THIRD SESSION

1971

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 15th 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, 9TH JULY, 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

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime 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 S.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.O. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests

Dr. the Honourable Sylvia Talbot, Minister of Health

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

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. E.F. Correia

Mr. E.H.A. Fowler

Mr. R.J. Jordan

Mr. S.M. Saffee

Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman

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

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

Mr. Balchand Persaud

Mr. Bhola Persaud

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

Mr. V. Teekah

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

Absent:

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

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

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

Mr. N.J. Bissember - on leave

Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue

Mr. M. Corrica

Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P. - on leave

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

Mr. E.M.G. Wilson

Mrs. L.M. Branco - on leave
Mrs. R.P. Sahoye - on leave

Mrs. E. Da Silva

Mr. M.F. Singh

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

Leave

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

- (a) Mr. Zaheeruddeen from 5th to 24th July, 1971, and
- (b) Mrs. Branco for that day's sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

- (1) By the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House) on behalf of the Minister of Finance:
 - (a) Customs Duties (Amendment) Order, 1971 (No. 35), made under section 8 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, on the 23rd of June, 1971, and published in the Gazette on the 26th of June, 1971.

(C.Ex. 5 V(11)(Circulated)

(b) Ninth Annual Report and Statement of Accounts of the Guyana Electricity Corporation for the year ended 31st December, 1961.

(G 380^B/60 III)(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Mines and Forests:

Annual Report of the Geological Survey Department for the year 1970.

(MF: 4/8) (Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS

* QUESTION NO. 3

Mr. Ram Karran asked the Minister of Health the following question:

Question:

Will the Minister say whether consideration is being given to the payment of compensation or an ex-gratia award to the children of the late Pauline Greaves of Campbellville who died as a result of the administration of an antitetanus injection at the Public Hospital, Georgetown?

If so, how soon will payment be made?

The Minister of Health gave the following reply:

Answer:

Consideration is being given to the making of an ex-gratia payment in respect of the death of the late Pauline Greaves. The payment will be effected as soon as all relevant details have been settled.

Supplementary questions were asked by Mr. Ram Karran.

ON DEFINITE MATTERS OF URGENT PUBLIC IMPORTANCE

The Leader of the Opposition sought leave to move the adjournment of the Assembly to discuss the financial provision for the University of Guyana for the academic year beginning October, 1971.

His Honour the Speaker disallowed the request since he did not consider the matter urgent.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS

Presentation and First Reading

BAUXITE NATIONALISATION (MODIFICATION) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 14/1971

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS
TO THE BAUXITE NATIONALISATION ACT, 1971, CONSEQUENT
ON THE INCORPERATION OF THE GUYANA BAUXITE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

SUSPENSION OF STANDING ORDER NO. 46(2) and (3)

The Minister of Mines and Forests moved the suspension of paragraphs (2) and (3) of Standing Order No. 46 to enable the Bauxite Nationalisation (Modification) Bill, 1971, to be proceeded with at that sitting.

The Leader of the Opposition spoke to the motion.

The motion was then put and carried.

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 1 - BAUXITE NATIONALISATION (MODIFICATION) BILL, 1971 Bill No. 14/1971

The Minister of Mines and Forests moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE CERTAIN MODIFICATIONS
TO THE BAUXITE NATIONALISATION ACT, 1971, CONSEQUENT,
ON THE INCORPORATION OF THE GUYANA BAUXITE COMPANY,
LIMITED.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time, and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ADJOURNMENT

At 2.25 p.m., the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), moved the adjournment of the Assembly to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, the 12th of July, 1971.

Mr. Ram Karran and the Prime Minister spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

At 2.30 p.m., the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, the 12th of July, 1971.

S. NARAIN

Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE, Public Buildings, Georgetown. 12th July, 1971.