

FIRST SESSION

1969

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 45th 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, 17TH OCTOBER, 1969

PRESENT:

His Honour the Deputy Speaker, Mr. O.E. Clarke - In the Chair

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C., Prime Minister
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
Mrs. the Honourable S.M. Patterson, Minister of Education
The Honourable B. Ramsaroop, Minister of Housing and
Reconstruction
The Honourable H. Green, Minister of Works and Hydraulics

(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. L.I. Chan-A-Sue
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. E.M.G. Wilson
 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. Bhola Persaud
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye
 Mrs. E. DaSilva
 Mr. M.F. Singh
 Mr. J.A. Sutton

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

Absent

His Honour the Speaker, Mr. R.B. Gajraj, C.B.E., J.P.	- on leave
Dr. the Honourable P.A. Reid, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Finance	- on leave
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
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.O. Jack, Minister without Portfolio	- on leave
Dr. the Honourable Sylvia Talbot, Minister of Health	- on leave
Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary, Office of the Prime Minister	
Mr. J. Budhool, J.P.	- on leave
Mr. D.C. Jagan	- on leave
Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P.	- on leave
Mr. E.M. Stoby	
Mr. V. Teekah	- on leave
Mr. R.E. Cheeks	

PRAYERS

The Deputy Clerk read Prayers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKERLeave

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

- (i) Dr. Reid from 17th to 19th October, 1969; and
- (ii) Mr. Correia from 20th October to 10th November, 1969.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

By the Minister of Finance

Consumption Tax (Petroleum)(Amendment) Order, 1969 (No. 41), made under section 4 of the Consumption Tax Act, 1969 (No. 13), on the 3rd of October, 1969, and published in the Gazette on the 11th of October, 1969.

(G. 66).

MOTIONS RELATING TO THE BUSINESS OR SITTINGS OF THE ASSEMBLY AND MOVED BY A MINISTER

The Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs announced that there was general agreement that the Assembly would sit until the proceedings of the day were completed.

PUBLIC BUSINESSBILL - Committee and Third Reading

Assembly resumed consideration of the following Bill in Committee:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO MAKE BETTER PROVISION FOR LOCAL GOVERNMENT IN THE CITY OF GEORGETOWN AND THE TOWN OF NEW AMSTERDAM AND IN OTHER AREAS OF GUYANA.

In Committee

Clauses 21 to 32 were passed as printed.

Clause 33 - The following amendment by Mr. Chandisingh was put and negatived:

Deletion of the clause.

Clause 33 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 34 to 54 were passed as printed.

Clause 55 - Mr. Chandisingh moved the following amendment:

Deletion of the words "one third" and the substitution therefor of the words "one half".

The amendment was put and negatived on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Sutton	Mr. Zaheeruddeen
Mr. M.F. Singh	Mr. Wrights
Mrs. DaSilva	Mr. Van Sluytman
Mrs. Sahoye	Mr. D.A. Singh
Mr. Bhola Persaud	Mr. Saffee
Mr. Balchand Persaud	Mrs. Limerick
Mrs. Branco	Mr. Fowler
Mr. Ambrose	Mr. Corrica
Mr. R. Ally	Mr. Correia
Mr. R.D. Persaud	Mr. Chan-A-Sue
Mr. M.Y. Ally	Mr. Bancroft
Mr. G.H. Lall	Miss Ackman
Mr. Wilson	Mr. Aaron
Mr. Chandisingh	Mr. Thomas
Mr. Ram Karran	Mr. Salim
	Mr. Haynes
	Mr. Joaquin
	Mr. Ramsaroop
	Mrs. Patterson
	Mr. John
	Mr. Bissember
	Mr. Hoyte
	Mr. Kasim

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Clause 55 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 56 to 80 were passed as printed.

Clause 81 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Deletion of the clause.

Clause 81 was then passed as printed.

Clause 82 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Deletion of the clause.

Clause 82 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 83 to 94 were passed as printed.

Clause 95 - The clause was under consideration when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 4.06 p.m. the sitting was suspended for tea.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.53 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Clause 95 was passed as printed.

Clause 96 was passed as printed on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Zaheeruddeen	Mr. Sutton
Mr. Wrights	Mr. M.F. Singh
Mr. Van Sluytman	Mrs. Sahoye
Mr. Saffee	Mr. Bhola Persaud
Mrs. Limerick	Mr. Balchand Persaud
Mr. Fowler	Mrs. Branco
Mr. Corrica	Mr. Ambrose
Mr. Correia	Mr. R. Ally
Mr. Chan-A-Sue	Mr. R.D. Persaud
Mr. Bancroft	Mr. M.Y. Ally
Miss Ackman	Mr. Lall
Mr. Aaron	Dr. Ramsahoye
Mr. Thomas	Mr. Chandisingh
Mr. Salim	Dr. Jagan
Mr. Haynes	
Mr. Ramsaroop	
Mr. John	
Mr. Bissember	
Mr. Hoyte	
Mr. Kasim	
Mr. Burnham	

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Clause 97 was passed as printed.

Clause 98 - The following amendment by Mr. Balchand Persaud was put and negatived:

Substitution of the words "Chief Justice"
for the words "Prime Minister".

Clause 98 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 99 to 101 were passed as printed.

Clause 102 - The following amendment by Mr. Chandisingh was put and negatived:

Deletion of the words "Prime Minister" and
substitution therefor of the words "Chief
Justice" in paragraph (c).

Clause 102 was then passed as printed.

Clause 103 - The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Insertion of the word "Prime" immediately
before the word "Minister".

Clause 103 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 104 to 106 were passed as printed.

Clause 107 - The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Insertion of the word "Prime" immediately before the word "Minister" in the first line.

Clause 107 was then passed as amended.

Clause 108 was passed as printed.

Clause 109 - The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Insertion of the word "Prime" immediately before the word "Minister" in the first line.

The following amendment by Mrs. Sahoye was put and negatived:

Substitution of the word "Commission" for the word "Minister".

Clause 109 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 110 and 111 were passed as printed.

Clause 112 - The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Insertion of the word "Prime" immediately before the word "Minister" in the first line.

Clause 112 was then passed as amended.

Clause 113 - The following amendment by Mrs. Sahoye was put and negatived:

Deletion of subsection (2).

Clause 113 was then passed as printed.

Clause 114 - The following amendment by Mrs. Sahoye was put and negatived:

Deletion of subsection (2).

Clause 114 was then passed as printed.

Clause 115 - The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Insertion of the word "Prime" immediately before the word "Minister" in the second line of subsection (1).

The following amendment by Mr. Sahoye was put and negatived:

Deletion of subsection (2).

Clause 115 was then passed as amended.

Clause 116 was passed as printed.

Clause 117 - The following amendment by Mr. Chandisingh was put and negatived:

Deletion of all the words immediately after the word "office" in the eighth line of subsection (1).

Clause 117 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 118 to 188 were passed as printed.

Clause 189 - Mr. Ram Karran moved the following amendment:

Deletion of subsections (1) and (2).

The amendment was put and negatived on the following division:

<u>FOR</u>	<u>AGAINST</u>
Mr. Sutton	Mr. Zaheeruddeen
Mr. M.F. Singh	Mr. Wrights
Mrs. Sahoye	Mr. Van Sluytman
Mr. Remington	Mr. Saffee
Mr. Bhola Persaud	Mrs. Limerick
Mr. Balchand Persaud	Mr. Fowler
Mrs. Branco	Mr. Corrica
Mr. Ambrose	Mr. Correia
Mr. R. Ally	Mr. Chan-A-Sue
Mr. R.D. Persaud	Mr. Bancroft
Mr. M.Y. Ally	Miss Ackman
Mr. Lall	Mr. Aaron
Mr. Chandisingh	Mr. Thomas
Mr. Ram Karran	Mr. Salim
Dr. Jagan	Mr. Haynes
	Mr. Ramsaroop
	Mr. John
	Mr. Bissember
	Mr. Hoyte
	Mr. Kasim
	Mr. Burnham

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Clause 189 was then passed as printed.

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 6.30 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 8.14 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee.

In Committee

Clause 190 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Deletion of the clause.

The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Substitution of the word "surcharge" for the word "disqualification" in the second line of subsection (2).

Clause 190 was then passed as amended.

Clause 191 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Deletion of the clause.

Clause 191 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 192 to 195 were passed as printed.

Clause 196 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Addition of, immediately after the word "Minister", the words and commas ", the Mayor, the Deputy Mayor or the Chairman," in subsection (1).

Clause 196 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 197 to 212 were passed as printed.

Clause 213 - The following amendments by the Minister of Local Government were put and carried:

- (i) Substitution of the word "is" for the word "are" in the third line of subsection (3).
- (ii) Insertion of the word "published" immediately after the word "notice" in the second line of subsection (4).

Clause 213 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 214 and 215 were passed as printed.

Clause 216 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Deletion of subsection (2).

Clause 216 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 217 and 218 were passed as printed.

Clause 219 - The following amendments by Mr. Ram Karran were put and negatived:

- (i) Substitution of the word "thirty" for the word "Fourteen" in subsection (1).

- (ii) Substitution of the word "thirty" for the word "fourteen" in subsection (2).

Clause 219 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 220 to 256 were passed as printed.

Clause 257 - The Following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Substitution of the word "by" for the word "to" between the words "paid" and "the" in the first line.

The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Deletion of the clause.

Clause 257 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 258 to 264 were passed as printed.

Clause 265 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and carried:

Insertion of, immediately after the word "Minister" the words "after consultation with the relevant council or councils" in subsection (1).

Clause 265 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 266 to 272 were passed as printed.

Clause 273 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Addition of, immediately after the word "so" at the end of the proviso, the words and commas ", and getting his agreement." in the proviso to subsection (1).

Clause 273 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 274 to 300 were passed as printed.

Clause 301 - The following amendment by Mr. Ram Karran was put and negatived:

Deletion of the words "by the Minister" at the end of subsection (34).

Clause 301 was then passed as printed.

Clauses 302 to 304 were passed as printed.

Clause 305 - The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Insertion of the words "upon inquiry held by him," between the words "satisfied" and "that" in the first line of subsection (1).

Clause 305 was then passed as amended.

Clauses 306 to 333 were passed as printed.

Clause 334 - Mr. Ram Karran moved the following amendment:

Substitution of a colon for the full stop at the end of the clause and addition of the following proviso:

" Provided that where an employee of a dissolved village council or country authority is not appointed to a local government office in a new council, such employee shall be awarded redundancy payment by the council to which the property is transferred in a sum being not less than two years emoluments calculated on the basis of the employee's rate of pay at the time of the dissolution. "

The amendment was under consideration when the time for the suspension of the sitting was reached.

Assembly resumed

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 10.00 p.m. the sitting was suspended for coffee.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 10.30 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

Assembly resolved itself into Committee.

In Committee

Mr. Ram Karran's amendment was put and negatived.

Clause 334 was passed as printed.

Schedules 1 to 8 were passed as printed.

Schedule 9 - The following amendment by the Minister of Local Government was put and carried:

Deletion of the following -

" No. 41	Municipal Councils	Repealed
	of (Postponement of	
1954	Elections)	
1961	Ordinance, 1954	"
	1961.	

Schedule 9 was then passed as amended.

Clause 31 was recommitted.

The following amendments by the Minister of Local Government were put and carried:

- (i) Re-numbering of subsection (3) as subsection (4).

(ii) Insertion of the following as subsection (3) -

" (3) The provisions of subsection (2) of section 22 shall mutatis mutandis apply to the Town Councillors as they apply to the City Councillors, and the said provisions shall have effect as if the reference therein to the City Council were a reference to the Town Council. "

Assembly resumed.

On a motion by the Minister of Local Government the Bill was read a third time and passed as amended in Committee.

ITEM 2 - LOCAL AUTHORITIES (VALIDATION OF APPOINTMENT AND ACTS OF MEMBERS) BILL, 1969 - Bill No. 25/1969 published 4.10.69

On a motion by the Minister of Local Government, the following Bill was read a second time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND CERTAIN ENACTMENTS RELATING TO LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND TO VALIDATE THE APPOINTMENT AND ACTS OF CERTAIN PERSONS WHO PURPORTED TO EXERCISE THE FUNCTIONS OF MEMBERS OF THOSE AUTHORITIES.

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

Consideration of the following items was deferred.

ITEM 3 - MOTION TO CONFIRM THE CONSUMPTION TAX (PETROLEUM) ORDER, 1969

ITEM 4 - MOTION TO CONFIRM CUSTOMS DUTIES (AMENDMENT) (NO. 6) ORDER, 1969.

REMARKS ON THE PROCEEDINGS ON BILLS NOS. 23 and 24

Before the adjournment was taken, Mr. Ram Karan congratulated His Honour the Deputy Speaker on the able and efficient manner he presided over the debates on the above Bills. He also congratulated the Honourable Minister of Local Government for bringing the two legislation to the Assembly.

The Deputy Speaker and the Minister of Local Government reciprocated.

ADJOURNMENT

At 11.05 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 24th October, 1969.



O. E. CLARKE

Deputy Speaker.

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,
Public Buildings,
Georgetown.

24th October, 1969.