

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 12TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIFTH
SESSION (1992-1993) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY, 7TH APRIL, 1993

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (72)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Derek C. Jagan, 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. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister

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

*The Hon. Ascar Ally, M.P., Senior Minister of Finance (Absent)

*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Pamnauth Disnauth, 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 B. Jeffrey, M.P., Senior Minister of Labour,
Human Services and Social Security

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

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

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 Jagan, M.P., (Absent - on leave)

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

The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal, 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. Fung-On, M.P., Minister in the Office of the
President

*Non-elected Member

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.
 Mr. Brindley H. Penn, M.P.
 Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Husmen Alli, M.P.
 Mr. Shaik K.7. Paksh, M.P.
 Mr. Komal Chand, M.P.
 Ms Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.
 Mr. Pandolph Evans, M.P.
 Dr. Hurbley H. Hanoman, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Ms Una A. James, M.P.
 Mr. Alaton A. Yissoon, M.P.
 Dr. Moti Lall, M.P.
 Mr. Khemraj Pamjattan, M.P.
 Mr. Donald Pamotar, M.P.
 Mr. Lawrence F. Rodney, M.P.
 Ms Pauline Sukhai, M.P.
 Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P.
 Mr. Khadim Pacchus, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)
 Mr. Samad A. Paksh, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Fomeroun/Sunenaam) (Absent)
 Mr. Harrinarine Palden, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Perbice)
 Mr. Joseph M. DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Parima/Waini)
 Mr. Eugene la Cruz, M.P. (Region No. 9 Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo) (Absent)
 Mr. Paot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)
 Mr. Kum Karan Ramdass, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Mr. Ramratan, M.P. a/k Palkarran (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/
 West Demerara)

Members of the Minority (29)

(i) People's National Congress (26)

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, C.C., M.P., Minority Leader (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Sase Narain, D.P., J.P., M.P.
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent)
 Dr. Patrick I. McKenzie A.A., M.P., Chief Whip
 Ms Clarissa Piehl, M.P.
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. Yinn, M.P.
 Dr. Deryck M.A. Pernerd, M.P.
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Ms Anna Ally, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Ms Jean M.C. Fereico A.A., M.P.
 Mr. Arthur A. Alexander, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
 Mr. Simon H. No-See-Guan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Dunstan Parnow, M.P.
 Mr. Dunstan Parrow, M.P.
 Mr. Reynold Subnauth, M.P.
 Mr. Reynold M. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Guyuni/Mazaruni)
 Ms Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P.
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahmad, M.P.
 Mr. Kenrick Tondall, M.P.
 Mr. Phillip Pynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Perbice)
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Hukumchand, M.P. a/k Farao,
 Ms Joan C. Richards, M.P.
 Ms Gwenneth A. Prouet, 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) (Absent)

(iii) The United Force (1)

Mr. Manzour Madir, M.P.

OFFICERS

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

Mr. Sherlock E. Isaacs, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (Absent - on leave)

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Leave

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

Ms Janet Jagan

Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte

Mr. Sase Narain

Dr. Faith A. Harding

Ms Anna Ally

The Speaker informed Members that the Deputy Clerk was also on leave.

(ii) Fortieth Anniversary of the Establishment of the Parliament Office

The Speaker stated that he had been advised that that day completed 40 years since the Parliament Office was first established as a separate Department with its own Staff to serve Parliament. Prior to that time the services to the Legislature were provided by the Staff of the Colonial Secretary's Office.

Two Officers now on the Staff were there when the Parliament Office was established on 8th April, 1953.

They were:-

(i) Mr. Frank A. Narain, A.F., who was now the Clerk of the National Assembly,

and

(ii) Mr. Kenneth C. King, who was now Serjeant-At-Arms.

Mr. Narain had been at the Parliament Office continuously since its establishment. While Mr. King had also been at the Office at the time of its establishment, he had, however, left on promotion but had subsequently returned.

On behalf of the Members of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker congratulated Mr. Narain and Mr. King on their service and extended best wishes to them for continued service.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry:

Guyana Public Communications Agency (Dissolution and Transfer of Assets) Order 1993 (NO. 5), made under sections 8, 9 and 11 of the Public Corporations Act 1982 (No. 21), on 22nd March, 1993, and published in the Gazette on 2nd April, 1993.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

ITEM 1 - SYMPATHY ON DEATH OF MR. ABDUL MACEIE HAMID

The Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House) moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Mr. Abdul Maccie Hamid and pay tribute to the distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing family and relatives.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie
Dr. Clive Y. Thomas
Mr. Manzoor Nadir

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ITEM 2 - SYMPATHY ON DEATH OF MR. CHANDRA SAMA PERSAUD

The Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Mr. Chandra Sama Persaud and pays tribute to the distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing family and relatives.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie
Dr. Clive Y. Thomas
Mr. Manzoor Nadir
Mr. Winslow M. Zarchy

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ITEM 3 - SYMPATHY ON DEATH OF MR. RANDOLPH EMANUEL CHEEKS

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Mr. Randolph Emanuel Cheeks and pays tribute to the distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing family and relatives.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Robert H.C. Corbin
Dr. Clive Y. Thomas
Mr. Manzoor Nadir

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ITEM 4 - SYMPATHY ON DEATH OF MRS. EDWINA MELVILLE

The Minister in the Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Mrs. Edwina Melville and pays tribute to the distinguished service which she rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to her sorrowing family and relatives.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. John A. Fredericks
Dr. Clive Y. Thomas
Mr. Manzoor Nadir

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

Members then stood in silence for one minute as a mark of respect to the four deceased persons.

PILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 5 - WEIGHTS AND MEASURES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 10/1993
published 24.3.93

The Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry moved the second reading of the following Bill:

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

The motion was put and carried.

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

ITEM 6 - MISCELLANEOUS ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 11/1993
published 24.3.93

The Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry moved the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
certain enactments.

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

The Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry then replied.

Thereafter 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 - FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 12/1993
published 24.3.93

The Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry moved the second reading of the following Bill:

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

The following Members spoke to the motion.

Dr. Kenneth F.S. King

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas

Mr. Manzoor Nadir

Mr. Arthur A. Alexander

The Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House).

The Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry 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 with the following corrections.

Clause 2 - The word "Act" was inserted after the words "Income Tax" in the first line.

Clause 6 - The word "thousand" was inserted between the words "twenty" and "dollars" in the last line.

ITEM 8 - HOTEL ACCOMMODATION TAX BILL 1993 - Bill No. 13/1993
published 24.3.93

The Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry moved the second reading of the following Bill:

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

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Dr. Kenneth F.S. King

Mr. Manzoor Madir

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas

The Senior Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry 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 with the following corrections:

Clause 2 - The word "a" was substituted for the word "an" before the word "hotel" in the third line of paragraph (c).

The word "service" was substituted for the word "services" in the last line of Paragraph (c).

Clause 5 - The word "a" was substituted for the word "an" in the first line of paragraph (a) of subsection (2).

The word "ascribable" was substituted for "ascrivable" in the third line of paragraph (b) of subsection (2).

Clause 9 - The number "65", was inserted after the number "64", in the TABLE.

ITEM 9 - MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 -
Bill No. 14/1993 published 24.3.93

The Senior Minister of Home Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

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

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

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



D.C. JAFAN
Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

8th April, 1993.