

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

SECOND SESSION

1970

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 2nd 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

TUESDAY, 17TH MARCH, 1970

PRESENT:

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

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, S.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, S.C., Minister of Home Affairs

The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour and
Social Security

The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of
Education (Leader of the House)

The Honourable B. Rensaroop, Minister of Trade

The Honourable D.A. Singh, Minister of Housing and
Reconstruction

The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C.,
Attorney-General and Minister of State

The Honourable M.W. Carter, C.C.H., Minister of
Information and Culture

The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Works, Hydraulics
and Supply

The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister without Portfolio

Dr. the Honourable Sylvia Talbot, Minister of Health

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

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

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

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

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

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

Mr. C.V. Mingo, Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Local Government

(iii) Other Members

Mr. O.E. Clarke, Deputy Speaker
 Mr. J.N. Aaron
 Miss M.M. Ackman
 Mr. K. Bancroft
 Mr. N.J. Bissember
 Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.
 Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue
 Mr. E.F. Correia
 Mr. M. Corrica
 Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
 Mrs. P.A. Limerick
 Mr. S.M. Saffee
 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. E.M. Stoby
 Mr. R. Ally
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose
 Mrs. L.M. Branco
 Mr. Balchand Persaud
 Mr. Bholá Persaud
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye
 Mr. V. Teekah
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. M.F. Singh
 Mr. J.A. Sutton
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

Clerk of the National Assembly - Mr. F.A. Narain
 Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly - Mr. M.B. Henry

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF GUYANA

As determined by the Acting President under article 30(5) of the Constitution of Guyana, by the President (Date of Election) Order, 1970 (No. 13), made and published in the Gazette on 23rd February, 1970, the meeting of the Assembly was held for the purpose of electing the President of Guyana.

The persons who were candidates for election as President were Mr. Arthur Chung and Mr. Ashton Chase who were nominated in accordance with article 30(6) of the Constitution on 23rd February, 1970.

In accordance with article 30(4) of the Constitution a secret ballot was taken for election to the office of President of Guyana.

The number of votes received by each candidate was as follows:-

Mr. Arthur Chung	-	34
Mr. Ashton Chase	-	18

Mr. Chung, having received the votes of more than half of all the elected Members of the Assembly, was declared by His Honour the Speaker to be elected President of Guyana in accordance with article 30(8) of the Constitution.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 2.25 p.m. the sitting was suspended to enable the President-elect to attend the meeting to take and subscribe the oath of office.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

RECEPTION OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE ACTING PRESIDENT, MR. E.V. LUCKHOO, S.C.

His Excellency the Acting President, Mr. E.V. Luckhoo, S.C., was received by the Assembly.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.32 p.m. the sitting was suspended to enable the Speaker, the Acting President, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition, the Leader of the United Force and their wives to meet the President-elect and his wife on their arrival at the Public Buildings.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.40 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

OATH OF PRESIDENT

The President-elect and his wife, escorted by the Acting President, the Prime Minister, the Leader of the Opposition and Leader of the United Force entered the Chamber.

In accordance with article 32A(1) of the Constitution, the Chancellor administered the oath of office to the President-elect.

CONGRATULATIONS TO THE PRESIDENT

The President was congratulated by -

- (i) His Honour the Speaker, Mr. R.B. Gajraj J.P.
- (ii) The Leader of the United Force, Mr. M.F. Singh
- (iii) The Leader of the Opposition, Dr. C.B. Jagan
- (iv) The Prime Minister, the Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, S.C., and
- (v) Mr. R.E. Cheeks.

RECEIPT OF LETTER FROM THE STAFF AND PUPILS OF ST. ANTHONY'S ANGLICAN SCHOOL, WINDSOR FOREST, WEST COAST, DEMERARA

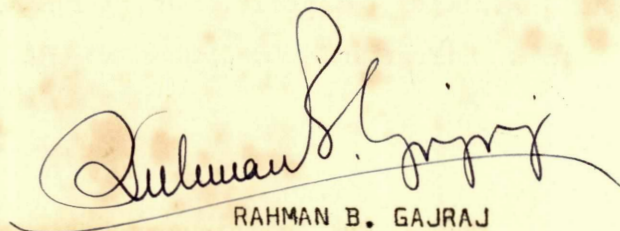
At this stage His Honour the Speaker read a letter addressed to His Excellency the President by the staff and pupils of St. Anthony's Anglican School, Windsor Forest, West Coast, Demerara, in connection with his nomination to the Office of President.

REPLY BY THE PRESIDENT

Thereafter, His Excellency the President, Mr. Arthur Chung, replied to the congratulatory speeches.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.00 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Education: (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



RAHMAN B. GAJRAJ

Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

18th March, 1970.