

FIRST SESSION

1969 - 1970

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 71st 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, 13TH FEBRUARY, 1970

PRESENT:

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

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Finance
The Honourable R.J. Jordan, Minister of Agriculture
and Natural Resources
The Honourable H.D. Hoyte, Q.C., Minister of Home
Affairs
The Honourable W.G. Carrington, Minister of Labour
and Social Security
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Trade
The Honourable D.A. Singh, Minister of Housing and
Reconstruction
The Honourable S.S. Ramphal, Kt., C.M.G., Q.C.,
Attorney-General and Minister of State
The Honourable M.W. Carter, Minister of Information
and Culture

(ii) Parliamentary Secretaries

Mr. J.G. Joaquin, O.B.E., J.P.,
Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Finance
Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary,
Office of the Prime Minister
Mr. W. Haynes, Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Works, Hydraulics and Supply
Mr. A. Salim, Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Agriculture and Natural Resources
Mr. J.R. Thomas, Parliamentary Secretary,
Office of the Prime Minister
Mr. C.V. Mingo, Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Local Government

(iii) Other Members

Mr. O.E. Clarke, Deputy Speaker
 Mr. J.N. Aaron
 Mr. K. Bancroft
 Mr. N.J. Bissember
 Mr. J. Budhoo, J.P.
 Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue
 Mr. M. Corrica
 Mr. E.H.A. Fowler
 Mrs. P.A. Limerick
 Mr. S.M. Saffee
 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. E.M. Stoby
 Mr. R. Ally
 Mr. E.L. Ambrose
 Mrs. L.M. Branco
 Mr. Balchand Persaud
 Mr. Bholu Persaud
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye
 Mr. V. Teekah
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. M.F. Singh

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 M. Kasim, Minister
 of Communications
 The Honourable Miss S.M. Field-Ridley,
 Minister of Education (Leader of
 the House)
 The Honourable H. Green, Minister of
 Works, Hydraulics and Supply
 The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister
 without Portfolio
 Dr. the Honourable Sylvia Talbot,
 Minister of Health
 Miss M.M. Ackman
 Mr. E.F. Correia - on leave
 Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman - on leave
 Mr. C.E. Wrights
 Mr. R.D. Persaud, J.P. - on leave
 Mr. J.A. Sutton - on leave
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER -Leave

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

- (i) Mr. Correia, Mr. Van Sluytman and Mr. Sutton for that sitting, and
- (ii) Mr. R.D. Persaud from the 9th to the 15th February, 1970.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance:

Report on the operation of the Guyana Credit Corporation for the year ended 30th June, 1968.
(G. 359/54 VII)(Circulated)

QUESTIONS TO MINISTERSQUESTION NO. 11

Dr. Jagan asked the Minister of Education the following question:

- Question
- (i) Will the Minister state how soon it is proposed to construct a science section wing to the Little Biaboo Government School, Mahaica River?
 - (ii) Is the Minister aware that the residents have collected \$2,500 towards the construction of this wing and are prepared to help to construct it on the basis of self-help?

The Minister of Trade, on behalf of the Minister of Education, gave the following reply:

- Answer:
- (i) The Government recognises the need for science facilities at the Little Biaboo Government Primary School as at all other primary schools but, bearing in mind the heavy demands for the provision of various facilities the programme for school construction and extension generally which includes a number of self-help projects, has to be determined on a priority basis. An allocation of funds to meet whatever contribution may be required from Government in respect of the proposed Biaboo project must therefore be considered in

relation to other priorities but will be kept in view for the earliest possible attention.

- (ii) The Government is aware that the residents are prepared to do this project by self-help and have so far collected money to this end.

A supplementary question was asked by Dr. Jagan.

INTRODUCTION OF BILLS -

- (i) REPUBLIC BILL, 1970.

Bill No. 6/1970 published 11.2.70.

- (ii) INTERPRETATION AND GENERAL CLAUSES BILL, 1970.

Bill No. 7/1970 published 13.2.70

The Attorney-General and Minister of State, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bills which were read the first time:

- (i) A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE PROVISION CONSEQUENTIAL UPON GUYANA BECOMING A REPUBLIC.
- (ii) A BILL intituled AN ACT TO CONSOLIDATE THE LAW RELATING TO THE CONSTRUCTION AND INTERPRETATION OF ACTS OF PARLIAMENT, SUBSIDIARY LEGISLATION, APPLIED LAWS AND **PUBLIC DOCUMENTS AND TO MAKE GENERAL PROVISIONS FOR MATTERS CONNECTED WITH OR SIMILAR TO THE PURPOSES AFORESAID,**
- (iii) GUYANA NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK BILL, 1970.

The Minister of Finance, on behalf of the Government, presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO PROVIDE FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE GUYANA NATIONAL CO-OPERATIVE BANK AND FOR MATTERS CONNECTED THEREWITH.

PUBLIC BUSINESS

MOTIONS

ITEM 1 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 1/1970

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified the Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 1/1970 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates, totalling \$347,331.

The motion was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

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

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. 1/1970 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current and Capital Estimates totalling \$347,331."

ITEM 2 - MOTION TO APPROVE FINANCIAL PAPER NO. 2/1970

Assembly resolved itself into Committee of Supply.

In Committee of Supply

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified the Cabinet's recommendation and moved the following motion:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Committee of Supply approve of the proposals set out in Financial Paper No. 2/1970 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current Estimates for the period ending 31st January, 1970, totalling \$35.

The motion was put and carried.

Assembly resumed.

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

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. 2/1970 - Schedule of Supplementary Provision on the Current Estimates for the period ending 31st January, 1970, totalling \$35."

BILLS - Second and Third Readings

ITEM 3 - MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1970 - Bill No. 3/1970 published 31.1.70

The Minister of Finance signified the Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE MOTOR VEHICLES AND ROAD TRAFFIC ORDINANCE.

The motion was put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ITEM 4 - INCOME TAX (AMENDMENT) BILL, 1970 - Bill No. 4/1970 published 7.2.70

On a motion by the Minister of Finance, Standing Order No. 46(3) was suspended to enable the Assembly to proceed with this item.

In accordance with article 80(2) of the Constitution, the Minister of Finance signified the Cabinet's recommendation and moved the second reading of the following Bill:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND THE INCOME TAX ORDINANCE.

Mr. Balchand Persaud spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Finance replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

The Bill was read a second time and was, thereafter, taken through its remaining stages and passed as printed.

ITEM 5 - MOTION TO ADOPT REPORT BY THE SPEAKER CONCERNING THE SITTING ON REPUBLIC DAY

Mr. Clarke moved the following motion which was seconded by Mr. Ram Karran:

BE IT RESOLVED:

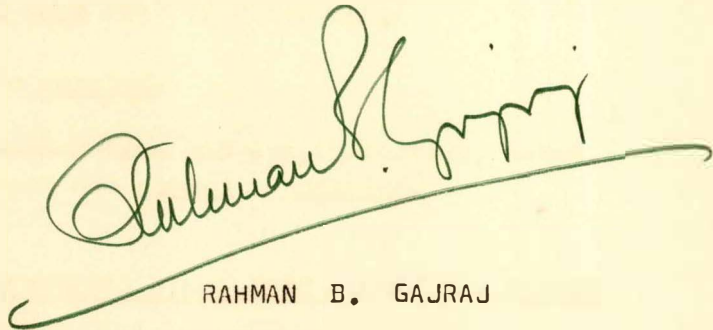
That this National Assembly adopt the Report by the Speaker on the advice given by the Committee appointed to advise him on the arrangements to be made for the Special Sitting of the National Assembly to be held on Republic Day, Monday, 23rd February, 1970, which was presented to the National Assembly on the 9th of February, 1970.

Mrs. DaSilva spoke to the motion.

Thereafter, the motion was put and carried.

ADJOURNEMENT

At 3.39 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Monday, 16th February, 1970.



RAHMAN B. GAJRAJ

Speaker.

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

16th February, 1970.