

**Bill No. 24 of 1963 (L.A.)**

PUBLISHED 10TH AUGUST, 1963

No. 37

**BILL NO. 24 OF 1963 (L.A.)  
GOVERNMENT LOTTERIES BILL, 1963.**

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## A BILL

## Intituled

AN ORDINANCE to provide for the promotion and conduct of Government lotteries.

Enacted by the Legislature of British Guiana:—

A.D. 1963.

1. This Ordinance may be cited as the Government Lotteries Ordinance, 1963.

Short title.

2. In this Ordinance —

Interpretation.

“financial year” means the twelve months ending on the thirty-first day of December in any year or on such other date as may from time to time be prescribed by any law of the Legislature;

“Government lottery” means a lottery organised and conducted by the Government Lotteries Control Committee under the provisions of section 3 of this Ordinance;

“the Minister” means the Minister responsible for finance.

3. The provision of any other Ordinance to the contrary notwithstanding it shall be lawful for the Government Lotteries Control Committee as hereinafter constituted, (hereinafter referred to as “the Committee”) with the approval of the Minister, to organise and conduct from time to time a Government lottery, and in relation thereto to do all such acts and things and give all such directions as it may deem necessary or as may be prescribed and, without limiting the generality of the foregoing power, in particular—

Power to  
organise and  
conduct  
Government  
lotteries.

- (a) to fix the number and price of tickets to be issued for any such lottery;
- (b) to appoint and remunerate agents for the sale of such tickets;
- (c) to employ such staff as may be necessary and to fix the remuneration thereof, provided that any salary in excess of four thousand, eight hundred dollars per annum shall be subject to the approval of the Council of Ministers;
- (d) to incur such other expenses as may be necessary for organising and conducting the lottery;
- (e) to fix the number and value of the prizes to be apportioned;
- (f) to determine the time when, the place where and the manner in which drawings shall take place for the allotment of prizes.

4.(1) The Committee shall consist of not more than five members appointed by the Minister one of whom shall be a public officer.

Constitution  
of Committee.

(2) The Minister shall appoint one of the members other than the public officer to be the Chairman of the Committee and he shall preside at all meetings. In the absence of the Chairman from any meeting the members present shall elect one of their number to preside at that meeting.

(3) The Minister may appoint an acting Chairman during the temporary absence of the Chairman owing to illness, inability to attend, absence from the Colony or other reasonable cause.

(4) In the case of incapacity from illness or any other temporary cause or temporary absence from the Colony of any member, the Minister may appoint some other person to act as a temporary member during the time such incapacity or absence continues.

(5) Three members shall form a quorum at any meeting.

(6) The member presiding at any meeting shall have an original and a casting vote.

Remuneration  
of members of  
Committee.

5. A member of the Committee other than a public officer shall be paid such remuneration, and allowances (if any) as the Minister may determine.

Tenure of  
office of  
members of  
Committee.

6.(1) A member other than a public officer shall hold office for one year and shall be eligible for re-appointment.

(2) Any member other than the public officer, may, by writing under his hand addressed to the Minister, resign from the Committee.

(3) The Minister may grant leave of absence to any member of the Committee.

Proceeds of  
Government  
lotteries.

7.(1) All moneys received from the sale of tickets in every Government lottery shall be paid into a deposit account in the Treasury Department and such account shall be called the Government Lotteries Account.

(2) In respect of each Government lottery there shall be paid out of the Government Lotteries Account the prizes and all other charges connected therewith. If at any time the sum standing to the credit of the Government Lotteries Account is insufficient to meet, either wholly or in part, the payment of the prizes in respect of a Government lottery or any charges connected therewith, the deficit shall be made good from the revenues of the Colony.

(3) At the end of each financial year there shall be paid into the Development Fund of British Guiana, after allowing for all expenses and the amount reserved for prizes, the amount standing to the credit of the Government Lotteries Account.

Regulations

8.(1) The Minister may make regulations for carrying out the provisions of this Ordinance and without prejudice to the generality of the foregoing such regulations may—

- (a) prescribe the conditions to be observed by agents appointed for the sale of tickets for Government lotteries and the rights, obligations and liabilities of such agents;
- (b) prescribe the form or contents of such tickets;
- (c) prescribe the information to be published concerning any Government lottery and the manner in which it shall be published;
- (d) prescribe the time within which and the manner in which prizes shall be claimed;
- (e) provide for the disposal of unclaimed prizes or money or of prizes or money as to which any dispute has arisen;
- (f) prescribe the persons who shall be present at any drawing for the allotment of prizes and their powers and duties in relation thereto and to any dispute or difficulty which may arise in the conduct of the drawing.

(2) Regulations made under this section may prescribe that in certain events to be specified and after such time as shall be specified the proceeds of unclaimed prizes shall be forfeited and paid into the Government Lotteries Account.

### OBJECTS AND REASONS

The purpose of this Bill is to provide for the promotion and conduct of Government lotteries. Government lotteries shall be organised and conducted from time to time by a Committee to be known as the Government Lotteries Control Committee which shall be empowered to fix the number and value of the prizes to be apportioned and the number and

price of tickets to be issued for each lottery, and to determine the time when, the place where and the manner in which drawings shall take place for the allotment of prizes.

2. The Government Lotteries Control Committee shall consist of not more than five members, one of whom shall be a public officer, appointed by the Minister of Finance.

3. The proceeds of the sale of tickets in every Government lottery shall, subject to deduction of the moneys apportioned for prizes and for expenses incurred in the conduct of the lottery, be paid into the Development Fund of British Guiana.

CHARLES JACOB, JR.,  
Minister of Finance.

(M.P. G. 183/53 II (1) ).  
(Bill 24/1963 (L.A.) ).