

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 1ST SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FIRST  
SESSION (1986) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 14:00 HRS

ON MONDAY 1986-02-03

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

Speaker (1)

\*Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., M.P., Speaker of the National Assembly

Members of the Government      People's National Congress (61)

Ministers in the Cabinet (10)

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. H. Green, M.P., Prime Minister

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

Other Vice-Presidents and Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

Cde. R. Chandisingh, M.P., Vice-President, National Mobilisation, and Deputy Prime Minister

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

Other Deputy Prime Ministers (2)

Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Planning and Development

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Agriculture

Senior Ministers (4)

Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

\*Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance

Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of Transport

\*Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Minister of Trade (Absent - on leave)

Other Ministers (11)

Senior Ministers (3)

Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment

Cde. Dr. R.A. Van West-Charles, M.P., Minister of Health (Absent - on leave)

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

Ministers (4)

Cde. Uemia E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of National Mobilisation

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

Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Minister within the Office of the President

\*Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Education

\*Non-elected Member

Ministers of State (4)

- \*Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Manpower, Housing and Environment
- Cde. J.T. Kisson, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Forestry
- \*Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of Planning and Development

Parliamentary Secretaries (3)

- Cde. A.K. Habibulla, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the President
- Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Home Affairs
- \*Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Education

Government Chief Whip (1)

- Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Other Members (24)

- Cde. R.E. Williams, M.P.
- Cde. Agnes W. Bend-Kirton-Holder, M.P.
- Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
- Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.
- Cde. M. Ally, M.P.
- Cde. Bissoondai Beniprashad-Rayman, M.P.
- Cde. Elaine B. Davidson, M.P.
- Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
- Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
- Cde. Anna Ally, M.P.
- Cde. L.R. Arthur, M.P.
- Cde. J.R.L. Bovell-Drakes, M.P.
- Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.
- Cde. G.W. Chin, J.P., M.P.
- Cde. F.M. Cumberbatch, M.P.
- Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.
- Cde. Cyralda A. DeJesus, M.P.
- Cde. Edith Deygo, M.P.
- Cde. Clarice A. Edwards, M.P.
- Cde. C.L. Geddes, M.P.
- Cde. G. Marshall, M.P.
- Cde. B. Persaud, M.P.
- Cde. E.W. Trotman, M.P.

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

- Cde. E. Mohamed, M.P.
- Cde. Rose I. Somple, M.P.

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

- Cde. Nellie R. Charles, M.P. (Region No. 7 - Cuyuni/Mazaruni)
- Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P. (Region No. 4 - Demerara/Mahaica)
- Cde. Bhagwatee Latchminarayan, M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
- Cde. Y. Khan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supenaam)
- Cde. Enid E. Abrahams, M.S., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Islands/West Demerara)
- Cde. I. Ally, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
- Cde. Patricia Daniel, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
- Cde. B.L. Domingo, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)
- Cde. S.I. McGarrell, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni)
- Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)

Members of the Minority (11)

(i) People's Progressive Party (8)

Minority Leader (1)

Cde. Dr. C. Jagan, M.P., Minority Leader

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P.

Other Members (6)

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

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.

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

Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.

Cde. I. Basir, M.P.

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

(ii) United Force (2)

Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.

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

(iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

Mr. E. Kwayana, M.P.

OFFICERS

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

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

PROCLAMATION SUMMONING THE SESSION OF PARLIAMENT

The Clerk read the Proclamation which was made by the President on 1986-01-07 and published in the Gazette on 1986-01-11, appointing the Parliament Chamber, Public Buildings, Georgetown, Guyana, as the place where a Session of the Fifth Parliament shall be held and 2 o'clock in the afternoon on 3rd February, 1986, as the time when such Session shall begin.

ROLL CALL

The Clerk called the names of those persons who became Members of the National Assembly.

(i) Members (53) who, following the general elections on 9th December, 1985, were declared on 24th December, 1985, by the Elections Commission, to be elected Members of the National Assembly and whose names were published in the Gazette on 27th December, 1985:

People's National Congress (42)

Hamilton Green

Anna Ally

Mohamed Ally

Lennox Arthur

Agnes Bend-Kinton-Holder

Bissoondai Beniprashad  
James Bovell-Drakes  
Viola Burnham  
Neville Calistro  
Ranji Chandisingh  
Ginewing Chin  
Robert Corbin  
Mortimer Cumberbatch  
'Elaine Davidson  
Mohamed Idris Dean  
'Cyrilda De Jesus  
'Edith Deygoo  
Harry Doobay  
'Clarice Edwards  
Jennifer Ferreira  
Eugene H.A. Fowler  
Claude L. Geddes  
'Joyce Gill  
Azamuddin K. Habibulla  
'Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn  
Rashleigh Jackson  
'Urmia Johnson  
Jailall Kissoon  
George Marshall  
'Edwina Melville  
'Joyce M. Munroe  
'Stella Odie-Ali  
William H. Parris  
Basil Persaud  
Seeram Prashad  
Mohamed Shahabuddeen  
Gowkarran C. Sharma  
Dharamdeo Sawh  
Jeffrey Thomas  
Enerva Trotman  
Robert E. Williams  
Richard Van-West Charles

People's Progressive Party (8)

Cheddi Jagan  
Janet Jagan  
Reepu Daman Persaud  
Sheik Feroze Mohamed  
Clinton Collymore  
Harripersaud Nokta  
Isahak Basir  
Cyril Belgrave

United Force (2)

Michael Anthony Abraham  
Marcellus Fielden Singh

Working People's Alliance (1)

Eusi Kwayana

(ii) Persons (10) who were elected by the Regional Democratic Councils on 7th January, 1986:

Basil Domingo  
Yusuf Khan  
Enid Abrahams  
Rudy Bishop  
Bhagmatee Latchminarayan  
Inchan Ally  
Nellie Charles  
Stanley McGarrell  
Mangus Stephens  
Patricia Daniel

(iii) Persons (2) who were elected by the National Congress of Local Democratic Organs on 10th January, 1986:

Rose Sample  
Esau Mohamed

(iv) Persons (7) who were not elected Members of the National Assembly but who had been appointed Ministers or Parliamentary Secretaries and had become Members of the National Assembly:

Carl Greenidge  
Roy Fredericks

6.

Donald Ainsworth  
Winston Murray (Absent)  
Deryck Bernard  
Faith Harding  
Jean Persico

Members answered as their names were called with the exception of the following who were absent at the time of the call:-

Richard Van West Charles  
Janet Jagan  
Eusi Kwayana  
Winston Murray

#### ELECTION OF SPEAKER

The Clerk invited Members to elect the Speaker of the National Assembly (in accordance with article 56 of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 2).

Cde. Green nominated and Mr. M.F. Singh seconded the proposal of Cde. Sase Narain O.R., S.C., J.P.

As there was no other nomination, the Clerk declared Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., to be Speaker of the National Assembly.

Cde. Sase Narain who was present was escorted by his proposer and seconder to the Chair.

#### ELECTION OF DEPUTY SPEAKER

In accordance with article 56(3) of the Constitution and Standing Order No. 3, the Speaker invited Members to make nominations for the office of Deputy Speaker.

Cde. Dr. Shahabuddeen nominated and Mr. M.F. Singh seconded the proposal of Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P.

As there was no other nomination, the Speaker declared Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., to be Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

#### OATHS

The oath of office was made and subscribed by the following Members who were present at the time:-

Cde. Sase Narain, O.R., S.C., J.P., M.P.  
Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Deputy Speaker  
Cde. H. Green, M.P., Prime Minister  
Cde. Dr. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., M.P., Vice-President,  
First Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General  
Cde. R. Chandisingh, M.P., Vice-President, National  
Mobilisation, and Deputy Prime Minister  
Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., M.P., Vice-President, Education  
and Social Development, and Deputy Prime Minister

Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister,  
Planning and Development

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Agriculture

Cde. R.E. Jackson, M.P., Minister of Foreign Affairs

\*Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance

Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of Transport

Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment

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

Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of  
National Mobilisation

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

Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Minister within the  
Office of the President

\* Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister within the Ministry of Education

\* Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry  
of Manpower, Housing and Environment

Cde. J.T. Kisson, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry  
of Agriculture

Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister of State within the Ministry of  
Forestry

\* Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P., Minister of State within the  
Ministry of Planning and Development

Cde. A.K. Habibulla, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of  
the President

Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Home Affairs

\* Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Education

Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P., Government Chief Whip

Cde. R.E. Williams, M.P.

Cde. Agnes W. Bend-Kirton-Holder, M.P.

Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.

Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.

Cde. M. Ally, M.P.

Cde. Bissoondai Beniprashad-Rayman, M.P.

Cde. Elaine B. Davidson, M.P.

Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.

Cde. Joyce M. Munroe, J.P., M.P.

Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.

Cde. Anna Ally, M.P.

Cde. L. Arthur, M.P.

Cde. J.R.L. Bovell-Drakes, M.P.

Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.

Cde. G.W. Chin, J.P., M.P.

Cde. M. Cumberbatch, M.P.

Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.  
 Cde. Cyrilda A. De Jesus, M.P.  
 Cde. Edith Deygoo, M.P.  
 Cde. Clarice A. Edwards, M.P.  
 Cde. C.L. Geddes, M.P.  
 Cde. G. Marshall, M.P.  
 Cde. B. Persaud, M.P.  
 Cde. E.W. Trotman, M.P.  
 Cde. E, Mohamed, M.P.  
 Cde. Rose I. Semple, M.P.  
 Cde. Nellie R. Charles, M.P.  
 Cde. R. Bishop, M.S., M.P.  
 Cde. Bhagmatee Latchminarayan, M.P.  
 Cde. Y. Khan, M.P.  
 Cde. Enid E. Abrahams, M.S., J.P., M.P.  
 Cde. I. Ally M.P.  
 Cde. Patricia Daniel, M.P.  
 Cde. B.L. Domingo, M.P.  
 Cde. S.I. McGarrell, M.P.  
 Cde. M. Stephens, M.P.  
 Cde. Dr. C. Jagan, M.P., Minority Leader  
 Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P.  
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.  
 Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P.  
 Cde. H. Nokta, M.P.  
 Cde. I. Basir, M.P.  
 Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.  
 Mr. M.F. Singh, C.C.H., J.P., M.P.  
 Mr. M.A. Abraham, M.P.  
 Mr. E. Kwayana, M.P.

(Absent: Cdes. W.S. Murray, Dr, R.A. Van West-Charles and Janet Jagan)

#### PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

#### REMARKS BY THE SPEAKER

The Speaker thanked Members for electing him to preside over the Assembly and expressed his gratitude to his proposer and seconder. In his remarks he paid tribute to the former Deputy Speaker (Cde. Ram Karran) who had first become a Parliamentarian thirty-two years ago, and wished him good health in his retirement:

The Speaker thereafter -

- (a) extended a special welcome to the thirty-two new Members, among whom was Mr. Eusi Kwayana who first served in Parliament in 1953.
- (b) congratulated all on their becoming Members of the National Assembly and
- (c) Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud on his election as Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly.

The Speaker drew Members' attention to the improvement in certain areas of the Chamber and its adjoining rooms and thanked those who were responsible for carrying out and supervising the work.

Further the Speaker expressed his concern over Members' mode of dress, their behaviour and conduct during sittings, the suspension of the Standing Orders, motions for adjournment, motions and questions submitted for debate and answers respectively, and the contents and time limits of speeches.



ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(1) Appointments

For the purpose of the records, the Speaker announced the following appointments:

Cde. Hamilton Green had been appointed Prime Minister with effect from 13th December, 1985.

As Prime Minister, Cde. Green was, in accordance with the Constitution, the leader of Government business in the National Assembly.

Cde. Dr. Mohamed Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., had been appointed Vice-President and Attorney General, and designated Vice-President, First Deputy Prime Minister and Attorney General, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Ranji Chandisingh had been appointed a Vice-President, and designated Vice-President, National Mobilisation, and Deputy Prime Minister, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., had been appointed a Vice-President, and designated Vice-President, Education and Social Development, and Deputy Prime Minister, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. W.A.L. Ealya Parris, C.C.H., had been appointed a Senior Minister and Member of the Cabinet, and designated Deputy Prime Minister, Planning and Development, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Robert H.O. Corbin had been appointed a Senior Minister and Member of the Cabinet, and designated Deputy Prime Minister, Agriculture, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Rashleigh E. Jackson had been appointed a Senior Minister and Member of the Cabinet, and designated Minister of Foreign Affairs, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Carl B. Greenidge had been appointed a Senior Minister and Member of the Cabinet, and designated Minister of Finance, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Seeram Prashad had been appointed a Senior Minister and Member of the Cabinet, and designated Minister of Transport, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Winston S. Murray, C.C.H., had been appointed a Senior Minister and Member of the Cabinet, and designated Minister of Trade, with effect from 27th December, 1985.

Cde. Jeffrey R. Thomas had been appointed a Senior Minister, and designated Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment, with effect from 13th December, 1985. Cde. Thomas was the Minister assigned responsibility for matters relating to the business of Government in Parliament.

Cde. Dr. Richard A. Van West-Charles had been appointed a Senior Minister, and designated Minister of Health, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn had been appointed a Senior Minister, and designated Minister of Information and the Public Service, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson had been appointed a Minister, and designated Minister within the Ministry of National Mobilisation, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Roy C. Fredericks, A.A., had been appointed a Minister, and designated Minister of Youth and Sport within the Ministry of Education, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. C. Gowkarran Sharma, A.A., had been appointed a Minister, and designated Minister within the Office of the President, with effect from 28th December, 1985.

Cde. Deryck M.A. Bernard had been appointed a Minister, and designated Minister within the Ministry of Education, with effect from 28th December, 1985.

Cde. Donald A.N. Ainsworth had been appointed a Minister of State, and designated Minister of State within the Ministry of Manpower, Housing and Environment, with effect from 13th December, 1985.

Cde. Jailall T. Kissoon had been appointed a Minister of State, and designated Minister of State within the Ministry of Agriculture, with effect from 27th December, 1985.

Cde. Dharamdeo Sawh had been appointed a Minister of State and designated Minister of State within the Ministry of Forestry, with effect from 28th December, 1985.

Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding had been appointed a Minister of State, and designated Minister of State within the Ministry of Planning and Development, with effect from 28th December, 1985.

Cde. Dr. Cheddi Jagan has continued to be and to hold the Office of Minority Leader.

Cde. Azamudeen K. Habibulla had been appointed a Parliamentary Secretary, and designated Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the President, with effect from 28th December, 1985.

Cde. Stella Odie-Ali had been appointed a Parliamentary Secretary, and designated Parliamentary Secretary, Home Affairs, with effect from 28th December, 1985.

Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., had been appointed a Parliamentary Secretary, and designated Parliamentary Secretary, Education, with effect from 28th December, 1985.

Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira had been appointed Government Chief Whip, with effect from 1st January, 1986.

He informed the Assembly that he had not been furnished by the Minority with the name of the Member who will function as Minority Chief Whip.

The Speaker extended his congratulations and best wishes to all the Members on their respective appointments and assignments.

**(ii) Leave**

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

(a) Cde. Murray from 1986-02-03 to 1986-02-14,  
and

(b) Cde. Dr. Van West-Charles until 1986-02-08.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

(1) PETROLEUM (EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION) BILL 1986 - Bill No. 1/1986

The Deputy Prime Minister, Planning and Development, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:-

A Bill intituled An Act to make provision with respect to prospecting for and production of petroleum, and for matters connected therewith.

(2) TAXATION LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1986 - Bill No. 2/1986

The Minister of 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 Act and the Income Tax (In Aid of Industry) Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

On a proposal by the Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment, seconded by Cde. Collymore, the Assembly nominated the following to be Members of the Committee of Selection, with the Speaker as Chairman in accordance with Standing Order No. 70(1):

From the People's National Congress (8)

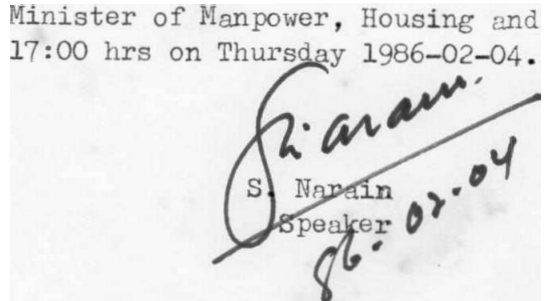
Cde. S. Prashad, M.P., Minister of Transport  
Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P., Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment  
Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Minister within the Office of the President  
Cde. A.K. Habibulla, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the President  
Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira, M.P., Government Chief Whip  
Cde. Bissoondai Beniprashad-Rayman, M.P.  
Cde. J.R.L. Bovell-Drakes, M.P.  
Cde. G.W. Chin, J.P., M.P.

From the People's Progressive Party (2)

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Deputy Speaker  
Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.

ADJOURNMENT

At 15:28 hrs, on a motion by the Minister of Manpower, Housing and Environment, the Assembly was adjourned to 17:00 hrs on Thursday 1986-02-04.



S. Narain  
Speaker  
86.02.04

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.  
1986-02-04