#### THIRD SESSION

1971

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

WEDNESDAY, 19TH MAY, 1971

### PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. Sase Narein, J.P.

# (a) Members of the Government

#### (i) Ministers

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy frime Minister and Minister of Agriculture

The Honourable M. Kasim, A.A., Minister of Communications

The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, S.C., Minister of Finance

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

The Honourable Miss 5.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Education

The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Trade (Leader of the House)

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

The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs

The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Local Government

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

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, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

Mr. W. Haynes, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister

Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture

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

Mr. C.E. Wrights, J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply

# (iii) Other Members

Mr. J.N. Aaron

Miss M.M. Ackman, Government Whip

Mr. K. Bancroft

Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.

Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue

Mr. E.F. Correia

Mr. M. Corrica

Mr. E.H.A. Fowler

Mr. R.J. Jordan

Mr. S.M. Saffee

Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman

Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

Mrs. L.E. Willems

## (b) Members of the Opposition

Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition

Mr. Ram Karran

Mr. R. Chandisingh

Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C.

Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker

Mr. E.M.G. Wilson

Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip X

Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P.

Mr. M.Y. Ally

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

Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.

Mr. R. Ally

Mr. E.L. Ambrose

Mrs. L.M. Branco

Mr. Balchand Persaud

Mr. Bhola Persaud

Mrs. R.P. Sahoye

Mrs. E. DaSilva

Mr. M.F. Singh

Mr. J.A. Sutton

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

#### Absent:

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, S.C.,

Prime Minister

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

The Honourable H.O. Jack,

Minister of Mines and Forests

- on leave

- on leave

Mr. N.J. Bissember

Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.

Mr. V. Teekah

Mr. R.E. Cheeks

#### PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

# ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

# (i) Letter from Leader of Parliamentary Delegation from Yugoslavia

His Honour the Speaker read a letter dated 7th May, 1971, received from Mr. Peko Dapcevic, Vice-President of the Yugoslav Federal Assembly, and Leader of the Parliamentary Delegation which visited Guyana from the 6th to the 9th of April, 1971, expressing thanks for the friendly and cordial reception extended to the Members of the Delegation while they were in Guyana.

# (ii) Leave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to -

- (a) Mr. Bissember from 16th May to 3rd June, 1971, and
- (b) Mr. Teekah for five weeks from 19th May, 1971.

#### PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

(1) By the Speaker:

Report of the Ombudsman for 1969.

(PARL: 12/1/2)(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Finance:

Customs Duties (Amendment) Order, 1971 (No. 24), made under section 8 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, on the 30th of April, 1971, and published in the Gazette on the 1st of May, 1971.

(C. Ex. 22 (1))

(3) By the Minister of Communications:

Annual Report of the Transport and Harbours
Department for the year 1968.

(C-12/4/7)(Circulated)

(4) By the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House) on behalf of the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply:

East Demerara Water Conservancy Board Report for the year 1970.

(No. DI. 23/3 ( Bood.))

#### INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

# Presentation end First Reading

(1) TEACHERS PENSIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1971 - Bill
No. 8/1971 published 15.5.71

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE TEACHERS
PENSIONS ORDINANCE FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPROVING
THE SUPERANNUATION BENEFITS OF TEACHERS.

# (2) TOWN OF CHRISTIANBURG/WISMAR/MACKENZIE (CHANGE OF NAME) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 9/1971 published 15.5.71

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO EFFECT A CHANGE IN THE NAME OF THE TOWN OF CHRISTIANBURG/WISMAR/MACKENZIE AND IN THE TOWN COUNCIL OF THE TOWN.

# (3) VALUATION FOR RATING PURPOSES (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 10/1971

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MEND THE VALUATION FOR RATING PURPOSES ACT. 1969.

# PUBLIC BUSINESS

# ITEM 1 - COMMITTEE OF SELECTION

Under Standing Order No. 70(1)(b), the following Members were nominated to comprise the Committee of Selection, with His Honour the Speaker as Chairman:

The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Trade (Leader of the House)

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

Miss M.M. Ackman, Government Whip

Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip

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

Mr. M.F. Singh

## SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 23(3)

On a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), Standing Order No. 23(3) was suspended to enable the motion at Item 2 on the Order Paper to be proceeded upon at that sitting.

# MOTION

# ITEM 2 - MOTION TO APPROVE OF THE GOVERNMENT'S POLICY ADUMBRATED IN THE PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS

Mrs. Willems moved the following motion:

# BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves of the Government's policy adumbrated in the President's Address for the present Session of Parliament made to the National Assembly at its Sitting on Friday, the 14th of May, 1971.

Mr. Budhoo seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak later.

Mr. Stoby, Mr. Ram Karran and the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House) spoke to the motion.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 4.12 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Thursday, the 20th of May, 1971.

5) NARAIN

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Georgetown.

20th May, 1971.