

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER
FOR THE 38TH 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, 6TH DECEMBER, 1999
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS FOR SITTING

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS -

Presentation and First Reading

FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1999 - BILL No. 18/1999

The Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Income Tax
(In Aid of Industry) Act and the Property Tax Act.

F.A. NARAIN
Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown
6th December, 1999

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 38th 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, 6th DECEMBER, 1999
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (78)

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 (48)

Mr. 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

*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 (Absent- on leave)

*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 (Absent - on leave)

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

The Hon. Harripersaud Nokta, M.P., Minister of Local Government (Absent-on leave)

*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 (Absent)

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

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

*The Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar, M.P., Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility
for Finance

*The Hon. Geoffrey Da Silva, M.P., Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry (Absent - on leave)

*Non elected Minister

2.

Mr. S. Feroze Mohamed, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent)

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, M.P.

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Fazil M. Ali, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, M.P.

Mr. M. Shree Chan, M.P.

Mr. Komal Chand, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

Mr. Navindranauth O. Chandarpal, M.P.

Mr. Bernard C. DeSantos, S.C., M.P. (Absent)

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

Dr. Hughley H. Hanoman, M.P., (Absent)

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. (Absent)

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.

Dr. Bheri Ramsaran, M.P. (Absent)

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

Mr. Heeralall Mohan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/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)(Absent)

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

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., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P.

Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P. (Absent)

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. Kadim A. Khan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

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

Mrs. Cyrilda A. DeJesus, M.P.

Mr. Andy Goveia, M.P. (Absent)

Mrs. Deborah J. Backer, M.P.

Mr. John S. DeFreitas, M.P.

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

Dr. Dagleish Joseph, M.D., 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)

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. (Absent - on leave)

4.

(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.

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

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 2.05 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

OATHS

The Speaker stated that he was informed that, on 23rd November, 1999, the President had appointed -

Mr. Saisnarine Kowlessar, as Minister
in the Office of the President with
responsibility for Finance,

and

Mr. Geoffrey Da Silva, as Minister of
Trade, Tourism and Industry.

These two persons were not elected Members of the National Assembly but, by virtue of holding the Office of Minister, they had, in accordance with article 105 of the Constitution, become Members of the Assembly.

They, however, could not vote in the Assembly.

Before they could take part in the proceedings of the Assembly, they would have to make and subscribe the oath.

Mr. Da Silva was unable to be present and had asked to be excused from the sitting.

Mr. Kowlessar who was present made and subscribed the oath.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER**(i) Congratulations and Welcome to new Minister**

On behalf of Members of the Assembly and himself, the Speaker congratulated the Hon. Saisnarine Kowlessar on his appointment as a Minister.

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

(ii) Resignation of Mr. M. Shree Chan as a Minister

The Speaker informed the Assembly that Mr. Michael Shree Chan had resigned as a Minister with effect from 22nd November, 1999. As Mr. Shree Chan was an elected Member of the National Assembly, he had continued to be a Member of the Assembly.

(iii) Leave

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

the Hon. Dr. Ramnauth Bisnauth,

the Hon. Dr. Henry Jeffrey,

the Hon. Harripersaud Nokta,

Mr. Winston Murray,

Mr. Ivor Allen,

Mr. Kadim Khan,

Miss Volda Lawrence, and

Mr. Aubrey Norton.

Ruling on matter raised by Mr. H.D. Hoyte on Point of Order

The Speaker stated that at the last sitting of the Assembly, on 11th November, 1999, Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte had raised, on a point of order, a matter concerning the presentation to the Assembly of an Order made by the Minister of Finance.

The matter had been, with the agreement of the Assembly, deferred for consideration.

As a Minister had since been appointed and assigned responsibility for Finance, a ruling on the matter was no longer necessary. The Speaker said that the Order could now properly be laid in the Assembly.

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

Beal Aerospace Technologies Inc.

The Prime Minister made a statement on the activities in Guyana of the Beal Aerospace Technologies Inc. of the U.S.A.

**REQUESTS FOR LEAVE TO MOVE THE ADJOURNMENT OF THE ASSEMBLY
ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE -**

Beal Aerospace Technologies Inc.

A request by Mr. E. Lance Carberry to move the adjournment of the Assembly to discuss the activities in Guyana of Beal Aerospace Technologies Inc., was not allowed by the Speaker as the matter did not qualify.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS -

Presentation and First Reading

FISCAL ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1999 - BILL No. 18/1999

The Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for 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
(In Aid of Industry) Act and the Property Tax Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESS**MOTIONS****ITEM 1- ESTABLISHMENT OF OVERSIGHT COMMITTEE
RE CONSTITUTIONAL REFORM**

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

WHEREAS the National Assembly of the Parliament of Guyana, on 9th August, 1999, approved of the establishment of a Special Select Committee to consider the Report of the Constitution Reform Commission;

AND WHEREAS the Special Select Committee presented its Report to the National Assembly on 11th November, 1999:

BE IT RESOLVED:

- That this National Assembly of the Parliament of Guyana -
- Express its thanks to the Special Select Committee for its Report, and
 - Adopt the Report of the Committee;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED:

- That the Government, in consultation with the Political Parties represented in the National Assembly, and with civil society as necessary, establish forthwith an **Oversight Committee** with appropriate Terms of Reference and Authority, that is charged with the responsibilities of:

Preparing for the approval of the Assembly, a time-bound plan for the drafting of Constitutional Revision;

Overseeing and guiding the implementation of the Recommendations of the Report of the Special Select Committee; and

Submitting written monthly progress reports to the Assembly, the first such report being made not later than 31st December, 1999;

8.

- That the **Oversight Committee** be required to give priority to the establishment and functioning of separate **Task Forces** mandated to pursue, in accordance with the target dates of the Herdmanston Accord, the implementation of the recommendations pertaining to:

Reform of the Electoral System; and
Establishment of the Ethnic Relations Commission.

(Notice Paper No. 70 (M29 Govt 25) publish 30.11.99)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. E. Lance Carberry

Mr. Manzoor Nadir

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine.

Thereafter, the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs replied.

The motion was then **put** and **carried**.

ITEM 2 - RATIFICATION OF PROTOCOL III WHICH AMENDS THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

The Minister of Foreign Affairs moved the following motion:

WHEREAS Protocol III amending the Treaty Establishing the Caribbean Community signed at Chaguaramas on 4th July 1973 was signed by ten Heads of Government at the Nineteenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community which was held in Castries, St. Lucia during the period 30 June - 4 July, 1998;

AND WHEREAS the said Protocol III was signed by Her Excellency Janet Jagan, the President of Guyana on behalf of the Government of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS the said Protocol provides for an Industrial Policy within the Community within the context of the Single Market and Economy;

9.

AND WHEREAS Protocol III amending the Treaty establishing the Caribbean Community has as its primary goal the achievement of an export-led, internationally competitive sustainable production of goods services in Members States, and which will maximize employment and consumer welfare;

AND WHEREAS Guyana remains committed to the established goals and objectives of the Caribbean Community in this new era of globalisation;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly hereby agrees to the Secretary General of the Caribbean Community being informed of Guyana's intention to ratify the said Protocol III and for Guyana to formally ratify the said Protocol III by the deposit of an appropriate Instrument of Ratification.

(Notice Paper No. 65 (M24 Govt 20) published 22.7.99).

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mrs. Clarissa Riehl

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine.

Thereafter, the Minister of Foreign Affairs replied.

The motion was then **put** and **carried**.

ITEM 3 - RATIFICATION OF PROTOCOL V WHICH AMENDS THE TREATY ESTABLISHING THE CARIBBEAN COMMUNITY

The Minister of Foreign Affairs moved the following motion:

WHEREAS Protocol V amending the Treaty Establishing the Caribbean Community signed at Chaguaramas on 4th July 1973 was signed by ten Heads of Government at the Nineteenth Meeting of the Conference of Heads of Government of the Caribbean Community which was held in Castries, St. Lucia during the period 30 June - 4 July, 1998;

10.

AND WHEREAS the said Protocol V was signed by Her Excellency Janet Jagan, the President of Guyana on behalf of the Government of Guyana;

AND WHEREAS the said Protocol provides for an Agricultural Policy within the CARICOM Single Market and Economy (CSME), which the Caribbean Community is in the process of establishing;

AND WHEREAS Protocol V amending the treaty establishing the Caribbean Community seeks to establish and implement an agricultural policy designed to achieve structural transformation of the agricultural sector in Member States based on efficient, diversified, internationally competitive, sustainable and environmental-friendly development;

AND WHEREAS Guyana remains committed to the established goals and objectives of the Caribbean Community in this new era of globalisation;

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly hereby agrees to the Secretary General of the Caribbean Community being informed of Guyana's intention to ratify the said Protocol V and for Guyana to formally ratify the said Protocol V by the deposit of an appropriate instrument of Ratification.

(Notice Paper No. 67 (M26 Govt 22) published 29.7.99)

The motion was **put** and **carried**.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.42 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.


D.C. JAGAN

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

6th December, 1999.