

THE
PARLIAMENTARY DEBATES
OFFICIAL REPORTS

[Volume 9]

PROCEEDINGS AND DEBATES OF THE SECOND SESSION (1982) OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE FOURTH PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA UNDER THE CONSTITUTION OF THE CO-OPERATIVE REPUBLIC OF GUYANA.

17th Sitting	14:00 hrs	Thursday, 1982-12-23
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MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY (75)

Speaker (1)

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

Members of the Government – People’s National Congress (62)

Prime Minister (1)

Cde. Dr. P.A. Reid, O.E., M.P.,
Prime Minister **(Absent)**

Other Vice-President (4)

Cde. S.S. Naraine, A.A., M.P.,
Vice-President, Works, Transport and Housing
Cde. H.D. Hoyte, S.C., M.P.,
Vice-President, Economic Planning and Finance
Cde. H. Green, M.P.,
Vice-President, Agriculture **(Absent)**
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 **(Absent)**
*Cde. H.O. Jack, M.P.,
Minister of Energy and Mines **(Absent)**
*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 **(Absent)**
*Cde. J.R. Thomas, M.P.,
Minister of Home Affairs **(Absent)**

*Non-elected members

Ministers (7)

- Cde. U.E. Johnson, M.P.,
Minister of Co-operatives
- Cde. J.N. Maitland – Singh, M.P.,
Minister, in the Ministry of Agriculture
- Cde. Sallahuddin, M.P.,
Minister, Finance, in the Ministry of
Economic Planning and Finance
- *Cde. Y. V. Harewood-Benn, M.P.,
Minister, in the Office of the Prime Minister **(Absent)**
- *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)**
- Cde. R.C. Fredericks, A.A., M.P.,
Minister of State for Youth and Sports,
in the Ministry of Education

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.

*Non-elected Member

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. (**Absent**)
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. (**Absent**)
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. (**Absent**)
Cde. R.N. Primo, M.P.
Cde. P.A. Rayman, M.P.
Cde. C.G. Sharma, J.P., M.P.
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. (**Absent**)
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.
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) (**Absent**)
Cde. C.A. Singh, M.P. (Region No. 3 – Essequibo Islands/West Demerara) (**Absent**)
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) (**Absent**)
Cde. D. Hinds, M.P. (Region 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 – on leave**)
Cde. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P., M.P.,
Minority Chief Whip
Cde. N. Persaud, M.P. (**Absent**)
Cde. C.C Collymore, M.P. (**Absent**)
Cde. S.F. Mohamed, M.P. (**Absent**)
Cde. I. Basir, M.P. (**Absent**)
Cde. Dalchand, J.P., 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. (**Absent**)

OFFICERS

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

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

PRAYERS

1982-12-23
14:00 hrs

National Assembly

14:00 – 14:05 hrs

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave to Members

The Speaker: Leave has been granted to Cde. Beniparshad for today's Sitting, to Cde. Janet Jagan from 10th December to 10th January, 1983 and to the hon. Member Mr. Feilden Singh for today's Sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS & REPORTS

The following Papers were laid:

- (a) Financial Paper No. 4/1982 – Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totaling \$35,099,150, for the period ended 1982-12-15.

In terms of Standing Order No. 68(1), the Vice President, Economic Planning and Finance named Thursday 1982-12-30 as the day for consideration of the Financial Paper in the Committee of Supply.

- (b) Annual Reports (3) of the National Insurance Board for the years 1979, 1980 and 1981.
/The Vice-President, Economic Planning and Finance./

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

Electricity and Domestic Water Supply Situation

The Minority Leader (Cde. Dr. C. Jagan): Cde. Speaker, I communicated with you today on a question which I regard as urgent and of public importance. That is, the very critical and calamitous situation with respect to the electricity and water situation. As you are aware and others are aware - -

The Speaker: You have already said what you have to say. I will now rule whether you will get the opportunity.

Cde. C. Jagan: All I wanted to say at this point –

The Speaker: You have already said it. Dr. Jagan, I am also satisfied that the matter is an urgent one and of public importance. But under our Standing Orders and rules, this is what is said:

“The Motion shall be refused when an ordinary Parliamentary opportunity will occur shortly as well as when the matter could be raised under estimates.”

We have supplementary Estimates. I have looked at it and on pages 1, 7 and 8 there will be ample opportunity next Thursday.

Cde. Dr. C. Jagan: Cde. Speaker, if I may add a word on that, while I agree with you that opportunity will be presented shortly, I am sure you will agree with me that this matter is of such grave importance that we need a full – scale debate on it. This is a recurring decimal.

The Speaker: If you put a substantive Motion you will have a full-scale debate. I have already told the Leader of the Assembly that these things should be debated. I told him and I am saying it publicly, that your Motions and Questions should be given consideration.

14:10 hrs

The Minority Leader: Cde. Speaker, what I am saying is I just want to have a word on that. You know, as a matter of fact, that we have protested this matter in this Assembly before. The people have to suffer many hardships that is why I am asking you to use your discretion on occasions like this. It is of vital and critical importance. Therefore, let us have a debate now.

The Speaker: No, no. Comrades, we have already exchanged Christmas greetings, but I would like to invite members for a drink after the sitting is adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

Resolved, “That this Assembly do now adjourn until Thursday, 30th December, 1982 at 14:00hrs.” /The Vice –President, Party and State Matters./

Adjourned accordingly at 14:14hrs.