

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

THIRD SESSION

1971

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 18th 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, 3RD AUGUST, 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

(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. N.J. Bissember  
 Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.  
 Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue  
 Mr. E.F. Correia  
 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

Mr. Ram Karran  
 Mr. R. Chandisingh  
 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. E.M. Stoby, 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.  
 Mr. V. Teekah  
 Mrs. E. Da Silva  
 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

Absent:

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  
 Mr. K. Bancroft  
 Mr. M. Corrica - on leave  
 Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition - on leave  
 Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C. - on leave  
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye - on leave

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER(1) Leave

His Honour the Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Mr. Corrica for the period 30th July to 17th August, 1971

(2) Resignation of Dr. Talbot

His Honour informed the Assembly that he was advised that Dr. Talbot had resigned as Minister of Health with effect from the 16th of July, 1971, and therefore, she was no longer a Member of the National Assembly.

(3) Death of the wife of Mr. Bancroft

His Honour, on behalf of the Members and himself, extended deepest sympathy to Mr. Bancroft on the death of his wife.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Communications:

Guyana Telecommunication Corporation Annual Report for the year 1969.

(C-21/2/4)(Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERSQUESTION NO. 7

Mr. Ram Karran, on behalf of Dr. Jagan, asked the Prime Minister the following question:

Question: Is the Prime Minister aware that local employees of the Pegasus Hotel Ltd. are not allowed to go back to the Hotel during off-duty hours, but that white, non-Guyanese employees are allowed to do so?

If so, will the Prime Minister take steps to correct this discrimination against Guyanese?

The Prime Minister gave the following reply:

Answer: Investigations have revealed that the allegation of discrimination against Guyanese employees and in favour of white, non Guyanese employees of the Pegasus Hotel is unfounded.

A supplementary question was asked by Mr. Ram Karran.



INTRODUCTION OF BILLSPresentation of First Reading

- (1) TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1971 - Bill No. 16/1971  
published 28.7.71

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 TAX ORDINANCE.

- (2) PUBLIC CORPORATIONS (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1971 -  
Bill No. 18/1971 published 31.7.71

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

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE PUBLIC CORPORATIONS ORDINANCE, 1962, FOR THE PURPOSE OF ESTABLISHING THE GUYANA STATE CORPORATION AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES CONNECTED THEREWITH.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 4/1971

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 Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposal set out in Financial Paper No. 4/1971 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Capital Estimates for the period ending 31st of July, 1971, totalling \$1,500,000.00.

**After consideration of the Schedule, the motion was put and carried.**

Assembly resumed.

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

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

"RESOLVED, That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposal set out in Financial Paper No. 4/1971 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Capital Estimates for the period ending 31st of July, 1971, totalling \$1,500,000.00."

ITEM 2 - MOTION TO APPROVE THE AMENDMENT OF THE DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

WHEREAS the Development Programme of Guyana for the period 1966 to 1972 was approved by Resolution LXXIV of the House of Assembly of 25th April, 1966;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by Section 3 of the Public Loan Ordinance as it has effect by virtue of the Guyana Independence Order, 1966, that any modification, amendment, or extension of and substitution for the said Development Programme may be approved by the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it is necessary to amend the said Development Programme so as to provide for additional capital expenditure as follows:-

Chapter XXII - Housing \$2.0 m. to implement a programme of housing for ~~trade~~ union members:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in pursuance of Section 3 of the Public Loan Ordinance, 1966, approve of the amendment of the Development Programme for the period 1966 to 1972 as aforesaid.

Mr. Chandisingh and Mr. Sutton spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.55 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, the 4th of August, 1971.

  
S. NARAIN

Speaker