

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 11TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1972-1993) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY, 24TH MARCH, 1993

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (72)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Derek C. Jaan, S.C., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the
National Assembly

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (42)

The Hon. Samuel A. Hinda, M.P., Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Senior Minister of
Agriculture (Leader of the House)

The Hon. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Senior Minister of Home
Affairs (Government Chief Whip)

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Senior Minister in the Ministry
of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development

*The Hon. Asgar Ally, M.P., Senior Minister of Finance

*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth Bisnauth, M.P., Senior Minister of
Education and Cultural Development

*The Hon. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and
Minister of Legal Affairs

*The Hon. Dr. Henry H. Jeffrey, M.P., Senior Minister of Labour,
Human Services and Social Security

The Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P., Senior Minister of Information
in the Office of the President

The Hon. Clement J. Rohee, M.P., Senior Minister of Foreign
Affairs (Absent)

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Senior Minister of Health

The Hon. M. Shree Chan, M.P., Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism
and Industry

Ms Janet Jaan, M.P.

The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry
of Agriculture

The Hon. Indranie Chandarnal, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of
Labour, Human Services and Social Security

*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public
Works, Communications and Regional Development

*The Hon. George E. Funck-Ber, M.P., Minister in the Office of the
President

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*Non-elected Member

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.
 Mr. Brindley H. Benn, M.P.
 Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.
 Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.
 Mr. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P.
 Mr. Komal Chand, M.P.
 Ms Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.
 Mr. Randolph Evans, M.P.
 Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.
 Ms Una A. James, M.P.
 Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P.
 Dr. Mnti Lall, M.P.
 Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.
 Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.
 Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P.
 Ms Pauline Sukhai, M.P.
 Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P.
 Mr. Khadim Bacchus, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)
 Mr. Samad A. Baksh, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam) (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Harrinarine Baldeo, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
 Mr. Joseph M. DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
 Mr. Eugene La Cruz, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)
 Mr. Paoot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
 Mr. Kum Karen Ramdass, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Mr. Ramratan, M.P. a/k Balkarran (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/
 West Demerara)

Members of the Minority (29)

(i) People's National Congress (26)

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Minority Leader
 Mr. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Robert H.D. Corbin, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.
 Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Chief Whip
 Ms Clarissa Riehl, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. King, M.P.
 Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.
 Ms Anna Ally, M.P.
 Ms Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.
 Mr. Arthur A. Alexander, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
 Mr. Simon H. No-See-Quan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P.
 Mr. David Subnauth, M.P.
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
 Ms Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P.
 Mr. Aftahuddin Ahamad, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.
 Mr. Phillip Bynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P.
 Mr. Hukumchand, M.P. a/k Parag
 Ms Joan C. Richards, M.P.
 Ms Gwenneth A. Brouet, M.P.
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.
 Mr. Ivan. Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas, M.P.

Mr. Matheson Williams, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)

(iii) The United Force (1)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

OFFICEPS

Mr. Frank A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to the following Members for that day's sitting:

The Prime Minister,
The Senior Minister of Information in the
Office of the President,
Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin,
Mr. Phillip Bynoe.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

(i) APPROPRIATION BILL 1993 - Bill No. 9/1993 published 24.3.93

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sum necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the financial year ending 31st December, 1993 estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of that sum for specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

(ii) WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - BILL No. 10/1993

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Weights and Measures Act.

(iii) MISCELLANEOUS ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 11/1993

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend certain enactments.

(iv) FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 12/1993

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income Tax Act and the Corporation Tax Act.

(v) HOTEL ACCOMMODATION TAX BILL 1993 - Bill No. 13/1993

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to impose a tax on hotel accommodation and to regulate the collection thereof.

(vi) MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 14/1993

The Senior Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Bill - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 - APPROPRIATION BILL 1993 - Bill No. 9/1993 published 24.3.93

The Senior Minister of Finance moved the second and the third readings of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sum necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the financial year ending 31st December, 1993 estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of that sum for specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and the third time and was passed as printed.

MOTIONS

ITEM 2 - AFFIRMATION OF THE TRAVEL TAX (AMENDMENT) REGULATIONS 1993 (NO. 3)

The Senior Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with section 57(13) of the Tax Act, Chapter 80:01, affirm the Travel Tax (Amendment) Regulations 1993 (No. 3), which were made on 5th March, 1993, and published in the Gazette on 12th March, 1993.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Dr. Kenneth F.S. King
Dr. Clive Y. Thomas

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

ITEM 3 CONFIRMATION OF THE TRAVEL VOUCHER TAX (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1993 (NO. 3)

The Senior Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with section 4 of the Travel Voucher Tax Act, Chapter 80:09, confirm the Travel Voucher Tax (Amendment) Order 1993 (No. 3), which was made on 5th March, 1993, and published in the Gazette on 12th March, 1993.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Dr. Kenneth F.S. King
Dr. Clive Y. Thomas

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 4 - TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 2/1993 published 12.3.93

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the
Tax Act.

Dr. Kenneth F.S. King spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Finance 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 5 - BANKING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 3/1993 published 12.3.93

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the
Banking Act.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas
Mr. Winston S. Murray

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Finance 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 6 - SPIRITS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 4/1993 published 15.3.93

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the
Spirits Act.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 7 - EXCISE REGULATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 5/1993 published 15.3.93

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
the Excise Regulations Act.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 8 - CONSUMPTION TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL - Bill No. 6/1993 published 15.3.93

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the
Consumption Tax Act.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 9 - CUSTOMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 7/1993 published 10.3.93

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
the Customs Act,

Dr. Kenneth F.S. King spoke to the motion.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 10 - PUBLIC OFFICERS WIDOWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 8/1993 published 16.3.93,

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
the Public Officers Widows Act.

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 11 - 'SWORN CLERK AND NOTARY PUBLIC (CERTIFICATE OF COMPETENCY) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 1/1993 published 4.3.93

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the High Court Act and the Deeds Registry Act to provide separate examinations for sworn clerks under the High Court Act and notaries public under the Deeds Registry Act.

Mr. Arthur A. Alexander spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs 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.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.02 p.m., on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



O.C. JAGAN

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

25th March, 1993.