

THIRD SESSION

1971

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 19th 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, 4TH 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

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

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. J.G. Joëquin, 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. 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
 Mrs. L.E. Willems

(b) Members of the Opposition

Mr. Ram Karran
 Mr. R. Chandisingh
 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. V. Teekah
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. M.F. Singh

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.O. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests
 Mr. K. Bancroft - on leave
 Mr. N.J. Bissember
 Mr. M. Corrica - on leave
 Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P. - on leave
 Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition - on leave
 Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C. - on leave
 Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.R.
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye - on leave
 Mr. J.A. Sutton
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

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

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERSQUESTION NO. 8

Mr. R. Ally asked the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture the following question:

Question: Will the Minister say why rice farmers are required to pay 36¢ for water transportation on every bag of rice they deliver to the Rice Marketing Board's bond at Springlands when grading and blending is taking place at the bond?

The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Agriculture gave the following reply:

Answer: Delivery of all consignments of rice must be made at the Board's Warehouse in Georgetown. A single schedule of purchase prices which is published every year includes this condition and is therefore applied to all purchases, irrespective of the area in which the rice is produced.

The fact that the Board erected a Blending Plant at Corriverton (Springlands) in 1965 does not change the situation because the farmer, if he had to sell at the Central Warehouse, would have had to pay the freight.

A Supplementary question was asked by Mr. R. Ally.

QUESTION NO. 9

Mr. M.Y. Ally asked the Minister of Finance the following question:

Question: Will the Minister state what was the value of -

- (a) Imports from CARIFTA countries for the three-month period January-March, 1971?
- (b) Exports to CARIFTA countries for the same three-month period?

The Minister of Finance gave the following reply:

- Answer: (a) Imports from CARIFTA countries for the three-month period January-March, 1971 - \$8,529,714.
- (b) Exports to CARIFTA countries for the same three-month period - \$7,425,004.

QUESTION NO. 10

Mr. M.Y. Ally asked the Minister of Finance the following question:

Question: Will the Minister state what was the Customs Revenue for the three-month periods January-March, 1970, and January-March, 1971?

The Minister of Finance gave the following reply:

- Answer: (a) Customs revenue for the three-month period January-March, 1970, was \$14,252,997.
- (b) Customs revenue for the three-month period January-March, 1971, was \$13,715,495.

Supplementary questions were asked by Mr. M.Y. Ally.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTION RECOMMENDING THE CONSTRUCTION OF A ROAD THROUGH SOPHIA TO THE EAST BANK ROAD

Mr. Wilson moved the following motion:

WHEREAS vehicular traffic through Georgetown is excessive and can be reduced considerably if traffic originating from the East Bank for the East Coast and vice versa is diverted by the construction of a "ring road" joining the two roads at convenient points near Georgetown:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly recommends the early construction of a public road through Sophia to meet the East Bank Road at Meadow Bank.

Mr. Ram Karran seconded the motion and reserved the right to speak later.

Mr. M.F. Singh, the Minister of Works, Hydraulics and Supply and Mr. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and negatived on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>DECLINED TO VOTE</u>
Mr. Teekah	Mrs. Willems	Mr. M.F. Singh
Mr. Balchand Persaud	Mr. Van Sluytman	Mrs. Da Silva
Mrs. Branco	Mr. Saffee	
Mr. Ambrose	Mr. Jordan	
Mr. R. Ally	Mr. Fowler	
Mr. R.D. Persaud	Mr. Correia	
Mr. M.Y. Ally	Mr. Chan-A-Sua	
Mr. Lall	Mr. Budhoo	
Mr. Hamid	Miss Ackman	
Mr. Wilson	Mr. Aaron	
Mr. Chandisingh	Mr. Wrights	
Mr. Ram Karran	Mr. Thomas	
	Mr. Salim	
	Mr. Haynes	
	Mr. Duncan	
	Mr. Joaquin	
	Mr. Mingo	
	Mr. Clarke	
	Mr. D.A. Singh	
	Mr. Ramsaroop	
	Miss Field-Ridley	
	Mr. Carrington	
	Mr. Hoyte	
	Mr. Kasim	
	Dr. Reid	
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ADJOURNMENT

At 3.12 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, the 9th of August, 1971.

S. Narain
S. NARAIN

Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

9th August, 1971.