

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
SUPPLEMENTARY ORDER PAPER

FOR THE 60TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST SESSION
(1998-2000) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA TO BE HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON FRIDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 2000

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

SUPPLEMENTARY BUSINESS FOR SITTING

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance:

Consumption Tax (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 2000.

(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2000 - Bill No. 17/2000

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, on behalf of the Government, to present the following Bill:

A BILL Intituled AN ACT to amend
the Representation of the People Act
to prohibit any person or political
party from causing racial or ethnic
violence or hatred.

F.A. NARAIN
Clerk of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

15th December, 2000

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS
OF THE 60TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST
SESSION (1998-2000) OF THE SEVENTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD
AT 2.00 P.M.
ON FRIDAY, 15TH DECEMBER, 2000
IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (75)

Members of the Government - People's Progressive Party/Civic (46)

Speaker (1)

The Hon. Winslow M. Zephyr, M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

Other Members (45)

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)

*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 (Absent)

*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. 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 (Absent - on leave)

*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 DaSilva, M.P., Minister of Trade, Tourism and Industry (Absent)

*Non elected Minister

/...2

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

Mr. Cyril C. Belgrave, C.C.H., M.P.

Mr. Donald Ramotar, M.P.

Mr. Husman Alli, 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.

Mr. Alston A. Kissoon, M.P.

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

Mr. Odinga N. Lumumba, M.P.

Mr. Moses V. Nagamootoo, J.P., M.P.

Mr. Khemraj Ramjattan, 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.

Dr. Bheri Ramsaran, M.P.

Mrs. Bijulee Moti, M.P.

Mr. B.H. Robeson Benn, M.P. (Absent)

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

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

Members of the Opposition (29)

(i) People's National Congress (25)

Mr. H. Desmond Hoyte, S.C., M.P. Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P.

Mr. Dunstan Barrow, M.P., Chief Whip (Absent - on leave)

Mrs. Clarissa S. Riehl, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

Mr. E. Lance Carberry, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

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

Mr. Ivor Allen, M.P.

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 Gouveia, M.P.

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.

Miss 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)

(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) (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 2.00 p.m.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to-

The Hon. Rev. Dr. Ramnauth D.A. Bisnauth,

The Hon. Anthony Xavier, and

Mr. Dunstan Barrow, for that day's sitting, and

Mr. E. Lance Carberry up to 21st January, 2001.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance:

Consumption Tax (Amendment) (No. 3) Order 2000.

(Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL 2000 - Bill No. 17/2000

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 amend
the Representation of the People Act
to prohibit any person or political
party from causing racial or ethnic
violence or hatred.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION

ITEM 1 - CONSIDERATION OF FINANCIAL PAPER No. 5/2000

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

The Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance signified the recommendation of the Cabinet and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 5/2000 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totalling \$915,064,485, for the period ended 24th November, 2000 - Advances made from the Contingencies Fund.

(Paper presented on 2000-12-11)

After consideration of the Schedule, the motion was put and carried.

6.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister in the Office of the President with responsibility for Finance, the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:-

RESOLVED, That this Assembly agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

“RESOLVED:

That this Assembly approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 5/2000 - Supplementary Estimates (Current and Capital) totally \$915,064,485, for the period ended 24th November, 2000 - Advances made from the Contingencies Fund.”

BILL - Committee and Third Reading

**ITEM 2 - ETHNIC RELATIONS COMMISSION TRIBUNAL BILL 2000 -
Bill No. 15/2000 published 2000-12-05**

Assembly resolved itself into Committee to consider the following Bill:

A BILL Intituled AN ACT to provide for
the establishment of the Ethnic Relations
Commission Tribunal and for matters
connected therewith and incidental
thereto.

(Read the first and second times on 2000-12-11)

In Committee

Clauses 1 and 2 were passed as printed.

Clause 3

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine moved the following amendment:

Substitution of the words “Judicial Service Commission” for the words “Public Service Commission” in paragraph (b) of subsection (1).

Mr. Nagamootoo moved the following amendment:

Substitution of the following for subsection (4):

“(4) The President on the advice of the Judicial Service Commission shall by notice in writing, remove from office the Chairman of the Tribunal for inability to perform the functions of his office, whether arising from infirmity of mind and body, or for misbehaviour or on the ground of any employment or interest which is incompatible with the functions of the Tribunal, and this provision shall mutatis mutandis apply to the removal of any of the two other members by the President on the advice of the Public Service Commission.”

The amendment by Dr. Roopnaraine was put and negatived on the following division:

| <u>FOR</u> | <u>AGAINST</u> |
|--|---|
| Dr. Roopnaraine | Mr. Ramdas Mr. Rodrigues Mr. Sankat Mr. Fraser Mr. Ramratan Mr. Mohan Mr. DeSouza |
| Mr. Nadir | Mrs. Moti Dr. Ramsaran Mrs. Sukhai Mrs. Sahoye-Shury Mr. Rodney Dr. Ramsammy Mr. Ramjattan Mr. Nagamootoo Mr. Lumumba Dr. Lall Mr. Kisson Mrs. Edwards Mrs. Backer Mr. Chandarpal Mr. Chand Mr. Alli Mr. Ramotar Mr. Belgrave Mr. Mohamed Miss Teixeira Mr. Nokta |
| Mr. Ramnauth Mr. Andres Ms Adams Mr. Bynoe | Mr. Collymore Mrs. Chandarpal |
| Mr. Hicks Mr. Lowe Mr. Hamilton Mrs. Lawrence Dr. Joseph Mr. Trotman Mr. DeFreitas | Mr. Persaud Mr. Hinds |
| Mr. Goveia Mrs. DeJesus Miss Persico | |
| Mr. Allen | |
| Mrs. Riehl | |
| Mr. Murray Mr. Hoyte | |

The amendment by Mr. Nagamootoo was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m., the Sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.37 p.m., the Sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee and resumed consideration of the Ethnic Relations Commission Tribunal Bill 2000.

In Committee

Clause 3 was put and carried as amended.

Clauses 4 to 24 and the Schedule were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the Ethnic Relations Commission Tribunal Bill was read the third time and passed as amended.

BILLS - Second Reading, Committee and Third Reading
ITEM 3 - CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) (No. 4) BILL 2000 - Bill No. 14/2000
published 2000-12-05

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

A BILL Intituled AN ACT to alter
the Constitution in accordance
with articles 66 and 164.
(Read a first time on 2000-12-11)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mrs. Deborah Backer
Mr. Manzoor Nadir
Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine
Mr. Moses Nagamootoo.

Thereafter, the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs replied.

The motion was then put and was supported by the votes of the following forty-nine (49) of the sixty-five (65) elected Members of the Assembly:

| | |
|-----------------|-----------------------|
| Dr. Roopnaraine | Mr. Ramdas |
| | Mr. Rodrigues |
| | Mr. Sankat |
| Mr. Charlie | Mr. Fraser |
| | Mr. Ramratan |
| | Mr. DeSouza |
| Mr. Ramnauth | Mrs. Moti |
| | Dr. Ramsaran |
| Ms Adams | Mrs. Sukhai |
| Mr. Bynoe | Mrs. Sahoye-Shury |
| | Mr. Rodney |
| Mr. Hicks | Dr. Ramsammy |
| | Mr. Ramjattan |
| Mr. Hamilton | Mr. Nagamootoo |
| Mrs. Lawrence | Mr. Lumumba |
| Dr. Joseph | Dr. Lall |
| Mr. Trotman | Mr. Kissoon |
| Mr. DeFreitas | Mrs. Edwards |
| Mrs. Backer | Mr. Chandarpal |
| Mr. Goveia | Mr. Chand |
| Mrs. DeJesus | Mr. Alli |
| Miss Persico | Mr. Ramotar |
| Mr. Allen | Mr. Belgrave |
| | Mr. Mohamed |
| | Miss Teixeira |
| | Mr. Nokta |
| Mrs. Riehl | Mr. Collymore |
| Mr. Murray | Mrs. Chandarpal |
| Mr. Hoyte | Mr. Persaud |
| | Mr. Hinds |
| Total | <hr/> 49 <hr/> |

The Bill was read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clauses 1 to 3 were passed as printed.

Clause 4

The following amendment by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs was put and carried:

Re-numbering of Clause 4 as subsection (1) and insertion of the following as subsection (2).

“(2) Paragraph (3) of article 103 shall not affect or apply to any appointment made before the commencement of the said paragraph.”

Clause 4 was passed as amended.

Clauses 5 to 12 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

The Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs reported and moved the third reading of the Bill.

The motion was put and at the final voting in the Assembly, the Bill was supported by the votes of the following forty-eight (48) elected Members of the Assembly, i.e., by more than two-thirds of all sixty-five (65) elected Members of the Assembly:

| | |
|-----------------|-------------------|
| Dr. Roopnaraine | Mr. Ramdas |
| | Mr. Rodrigues |
| | Mr. Sankat |
| Mr. Charlie | Mr. Fraser |
| | Mr. Ramratan |
| | Mr. DeSouza |
| Mr. Ramnauth | Mrs. Moti |
| | Dr. Ramsaran |
| Ms Adams | Mrs. Sukhai |
| Mr. Bynoe | Mrs. Sahoye-Shury |
| | Mr. Rodney |
| Mr. Hicks | Dr. Ramsammy |
| | Mr. Ramjattan |
| Mr. Hamilton | Mr. Nagamootoo |
| Mrs. Lawrence | Mr. Lumumba |
| Dr. Joseph | Dr. Lall |
| Mr. Trotman | Mr. Kissoon |
| | Mrs. Edwards |
| Mrs. Backer | Mr. Chandarpal |
| Mr. Goveia | Mr. Chand |
| Mrs. DeJesus | Mr. Alli |
| Miss Persico | Mr. Ramotar |
| | Mr. Belgrave |

Mr. Allen

Mrs. Riehl

Mr. Murray

Mr. Hoyte

Mr. Mohamed

Miss Teixeira

Mr. Nokta

Mr. Collymore

Mrs. Chandarpal

Mr. Persaud

Mr. Hinds

Total**48**

ITEM 4- LOCAL AUTHORITIES (ELECTIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 2000 -
Bill No. 16/2000 published 2000-12-05

The Minister of Local Government moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL Intituled AN ACT to amend the Local Authorities (Elections) Act to provide for the postponement of elections of councillors of local democratic organs.

(Read a first time on 2000-12-11)

The following Members spoke to the motion:

Mr. Joseph Hamilton

Dr. Rupert Roopnaraine

The Minister in the Ministry of Local Government.

Thereafter, the Minister of Local Government 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

The following amendment by Mr. Raphael Trotman was put and negatived.

Insertion of the following proviso at the end of clause 2.

“Provided that nothing hereby enacted shall prevent the election of the Mayor and Deputy Mayor and Chairman or Chairperson or Deputy Chairman or Deputy Chairperson in every year as contemplated and provided by sections 9 to 15 of the Municipal and District Councils Act, Chapter 28:01 or any other law.”


Clause 2 was passed as printed.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Local Government, the Bill was read the third time and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.38 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Agriculture and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.


W.M. ZEPHYR

Speaker of the National Assembly

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

15th December, 2000.