FIRST SESSION

1969

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 16th Sitting of the National Assembly under the Constitution of Guyana, held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

THURSDAY, 20TH MARCH, 1969

#### PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. R.B. Gajraj, C.B.E., J.P.

# (a) Members of the Government

# (i) Ministers

- The Hon. L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C., Prime Minister
- Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance.
- The Honourable R.J. Jordan, Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources.
- The Honourable M. Kasim, Minister of Communications.
- The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, Minister of Home Affairs.
- The Honourable N.J. Bissember, Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs.
- The Honourable C.M.L. John, Minister of Local Government.
- The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour and Social Security.
- Mrs. the Honourable S.M. Patterson, Minister of Education.
- The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Housing and Reconstruction.
- The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, C.M.G., Q.C., Attorney-General and Minister of State.
- The Honourable M.W. Carter, Minister of Information.
- The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Works and Hydraulics.
- Dr. the Honourable Sylvia Talbot, Minister of Health.

# (ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Local Government.

Mr. J.G. Joaquin, O.B.E., J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Finance.

Mr. W. Haynes, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Hydraulics.

Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources.

Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister.

# (iii) Other Members

Mr. J.N. Aaron

Miss M.M. Ackman

Mr. K. Bancroft

Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.

Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue

Mr. O.E. Clarke, Deputy Speaker

Mr. E.F. Correia

Mr. M. Corrica

Mr. E.H.A. Fowler

Mrs. P.A. Limerick

Mr. S.M. Saffee

Mr. D.A. Singh

Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman

Mr. C.E. Wrights

Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

# (b) Members of the Opposition

Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition Mr. Ram Karran

Mr. R. Chandisingh

Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye

Mr. D.C. Jagan

Mr. E.M.G. Wilson Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P.

Mr. G.H. Lall

Mr. M.Y. Ally

Mr. R.D. Persaud, J.P.

Mr. R. Ally

Mr. E.L. Ambrose

Mrs. L.M. Branco

Mr. Balchand Persaud

Mr. Bhola Persaud

Mrs. R.P. Sahoye

Mr. V. Teekah

Mr. R.E. Cheeks

Mrs. E. DaSilva

Mr. M.F. Singh

Mr. J.A. Sutton

# Absent

The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister without Portfolio
Mr. E.M. Steby
Mr. I. Remington, J.P.

#### PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

# Plague for the portrait of the Prime Minister

His Honour the Speaker read a letter received from the Demerara Company Limited forwarding a plaque for the protrait of the Prime Minister which that Company had presented to Parliament on the occasion of Guyana's attainment of Independence.

# PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

#### By the Minister of Finance:

Loan Agreement between Guyana, Guyana Rice
Development Company, Limited and the
United States of America for a Rice
Modernization Project - Dated: March 11,
1969 - A.I.D. Loan Number 504-L-008.

(G. 304Q/58)(Circulated).

#### STATEMENTS BY MINISTERS

#### Statement by the Prime Minister on Anguilla.

The Prime Minister made a statement concerning the Government of Guyana's stand on the question of Anguilla since the illegal overthrow of constitutional government in the Island in March, 1967.

#### PUBLIC BUSINESS

#### MOTION

# Item 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1969

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to resume consideration of the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1969 totalling \$146,698,155 (excluding \$20,567,751 which is chargeable by law). (See motion at Appendix to Minutes of Thursday, 6th March, 1969).

# In Committee of Supply

HEAD 28 - MINISTRY OF ACRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES - FORESTS was passed as printed at		<b>8.</b> . 530,926
HEAD 29 - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES - GEOLOGICAL SURVEYS AND MINES was passed as printed at		462,603
HEAD 30 - MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND NATURAL RESOURCES - LANDS was passed as printed at		736,425
DIVISION -MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND XIII NATURAL RESOURCES was passed as printed at		6,711,400
HEAD 31 - MINISTRY OF TRADE was passed as printed at	•••	167,813
DIVISION- MINISTRY OF TRADE was passed as XIV printed at	•••	25,000
HEAD 36 - MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HYDRAULICS - ESTABLISHMENT was under consideration when the time for the Suspension of the Sitting was reached.		

## Assembly resumed

# SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for tea.

# RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.35 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to resume consideration of the Estimates of expenditure for 1969.

#### In Committee of Supply

HEAD 36 -	MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HYDRAULICS - ESTABLISHMENT was passed as printed at	- 	\$ 3,254,998
HEAD 37 -	MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HYDRAULICS- ANNUALLY RECURRENT was passed as printed at		6,825,472
DIVISION- XVI	MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HYDRAULICS was passed as printed at		24,715,000
DIVISION- XVIA	MINISTRY OF WORKS AND HYDRAULICS—IBRD/IDA PROJECTS was passed as printed at		1,504,000

HEAD 32 - MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS was passed as printed at

.. \$ 262,422

HEAD 33 - MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS POST OFFICE was under
consideration when the time
for the Suspension of the
Sitting was reached.

#### Assembly resumed.

#### SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.30 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

# RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.05 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to resume consideration of the estimates of Expenditure for 1969.

# In Committee of Supply

HEAD 33 -	MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS - POST OFFICE was passed as printed at		2,566,420
HEAD 34 -	MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS - TRANSPORT AND HARBOURS was passed as printed at		2,000,000
HEAD 35 -	MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS - CIVIL AVIATION was passed as printed at	•	351,487
DIVISION-	MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS was passed as printed at		5,913,000
HEAD 56 -	MINISTRY OF HOUSING AND RECONSTRUCTION was passed as printed at		\$ 1,232,718

# Assembly resumed

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 10.05 p.m. the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 21st March, 1969.

RAHMAN B. GAJRAJ

SPEAKER

PUBLIC BUILDINGS, Georgetown.

21st March, 1969.