

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 1st SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD

SESSION (1991) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON TUESDAY, 3RD DECEMBER, 1991

IN THE PARLIAMENT CHAMBER, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, GEORGETOWN

MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (73)

Speaker

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

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

Prime Minister

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

Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs (1)

- *Cde. K.S. Massiah, C.R., S.C., M.P., Attorney General and Minister
of Legal Affairs

Deputy Prime Minister (2)

Cde. R.H.O. Corbin, M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Public Works, Communications
and Regional Development

Cde. W.S. Murray, C.C.H., M.P., Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Trade,
Tourism and Industry (Absent-on leave)

Senior Ministers (6)

- *Cde. C.B. Greenidge, M.P., Minister of Finance
*Cde. Dr. P.L. McKenzie, A.A., M.P., Minister of Agriculture
*Cde. D.M.A. Bernard, M.P., Minister of Education and Cultural Development
*Cde. J.R. Kranenburg, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public Works,
Communications and Regional Development
Cde. C.G. Sharma, A.A., J.P., M.P., Senior Minister in the Office of the
President
*Cde. Rabbian Ali-Khan, M.P., Minister of Labour, Human Services and Social
Security (Absent - on leave)

Ministers (6)

- Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry
* Cde. V.V. Parvatan, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture
Cde. J.T. Kisson, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health
Cde. Dr. Faith A. Harding, M.P., Minister in the Office of the President
Cde. Stella Odie-Ali, M.P., Minister of Home Affairs
Cde. Jean M.G. Persico, A.A., M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Labour, Human
Services and Social Security

*Non-elected Member

Government Chief Whip (1)

Cde. Jennifer A. Ferreira

Other Members (32)

Cde. Viola V. Burnham, O.R., M.P.
Cde. W.A.L.H. Parris, C.C.H., M.P.
Cde. R.E. Jackson, O.R., M.P.
Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P.
Cde. S. Prashad, M.P.
Cde. Yvonne V. Harwood-Benn, M.P.
Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P.
Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P.
Cde. K.B. Bancroft, M.P.
Cde. M. Corrica, M.P.
Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P.
Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.
Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.
Cde. Joyce Munroe
Cde. H. Doobay, M.P.
Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.
Cde. Anna Ally, M.P.
Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.
Cde. F.M. Cumberbatch, M.P.
Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.
Cde. Cyrilda 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, J.P., M.P.
Cde. K. Sankar, A.A., M.P. (Absent)
Cde. E.L. Fraser, M.P.
Cde. Mignon D. Griffith, M.P.
Cde. P.E. Rockcliffe, M.P.

(There are two vacancies)

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

Cde. Rose I. Semple, M.P.
Cde. P. Singh, J.P., M.F.

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. C. Vandenburg, M.P. (Region No. 10 - Upper Demerara/Berbice)
Cde. Y. Khan, M.P. (Region No. 2 - Pomeroon/Supernam)
Cde. Enid E. Abrahams, M.S., J.P., M.P. (Region No. 3 - Essequibo Island/
West Demerara)
Cde. I. Ally, M.P. (Region No. 6 - East Berbice/Corentyne)
Cde. S.I. McGarrell, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) (Absent)
Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takutu/Upper Essequibo)
Cde. Ajoodhia, J.P., M.P. (Region No. 5 - Mahaica/Berbice)
Cde. D. Fernandes, M.P. (Region No. 1 - Barima/Waini)

Members of the Minority (11)

- , (i) People's Progressive Party (8)
- (ii) United Force (2)
- (iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

OFFICERS

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

Cde. E. W. Kendall, Acting Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

COMMENCEMENT OF SITTING

The Cde. Speaker made the following statement:-

The fifth Parliament of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana was, by proclamation of the President made on 27th September, and published on 28th September, dissolved on 28th September, 1991. On account of that proclamation election of members of the National Assembly was due not later than 27th December, 1991. With that in view, the President made a proclamation on 10th November, 1991 appointing 16th December, 1991 as the day for election of members of the National Assembly.

After that proclamation was made, the Chairman of the Elections Commission advised the President of the inability of the Elections Commission to have ready a verified voters' list the basis of national elections, to meet the constitutional deadline for the forthcoming elections.

The President, therefore, by proclamation dated 28th November, 1991 declared a state of emergency under article 150 of the Constitution and recalled the Parliament that was dissolved on 28th September, 1991 and summoned a session at 2.00 p.m. that day:

PROCLAMATION

The Proclamation pertaining to the declaration of a state of emergency and the recall of the Parliament was read by the Acting Clerk.

PRAYERS

The Acting Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Cdes. Ali-Khan and Murray for that day's Sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC. -

(1) By the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs

Proclamation (Seal No. 516 of 1991) by the President of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana on the 28th day of November 1991 and published in the Gazette dated 29th November, 1991.

(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) (No. 4) Order 1991 (No. 68 of 1991) made under section 5 of the Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Act, Chapter 27:11, on 25th October, 1991 and published in the Gazette on 26th October, 1991.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Financial Paper No. 6/1991 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Capital Estimates totalling \$511,439,188 for 1991.

(Circulated)

In terms of Standing Order No. 68(2), the Minister named 16th December, 1991 as the day for the Consideration of the Financial Paper in Committee of Supply.

- (iii) Annual Report and Accounts of the Guyana National Co-operative Bank Trust Corporation for the year 1990.

(Circulated)

- (iv) Annual Report of the Guyana Co-operative Insurance Service for the year 1989.

(Circulated)

- (v) Annual Report of the National Insurance Scheme for the year 1989.

(Circulated)

- (vi) Special Reports of the Auditor General on the Public Accounts of Guyana and on the Accounts of Ministries/Departments/Regions for the year ended December 31st, 1982, 1983, 1984 and 1985 respectively.

(Circulated)

- (vii) Economic and Financial Policy Framework Paper - 1991-1993.

(Circulated)

- (3) By the Minister of Home Affairs:

Annual Report of the Police Complaint Authority for the year 1990.

(Circulated)

STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

RECALL OF PARLIAMENT

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs made a statement on the recall of Parliament.

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

Suspension of Standing Order No. 46(2) and (3)

The Minister in the Ministry of Health moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That Standing Order No. 46(2) and (3) be suspended to enable Bill No. 35 of 1991 to be considered at the sitting of the Assembly on Tuesday, 3rd December, 1991.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1991 - Bill No. 35/1991
published 1991-11-30.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs presented the following Bill which was read the first time:-

A **BILL** intituled AN ACT to effect an alteration to article 70 of the Constitution in accordance with articles 66 and 164 thereof.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

CONSTITUTION (AMENDMENT) (NO. 3) BILL 1991 - Bill No. 35/1991
published 1991-11-30.

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT to effect an alteration to article 70 of the Constitution in accordance with articles 66 and 164 thereof.

The motion was put and carried on the following division:

FOR

AGAINST

Cde. Fernandes
Cde. Ajoodhia
Cde. Stephens
Cde. I. Ally
Cde. Abrahams
Cde. Khan
Cde. Vandenburg
Cde. Bishop
Cde. Charles
Cde. Singh
Cde. Semple
Cde. Rockcliffe
Cde. Griffith
Cde. Fraser
Cde. Persaud
Cde. Marshall
Cde. Geddes
Cde. Edwards
Cde. Deygoe
Cde. DeJesus
Cde. Deen
Cde. Cumberbatch
Cde. Calistro
Cde. A. Ally
Cde. Melville
Cde. Munroe
Cde. Doobay
Cde. Gill-Mingo
Cde. Fowler
Cde. P. Rayman
Cde. Corrica
Cde. Bancroft
Cde. Denny
Cde. Johnson
Cde. Harewood-Benn
Cde. Prashad
Cde. Thomas
Cde. Jackson
Cde. Parris
Cde. Burnham
Cde. Ferreira
Cde. Persico
Cde. Odie-Ali
Cde. Harding

C/F

FOR

AGAINST

B/F Cde. Kisson
Cde. Sawh
Cde. Sharma
Cde. Corbin
Cde. Green

TOTAL

49

NIL

The Bill was then read a second time.

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

In Committee

Clauses 1 and 2 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs, the Bill was read the third time and passed as printed on the following division:

FOR

AGAINST

Cde. Fernandes
Cde. Ajoodhia
Cde. Stephens
Cde. I. Ally
Cde. Abrahams
Cde. Khan
Cde. Vandenburg
Cde. Bishop
Cde. Charles
Cde. P. Singh
Cde. Semple
Cde. Rockcliffe
Cde. Griffith
Cde. Fraser
Cde. B. Persaud
Cde. Marshall
Cde. Geddes
Cde. Edwards
Cde. Deygoo
Cde. DeJesus
Cde. Deen
Cde. Cumberbatch
Cde. Calistro
Cde. A. Ally
Cde. Melville
Cde. Munroe
Cde. Doobay
Cde. Gill-Mingo
Cde. Fowler
Cde. P. Rayman
Cde. Corrica
Cde. Bancroft
C/F

FOR

AGAINST

B/F Cde. Denny
 Cde. Johnson
 Cde. Harewood-Benn
 Cde. Prashad
 Cde. Thomas
 Cde. Jackson
 Cde. Parris
 Cde. Burnham
 Cde. Ferreira
 Cde. Persico
 Cde. Odie-Ali
 Cde. Harding
 Cde. Kissoon
 Cde. Sawh
 Cde. Sharma
 Cde. Corbin
 Cde. Green

TOTAL 49

NIL

Change of day named for consideration of Financial Paper No. 6/1991

At the request of the Minister of Finance it was agreed that the date named for the consideration of Financial Paper No. 6/1991 changed from 16th December, 1991 to 11th December, 1991.

ADJOURNEMENT

At 3:03 p.m. on a motion by Minister in the Ministry of Health the Assembly was adjourned to 2:00 p.m. on Wednesday, 11th December, 1991.

.....
S. Narain
 S. Narain
 Speaker
91-12-11

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
 Public Buildings,
 Georgetown.

1991-12-09.