OF GOVERNMENT SECURITIES LOST, DESTROYED OR DEFACED AND FOR PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

The question was put and carried.

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

MOTION

ITEM 3 - MOTION ON THE GEORGETOWN ACCORD

The Prime Minister moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Agreement establishing the Caribbean Free Trade Association with effect from 1 May, 1968, envisaged the ultimate creation of a viable economic community of the Commonwealth Caribbean Countries;

AND WHEREAS over the past five years the Caribbean Free Trade Association and programmes of functional co-operation between Member States have laid the foundation for further progress in regional economic integration;

AND WHEREAS the hopes and aspirations of the peoples of the Commonwealth Caribbean for balanced development, full employment and improved standards of living can most rapidly be attained -

- (i) by the optimum utilization of the available human and natural resources of the area,
- (ii) by accelerated, coordinated and sustained economic development, and
- (iii) by effective functional cooperation between Commonwealth Caribbean Countries through regional institutions, services and programmes designed to enhance the economic, social and cultural development of the area;

AND WHEREAS for the achievement of these objectives the Eighth Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries meeting in Guyana reached agreement on certain measures set out in the Georgetown Accord:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly -

- (1) Welcomes the measures agreed upon by the Eighth Conference of Heads of Government of Commonwealth Caribbean Countries as set out in the Georgetown Accord.
- (2) Approves of Guyana participating in the Caribbean Community, including the Caribbean Common Market, and in the related mechanisms and arrangements for the economic, social and cultural development of the Commonwealth Caribbean Region as set out in that Accord.

The Prime Minister was still speaking when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.05 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.35 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

The Prime Minister concluded his speech.

Mr. Ram Karran and Mr. Teekah spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance and Trade was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.30 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.07 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

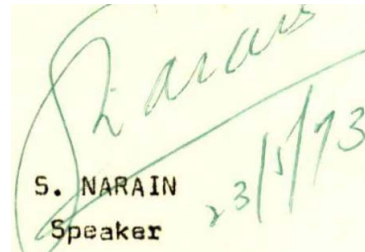
The Minister of Finance and Trade concluded his speech.

Mr. D.C. Jagan, Mr. Cheeks, Mr. Bancroft and Mr. Sutton spoke to the motion.

Mr. Chandisingh was speaking to the motion when the time for the adjournment of the sitting was reached.

ADJOURNMENT

At 10.12 p.m., on a motion by the Minister without Portfolio and Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 23rd of May, 1973.



S. NARAIN
Speaker 23/5/73

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

23rd May, 1973.