

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

THIRD SESSION

1971

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 9th 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, 17TH JUNE, 1971

PRESENT:

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

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, S.C., Prime Minister
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 S.M. Field-Ridley, Minister of Education
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Trade (Leader of the House)
The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Local Government
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, S.C., Attorney-General and Minister of State
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests
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. 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
 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
 Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P.
 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
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. M.F. Singh
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

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

Absent:

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy
 Prime Minister and Minister of
 Agriculture - on leave
 The Honourable D.A. Singh, Minister
 of Housing and Reconstruction
 Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P.
 Mr. V. Teekah - on leave
 Mr. J.A. Sutton - on leave

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Mr. Sutton for that day's sitting.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 3 of 1971

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified the Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 3 of 1971 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current Estimates for the period ending 30th June, 1971, totalling \$6,000,000.

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Finance the Assembly adopted the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly agree with the Committee of Supply in the following Resolution:

"RESOLVED, That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 3 of 1971 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current Estimates for the period ending 30th June, 1971, totalling \$6,000,000."

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 23(1)

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, Standing Order No. 23(1) was suspended to enable the item on the Supplementary Order Paper for that day's sitting to be proceeded upon.

ITEM 2 - MOTION TO APPROVE OF GOVERNMENT GUARANTEEING A LOAN TO THE GUYANA BAUXITE COMPANY, LIMITED, JOINTLY WITH THE GUYANA DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION

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

WHEREAS on the 1st day of June, 1971, the National Assembly by Resolution approved of the Government of Guyana guaranteeing the repayment of a short-term loan of four million dollars (U.S.) to be made by the Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A., to the Guyana Development Corporation for a period of twelve months in relation to the take-over of the Demerara Bauxite Company, Limited;

AND WHEREAS subsequent to that Resolution the Guyana Bauxite Company, Limited, has been incorporated and registered on the 3rd day of June, 1971, and it is the purpose of the Government of Guyana to vest in that Company the assets of the Demerara Bauxite Company, Limited, acquired by the State pursuant to the Bauxite Nationalisation Act, 1971;

AND WHEREAS the Guyana Bauxite Company, Limited, is to be made a party to the said loan of four million dollars (U.S.) to be made by the Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A.:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Assembly approve of the Government of Guyana guaranteeing the repayment of a short-term loan of four million dollars (U.S.) to be made by the Chase Manhattan Bank, N.A. to the Guyana Bauxite Company, Limited, jointly with the Guyana Development Corporation, for a period of twelve months in relation to the take-over of the Demerara Bauxite Company, Limited.

Mr. Ram Karran and the Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.06 p.m. the sitting was suspended for tea.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.45 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

ITEM 3 - MOTION ON GOVERNMENT'S FOREIGN POLICY

The Attorney-General and Minister of State moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approves of the Foreign Policy of the Government of Guyana and the action taken by the Government in the field of Foreign Affairs.

Mr. R.D. Persaud spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.30 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.06 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Mr. Chandisingh and Mr. M.F. Singh spoke to the motion.

The Leader of the Opposition was speaking to the motion, when at 9.55 p.m. the debate was interrupted to enable the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House) to move the suspension of Standing Order No. 9(1).

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 9(1)

On a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), Standing Order No. 9(1) was suspended to enable the Assembly to sit beyond 10.00 p.m.

RESUMPTION OF THE FOREIGN POLICY DEBATE

The Leader of the Opposition was speaking to the motion when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 10.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for coffee.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 10.20 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

The Leader of the Opposition concluded his speech.

Thereafter, the Prime Minister replied.

The motion was then put and carried on the following division:

FOR

Mr. M.F. Singh
Mrs. Da Silva
Mrs. Willems
Mr. Zaheeruddeen
Mr. Van Sluytman
Mr. Saffee
Mr. Jordan
Mr. Fowler
Mr. Corrica
Mr. Chan-A-Sue
Mr. Budhoo
Mr. Bissember
Mr. Bancroft
Miss Ackman
Mr. Aaron

AGAINST

Mr. Remington
Mr. Bholu Persaud
Mr. Balchand Persaud
Mrs. Branco
Mr. R. Ally
Mr. R.D. Persaud
Mr. M.Y. Ally
Mr. Lall
Mr. Hamid
Mr. Wilson
Mr. D.C. Jagan
Dr. Ramsahoye
Mr. Chandisingh
Mr. Ram Karran
Dr. Jagan

	<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
<u>Brought</u>		
<u>Forward:</u>	15	15
Mr. Wrights		
Mr. Thomas		
Mr. Salim		
Mr. Haynes		
Mr. Duncan		
Mr. Joaquin		
Mr. Mingo		
Mr. Clarke		
Mr. Ramsaroop		
Miss Field-Ridley		
Mr. Carrington		
Mr. Hoyte		
Mr. Kasim		
Mr. Burnham		
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	29	15
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ADJOURNMENT

At 11.40 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, the 21st of June, 1971.

S. Narain
S. NARAIN
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown,
19th June, 1971.