

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

THIRD SESSION

1971 - 1972

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 53rd 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

THURSDAY, 13TH APRIL, 1972

PRESENT:

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

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Agriculture
The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Finance
The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour and
Social Security
The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Health
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Housing and
Reconstruction (Leader of the House)
The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Local Government
The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State for
Co-operatives and Community Development
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Attorney-General and
Minister of State
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Works, Hydraulics
and Supply
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. J.G. Joaquin, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Finance
Mr. P. Duncan, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture
Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary,
Office of the Prime Minister
Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply

(iii) Other Members

Mr. J.N. Aaron
 Miss M.M. Ackman, Government Whip
 Mr. K. Bancroft
 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

(b) Members of the Opposition

Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition
 Mr. Ram Karran
 Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C.
 Mr. E.M.G. Wilson
 Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip
 Mr. M.Y. Ally
 Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P.
 Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
 Mr. R. Ally
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose
 Mrs. L.M. Branco
 Mr. Balchand Persaud
 Mr. Bholu Persaud
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mr. L.A. Durant
 Mr. V. Teekah
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. J.A. Sutton
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

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

Absent:

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, S.C.,
 Prime Minister - on leave
 The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A.,
 Minister of Communications - on leave
 The Honourable D.A. Singh,
 Minister of Trade - on leave
 The Honourable E.B. McDavid,
 Minister of Information and Culture
 The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird,
 Minister of Education
 Mr. N.J. Bissember - on leave
 Mr. E.F. Correia
 Mr. R. Chandisingh
 Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker
 Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P. - on leave
 Mr. M.F. Singh - on leave

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Mr. Burnham for that day's sitting;
- (b) Mr. D.A. Singh for two weeks from 10th April, 1972; and
- (c) Mr. Bissember and Mr. M.F. Singh for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House) on behalf of the Chairman, Special Select Committee re Matrimonial Causes, Succession, Abortion, etc.:

Report concerning the inability of the Committee to conclude its investigation before the end of the Session.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - MOTION ON THE SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 82

The Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House) moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 82 be suspended to permit the Assembly at its Sitting on the 13th of April, 1972, to proceed upon and to dispose of a motion providing for an amendment to Standing Order No. 76.

Mr. Ram Karan spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ITEM 2 - MOTION ON THE AMENDMENT OF STANDING ORDER NO. 76

The Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House) moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 76 be amended by the insertion after the word "Assembly" at the end of paragraph (1) of the words "and the Assembly may on consideration of the report resolve that the Committee shall remain in being and continue its investigation notwithstanding the end of the Session".

The Leader of the Opposition, Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud, Mr. Sutton and Mr. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

ITEM 3 - MOTION ON THE CONTINUATION OF LIFE OF SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE

The Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House) moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That, with reference to the Report by the Chairman of the Special Select Committee re Matrimonial Causes, Succession, Abortion, etc., concerning the inability of the Committee to conclude its investigation before the end of the Session, the Assembly agrees that the Committee shall remain in being and continue its investigation notwithstanding the end of the Session.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 4 - GUYANA WATER AUTHORITY BILL 1972 - Bill No. 2/1972 published 5.4.72

The Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GUYANA WATER AUTHORITY AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

Mr. Cheeks 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 4.45 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mr. Cheeks concluded his speech.

Mr. Sutton, Dr. Ramsahoye, Mr. R. Ally and Mr. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

The Bill was then read a second time.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.45 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.12 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

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

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2 - The following amendments by the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply were carried:

- (i) Substitution of "collecting sewer system" for "collecting sewage system" in the definition;
- (ii) Substitution of "sewage service" for "sewerage service" in the definition; and
- (iii) Substitution of the words ",storage, supply and distribution of water," for the words "and disposal of sewage" in the definition of "waterworks".

Clause 2 was then passed as amended.

Clause 3 - The heading "ESTABLISHMENT OF GUYANA WATER AUTHORITY" immediately before Clause 3 was deleted.

Clause 3 was passed as printed.

Clauses 4 and 5 were passed as printed.

Clause 6 - The following amendments by the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply were carried:

- (i) Substitution of the following for sub-section (1):

" (1) Subject to this Act, the Authority shall have the exclusive right to provide sewage services and water services -

- (a) in those areas of Guyana provided with sewage services and water services or either of such services by the Pure Water Supply Division of the Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply immediately before the commencement of this Act; and

(b) in those other areas of Guyana which, immediately before the commencement of this Act, were not being provided with sewage services and water services or either of such services by any Statutory body."; and

(ii) Insertion of the words "or sewer" immediately after the word "main" in the fourth line of subsection (3).

Clause 6 was then passed as amended.

Clause 7 - The following amendments by the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply were carried:

(i) Substitution of the word "or" for the word "of" where it last appears in subsection 2(a); and

(ii) Substitution of the word "fall" for the word "fail" in subsection (4).

Clause 7 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 8 to 10 were passed as printed.

Clause 11 - The following amendment by the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply was carried:

Substitution of a semicolon for the comma after the word "purpose".

Clause 11 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 12 to 14 were passed as printed.

Clause 15 - The following amendment by the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply was carried:

Insertion of the word ", biological" after the word "bacteriological".

Clause 15 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 16 to 28 were passed as printed.

Clause 20 - The following amendment by the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply was carried:

Substitution of the following for Clause 29:

" Minor amendment of the Municipal and District Councils Act, 1969. No. 24 of 1969.

29. The Municipal and District Councils Act 1969 is hereby amended in the following respects -

(a) by the substitution of the words "Guyana Water Authority under the Guyana Water Authority Act 1972" for the word "Minister" where it first appears in section 282(1);

7.

- (b) by the substitution of the words "Guyana Water Authority" for the word "Minister" where it appears for the second time in section 282(1);
- (c) by the substitution of the words "so authorised" for the words "authorised under this section" in section 282(2);
- (d) Insert the following subsection in section 282 -

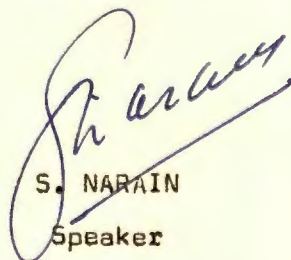
"(4) In this and the next succeeding section, the word "council" shall not include a council whose district is supplied with water by or on behalf of the Guyana Water Authority in exercise of their functions under the Guyana Water Authority Act 1972." "

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended.

ADJOURNMENT

At 8.32 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.


S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
25th May, 1972.