

BRITISH GUIANA

FIRST LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

SECOND SESSION

1962

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 5 h Sitting of the Legislative Assembly of the Colony of British Guiana under the British Guiana (Constitution) Order in Council, 1961, held in the Chamber of the Legislature at the Public Buildings, Georgetown, Demerara,

AT 2.00 P.M.

on

FRIDAY, 21ST DECEMBER, 1962.

(a) Members of the Government

People's Progressive Party

(i) Ministers

Dr. the Honourable C.B. Jag n,  
Premier and Minister of Development and Planning.  
The Honourable B.H. Benn,  
Minister of Natural Resources.  
The Honourable Ram Karran,  
Minister of Works and Hydraulics.  
The Honourable R. Chandisingh,  
Minister of Labour, Health and Housing.  
Dr. the Honourable Charles Jacob, Jr.,  
Minister of Finance.  
Dr. the Honourable F.H.W. R ahoye,  
Attorney-General.  
The Honourable E.M.G. Wilson  
Minister of Communications

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. G. Bowman, Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Ministry of Natural Resources.  
Mr. L.E.M. Mann, Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Ministry of Finance.  
Mr. S.M. Saffee, Parliamentary Secretary to the  
Ministry of Works and Hydraulics.

(iii) Other Members

Mr. G.L. Robertson  
Mr. M. Bhagwan  
Mr. J.B. Caldeira  
Mr. V. Downer  
Mr. M. Hamid  
Mr. D.C. Jagan  
Mr. H. Lall  
Mr. M. Shakoor

(b) Members Constituting the Minority

(i) People's National Congress

Mr. L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C.  
Mr. W.O.R. Kendall, Deputy Speaker.  
Mr. J. Carter, Q.J.  
Mr. F.F. Correia  
Mr. N.J. Bissessar  
Mr. W.A. Blair

Mr. R.S.S. Hugh  
 Mr. J.G. Joaquin  
 Mr. R.J. Jordan  
 Mr. C.A. Merriman  
 Mr. H.M.S. Wharton

(ii) United Force

Mr. P.S. d'Aguiar  
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks  
 Mr. E.E. Melville

Clerk of the Legislature - Mr. I. Crum E ing.  
 Assistant Clerk of the Legislature - .F.A. Narain (Ag.)

Absent:

Mr. S. Campbell.  
 Mr. B.S. Rai.

PRAYERS

The Clerk read prayers.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

Item 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE PAYMENT OF PENSIONS AT REVISED RATES.

In terms of Standing Order No. 21, the Minister of Finance laid over the Governor's recommendation

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

RESOLVED, That the Legislature approves of the payment of additional cost-of-living allowances with effect from 1st January, 1961, to supplement those now in force, to Government pensioners (including teachers), who retired prior to 1st January, 1961, and to Widows' and Orphans' pensioners who were awarded pensions based on pre-1961 contributions, as follows:

(i)

Cost-of-living allowances at equal to the difference between the current pension and the pension payable on the equivalent revised salary at 1st January 1961.

(ii) To all other pensioners (including Widows' and Orphans' pensioners)

(a) 10% of "gross" pension (basic and cost-of-living allowance, if any) on "gross" pensions not exceeding \$1,200 per annum.

(b) \$120 per annum on "gross" pensions (basic plus cost-of-living allowance, if any) exceeding \$1,200 per annum;

AND FURTHER RESOLVED, That the Widows' and Orphans' pensions awarded after 1st January, 1954, but based on pre-1954 contributions, be increased by a cost-of-living allowance so as to bring the gross pensions payable from 1st January, 1961, in line with gross pensions based on the same contributions but awarded before 1st January, 1954.

## T'S POLICY AS SET

Assembly resumed consideration of the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this Legislative of  
the Government's policy as set out in His  
Excellency the Governor's Address at the  
opening of the Second Session of the Legislature  
on 10th December, 1962.

Mr. Bhagwan concluded his speech.

Mr. Jordan spoke to the motion.

Mr. Melville was speaking when the hour for the suspension was reached.

Suspension of Sitting

At 4.03 p.m. the sitting was suspended for tea.

Resumption of Sitting

At 4.37 p.m. the sitting resumed.

Mr. Melville concluded his speech.

Mr. Cheeks, Mr. Bowman and Mr. Joaquin spoke to the motion.

PROGRAMME OF BUSINESS

The Minister of Natural Resources announced that the business and sittings of the Assembly had been fixed as follows:

Monday, 31st December, 1962,  
at 9.30 a.m.

the Minister of Finance  
could present and move  
the second reading of the  
appropriation Bill, 1963.

Wednesday, 2nd to Friday,  
4th January, 1963,  
at 2.00 p.m.

debate on motion to accept  
Government's policy as  
set out in the Governor's  
address.

Monday, 7th to Friday, 11th  
January, 1963, at  
2.00 p.m.

(debate on second reading  
of the Appropriation Bill,  
1963.)

CHRISTMAS GREETINGS

As this was the last sitting of the Assembly before Christmas, the Minister of Natural Resources, on behalf of the Assembly, wished His Honour the Speaker and his family a merry and a peaceful Christmas.

Mr. Burnham associated himself with the remarks and also extended the good wishes to the other Members of the Assembly and to the Staff of the Legislature.

In reply, His Honour the Speaker, on behalf of himself and his family and the Staff of the Legislature, thanked the Members and reciprocated the good wishes. He added that Mr. Kendall, the Deputy Speaker, had asked him to express his regrets at having to leave before the adjournment, and to convey to Members best wishes for the Holiday Season.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.22 p.m., on a motion by the  
Resources, the Assembly was  
the 31st of December, 1962.

of Natural  
a.m. on Monday,

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,  
Georgetown.