
FIRST SESSION

1969

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 7th 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

FRIDAY, 28TH FEBRUARY, 1969

PRESENT:

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. R.B. Gajraj, C.B.E., J.P.

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C.,
Prime Minister
Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid,
Minister of Finance
The Honourable R.J. Jordan, Minister
of Agriculture and Natural
Resources
The Honourable M. Kasim, Minister of
Communications
The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, Minister
of Home Affairs
The Honourable N.J. Bissember, Minister
of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs
The Honourable C.M.L. John, Minister
of Local Government
The Honourable W.G. Carrington,
Minister of Labour and Social
Security
Mrs. the Honourable S.M. Patterson,
Minister of Education
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister
of Housing and Reconstruction
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, Q.C., C.M.G.,
Attorney-General and Minister of State
The Honourable M.W. Carter, Minister of
Information
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of
Works and Hydraulics
The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister
without Portfolio
Dr. the Honourable S.E. Talbot,
Minister of Health

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

- Mr. J.G. Joaquin, O.B.E., J.P.,
Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Finance
- Mr. W. Haynes, Parliamentary
Secretary, Ministry of Works
and Hydraulics
- Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary
Secretary, Ministry of
Agriculture and Natural
Resources
- Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary
Secretary, Office of the
Prime Minister

(iii) Other Members

- Mr. J.N. Aaron
Miss M.M. Ackman
Mr. K. Bancroft
Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.
Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue
Mr. O.E. Clarke, Deputy Speaker
Mr. E.F. Correia
Mr. M. Corrica
Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
Mrs. P.A. Limerick
Mr. S.M. Saffee
Mr. D.A. Singh
Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman
Mr. C.E. Wrights
Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

(b) Members of the Opposition

- Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the
Opposition
- Mr. Ram Karran
Mr. R. Chandisingh
Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye
Mr. D.C. Jagan
Mr. E.M.G. Wilson
Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P.
Mr. G.H. Lall
Mr. M.Y. Ally
Mr. R.D. Persaud, J.P.
Mr. R. Ally
Mr. E.L. Ambrose
Mrs. L.M. Branco
Mr. Balchand Persaud
Mr. V. Teekah
Mr. R.E. Cheeks
Mrs. E. DaSilva
Mr. J.A. Sutton

Clerk of the National Assembly - Mr. F.A. Narain
Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly - Mr. M.B. Henry

Absent

Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary,
 Ministry of Local Government
 Mr. E.M. Stoby
 Mr. Bhola Persaud
 Mr. I. Remington
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye
 Mr. M.F. Singh

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC. -

By the Minister of Finance

Estimates of Revenues and Expendi-
 ture of Guyana for the financial
 year 1969.

(Circulated).

PUBLIC BUSINESSORDER OF BUSINESS

The Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs announced that it was agreed between the Government and Opposition that Item 2 on the Order Paper should be considered before Item 1.

MOTIONSItem 2 - MOTION TO ABOLISH CERTAIN OFFICES AND TO
 CREATE NEW POSTS

The Prime Minister moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That, with effect from 1st March, 1969, this National Assembly approve of -

- (a) the creation of a post of Principal Assistant Secretary on the Staff of the Ministry of Local Government and the abolition therefrom of the offices of Commissioner of Local Government and Deputy Commissioner of Local Government;

- (b) the creation of a post of Chief Interior Development Officer with salary at the rate of \$9,600 per annum on the Staff of the Interior Department and the abolition therefrom of the office of Commissioner of the Interior.

Mr. Hamid, Mr. Cheeks, Mr. Wilson, Mr. Ram Karran and Dr. Jagan spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the Prime Minister replied.

At the end of the Prime Minister's reply, His Honour the Speaker informed the Assembly that the Cabinet's recommendation for the Assembly to proceed with the motion had been submitted to him.

The question on the motion was then put and carried.

Item 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE THE ESTIMATES OF EXPENDITURE FOR 1969

In terms of article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified that the Cabinet had recommended that the Assembly should proceed upon the motion for the approval of the Estimates of Expenditure for the year 1969, totalling \$146,698,155 (excluding \$20,567,751 which is chargeable by law).

The Minister was reading the Budget Statement when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.00 p.m. the Sitting was suspended for tea.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

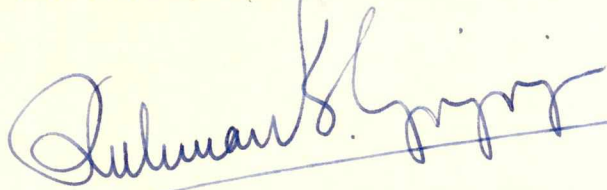
At 4.35 p.m. the Sitting was resumed.

The Minister of Finance concluded his reading of the Budget Statement and moved the motion to approve the Estimates of Expenditure for the financial year 1969, totalling \$146,698,155 (excluding \$20,567,751 which is chargeable by law). (See Appendix).

Thereafter, he named Thursday, the 6th of March, 1969, as the day for the resumption of the debate on the motion.

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.10 p.m. on a motion by the
Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs,
the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on
Thursday, 6th March, 1969.



RAHMAN B. GAJRAJ

SPEAKER

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.

3rd March, 1969

APPENDIX

WHEREAS the Constitution of Guyana requires that estimates of the revenues and expenditure of Guyana for any financial year should be laid before the National Assembly before or not later than sixty days after the commencement of that year;

AND WHEREAS the Constitution also provides that when the estimates of expenditure have been approved by the Assembly an Appropriation Bill shall be introduced in the Assembly providing for the issue from the Consolidated Fund of the sums necessary to meet that expenditure;

AND WHEREAS estimates of the revenues and expenditure of Guyana for the financial year 1969 have been prepared and laid before the Assembly on 28th February, 1969;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly approve the estimates of expenditure for the financial year 1969, totalling one hundred and forty-six million, six hundred and ninety-eight thousand, one hundred and fifty-five dollars (excluding twenty million, five hundred and sixty-seven thousand, seven hundred and fifty-one dollars which is chargeable by law) as detailed therein and summarised in the under-mentioned schedule, and agree that it is expedient to amend the law and to make further provision in respect of finance.

Division No. in Capital Estimates	Head No. in Current Estimates		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
	1	Governor-General		54,786
I		Governor-General	-	
	2	Supreme Court of Judicature		514,032
	3	Magistrates		654,557
II		Judiciary	-	
	4	Parliament Office		90,858
III		Parliament	-	
	5	Audit		249,356
	6	Ombudsman		14,275
	7	Public and Police Service Commissions		246,431
	8	Public Prosecutions		98,877
IV		Other Services not under Ministerial Control	-	
	9	Office of the Prime Minister and Cabinet		448,691
	10	Guyana Defence Force		3,576,167
V		Prime Minister	3,440,000	
	11	Public Service Ministry		239,925
VI		Public Service Ministry	300,000	
	12	Ministry of External Affairs		2,015,461
VII		Ministry of External Affairs	195,000	
	13	Ministry of Economic Development		1,412,858
	14	Ministry of Economic Development - Interior		355,535
VIII		Ministry of Economic Development	4,475,000	
	15	Attorney General		215,894
	16	Attorney General - Official Receiver		90,156
	17	Attorney General - Deeds Registry		106,770
IX		Attorney General	-	
	18	Ministry of Information		782,416
X		Ministry of Information	490,400	
Carried Forward			8,900,400	11,167,045

Division No. in Capital Estimates	Head No. in Current Estimates		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
		Brought Forward	8,900,400	11,167,045
	19	Ministry of Home Affairs		621,806
	20	Ministry of Home Affairs - Police		7,279,531
	21	Ministry of Home Affairs - Prisons		1,071,183
	22	Ministry of Home Affairs - Fire Protection Services		925,244
	23	Ministry of Home Affairs - Printery		739,548
	24	Ministry of Home Affairs - Probation and Welfare Service		345,117
XI		Ministry of Home Affairs	615,000	
	25	Ministry of Local Government		732,238
XII		Ministry of Local Government	176,000	
	26	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources		974,507
	27	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources - Agriculture		3,422,883
	28	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources - Forests		530,926
	29	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources - Geological Surveys and Mines		462,603
	30	Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources - Lands		736,425
XIII		Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources	6,711,400	
	31	Ministry of Trade		167,813
XIV		Ministry of Trade	25,000	
	32	Ministry of Communi- cations		262,422
	33	Ministry of Communi- cations - Post Office		2,566,420
	34	Ministry of Communi- cations - Transport and Harbours		2,000,003
	35	Ministry of Communi- cations - Civil Aviation		351,487
		Carried Forward	16,427,800	31,356,698

Division No. in Capital Estimates	Head No. in Current Estimates		AMOUNT	
			Capital \$	Current \$
		Brought Forward	16,427,800	34,356,698
XV		Ministry of Communi- cations	5,913,000	
	36	Ministry of Works & Hydraulics - Establishment		3,254,998
	37	Ministry of Works & Hydraulics - Annually Recurrent		6,825,472
XVI		Ministry of Works & Hydraulics	24,715,000	
XVIA		Ministry of Works & Hydraulics - IBRD/IDA Projects	1,504,000	
	38	Ministry of Education		3,028,845
	39	Ministry of Education - In Service Teacher Training Programme		113,911
	40	Ministry of Education - Primary, Multi-Lateral and Secondary Schools		12,265,918
	41	Ministry of Education - Practical Instruction Centres		547,471
	42	Ministry of Education - Government Training College - Pre Service Teacher Training Programme		185,918
	43	Ministry of Education - Technical Institute		398,068
	44	Ministry of Education - Carnegie School of Home Economics		104,942
	45	Ministry of Education - Queen's College		335,107
	46	Ministry of Education - Bishops' High School		237,534
	47	Ministry of Education - Anna Regina Secondary School		102,567
	48	Ministry of Education - Berbice High School		174,024
XVII		Ministry of Education	3,943,000	
XVIIA		Ministry of Education - IBRD/IDA Projects	446,000	
	49	Ministry of Health		628,281
	50	Ministry of Health - Medical		2,386,437
	51	Ministry of Health - Bacteriological		290,019
		Brought Forward	52,948,800	65,236,210

Division No. in Capital Estimates	Head No. in Current Estimates	AMOUNT	
		Capital \$	Current \$
	Brought Forward	52,948,800	65,236,210
	52 Ministry of Health - X-Ray		155,677
	53 Ministry of Health - Hospitals and Dispensaries etc.		7,119,210
	54 Ministry of Health - Analyst		117,071
	55 Ministry of Health - Registration, Immigration, Births, etc.		117,921
XVIII	Ministry of Health	512,000	
	56 Ministry of Housing & Reconstruction		1,232,718
	57 Ministry of Housing & Reconstruction - Town & Country Planning		156,653
XIX	Ministry of Housing & Reconstruction	690,000	
	58 Ministry of Labour and Social Security		542,644
	59 Ministry of Labour and Social Security - Employ- ment Exchange		66,411
	60 Ministry of Labour and Social Security - Social Assistance		3,986,693
XX	Ministry of Labour and Social Security	325,000	
	61 Ministry of Finance		206,523
	62 Ministry of Finance - Accountant General		1,510,751
	63 Ministry of Finance - Customs & Excise		1,641,004
	64 Ministry of Finance - Inland Revenue		1,465,567
	65 Ministry of Finance - Post Office Savings Bank		76,294
	66 Ministry of Finance- Pensions and Gratuities		730,854
	67 Ministry of Finance - Public Debt		350,154
XXI	Ministry of Finance	7,510,000	
		61,985,800	84,712,355
	TOTAL	\$146,698,155	