

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

THIRD SESSION

1971 - 1972

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 60th 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, 27TH JULY, 1972

PRESENT:

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

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

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 B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Housing and  
Reconstruction (Leader of the House)  
The Honourable D.A. Singh, Minister of Trade  
The Honourable O.E. Clarke, Minister of Home Affairs  
The Honourable C.V. Mingo, Minister of Local Government  
The Honourable W. Haynes, Minister of State for  
Co-operatives and Community Development  
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister of Mines and Forests  
The Honourable E.B. McDavid, Minister of Information  
and Culture  
The Honourable Miss C.L. Baird, Minister of Education

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

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  
 Mr. E.M.G. Wilson  
 Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P., Opposition Whip  
 Mr. G.H. Lall, J.P.  
 Mr. M.Y. Ally  
 Mr. Reepu Daman Persaud, J.P.  
 Mr. R. Ally  
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose  
 Mrs. L.M. Branco  
 Mr. Balchand Persaud  
 Mr. Bholu Persaud  
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.  
 Mr. L.A. Durant  
 Mrs. E. DaSilva

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 Miss S.M. Field-Ridley,  
 Minister of Health - on leave  
 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 - on leave  
 Mr. P. Duncan, J.P., Parliamentary  
 Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture  
 Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary,  
 Ministry of Agriculture - on leave  
 Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye, S.C. - on leave  
 Mr. D.C. Jagan, J.P., Deputy Speaker  
 Mr. E.M. Stoby, J.P. - on leave  
 Mr. V. Teekah - on leave  
 Mr. M.F. Singh - on leave  
 Mr. J.A. Sutton - on leave  
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

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

- (i) Mr. Joaquin for two weeks from 24th July,
- (ii) Mr. Salim for that sitting,
- (iii) Dr. Ramsahoye for one month from 27th July,
- (iv) Mr. Stoby from 24th to 28th July, and
- (v) Mr. M.F. Singh for that sitting.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

- (1) By the Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House) on behalf of the Deputy Prime Minister of Minister of Agriculture:

Annual Report of the Ministry of  
Agriculture for the year 1970.

(A:17/6)(Circulated)

- (2) By the Minister of Finance:

- (a) Financial Paper No. 3/1972 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates for the period ending 25th July, 1972, totalling \$3,286,178.

(2/5 V)(Circulated)

In terms of Standing Order No. 69(1), the Minister named Monday, 31st July, 1972, as the day for consideration of the Financial Paper.

- (b) Constitutional Offices (Holders' Allowances)(Amendment) Order 1972 (No. 56), made under the Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) Ordinance 1962 (No. 26 of 1962), on the 28th of June, 1972 and published in the Gazette on the 8th of July, 1972.

(G: 655/1)(Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERS -Question No. 31

Mr. Bholu Persaud asked the Minister of Education the following question:

- Question:
- (i) Will the Minister say why the school at Sans Souci, Wakenaam, which was built by self-help, has not yet been opened?
  - (ii) In view of over-crowding of children at the existing school, will the Minister say how soon the new school will be brought into use?

The Minister of Education gave the following reply:

- Answer:
- (i) The existing school at Sans Souci is a Methodist School and it is proposed that the new school should be a Government School. The Education Code provides for the Governing Body to be given six months notice of Government's intention to withdraw the grant to the Methodist School. This notice has been given.
  - (ii) The new school opens in September, 1972.

Supplementary questions were asked by Mr. Bholu Persaud, and by the Leader of the Opposition.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 2/1972

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to consider Financial Paper No. 2/1972.

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:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 2/1972 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates for the period ending 31st May, 1972, totalling \$3,725,913.

The Financial Paper was under consideration when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.05 p.m. the sitting was suspended for refreshments.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply to resume consideration of Financial Paper No. 2/1972.

In Committee of Supply

The Financial Paper was still under consideration when at 6.30 p.m., it was agreed that the sitting should not be suspended then, but should continue up to 7.00 p.m.

The Committee resumed and completed consideration of the Financial Paper.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

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. 2/1972 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates, for the period ending 31st May, 1972, totalling \$3,725,913."

ITEM 2 - MOTION TO CONFIRM CUSTOMS DUTIES (EXEMPTION FROM IMPORT DUTIES) ORDER 1972 (No. 59)

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly in terms of section 9 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309, confirm the Customs Duties (Exemption from Import Duties) Order 1972 (No. 59), which was made on the 10th July, 1972 and published in the Gazette on the 15th July, 1972.

Mr. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

ITEM 3 - MOTION TO AMEND 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 No. LXXIV of the 27th April, 1966, of the House of Assembly;

AND WHEREAS it is provided by section 3 of the Public Loan Ordinance 1966 that any modification, amendment or extension of 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 additional capital expenditure in the sum of \$1,300,000 under Chapter XXII in so far as it relates to the programme for official housing:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in pursuance of section 3 of the Public Loan Ordinance 1966 approve of the amendment of Guyana's Development Programme for the period 1966 - 1972 by increasing the sum provided for Official Housing under the said Chapter XXII by \$1,300,000 to provide for additional housing facilities under the programme for Official Housing.

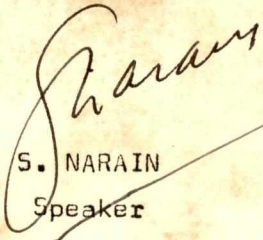
Mr. Chandisingh spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance replied.

Thereafter the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNMENT

At 7.00 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Housing and Reconstruction (Leader of the House), the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, the 31st of July, 1972.

  
S. NARAIN  
Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

29th July, 1972.