

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 14TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1992-1993) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

. . .
AT 2.00 P.M.

ON THURSDAY, 15TH JULY, 1993

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (74)

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. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Senior Minister in the Ministry of Public Works, Communications and Regional Development (Absent - on leave)

*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 B. 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

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Senior Minister of Health (Absent on leave)

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

Ms Janet Jagan, O.E., M.P.

'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. Benn, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent)
 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. Moti Lall, M.P.
 Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.
 Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.
 Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P.
 Ms Pauline Sukhai, M.P. (Absent)
 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)
 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) (Absent)
 Mr. Bagot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)
 Mr. Kum Karan Ramdas, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
 Mr. Ramrattan, 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 (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., M.P.
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P.
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C,C,H, M.P.
 Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Chief Whip
 Ms Clarissa Riehl, M.P.
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. King, M.P.
 Mr. Deryck Bernard, M.P.
 Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.
 Ms Amna 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. Ng-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) (Absent)
 Ms Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P.
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.
 Mr. Phillip Bynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice) (Absent)
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 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. (Absent)
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

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(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas, M.P.

Mr. Matheson Williams, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs) (Absent - on leave)

(iii) The United Force (1)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

OFFICERS

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 Mr. A. Gouveia and Mr. S.H. Ng-See-Quan for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Senior Minister of Finance:

Stores Regulations 1993 (No.6), made under section 5 of the Financial Administration and Audit Act, Chapter 73:01, on 29th June, 1993, and published in the Gazette on 30th June, 1993.

(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 - FIREARMS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 15/1993
published 28.6.93

The Senior Minister of Home Affairs (Government Chief Whip) moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend
the Firearms Act.

Ms A. Ally, Mr. M. Nadir, Dr. C. Thomas and Ms. J. Jagan spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Senior Minister of Home 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.

ITEM 2 - LEGITIMACY (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 16/1993
published 28.6.93

The Senior Minister of Home Affairs (Government Chief Whip) moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled AN ACT to amend
the Legitimacy 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 3 - MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 17/1993
published 28.6.93

The Senior Minister of Home Affairs (Government Chief Whip) moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled AN ACT to amend the
Marriage Act.

Mr. M. Nadir and Ms Ally spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Home 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.

ITEM 4 - UNIVERSITY OF GUYANA (AMENDMENT) BILL 1993 - Bill No. 18/1993
published 28.6.93

The Senior Minister of Education and Cultural Development moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A Bill intituled AN ACT to amend
the University of Guyana Act.

Mr. D. Bernard, Dr. C. Thomas and Mr. M. Nadir spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Education and Cultural Development replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time.

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

In Committee.

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2, page 3: The Senior Minister of Education and Cultural Development moved the following amendments:

Insertion of the following after subparagraph (ix) of paragraph (h) -

"(x) the Guyana Medical Association;

(xi) the University of Guyana Workers Union;"

Substitution of the following for subparagraph (iii) of paragraph (h) -

"(iii) the Committee for International Co-operation in Higher Education of the United Kingdom;"

Insertion of the following after subparagraph (iii) of paragraph (h) -

"(iv) the University of the West Indies.";

The amendments were put and carried.

Clause 2 was then passed as amended.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Senior Minister of Education and Cultural Development, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended in Committee.

ITEM 5 - ADMINISTRATION OF JUSTICE BILL 1993 - Bill No. 19/1993
published 28.6.93

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 Summary Jurisdiction (Petty Debt) Act to extend the civil jurisdiction of Magistrates' Courts.

Mr. S. Narain spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs replied.

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

In Committee

Clause 1 was passed as printed.

Clause 2

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

Deletion of Clause 2.

The amendment was put and carried.

Clause 2 was then deleted.

Clause 3 was consequently re-numbered as clause 2.

Title

The title was amended by the deletion of the words "the High Court Act and".

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Bill was read the third time and passed as amended.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.43 p.m., on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House) the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 16th July, 1993.

Speaker of the National Assembly