

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY.

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 53RD SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD
SESSION (1983-1985) OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 14:00 hrs

ON THURSDAY 1985-10-17

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN.

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73).

Cde. Oscar Clarke, M.P. - In the Chair

Speaker (1)

*Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent)

Members of the Government - People's National Congress (60).

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. H. Green, M.P., Prime Minister (Absent - Performing the functions of Office of
the President)

Other Vice-President and First Deputy Prime Minister (1)

*Cde. Dr. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., M.P., Vice-President, First Deputy
Prime Minister and Attorney General (Absent - on leave)

Other Vice-Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

Cde. R. Chandisingh, M.P., Vice-President, National Development and
Deputy Prime Minister (Absent - on leave)

*Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., M.P., Vice-President, Social Development
and Deputy Prime Minister

Other Deputy Prime Minister (1)

*Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Planning (Absent - on
leave)

Senior Ministers (10)

*Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs (Absent - on leave)

Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of National Mobilisation

Cde. H. Rashid, M.P., Minister of Energy and Mines (Absent - on leave)

*Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance (Absent - on leave)

Cde. Sallahuddin, M.P., Minister of Forestry

Cde. Dr. R.A. Van West-Charles, M.P., Minister of Health and
Public Welfare

*Cde. M.L. Parris, M.P., Minister of Education (Absent - on leave)

Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of Transport (Absent - on leave)

Cde. Yvonne Harewood-Denn, M.P., Minister of Information and
the Public Service

Ministers (4)

Cde. U.E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of
National Development

Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P., Minister of Manpower and Co-operatives

Cde. R.C. Fredericks, A.A., M.P., Minister of Youth and Sport within
the Ministry of Education

*Cde. Dr. S.P. Da Silva, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of
Agriculture

*Non-elected Member

Ministers of State (3)

- Cde. M. Corrica, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection
- Cde. H.L.B. Singh, M.S., M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Regional Development (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Education

Parliamentary Secretaries (2)

- Cde. Agnes W. Bend-Kirton-Holder, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Housing within the Ministry of Health and Public Welfare
- Cde. B. Bhaggan, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, National Development

Government Chief Whip (1)

- Cde. Bidiawattie Tiwari, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Other Members (23)

- Cde. D.E. Clarke, M.P.
- Cde. R.E. Williams, M.P.
- Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. J.B. Caldeira, M.P.
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. M. Ally, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. M. Armogan, M.S., J.P., M.P.
- Cde. Bissoondai Deniprashad, M.P.
- Cde. A.A. Chin, M.P.
- Cde. Elaine Davidson, M.P.
- Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
- Cde. A.B. Felix, M.P.
- Cde. Patricia Fredericks, M.P.
- Cde. E.F. Gilbert, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. A. Mc Rae, M.P. (Absent)
- Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, M.P.
- Cde. R.N. Primo, M.P.
- Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P.
- Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
- Cde. Y. Khan, M.P.

Members from the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs (2)

- Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
- Cde. Bhagmatee Latchminarayan, M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

- Cde. Dianne Abraham, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)
- Cde. W. Bipat, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
- Cde. Nellie R. Charles, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni) (Absent)
- Cde. I. Chowritmootoo, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
- Cde. D. Hinds, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
- Cde. K.V. Jairam, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)
- Cde. K.W. Jones, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
- Cde. H.I. London, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
- Cde. Cora Singh, M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
- (Vacant) (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu Essequibo)

Members of the Minority (12)

(i) People's Progressive Party (10)

Minority Leader (1)

Cde. Dr. C. Jagan, M.P., Minority Leader (Absent)

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Ram Karran, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Absent - on leave)

Other Members (8)

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Minority Chief Whip

Cde. N. Persaud, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P.

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. I. Basir, M.P. (Absent)

Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.

Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

Mr. M.A. Abraham, M.P.

OFFICERS

Cde. F.A. Narain, A.A., Clerk of the National Assembly

Cde. M.B. Henry, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

ELECTION OF PRESIDING MEMBER

The Clerk informed the Assembly that as both the Speaker and the Deputy Speaker were unavoidably absent, it was necessary for the Assembly to elect a Member of the Assembly, not being a Minister or a Parliamentary Secretary, to preside at that sitting.

On a nomination by the Minister of Home Affairs, seconded by Cde. Tiwari, Cde. O.E. Clarke was elected as the Member to preside at the sitting.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Thanks to Assembly

The presiding Member thanked the Assembly for electing him to preside over the proceedings for that day and sought the co-operation of Members in enabling him in disposing of the business with expedition, although the sitting was anticipated to be a short one.

(ii) Congratulations to Prime Minister

The Presiding Member informed the Assembly that following the departure from Guyana of the President, for the Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting in Bahamas, the Prime Minister, Cde. Hamilton Green was performing the functions of the Office of President. On behalf of Members and his own, he extended congratulations and best wishes to Cde. Green.

(iii) Leave

The Presiding Member announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Shahabuddeen, Chandisingh, Haslyn Parris, Jackson, Rashid, Greenidge, Malcolm Parris, Prashad, H.L.B. Singh, Ally, Gilbert, Bishop, Latchminarayan and Mr. M.F. Singh for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

(1) By the Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Prime Minister:

- (i) State Lands (Amendment) Regulations 1985 (No. 6), made under section 17 of the State Lands Act, Chapter 62:01, on 5th August, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 10th August, 1985.

(A: 16/5/13)(Circulated)

- (ii) Lands Department Order 1985 (No. 52), made under section 14 of the Lands Department Act, Chapter 59:01, on 5th August, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 10th August, 1985.

(A: 16/5/13)(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Home Affairs

Annual Reports (6) of the Guyana Fire Service for the years 1978 to 1983.

(HA: 1/1/2/2)(Circulated)

(3) By the Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) (Designation) Order 1985 (No. 45), made under section 2 of the Pensions (President, Parliamentary and Special Offices) Act, Chapter 27:03, on 9th July, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 20th July, 1985.

(ST: D509/1)(Circulated)

- (ii) State Pensions (Maude Braithwaite) Order 1985 (No. 46), made under section 4 of the State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on 9th July, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 20th July, 1985.

(ST: 4/24^{II})(Circulated)

- (iii) State Pensions (Joseph Titus Bishop) Order 1985 (No. 47), made under section 4 of the State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on 9th July, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 20th July, 1985.

(ST: 4/24^{II})(Circulated)

- (iv) State Pensions (May Clementine Rodrigues) Order 1985 (No. 48), made under section 4 of the State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on 9th July, 1985 and published in the Gazette on 20th July, 1985.
(ST: 4/24^{II})(Circulated)
- (v) State Pensions (Rosamund Semple) Order 1985 (No. 49), made under section 4 of the State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on 9th July, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 20th July, 1985.
(ST: 4/24^{II})(Circulated)
- (vi) State Pensions (Gladys Davidson) Order 1985 (No. 50), made under section 4 of State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on 9th July, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 20th July, 1985.
(ST: 4/24^{II})(Circulated)
- (vii) Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Order 1985 (No. 51), made under section 5 of the Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Act, Chapter 27:11, on 13th July, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 27th July, 1985.
(ST: 5/0^{III})(Circulated)
- (viii) National Insurance and Social Security (Determination of Claims and Questions) (Amendment) Regulations 1985 (No. 7), made under sections 20, 38, 39 and 51 of the National Insurance and Social Security Act, Chapter 36:01, on 7th June, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 17th August, 1985.
(ST: 1/8/0)(Circulated)
- (ix) Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1985 (No. 56), made under section 8 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, on 26th September, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 28th September, 1985.
(ST: 34/2/1/14)(Circulated)
- (x) Land Bonds Regulations 1985 (No. 9), made under section 13 of the Land Bonds Act, Chapter 62:07, on 19th August, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 7th September, 1985.
(G: 22^{IX})(Circulated)
- (xi) Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 2) Order 1985 (No. 56), made under section 8 of the Customs Act, Chapter 82:01, on 26th September, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 28th September, 1985.
(ST: 34/2/1/14)(Circulated)

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- (4) By The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Minister of Transport:

Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic (Amendment) Regulations 1985 (No. 10), made under section 103 of the Motor Vehicles and Road Traffic Act, Chapter 51:02, on 23rd September, 1985, and published in the Gazette on 28th September, 1985.

(MT: 2/3/3)(Circulated)

- (5) By the Minister of Manpower and Co-operatives:

Conventions and Recommendations adopted at the 69th and 70th Sessions of the International Labour Conference held in Geneva in June, 1983 and June, 1984, respectively (State Paper No. 2/1985).

(L: 23/7/35)(Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

No. 15 - Construction, Installation and Production at Guyana Glass Works Ltd., Boot and Shoe Factory, Bicycle Factory and Leather Craft Ltd.

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, on behalf of Cde. N. Persaud asked the Prime Minister the following question:

QUESTION: (i) Will the Prime Minister state whether all work pertaining to the construction and installation of the Guyana Glass Works Limited, has been completed?

(ii) If the answer is in the affirmative, will the Prime Minister state -

(a) How long ago such work has been completed?

(b) What is preventing the glass factory from going into operation?

(c) What is the total cost for construction, equipment, etc?

(d) How much is the total foreign loan and what are the terms of such loans?

(iii) If the answer to Question (i) above is in the negative, will the Prime Minister state when he expects the construction work, installation of equipment, etc., to be completed?

(iv) Will the Prime Minister further state what the present position is as regards production at -

(a) the Boot and Shoe Factory?

(b) the Bicycle Factory?

(c) the Leather Tannery?

(Notice Paper No. 81 published 1985-05-23)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading

- (1) RICE (REGULATION OF MANUFACTURING AND MARKETING) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 14/1985 published 1985-10-12

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Prime Minister, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Rice (Regulation of Manufacturing and Marketing) Act 1985.

The Minister of Home Affairs, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bills which were read the first time:-

- (2) NATIONAL SECURITY (MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS) (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 11/1985 published 1985-10-12

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the National Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act.

- (3) MARRIAGE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 12/1985 published 1985-10-12

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Marriage Act and to repeal certain provisions of the Indian Labour Act.

- (4) REPRESENTATION OF THE PEOPLE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 15/1985 published 1985-10-12

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Representation of the People Act.

- (5) MISCELLANEOUS ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 17/1985 to be published

A Bill intituled An Act to amend certain enactments.

- (6) INTOXICATING LIQUOR LICENSING (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 16/1985 to be published

The Minister of Home Affairs on behalf of the Minister of Finance, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Intoxicating Liquor Licensing Act.

- (7) LOCAL DEMOCRATIC ORGANS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1985 - Bill No. 13/1985 published 1985-10-12

The Minister of National Mobilisation, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the Local Democratic Organs Act 1980.

ADJOURNMENT

At 14:22 hrs, on a motion by the Minister of Home Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



O.E. Clarke
Presiding Member