

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 55TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1992-1995) OF THE SIXTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON WEDNESDAY, 22ND FEBRUARY, 1995

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

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 (43)

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

* 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. 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

Mrs. Janet Jagan, O.E., 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 (Absent - on leave)

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

* The Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Finance

* Non-elected Member

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, M.P.
 Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.
 Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.
 Mr. Shaik K.Z. Baksh, M.P.
 Mr. Komal Chand, M.P.
 Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, M.P.
 Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.
 Mrs. 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.
 Mrs. Pauline Sukhai, M.P.
 Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P.
 Mr. Reuben A. Gilbert, M.P.
 Mr. Edward DaSilva, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 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 DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
 Mr. Eugene La Cruz, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)
 Mr. Bagot Paul, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
 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
 Mr. Robert H.O. Corbin, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent)
 Dr. Patrick L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Chief Whip
 Mrs. Clarissa Riehl, M.P.
 Dr. Kenneth F.S. King, M.P.
 Mr. Deryck M.A. Bernard, M.P.
 Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P.
 Miss Anna Ally, M.P. (Absent)
 Miss 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.
 Mr. David Subnauth, M.P.
 Mr. Reynold N. David, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
 Mr. M. Idris Deen, M.P.
 Mr. Aftabuddin Ahamad, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.
 Mr. Kenrick Tyndall, M.P.
 Mr. Phillip Bynoe, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
 Mr. Andy Gouveia, M.P. (Absent)
 Mr. Hukumchand, M.P., a/k Parag
 Miss Joan C. Richards, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Miss Gwenneth A. Brouet, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Mr. John A. Fredericks, M.P.
 Mr. Ivan Peters, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
 Mr. Hubert K.H. Hyman, M.P.

(ii) Working People's Alliance (2)

Dr. Clive Y. Thomas, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

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

(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

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave for that sitting had been granted to the following Members:-

Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza,
Mrs. Janet Jagan,
Mr. Edward DaSilva, and
Dr. Clive Y. Thomas.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM 1 - MOTION FOR THE APPROVAL OF THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1995

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1995.

In Committee of Supply

The following Heads and Divisions were approved, as printed in the Estimates:-

Head 46 - Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security	- \$480,376,000
Div. 504 - Ministry of Labour, Human Services and Social Security	- 879,100,000

4.

Head 37 - Ministry of Education and Cultural Development	- \$ 496,976,000
Head 38 - Nursery Schools	73,981,000
Head 39 - Primary Schools	149,750,000
Head 40 - Secondary/Multilateral and Community High Schools	253,350,000
Head 41 - Technical and Vocational Schools	68,655,000
Head 42 - Practical Instruction Centres	23,073,000
Head 43 - Teacher Training Institutions	60,877,000
Head 44 - Resource Centre	38,714,000
Head 45 - Department of Culture	48,892,000
Div. 543 - Ministry of Education	- 1,100,312,000

Assembly resumed.

The Senior Minister of Finance reported to the Assembly that the Committee of Supply had completed consideration of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1995, and had approved of them with an amendment to Head 36. An error of \$12,000,000 in a sub-head was corrected to read \$120,000,000. The total of the Head was therefore amended by the substitution of \$217,195,000 for \$109,195,000.

The Current grand total of \$15,050,333 on the last page of the Schedule to the motion was accordingly amended to read \$15,158,333, and in the resolve clause of the motion, the amount of "thirty billion, six hundred and ninety-three million, two hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars (\$30,693,232,000)" was amended to read "thirty billion, eight hundred and one million, two hundred and thirty-two thousand dollars (\$30,801,232,000)".

The amended motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1995 was then put and carried.

BILL - First, Second and Third Readings

ITEM 2 APPROPRIATION BILL 1995 - Bill No. 5/1995 published 22.2.95

With the leave of the Speaker, and on a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), Standing Orders Nos. 12 and 46 were suspended to enable the Appropriation Bill 1995 to be introduced at this stage and to be further proceeded with at that sitting.

On motions by the Senior Minister of Finance, the following Bill was introduced and was read the first, second and third times and passed as printed:-

/...

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet the expenditure (not otherwise lawfully charged on the Consolidated Fund) of Guyana for the financial year ending 31st December, 1995, estimates whereof have been approved by the National Assembly, and for the appropriation of those sums for specified purposes, in conformity with the Constitution.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 3 - FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1995 - Bill No. 4/1995 published 15.2.95

On a motion by the Senior Minister of Agriculture (Leader of the House), paragraph (3) of Standing Order No. 46 was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed with the second reading of the Fiscal Enactments (Amendment) Bill 1995.

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

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

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Dr. Kenneth F.S. King

Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

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.

MOTION

ITEM 4 - CONFIRMATION OF THE CONSUMPTION TAX (AMENDMENT) ORDER 1995 (No. 3)

The Senior Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in accordance with section 5(1) of the Consumption Tax Act, Chapter 80:02, Confirm the Consumption Tax (Amendment) Order 1995 (No. 3 of 1995), which was made on 6th February, 1995, under section 4 of the Consumption Tax Act, Chapter 80:02, and published in the Gazette on 11th February, 1995.

6.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Manzoor Nadir

Mr. M. Idris Deen

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte.

Thereafter, the Senior Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.42 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.



D.C. JAGAN

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

22nd February, 1995.