

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

MINUTES OF PROCEEDINGS

OF THE 5TH SITTING OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE THIRD SESSION  
(1991) - (1992) OF THE FIFTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA HELD

AT 2.00 P.M

ON MONDAY, 23RD MARCH, 1992

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, O.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 (absent)

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

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 (Absent on leave)

Cde. J.R. Kranenburg, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Public  
Works, Communications and Regional Development (Absent on leave)

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

\*Non-elected Member

Ministers (6)

- Cde. D. Sawh, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Trade, Tourism and Industry (Absent on leave)  
 \*Cde. V.V. Parvatan, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Agriculture  
 Cde. J.T. Kissoon, M.P., Minister in the Ministry of Health  
 Cde. Dr. Faith Harding, M.P., Minister for the Public Service Ministry (Absent)  
 Cde. Stella Odi-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 (Absent)

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. (Absent)  
 Cde. R.E. Jackson, O.R., M.P. (Absent)  
 Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P. (Absent)  
 Cde. S. Prashad, C.C.H., M.P. (Absent)  
 Cde. Yvonne V. Harewood-Benn, M.P. (Absent on leave)  
 Cde. Urmia E.H. Johnson, M.P.  
 Cde. K.W.E. Denny, M.P.  
 Cde. K.B. Bancroft, A.A., M.P.  
 Cde. M. Corrica, M.S., M.P.  
 Cde. Philomena A. Rayman, M.P.  
 Cde. E.H.A. Fowler, M.P.  
 Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, M.P.  
 Cde. Joyce Munroe, M.P.  
 Cde. H. Doobay, M.S., M.P.  
 Cde. Edwina Melville, M.P.  
 Cde. Amna Ally, M.P.  
 Cde. N. Calistro, M.P.  
 Cde. F.M. Cumberbatch, M.P.  
 Cde. M.I. Deen, M.P.  
 Cde. Cyrylda A. DeJesus, M.P.  
 Cde. Edith Deygoo, M.P.  
 Cde. Clarice A. Edwards, M.S., 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.P.

\*Non-elected Member

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) (Absent) ✓  
 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. S.I. McGarrell, M.P. (Region No. 8 - Potaro/Siparuni) ✓  
 Cde. M. Stephens, M.P. (Region No. 9 - Upper Takatu/Upper Essequibo) (Absent) ✓  
 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)Minority Leader (1)

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

Deputy Speaker (1)

Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P., Deputy Speaker of the National  
 Assembly ✓

Other Members (6)

Cde. Janet Jagan, M.P. (Absent) ✓  
 Cde. C.C. Collymore, M.P. ✓  
 Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P., Minority Chief Whip (Absent)  
 Cde. H. Nokta, M.P. (Absent) ✓  
 Cde. C.C. Belgrave, M.P.

(There is one vacancy)

(ii) United Force (2)

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

(iii) Working People's Alliance (1)

(Vacant)

OFFICERS

Cde. M.B. Henry, Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.)  
 Cde. E. Kendall, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.)

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(i) NATIONAL AWARDS

The Speaker announced that on the occasion of the second Anniversary of the Republic, six Parliamentarians had been those granted National Awards:-

- (a) Cde. Seeram Prashad had been granted the Cacique's Crown of Honour for political service;
- (b) Cde. Kenneth Berkely Bancroft had been granted the Golden Arrow of Achievement for long and dedicated service in the fields of mining, social and community work in the hinterland areas and in politics;
- (c) Cde. Malcom Corrica, also known as the Mighty Canary had been granted the Medal of Service for long service with exceptional dedication in the fields of politics and popular music as a composer and entertainer;
- (d) Cde. Harry Doobary also known as Herdo Persaud, had been granted the Medal of Service for long service with exceptional dedication in the fields of politics, and in community and social work;
- (e) Cde. Clarice Agatha Edwards had been granted the Medal of Service for long service of a dedicated nature in the field of religion and as a social and community leader.
- (f) Cde. Joyce Gill-Mingo, also known as, Princess Alexzendreana Gill-Mingo, had been granted the Medal of Service for long and untiring service to the community as a Market Vendor, and in the field of politics.

On behalf of the Assembly, he extended congratulations and best wishes to Cdes. Prashad, Bancroft, Corrica, Doobay, Edwards and Mingo.

He also extended congratulations and best wishes to Mr. Pamadath Janardhana Menon, former Assistant Attorney General, who had been awarded the Honorary Golden Arrow of Achievement for outstanding and dedicated service beyond the normal call of duty in all areas of law, particularly legislative drafting.

(ii) DEATH OF CDE. FREDERICK RUDOLPH WILLS

The Speaker informed Members of the death of Cde. Frederick Rudolph Wills which had occurred in the U.S.A. Cde. Wills was not an elected Member of the National Assembly but by virtue of his being appointed to the office of Minister of Foreign Affairs and justice from 24th April, 1975 to 12th February, 1978 became a Member of the National Assembly. He said that later the Assembly would consider a motion of sympathy on his death.

(iii) DESTRUCTION OF HOME OF DEPUTY CLERK BY FIRE

The Speaker reported that on 5th of this month, the home of our Acting Deputy Clerk was gutted by fire. Cde. Kendall and his family had suffered total loss of all their personal possession and as a matter of fact the only items saved were what they had been wearing at the time of the fire. On behalf of Members and his own, he extended sympathy to Cde. Kendall and his family, and wished that they would overcome their disaster in the near future.

RESIGNATION OF MR. EUSI KWAYANA /

Cde. Speaker announced that he received a letter from Mr. Eusi Kwayana tendering his resignation as a Member of the National Assembly with effect from 24th January, 1992 and that with his resignation a vacancy had been created in the National Assembly. In accordance with section 99A of the Representation of the People Act, Chapter 1:03, he had called upon the Representative of the list of Candidates from which Mr. Kwayana's name was extracted, to further extract from the said list the name of a person to fill the vacancy.

Repairs to Chamber's Clock

The Speaker informed Members that the Smithsonian Institution of the National Museum of American History had voluntarily undertaken to repair our Chamber's Wall Clock and that it was with the Smithsonian Institution. In the meantime the Wall Clock was replaced by a small one.

LEAVE

The Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Comrades Bernard, Kranenburg, Sawh and Harewood-Benn for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.-

By the Minister in the Ministry of Health, on behalf of Deputy Prime Minister, Public Works, Communications and Regional Development:

Annual Report of the Plant Maintenance  
and Hire Division, Ministry of Communications  
and Works for the year 1990.

(Circulated)

By the Minister of Finance:

- (i) Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) (No. 5) Order 1991 (No. 73), made under section 5 of the Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Act, Chapter 27:11 on 31st December, 1991, and published in the Gazette on 31st December, 1991.

(Circulated)

- (ii) Constitutional Office (Remuneration of Holders) Order 1992 (No. 1), made under section 5 of the Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Act, Chapter 27:11 on 30th January, 1992, and published in the Gazette on 1st February, 1992.

(Circulated)

- (iii) Ministers, Members of the National Assembly and Special Offices (Allowances) Order 1992 (No. 5), made under section 4 of the Ministers, Members of the National Assembly and Special Offices (Emoluments) Act, Chapter 1:07 on 17th February, 1992, and published in the Gazette on 22nd February, 1992,

(Circulated)

- (iv) Amendments (14) to Loan Agreements signed between the Government of Canada and the Government of Guyana on November 3, 1966; May 16, 1968; May 22, 1968, December 22, 1969; October 8, 1970; March 19, 1971; January 19, 1973; May 30, 1974; August 29, 1974; June 12, 1975, April 19, 1977; June 16, 1977; September 10, 1977; March 21, 1979 respectively.

- (v) The United Kingdom/Guyana Debt Agreements (5) described as, viz:-

(a) United Kingdom/Guyana Debt Agreement No. 1 (1989)

(b) United Kingdom/Guyana Debt Rescheduling Arrangement 1989

(c) Two (2) United Kingdom/Guyana Debt Agreements No. 2 (1990).

(d) United Kingdom/Guyana Debt Rescheduling Arrangement 1991.

- (vi) Second Agreement Amending Development Credit Agreement between Guyana and International Development Association.
- (vii) Agreement between the United States of America and the Co-operative Republic of Guyana regarding the Consolidation and Rescheduling of Refinancing of certain debts owed to, Guaranteed by or Insured by the United States Government and its agencies.

- (viii) Agreement between the United States of America and the Co-operative Republic of Guyana regarding the Consolidation and rescheduling of payment due under P.L. 480 Title 1 Agricultural Commodity Agreements.
- (ix) Agreements (2) on Economic and Technical Cooperation between the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Government of the People's Republic of China.
- (x) Credit Agreement between the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Government of the Republic of India.
- (xi) Heads of Agreement:- pertaining to the lease/purchase arrangements for the Shorts Skyvan Aircraft.
- (xii) Implementing Agreement between the United States of America and the Co-operative Republic of Guyana regarding the Consolidation and Rescheduling of refinancing of certain debts owed to, Guaranteed by or Insured by the Agency for International Development.
- (xiii) Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Co-operative Republic of Guyana for sales of Agricultural Commodities.
- (xiv) Agreement between the United States of America and the Co-operative Republic of Guyana regarding the Consolidation and rescheduling of certain debts owed to, Guaranteed by, or Insured by, the United States Government and its agencies.
- (xv) Loan Agreement between the Caribbean Development Bank and the Co-operative Republic of Guyana.
- (xvi) Refunding Agreement between the Government of Guyana and Export-Import Bank of the United States.
- (xvii) Two (2) Development Credit Agreements (Second Structural Adjustment Credit) and (Supplemental) between Guyana and International Development Association.
- (xviii) Development Credit Agreement (Bauxite Industry Technical Assistance Project) between Guyana and International Development Association.
- (xix) Project Agreement (Bauxite Industry Technical Assistance Project) between International Development Association and Bauxite Industry Development Company Ltd. and Guyana Mining Enterprise Ltd.
- (xx) Development Credit Agreement (Third Technical Assistance Project) between Guyana and International Development Association.

- (xxi) Loan Contract between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Drainage and Irrigation Rehabilitation Project).
- (xxii) Loan Contract between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Supplementary Financing for the Guyana Electricity Corporation Rehabilitation Programme).
- (xxiii) Loan Contract between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Primary Education Improvement Programme).
- (xxiv) Loan Contract between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Health Care II Project).
- (xiv) Loan Contract between the Co-operative Republic of Guyana and the Inter-American Development Bank (Agricultural Rehabilitation Programme.)

(Circulated)

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

##### Presentation and First Reading

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

- (1) HOTEL (RECEIPT OF CHARGES IN SPECIFIED FOREIGN CURRENCY (REPEAL) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 1/1992 published 1992-02-15

A BILL intituled AN ACT to repeal the Hotel (Receipt of Charges in Specified Foreign Currency) Act 1989.

- (2) BANKING LAWS (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 2/1992 published 1992-02-25

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Banking Laws Act 1991.

- (3) THE MINING ACT 1989 (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 3/1992 published 1992-02-29

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Mining Act.

- (4) PETROLEUM (EXPLORATION AND PRODUCTION) ACT 1986 (AMENDMENT) BILL 1992 - Bill No. 4/1992 published 1992-02-29

A BILL intituled AN ACT to amend the Petroleum (Exploration and Production) Act 1986.

- (5) INTER-AMERICAN INVESTMENT CORPORATION BILL 1992 - Bill No. 5/1992

A BILL intituled AN ACT to provide for the membership of Guyana in the Inter-American Investment Corporation.



PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

On a motion by the Minister in the Ministry of Health, the following Members were nominated to comprise the Committee of Selection, with the Speaker as Chairman, in terms of Standing Order No. 70(1)(b):

Cde. Jailall Kisson, M.P.,  
Minister in the Ministry of Health

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

Cde. Jeffrey Thomas, M.P.

Cde. Seeram Prashad, C.C.H., M.P.

Cde. George Marshall, M.P.

Cde. Amna Ally, M.P.

Cde. Rose Semple, M.P.

Cde. Inchan Ally, M.P.

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

Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P.  
Minority Chief Whip

ITEM 2 - SYMPATHY OF DEATH OF CDE. FREDERICK RUDOLPH WILLS

The Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its deep regret at the death of Cde. Frederick Rudolph Wills and pays tribute to the distinguished service which he rendered to Guyana and to its Parliament and directs that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing family and relatives.

The Deputy Speaker spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried with Members standing in silence for one minute.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.50 p.m., on a motion by the Minister in the Minister in the Ministry of Health, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 27th March, 1992.

*(Handwritten signature)*  
S. Marain  
Speaker  
92-03-27

PARLIAMENT OFFICE  
PUBLIC BUILDINGS  
GEORGETOWN

1992-03-27