

SECOND PARLIAMENT OF GUYANA

FIRST SESSION

1969

MINUTES of the proceedings of the 26th 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

TUESDAY, 24TH JUNE, 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, Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Finance
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 B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Housing and
Reconstruction
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, C.M.G., Q.C.,
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 Sylvia Talbot, Minister of Health

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary,
Office of the Prime Minister
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. Corrêia
 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
 M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.

(b) Members of the Opposition

Mr. Ram Karran
 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. E.M. Stoby
 Mr. R. Ally
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose
 Mrs. L.M. Branco
 Mr. Balchand Persaud
 Mr. Bhola Persaud
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mr. V. Teekah
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. J.A. Sutton

Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.) - Mr. M.B. Henry
 Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly (Ag.) - Mr. R.H. Fraser

Absent

The Honourable R.J. Jordan, Minister
 of Agriculture and Natural Resources - on leave
 The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister
 of Labour and Social Security - on leave
 Mrs. the Honourable S.M. Patterson,
 Minister of Education
 Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition - on leave
 Mr. R. Chandisingh - on leave
 Mr. M.Y. Ally - on leave
 Mr. R.D. Persaud, J.P. - on leave
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye - on leave
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks - on leave
 Mr. M.F. Singh - on leave

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

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

- (a) Mr. Jordan for the period 23rd June to 2nd July, 1969.
- (b) Mr. R.D. Persaud for six weeks from the 18th of June, 1969.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs on behalf of the Minister of Home Affairs:

Annual Report of the Commissioner of Police for the year 1967.

(P. 77/11 X)(Circulated)

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONS

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

In terms of article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified the Cabinet's recommendation in connection with Financial Papers Nos. 3, 4 and 5 of 1969.

ITEM 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 3/1969

The following motion by the Minister of Finance was approved:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 3/1969 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Capital Estimates for the period ending 31st May, 1969, totalling \$3,182,250.

ITEM 2 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 4/1969

The following motion by the Minister of Finance was approved:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 4/1969 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates for the period ending 31st December, 1968, totalling \$146,330.

ITEM 3 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 5/1969

The following motion by the Minister of Finance was approved:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 5/1969 - Statement of Expenditure authorised under Article 12(3) of the Constitution totalling \$400,360.

Assembly resumed.

On motions by the Minister of Finance the Assembly adopted the following Resolutions:

- (i) 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. 3/1969 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Capital Estimates for the period ending 31st May, 1969, totalling \$3,182,250."

- (ii) 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. 4/1969 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates for the period ending 31st December, 1968, totalling \$146,330."

- (iii) 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. 5/1969 - Statement of Expenditure authorised under article 112(3) of the Constitution totalling \$400,360."

BILL - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 4 - LOCAL GOVERNMENT (AMENDMENT)(NO. 2) BILL, 1969 - Bill No. 12/1969 published 31. 5. 69

The Minister of Local Government moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE LOCAL GOVERNMENT ORDINANCE.

Mr. Wilson and Mr. Balchand Persaud spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Local Government replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was then read the second time.

Thereafter, the Bill was taken through the remaining stages and passed as printed.

MOTIONSITEM 5 - MOTION TO ANNUL MINISTERS, MEMBERS OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY AND SPECIAL OFFICES (ALLOWANCES) (NO. 2) ORDER, 1969 (NO. 17)

On a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, Standing Order No. 23(3) was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed with this item.

Mr. Ram Karran then moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in terms of subsection (2) of section 8 of the Ministers, Members of the House of Assembly and Special Offices (Emoluments) Ordinance, 1965, annul the Ministers, Members of the National Assembly and Special Offices (Allowances) (No. 2) Order, 1969 (No. 17), which was made on the 13th of May, 1969, and published in the Gazette on the 14th of May, 1969.

Mr. Ram Karran was speaking to his motion 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.

Mr. Ram Karran concluded his speech.

Mr. Balchand Persaud seconded the motion but reserved his right to speak at a later stage.

Mr. Wilson, Mr. Teekah, Mrs. DaSilva, Mr. Sutton, the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, the Minister of Finance and Mr. Balchand Persaud spoke to the motion.

Thereafter Mr. Ram Karran replied.

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

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Sutton	Mr. Zaheeruddeen
Mrs. DaSilva	Mr. Wrights
Mr. Teekah	Mr. Van Sluytman
Mr. Remington	Mr. D.A. Singh
Mr. Bholu Persaud	Mr. Saffee
Mr. Balchand Persaud	Mrs. Limerick
Mrs. Branco	Mr. Fowler
Mr. Ambrose	Mr. Corrica
Mr. R. Ally	Mr. Correia
Mr. Stoby	Mr. Clarke
Mr. Lall	Mr. Chan-A-Sue
Mr. Hamid	Mr. Budhoo
Mr. Wilson	Mr. Bancroft
Mr. Jagan	Miss Ackman
Dr. Ramsahoye	Mr. Aaron
Mr. Ram Karran	Mr. Thomas
	Mr. Salim
	Mr. Haynes
	Mr. Joaquin
	Mr. Duncan
	Mr. Ramsaroop
	Mr. John
	Mr. Bissenber
	Mr. Hoyte
	Mr. Kasin
	Dr. Reid
	Mr. Burnham
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ITEM 6 - MOTION TO ENABLE A MEMBER TO RENOUNCE ALL RIGHTS TO THE PAYMENT TO HIM OF DUTY ALLOWANCE

On a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, Standing Order No. 23(1) and (2) was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed with this item.

The Minister of Finance then moved the following motion:

WHEREAS by virtue of the Constitutional Offices (Holders' Allowances) Order, 1969, provision has been made for the payment of duty allowances to Members of the National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS certain Members of the National Assembly have expressed disagreement with the making of such provision:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED:

That any Member of the National Assembly may, within seven days of this resolution, by declaration under his hand to His Honour the Speaker signifying his disagreement on grounds of conscience or otherwise with the payment of a duty allowance under the Constitutional Offices (Holders' Allowances) Order, 1969, renounce all rights to the payment to him of such allowance.

Mr. Sutton, Mr. Lall, Mr. Jagan, Mrs. DaSilva and the Prime Minister spoke to the motion.

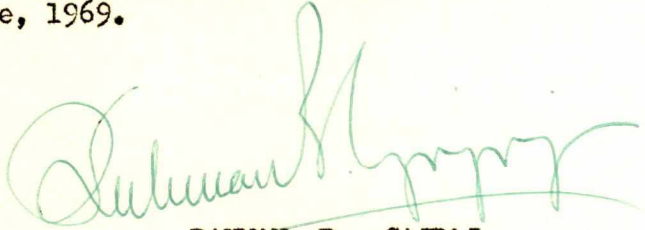
Thereafter the question ~~was~~ put and carried.

BUSINESS FOR THE NEXT SITTING

Before the adjournment was taken, the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs announced that at the next sitting, the Assembly would proceed with the motion published that day on Notice Paper No. 22 (motion to extend the period during which Part II of the National Security (Miscellaneous Provisions) Act, 1966, shall be in force).

ADJOURNMENT

At 6.57 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Wednesday, 25th June, 1969.



RAHMAN B. GAJRAJ

Speaker.

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

25th June, 1969.