

SECOND SESSION

1958 - 1959

MINUTES of the Proceedings of a Meeting of the Finance Committee of the Legislative Council of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution)(Temporary Provisions) Orders in Council, 1953 and 1956, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.  
on

TUESDAY, 3RD FEBRUARY, 1959.

PRESENT:

Hon. Financial Secretary, Mr. F.W. Essex - Chairman.  
Hon. Minister of Trade and Industry - Dr. C.B. Jagan.  
Hon. Minister of Community Development and Education - Mr. B.H. Benn.  
Hon. Minister of Natural Resources - Mr. E.B. Beharry  
Hon. Minister, of Labour, Health and Housing - Mrs. Janet Jagan.  
Hon. Minister of Communications and Works - Mr. Ram Karran.  
Mr. S.M. Saffee  
Mr. W.O.R. Kendall  
Mr. L.F.S. Burnham  
Mr. S. Campbell  
Mr. A.L. Jackson  
Mr. Jai Narine Singh  
Mr. R.C. Tello  
Mr. A.M. Fredericks  
Mr. H.J.M. Hubbard  
Mr. A.G. Tasker, O.B.E.

with Mr. E.V. Viapree, Assistant Clerk of the Legislature,  
Clerk to the Committee,  
and Mr. G.W. Williams, Assistant Secretary (Ag.), Finance Secretariat.

Absent:

Mr. F. Bowman  
Mr. B.S. Rai  
Mr. Ajodha Singh  
Mr. R.B. Gajraj  
Mr. R.E. Davis.

AGENDA.

Consideration of the Draft Estimates, (Recurrent and Development) for 1959.

The Honourable Chief Secretary (Ag.) was present during consideration of HEAD 44 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION and HEAD 48 - SUPREME COURT.

Committee resumed consideration of HEAD 34 - MISCELLANEOUS - SUBVENTIONS, ETC., OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL, and approved the following subheads:-

Subhead 52 - Grant to Salvation Army for After Care Work - passed as printed	- \$2,400
Subhead 53 - Grant to Young Men's Christian Association - passed as printed	- 2,650

Subhead 54 - Grant to Salvation Army for Belfield Girls' School - Maintenance expenses - passed as printed	- \$9,550
Subhead 55 - Grant to Young Women's Christian Association - passed as printed	- 1,800
Subhead 56 - Grant to Girl Guides Association - passed as printed	- 1,000
Subhead 57 - Grant to Boy Scouts Association - passed as printed	- 1,000
Subhead 58 - Grant to Discharged Prisoners Aid Committee - passed as printed	- 5,000
Subhead 59 - Grant to Salvation Army for Social Work - passed as printed	- 1,440
Subhead 60 - Remand Home for Boys - passed as printed	- 3,960
Subhead 61 - Grant to Methodist Church, Clubland - passed as printed	- 750
Subhead 62 - Grant to Children's Dorcas Club - passed as printed	- 2,000
Subhead 63 - Catholic Youth Organisation - Grant - passed as printed	- 750
Subhead 64 - Grant to Boys' Brigade and Girls' Guildry - passed as printed	- 500
Subhead 65 - Grant to Community Development Clearing House - passed as printed	- 245

At the request of the Chairman, the Committee agreed to the insertion of a new subhead, viz.:

66. International Sports and Games Meetings....\$10,000

HEAD 34 - MISCELLANEOUS - SUBVENTIONS, ETC., OTHER THAN MUNICIPAL, was further increased by \$10,000 and passed at \$1,349,196.

HEAD 31 - MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY.

Committee resumed consideration of the above Head which was deferred at the meeting of 30th January, and after discussing F.C. Memorandum No. 3/1959 - "Proposed New Financial Arrangements to facilitate the Promotion and Development of Minor Industries" (submitted by the Minister of Trade and Industry) - recommended the provision of the sum of \$36,000 for the purchase of capital equipment, also the opening of Suspense Accounts totalling \$45,000:-

HEAD 31 - MINISTRY OF TRADE AND INDUSTRY, was accordingly further increased by \$36,000 and passed at \$111,753.

HEAD 29 - MINISTRY OF LABOUR, HEALTH AND HOUSING - passed as printed - \$41,210

HEAD 52 - COMMODITY CONTROL.

Committee considered F.C. Memorandum No. 4/1959 - "Increase in the Prices of Copra, Crude Oil and Subsidisation of Edible Oil", and at the request of the Chairman, agreed to an increase of \$104,545:- in respect

of the following item:-

Appendix K - (Page 44).

MISCELLANEOUS

Trading Loss - deodorised and crude coconut oil -  
(increased by \$104,545 to \$109,545:-).

HEAD 52 - COMMODITY CONTROL was accordingly increased by \$104,545 and passed at \$183,356.

HEAD 44 - PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION -  
passed as printed - \$38,863:

HEAD 48 - SUPREME COURT

PERSONAL EMOLUMENTS.

Fixed Establishment.

(2) 5 Puisne Judges.

Following a discussion on the above item, Mr. Jai Narine Singh moved and Mr. Burnham seconded that two (2) more Judges should be appointed to the Supreme Court.

The question was put and the Committee divided and voted thereon as follows:-

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>	<u>DID NOT VOTE.</u>
Mr. Fredericks	Mr. Hubbard	Mr. Tasker,
Mr. Jai Narine Singh	Mr. Saffee	
Mr. Jackson	Mr. Ram Karran	
Mr. Burnham	Mrs. Jagan	
Mr. Kendall	Mr. Beharry	
	Mrs. Benn	
<u>5.</u>	<u>6.</u>	<u>1.</u>

Motion negatived.

HEAD 48 - SUPREME COURT was passed as printed - \$361,503:-

HEAD 51 - LOANS FROM PUBLIC FUNDS.

At the request of the Chairman, item 1, Loans to Local Authorities was increased by \$50,000:- to \$100,000:-

HEAD 51 - LOANS FROM PUBLIC FUNDS was accordingly increased by \$50,000 and passed at \$185,000:-

HEAD 20 - INTERIOR

EXTRAORDINARY

At the request of the Chairman, HEAD 20 - INTERIOR was recommitted.

Following a discussion, the Committee agreed to an increase of \$4,500:- (to provide for the purchase of a Land Rover for the North West District) in respect of subhead 15 - Purchase of Land Rovers.

Total, Extraordinary, was accordingly increased by \$4,500:- and passed at \$10,210:-

HEAD 20 - INTERIOR was further increased by \$4,500 and passed at \$206,127:-.

Adjournment

At 5.00 p.m. the Chairman adjourned the Meeting to Friday, 6th February that is, after the Meeting of the Legislative Council fixed for that day.

Confirmed this            day of February, 1959.

Chairman,  
Finance Committee.

Assistant Clerk of the Legislature,  
Clerk to the Committee.