

FIRST SESSION

1969

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 47th 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

WEDNESDAY, 29TH OCTOBER, 1969

PRESENT:

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

(a) Members of the Government

(i) Ministers

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 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

(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. J. Budhoo, J.P.  
Mr. L.I. Chan-A-Sue  
Mr. M. Corrica  
Mrs. P.A. Limerick  
Mr. D.A. Singh  
Mr. R.C. Van Sluytman  
Mr. C.E. Wrights  
Mr. M. Zaheeruddeen, J.P.



(b) Members of the Opposition

Mr. Ram Karan  
 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. Bhoja Persaud  
 Mrs. R.P. Sahoye  
 Mrs. E. DaSilva  
 Mrs. J.A. Sutton  
 Mr. R.E. Cheeks

Clerk of the National Assembly - Mr. F.A. Narain  
 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  
 The Honourable L.F.S. Burnham, Q.C.,  
 Prime Minister - on leave  
 The Honourable R.J. Jordan, Minister of  
 Agriculture and Natural Resources - 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. Green, Minister of Works  
 and Hydraulics  
 The Honourable H.O. Jack, Minister without  
 Portfolio  
 Dr. the Honourable Sylvia Talbot, Minister  
 of Health  
 Mr. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary,  
 Office of the Prime Minister  
 Mr. K. Bancroft - on leave  
 Mr. E.F. Correia - on leave  
 Mr. E.H.A. Fowler - on leave  
 Mr. S.M. Saffee  
 Dr. C.B. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition  
 Mr. D.C. Jagan  
 Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P. - on leave  
 Mr. E.M. Stoby - on leave  
 Mr. I.R. Remington, J.P.  
 Mr. V. Teekah - on leave  
 Mr. M.F. Singh - on leave

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.



ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

His Honour the Deputy Speaker announced -

(i) Leave

That leave had been granted to Mr. Bancroft, Mr. Stoby and Mr. M.F. Singh for that day's sitting.

(ii) Receipt of Subpoena by the Clerk

That the Clerk had received from the High Court a Subpoena requesting his attendance and production of certain documents in Court.

The Clerk read the Subpoena and, thereafter, the leave of the Assembly was sought and given for his attendance at the sitting of the Court and the production of the requisite documents.

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONSITEM 1 - MOTION OF SYMPATHY ON THE DEATH OF MR. ANDREW LEONARD JACKSON, A FORMER MEMBER OF THE ASSEMBLY

On a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, Standing Order No. 23(3) was suspended to enable him to move the above motion.

On a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, seconded by Mr. Ram Karran, and supported by Mr. Sutton, the Minister of Labour and Social Security, and Mr. Lall, the Assembly unanimously passed, with Members standing, the following Resolution:

RESOLVED, That this National Assembly record its deep regret at the death of Mr. Andrew Leonard Jackson, and pay tribute to the service which he rendered to Guyana and to Parliament and direct that an expression of its sympathy be conveyed to his sorrowing relatives.

ITEM 2 - MOTION TO RECORD SATISFACTION WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL LABOUR ORGANISATION ON ITS 50TH ANNIVERSARY

The Minister of Labour and Social Security moved the following motion:

WHEREAS on 29th October, 1919, the International Labour Organisation came into being; and

WHEREAS the aims and purposes of the International Labour Organisation as set out in the Declaration of Philadelphia are to achieve:-

- "(a) full employment and the raising of standards of living;
- (b) the employment of workers in the occupations in which they can have the satisfaction of giving the fullest measure of their skill and attainments and make their greatest contribution to the common well being;



- (c) the provision, as a means to the attainment of this end and under adequate guarantees for all concerned, of facilities for training and the transfer of Labour, including migration for employment and settlement;
- (d) policies in regard of wages and earnings, hours and other conditions of work calculated to ensure a just share of the fruits of progress to all, and a minimum living wage to all employed and in need of such protection;
- (e) the effective recognition of the right of collective bargaining, the co-operation of management and labour in the continuous improvement of productive efficiency, and the collaboration of workers and employers in the preparation and application of social and economic measures;
- (f) the extension of social security measures to provide a basic income to all in need of such protection and comprehensive medical care;
- (g) adequate protection for the life and health of workers in all occupations;
- (h) provision for child welfare and maternity protection;
- (i) the provision of adequate nutrition, housing and facilities for recreation and culture;
- (j) the assurance of equality of educational and vocational opportunity; " and

WHEREAS on 18th June, 1966, Guyana was by resolution of the International Labour Conference admitted as a member of the International Labour Organisation; and

WHEREAS in 1969, the International Labour Organisation is celebrating its 50th Anniversary; and

WHEREAS it has been suggested by the International Labour Organisation that the occasion be marked among other things by a debate in the National Assembly on the activities of the International Labour Organisation:

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly records its satisfaction with the activities of the International Labour Organisation, pledges to support fully the Organisation in the future and offers its wholehearted congratulations to that august body on the attainment of its 50th Anniversary.

Mr. Lall, Mrs. DaSilva and Mr. Ram Karran spoke to the motion.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

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

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 4.35 the sitting was resumed.

Mrs. Sahoye spoke to the motion.

Thereafter the Minister of Labour and Social Security replied.

The motion was then put and carried.

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

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion which was put and carried:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in terms of section 5 of the Consumption Tax Act, 1969, confirm the Consumption Tax (Petroleum) Order, 1969, which was made on the 6th September, 1969, and published in the Official Gazette on the 13th September, 1969.

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

The Minister of Finance moved the following motion which was put and carried.

BE IT RESOLVED:

That this National Assembly, in terms of section 9 of the Customs Ordinance, Chapter 309; confirm Customs Duties (Amendment) (No. 6) Order, 1969 (No. 38), which was made on the 17th of September, 1969, and published in the Gazette on the 20th of September, 1969.

ADJOURNMENT

At 5.05 p.m., on a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to a date to be fixed.



O.E. CLARKE

Deputy Speaker

PARLIAMENT OFFICE,  
Public Buildings,  
Georgetown.

3rd November, 1969.