

FIRST PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

SECOND SESSION

1967

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 23rd Sitting of the National Assembly of Guyana under the Constitution of Guyana, held in the Parliament Chamber at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

ON

WEDNESDAY, 22ND NOVEMBER, 1967

PRESENT:

His Honour the Deputy Speaker, Mr. R.C. Tello - In the Chair

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Minister of Finance  
The Honourable N.J. Bissember, Minister for Parliamentary Affairs  
The Honourable R.E. Cheeks, Minister of Local Government  
The Honourable E.F. Correia, Minister of Communications  
The Honourable Mrs. W. Gaskin, Minister of Education  
The Honourable L. John, Minister of Home Affairs  
The Honourable W.O.R. Kendall, C.B.E., J.P., Minister of Health and Housing  
The Honourable C.A. Merriman, J.P., Minister of Labour and Social Security  
The Honourable M.W. Carter, Minister of Information

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. D.B. deGroot, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister  
Mr. G. Bowman, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources  
Mr. O.E. Clarke, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister  
Mr. J.G. Joaquin, O.B.E., J.P., Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Works and Hydraulics  
Mr. C.V. Too-Chung, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Finance

(iii) Other Members

Mr. W.A. Blair  
Mr. J. Budhoo  
Mr. W.G. Carrington  
Mr. R.G. Field-Ridley  
Mr. D. Mahraj  
Mr. H. Prashad, J.P.  
Mr. T.A. Sancho  
Mr. J.H. Thomas  
Rev. A.B. Trotman  
Mr. H.M.S. Wharton, J.P.

(b) Members of the Opposition

Mr. A. Chase  
Mr. B.H. Benn  
Mr. R. Chandisingh  
Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard  
Dr. Charles Jacob, Jr.  
Mr. C.V. Nunes  
Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye  
Mr. E.M.G. Wilson  
Mr. M. Hamid, J.P.  
Mr. J.R.S. Luck  
Mr. D.C. Jagan  
Mr. H. Lall  
Mr. M. Khan, J.P.  
Mr. Y. Ally  
Mr. L. Linde  
Mr. R.D. Persaud, J.P.  
Mr. M.N. Poonai  
Mr. E.M. Stoby

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, Q.C.,  
Prime Minister  
The Honourable R.J. Jordan, Minister of  
Agriculture and Natural Resources - on leave  
The Honourable M.F. Singh, Minister of  
Works and Hydraulics  
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, C.M.G., Q.C.,  
Attorney-General and Minister of State  
The Honourable H.C. Spence, Minister of Trade  
Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary,  
Ministry of Local Government  
Mr. P.S. d'Aguiar  
Mr. M. Kasim - on leave  
Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition - on leave  
Mr. Ram Karran - on leave  
Dr. S.A. Ramjohn  
Mr. S.M. Saffee  
Mr. M. Bhagwan - on leave

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.



ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

(i) Leave

His Honour the Deputy Speaker announced that leave had been granted to Mr. Wilson for three weeks.

(ii) Government motion on the devaluation of the Guyana dollar

His Honour the Deputy Speaker announced that the motion by the Minister of Finance published in Notice Paper No. 38, would be debated on Friday, 24th November, 1967.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

Item 1 - MOTION TO ANNUL THE CONSTITUTIONAL OFFICES (REMUNERATION OF HOLDERS) (NO. 2) ORDER, 1967

Dr. Jacob moved and Mr. Hubbard seconded the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly annul the Constitutional Offices (Remuneration of Holders) (No. 2) Order, 1967

Mr. Lall and the Minister of Home Affairs spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, Dr. Jacob replied.

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

FOR

Mr. Poonai  
Mr. Linde  
Mr. Ally  
Mr. Khan  
Mr. Lall  
Mr. Jagan  
Mr. Luck  
Mr. Hamid  
Mr. Wilson  
Mr. Nunes  
Dr. Jacob  
Mr. Hubbard  
Mr. Chandisingh  
Mr. Benn  
Mr. Chase

AGAINST

Mr. Wharton  
Rev. Trotman  
Mr. Thomas  
Mr. Sancho  
Mr. Prashad  
Mr. Mahraj  
Mr. Field-Ridley  
Mr. Carrington  
Mr. Budhoo  
Mr. Blair  
Mr. Too-Chung  
Mr. Joaquin  
Mr. Bowman  
Mr. degroot  
Mr. Merriman  
Mr. Kendall  
Mr. John  
Mrs. Gaskin  
Mr. Correia  
Mr. Cheeks  
Mr. Bissember  
Dr. Reid



Item 2 - MOTION TO EXTEND THE NEW AMSTERDAM ELECTRIC LIGHTING ORDER, 1900

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the New Amsterdam Electric Lighting Order, 1900, as amended from time to time, be extended for a period of one (1) year up to and including 31st December, 1968.

Mr. Lall and Mr. Hubbard spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

Item 3 - MOTION TO APPROVE THAT THE CABINET GUARANTEE PAYMENTS TO BE MADE BY THE GUYANA TELECOMMUNICATION CORPORATION

At the request of the Minister for Parliamentary Affairs (Leader of the House), consideration of the undermentioned motion was deferred:

WHEREAS the General Electric Company Limited and Telephone Cables Limited have agreed to enter into a contract with the Guyana Telecommunication Corporation for the supply and installation of equipment and telephone cable networks estimated to cost \$17,227,200.00;

AND WHEREAS the Midland Bank has agreed to enter into a financial agreement with the Corporation to assist the financing of the contract to the extent of 80% of the value of United Kingdom goods and services, estimated at \$12,585,600.00 by purchasing promissory notes, bearing interest at 5½% effected by the Corporation;

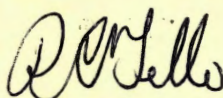
AND WHEREAS it is required that all payments due under the abovementioned contract and the abovementioned agreement should be guaranteed by the Cabinet, in accordance with section 20(1) of the Public Corporations Ordinance, 1962 (No. 23) which guarantee requires the approval of the National Assembly:

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly approve that the Cabinet guarantee payments to be made by the Corporation under the abovementioned contract and the abovementioned financial agreement.

ADJOURNMENT

At 3.57 p.m. on a motion by the Leader of the the House, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 24th November, 1967.



DEPUTY SPEAKER

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

24th November, 1967