

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER
FOR THE 20TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
(1998-1999) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON MONDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 1999
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS FOR SITTING

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

- (ii) **NARCOTICS DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (CONTROL)**
(AMENDMENT) BILL 1999 - Bill No. 2/1999

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Narcotic Drugs
and Psychotropic Substances (Control) Act 1998.

F.A. NARAIN
Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
11th January, 1999

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 20TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1998 - 1999) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON MONDAY, 11TH JANUARY, 1999
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (77)

Speaker (1)

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

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (47)

The Hon. Samuel A. A. Hinds, M.P., Prime Minister

The Hon. Reepu Daman Persaud, O.R., J.P., M.P., Minister of Agriculture and
Parliamentary Affairs

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

The Hon. Bharrat Jagdeo, M.P., Minister of Finance

*The Hon. Charles R. Ramson, S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

*The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth, M.P., Minister of Education

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

*The Hon. Indranie Chandarpal, M.P., Minister of Human Services and Social Security

*The Hon. Clinton C. Collymore, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Local Government

*The Hon. F. Vibert DeSouza, M.P., Minister of Amerindian Affairs

*The Hon. George E. Fung-On, M.P., Minister of the Public Service

*The Hon. Dr. Henry B. Jeffrey, M.P., Minister of Health and Labour

The Hon. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P., Minister of Information

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Minister of Local Government

*The Hon. Satyadeow Sawh, M.P., Minister of Livestock and Fisheries

The Hon. Gail Teixeira, M.P., Minister of Culture, Youth and Sports

*The Hon. C. Anthony Xavier, M.P., Minister of Transport and Hydraulics

*The Hon. Shaik K. Z. Baksh, M.P., Minister of Housing and Water

*The Hon. J. Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

* Non elected Minister

Mr. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Chief Whip

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P.

Mrs. Shirley V. Edwards, J.P., M.P.

Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P.

Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P.

Dr. Moti Lall, C.C.H., M.P.

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, M.P.

Mr. Hari Narayen Ramkarran, S.C., M.P.

Dr. Leslie S. Ramsammy, M.P.

Mr. Lawrence E. Rodney, M.P.

Mrs. Philomena Sahoye-Shury, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.,
Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Local Government

Mrs. Pauline R. Sukhai, M.P.

Mr. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Joseph M. DeSouza, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

Mr. Heeralall Mohan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomereroon/Supenaam)

Mr. Ramratan, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)

Mr. Geoffrey A. Fraser, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)

Mr. Ramsundar Sankat, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)

Mr. Eustace S. Rodrigues, M.S., M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)

Mr. Kumkaran Ramdas, M.P. (National Congress of Local Democratic Organs)

(There is one vacancy)

Members of the Minority (29)

(i) People's National Congress (25)

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P.

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P., Chief Whip

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P.

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P.

Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P.

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P.

Mr. Kadim A. Khan, M.P.

Miss Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P.

Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.

Mr. Andy Goveia, M.P.

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. John S. DeFreitas, M.P.

Mr. Raphael G.C. Trotman, M.P.

Dr. Dalgleish Joseph, M.P.

Mrs. Volda A. Lawrence, M.P.

Mr. Joseph L. Hamilton, M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)

Mr. Sherwood A. J. Lowe, M.P.

Mr. Andrew Hicks, M.P.

Mr. Neaz Subhan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Colin Bynoe, M.P.

Ms Sandra M. Adams, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)

Mr. Kelley Andres, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)

Mr. Thakechand Ramnauth, M.P.

Mr. Aubrey C. Norton, M.P.

(ii) The United Force (2)

Mr. Manzoor Nadir, M.P.

Mr. Matthew R. Charlie, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

(iii) Alliance for Guyana (2)

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Albertino Peters, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)

OFFICERS

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

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

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Sitting commenced at 2.38 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

OATH OF A NEW MEMBER

Hon. Jairam Ronald Gajraj, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Mr. Jairam Ronald Gajraj had been appointed a Minister of the Government and designated Minister of Home Affairs with effect from 8th January, 1999. Although Mr. Gajraj was not an elected Member of the National Assembly he had, by virtue of holding the office of Minister, become a Member of the Assembly, in accordance with article 105 of the Constitution. Before Mr. Gajraj could take part in the proceedings of the Assembly, he would have to make and subscribe the oath before the Assembly, as required by article 167 of the Constitution.

As Mr. Gajraj was present, he made and subscribed the oath which was administered to him by the Clerk.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Welcome and New Year Greetings

As that was the first sitting for the year, the Speaker took the opportunity of welcoming all Members and of extending best wishes to them for 1999.

(ii) Congratulations and Welcome to New Member

The Speaker, on behalf of Members and himself, congratulated Mr. Ronald Gajraj on his appointment as a Minister and on his becoming a Member of the Assembly.

He welcomed Mr. Gajraj to the Assembly and extended best wishes to him.

(iii) Leave

The Speaker announced that leave from that day's sitting had been granted to -

The Hon Clement J. Rohee, and

Mr. Winston S. Murray.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs - Chairman of the Special Select Committee appointed to determine the terms of reference and composition of the Constitution Reform Commission:

Report of the Special Select Committee appointed to determine the terms of reference and composition of the Constitution Reform Commission.

(Circulated) ✓

**MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY
AND MOVED BY A MINISTER-**

Suspension of Standing Order No. 76(5)

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs moved the following motion which was put and carried:-

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 76(5) be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its sitting on Monday, 11th January, 1999, with the motion for the adoption of the Report of the Special Select Committee appointed to determine the terms of reference and composition of the Constitution Reform Commission.

(Notice Paper No. 43 (M18 Govt14) published 6.1.99)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS-

Presentation and First Reading

(1) CONSTITUTION REFORM COMMISSION BILL 1999 - Bill No. 1/1999

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:-

A BILL intituled AN ACT to establish a Constitution Reform Commission and to provide for its membership and terms of reference in accordance with the Caricom Agreement dated 17th January, 1998 and the St. Lucia Statement dated 2nd July, 1998 and for other purposes connected therewith.

**(2) NARCOTIC DRUGS AND PSYCHOTROPIC SUBSTANCES (CONTROL)
(AMENDMENT) BILL 1999 - Bill No. 2/1999**

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:-

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances (Control) Act 1988.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

**ITEM 1 - ADOPTION OF REPORT OF SPECIAL SELECT COMMITTEE RE
CONSTITUTION REFORM COMMISSION**

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Report of the Special Select Committee appointed to determine the terms of reference and composition of the Constitution Reform Commission be adopted.

(Notice Paper No. 44 (M19 Govt15) published 6.1.99)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mrs Clarissa Riehl

Mr. Manzoor Nadir.

Thereafter, the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

ITEM 2 - SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(2) AND (3)

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs moved the following motion which was put and carried:-

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 46(2) and (3) be suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed at its sitting on Monday, 11th January, 1999, with the second reading and the remaining stages of the Constitution Reform Commission Bill 1999.

(Notice Paper No. 45 (M20 Govt 16) published 6.1.99)

BILLS - Second Reading

ITEM 3 - CONSTITUTION REFORM COMMISSION BILL 1999 - Bill No. 1/1999

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to establish a Constitution Reform Commission and to provide for its membership and terms of reference in accordance with the Caricom Agreement dated 17th January, 1998 and the St. Lucia Statement dated 2nd July, 1998 and for other purposes connected therewith.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 3.56 p.m, the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

CONSTITUTION REFORM COMMISSION BILL 1999 - Bill No. 1/1999

Assembly resumed the debate on the motion for the second reading of the Constitution Reform Commission Bill 1999.

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. E. Lance Carberry
Mr. Manzoor Nadir
Mr. Odinga Lumumba
The Minister of Information
Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte
Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos.

Thereafter, the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary 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 5.52 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



Derek C. Jagan
Speaker of the National Assembly

**PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.**

11th January, 1999.