

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 2ND SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE
THIRD SESSION (1983) OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 14.00 hrs

ON THURSDAY 1983-02-10

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (74)

Speaker (1)

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

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

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. Dr. P.A. Reid, O.E., M.P., Prime Minister

Other Vice-Presidents (4)

Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P., Vice-President, Works,
Transport and Housing (Absent - on leave)

Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P., Vice-President, Economic Planning and
Finance

Cde. H. Green, M.P., Vice-President, Agriculture

Cde. B. Ramsaroop, M.P., Vice-President, Party and State Matters

Senior Ministers (7)

Cde. R. Chandisingh, M.P., Minister of Education

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of National and Regional Development

*Cde. F.E. Hope, M.P., Minister of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection

*Cde. H.O. Jack, M.P., Minister of Energy and Mines

*Cde. Dr. M. Shahabuddeen, O.R., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and
Minister of Justice (Absent)

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

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

Ministers (6)

Cde. U.E. Johnson, M.P., Minister of Co-operatives

Cde. Sallahuddin, M.P., Minister, Finance, in the Ministry of Economic
Planning and Finance

*Cde. Y.V. Marewood-Benn, M.P., Minister in the Office of the Prime Minister

*Cde. H. Rashid, M.P., Minister in the Office of the President

*Cde. R.A. Van West-Charles, M.P., Minister of Health

*Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P., Minister of Labour, Manufacturing, and
Industrial Development

Ministers of State (2)

Cde. M. Corrica, M.P., Minister of State in the Ministry of Internal
Trade and Consumer Protection (Absent - on leave)

Cde. R.C. Fredericks, A.A., M.P., Minister of State for Youth and
Sports, in the Ministry of Education (Absent - on leave)

* Non elected Member

Parliamentary Secretaries (3)

- Cde. A.W. Bend-Kirton-Holder, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works, Transport and Housing
 Cde. D.A.N. Ainsworth, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education
 Cde. B. Bhaggan, M.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Other Members (26)

- Cde. M. Ally, M.P.
 Cde. M. Armogan, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. B. Beniprashad, M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. J.B. Caldeira, M.P.
 Cde. A.A. Chin, M.P.
 Cde. J.P. Chowritmootoo, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P.
 Cde. E.B. Davidson, M.P.
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
 Cde. A.B. Felix, M.P.
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
 Cde. P. Fredericks, M.P.
 Cde. E.F. Gilbert, M.P.
 Cde. J. Gill-Mingo, M.P.
 Cde. A. McRae, M.P.
 Cde. J.M. Munroe, J.P., M.P.
 Cde. S. Prashad, M.P.
 Cde. R.N. Primo, M.P.
 Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
 Cde. C.G. Sharma, J.P., M.P. (Absent - on leave)
 Cde. H.L.B. Singh, M.P.
 Cde. S.H. Sukhu, M.S., M.P.
 Cde. B. Tiwari, M.P.
 Cde. C. Vandenburg, M.P.
 Cde. H.B. Walcott-Nascimento, J.P., M.P., Government Chief Whip
 Cde. R.E. Williams, M.P.

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

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

Members from the Regional Democratic Councils (10)

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

Members of the Minority (12)

(i) People's Progressive Party (10)

Minority Leader (1)

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

Deputy Speaker (1)

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

Other Members (8)

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

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

Cde. N. Persaud, M.P.

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. Dalchand, J.P., M.P. (Absent - on leave)

(ii) United Force (2)

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

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

OFFICERS

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

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

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

(a) Cde. Naraine for the period 1983-02-02 to 1983-02-18,

(b) Cde. Corrica for that day's sitting,

(c) Cdes R.C. Fredericks and Bishop until the end of the week, and

(d) Cde. Beniprashad until 1983-02-14.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

(1) By the Speaker:

Report of the Ombudsman for the period
October 1981 to September 1982.

(OMB: 6/2/3)(Circulated)

(2) By the Vice-President, Economic Planning and Finance:

- (a) Annual Report of the Ministry of Finance for the year 1981.

(ST: 25/2/1/9)(Circulated)

- (b) State Pension (PATRICK HASTINGS DALY) Order 1983 (No. 1) made under section 4 of the State Pensions Act, Chapter 27:04, on the 6th January, 1983, and published in the Gazette on 15th January, 1983.

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

- (c) Rate of Interest (Amendment) Order 1983 (No. 4), made under section 6 of the Rate of Interest Act, No. 13 of 1979, on 26th January, 1983, and published in the Gazette on 29th January, 1983.

(ST: 1/8/0)(Circulated)

(3) By the Vice-President, Agriculture:

Annual Report and Accounts of the Guyana Liquor Corporation Limited for 1981.

(A: 5/12^{II})(Circulated)

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

Effect on the education of students training for Mass Games

The Minority Leader sought leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly for the purpose of discussing the effect on the education of students who were being trained in Mass Games.

The Speaker did not allow the claim as it was not of recent occurrence, and as there was an opportunity during the debate on the President's Address to raise the matter.

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

Suspension of Standing Order No. 23(3).

On a motion by the Vice-President, Party and State Matters, Standing Order No. 23 (3) was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed with the motion on the President's Address at that sitting.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation and First Reading

- (1) FINANCIAL ADMINISTRATION AND AUDIT AMENDMENT BILL 1983
Bill No. 1/1983

The Vice-President, Economic Planning and Finance, on behalf of the Government presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the
Financial Administration and Audit
Act.

- (2) COMPANIES (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983 - Bill No. 2/1983

The Vice-President, Economic Planning and Finance, on behalf of the Government presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the
Companies Act.

- (3) PRAEDIAL LARCENY (ENHANCEMENT OF PUNISHMENT) BILL 1983 -
Bill No. 3/1983

The Vice-President, Agriculture, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to provide for
enhanced punishment for praedial
larceny.

- (4) TRADE (AMENDMENT) BILL 1983 - Bill No. 4/1983

The Minister of Internal Trade and Consumer Protection, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A Bill intituled An Act to amend the
Trade Act.

PUBLIC BUSINESSITEM 1 - APPOINTMENT OF COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

On a proposal by the Vice-President, Party and State Matters, and seconded by Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, the following Members were nominated by the Assembly to be Members of the Committee of Selection, with the Speaker as Chairman in accordance with Standing Order No. 70(1):

Members from the People's National Congress (8)

Cde. B. Ramsaroop, M.P., Vice-President, Party and State Matters
Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Minister of National and Regional Development
Cde. U.E. Johnson, M.P., Minister of Co-operatives
Cde. O.E. Clarke, M.P.
Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
Cde. H.L.B. Singh, M.P.
Cde. H.B. Walcott-Nascimento, J.P., M.P., Government Chief Whip
Cde. H.I. London, M.S., M.P.

Members from the People's Progressive Party (2)

Cde. Ram Karran, M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Minority Chief Whip

MOTION

ITEM 2 APPROVAL OF GOVERNMENT'S POLICY IN PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Cde. P. Fredericks moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves of the Government's policy adumbrated in the President's Address which was made to the Assembly on Monday 1983-02-07.

Cde. Bipat seconded and spoke to the motion.

The Minority Leader and the Vice-President, Agriculture, spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 16:05 hrs the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 16.37 hrs the sitting was resumed.

The Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Education, Cdes. Prashad, London, I. Chowritmootoo, Williams and Tiwari spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 18:30 hrs the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 20:02 hrs the sitting was resumed.

RESUMPTION OF DEBATE ON THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Cde. McRae, the Minister of Labour, Manufacturing and Industrial Development, the Minister in the Office of the President and the Minister of Energy and Mines, spoke to the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 21:45 hrs, on a motion by the Vice-President, Party and State Matters, the Assembly adjourned to 14:00 hrs on Friday 1983-02-11.

S. W. Arain
S. W. ARAIN
Speaker 83-0 11

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.
1983-02-11