

FIRST SESSION

1969

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 38th 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

FRIDAY, 5TH SEPTEMBER, 1969

PRESENT:

His Honour the Deputy Speaker, Mr. O.E. Clarke - In the Chair

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

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

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister
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. 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. Zahooruddin, J.P.

(b) Members of the Opposition

Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition
 Mr. Ram Karan
 Dr. F.H.W. Remsahoye
 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. Bholu Persaud
 Mr. V. Teekah
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. M.F. Singh

Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.) - Mr. M.D. Henry
 Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.) - Mr. R.H. Fraser

Absent

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. R.B. Gajraj,
 C.B.E. J.P. - on leave
 The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C.,
 Prime Minister.
 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
 The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister without
 Portfolio
 Dr. the Honourable Sylvia Talbot, Minister
 of Health
 Mr. E.F. Correia
 Mr. R. Chandisingh
 Mr. E.M. Stoby
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye
 Mr. J.A. Sutton - on leave
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

His Honour the Deputy Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Dr. Talbot for the period 27th September to 12th October, 1969.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By His Honour the Deputy Speaker:

Report of the Ombudsman for the year ended
31st December, 1968.

(OMB: 1/13)(Circulated).

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ORGANISATIONS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1969 - Bill No. 21/1969

The Minister of Finance on behalf of the Government presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL ORGANISATIONS ACT, 1966, AND TO MAKE CERTAIN CONSEQUENTIAL AMENDMENTS TO THE BANK OF GUYANA ORDINANCE, 1965.

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILL - Committee

ITEM 1 - RICE MARKETING (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1969 -
Bill No. 20/1969 published 28.8.69

Assembly resumed consideration of the following Bill in Committee:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE RICE MARKETING ORDINANCE, TO DISSOLVE THE GUYANA RICE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY, LIMITED, AND TO MAKE MINOR AMENDMENTS TO THE GUYANA RICE PRODUCERS ASSOCIATION ORDINANCE.

In Committee

Clauses 11 to 19 were passed as printed.

Assembly resumed

On a motion by the Minister of Finance the Bill was read a third time and passed as amended in Committee.

MOTION

ITEM 2 - MOTION TO WRITE-OFF AMOUNTS OWED TO GOVERNMENT BY THE
GUYANA RICE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY AND THE GUYANA RICE
MARKETING BOARD

The Minister of Finance, in accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, signified the Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approve of the write-off of the amounts owed as follows:-

(a) By the Guyana Rice Development Company:

- (i) Two million, four hundred and eighty-seven thousand eight hundred and eighty-five dollars (\$2,487,885.00) being part payment, by the Government of capital \$2,400,000.00 and interest \$87,885.00, on account of loan owing to the Commonwealth Development Corporation by the Guyana Rice Development Company;
- (ii) Two million one hundred and thirty-six thousand dollars (\$2,136,000.00) being the balance of capital owing on the aforesaid loan which has been refinanced by the Government with effect from the 1st day of October, 1967; and
- (iii) One million eight hundred thousand dollars (\$1,800,000.00) being overdraft loans owing to the Commercial Banks by the Guyana Rice Development Company and refinanced by the Government with effect from 14th day of June, 1968.

(b) By the Guyana Rice Marketing Board:

Two million nine hundred and three thousand and seventy-five dollars and twenty-nine cents (\$2,903,075.29) being part of the capital amount owed by the Rice Marketing Board to the Government with interest thereon from 14th June, 1968.

Mr. Ram Karan and Mr. Balchand Persaud spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

REMARKS OF APPRECIATION

Before the adjournment was taken, the Hon. Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs informed the Assembly that the appointment of the Acting Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly, Mr. Ronald H. Fraser, would terminate at that sitting. He therefore, on behalf of the Assembly, placed on record the deep appreciation of the very fine manner in which Mr. Fraser had carried out his duties during the four months of his acting appointment.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.05 p.m. on a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



O. E. CLARKE
Deputy Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

16th September, 1969.