
FIRST SESSION

1969

MINUTES of the Proceedings of the 2nd 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, 14TH 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. P. Duncan, Parliamentary Secretary,
Ministry of Local Government.
- 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. 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. R. Chandisingh
Mr. E.M.G. Wilson
Mr. Ram Karran
Mr. D.C. Jagan
Mr. M.Y. Ally
Mr. R.D. Persaud, J.P.
Mr. E.M. Stoby
Mr. G.H. Lall
Mr. A.M. Hamid, J.P.
Mr. I. Remington, J.P.
Mr. Bhola Persaud
Mr. V. Teekah
Mrs. R.P. Sahoye
Mr. R. Ally
Mr. E.L. Ambrose
Mr. Balchand Persaud
Mrs. L.M. Branco
Mr. M.F. Singh

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

Absent

- Mr. M. Corrica - on leave
Dr. F.H.W. Ramsahoye
Mr. R.E. Cheeks
Mr. P.S. d'Aguiar
Mr. C.V. Too-Chung

PRAYERS

The Clerk read Prayers.

OATHS

The oaths of allegiance and the oaths of office were made and subscribed by the following:-

- ✓ Mr. H.O. Jack, Minister without Portfolio
- ✓ Dr. the Honourable S.E. Talbot, Minister of Health
- ✓ Dr. C. Jagan, Leader of the Opposition
- ✓ Mr. E.M. Stoby

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 2.10 p.m. the sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 2.35 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

ARRIVAL OF THEIR EXCELLENCIES THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL AND LADY ROSE

Their Excellencies the Governor-General, Sir David Rose, G.C.M.G., C.V.O., M.B.E., and Lady Rose entered the Chamber and took their places on the Dais.

ADDRESS BY HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR-GENERAL

His Excellency read the Address presented to him by the Prime Minister and thereafter presented the copy to His Honour the Speaker.

ADDRESS OF THANKS

His Honour the Speaker, on behalf of the Members of the Assembly, thanked His Excellency.

SUSPENSION OF SITTING

At 2.52 p.m. the Sitting was suspended.

RESUMPTION OF SITTING

At 3.15 p.m. the sitting was resumed.

ANNOUNCEMENTS BY THE SPEAKER

His Honour the Speaker announced that the Deputy Clerk had resumed duty after his attachment at the House of Commons, London.

PRESENTATION OF PAPERS AND REPORTS, ETC.

(1) By His Honour the Speaker

Address by His Excellency the Governor-General on the occasion of the opening of the First Session of the Second Parliament of Guyana on Friday, 14th February, 1969.

(Sessional Paper No. 1/1969)
(Circulated)

(2) By the Minister of Finance

Spirits (Amendment) Regulations, 1968 (No. 23), made under section 128 of the Spirits Ordinance, Chapter 319, on the 6th of November, 1968, and published in the Gazette on the 12th of November, 1968.

(C. Ex. 32/53)

(3) By the Minister of Agriculture and Natural Resources

(a) Reports on the Geological Survey Department for the years 1964, 1965, 1966 and 1967.

(FILM: 8/17/1(II)(Circulated)

(b) Annual Report of the Forest Department for the year 1967.

(AGR: 407/280/4)(Circulated)

(4) By the Minister of Communications

Sixteenth General Report and Statement of Accounts of the Commonwealth Telecommunications Board for the period 1st April, 1966 to 31st March, 1967.

III
(PT:5326)

(5) By the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs

Seventy-seventh Annual Report of the Chamber of Commerce of the City of Georgetown for the year 1967.

(T: 38/11/4)

(6) By the Minister of Local Government

Annual Report of the Commissioner of the Interior for the year 1965.

VII
(INT: 1/7) (Circulated)

INTRODUCTION OF BILLSMISCELLANEOUS ENACTMENTS (AMENDMENT)
BILL, 1969

The Minister of Home Affairs presented the following Bill which was read the first time:

A BILL intituled AN ACT TO AMEND
CERTAIN ENACTMENTS

PUBLIC BUSINESSMOTIONS

Item 1 - MOTION TO AUTHORISE EXPENDITURE PENDING
THE ENACTMENT OF THE 1969 APPROPRIATION
ACT

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

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the National Assembly authorises expenditure in respect of services not provided for in 1968 pending the enactment of the Appropriation Act for 1969, totalling \$85,320.00, as follows:-

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Head of Charge</u>	<u>Subhead</u>	<u>Amount</u> \$	<u>Note</u>
1.	12. Ministry of External Affairs	1-Personal Emoluments	10,320	To provide for an additional post of "Head of Post" with effect from 1st January, 1969.
2.	13. Ministry of Economic Development	22- Consumer Expenditure Survey	75,000	To enable an immediate start on the survey on consumer expenditure.
			<u>85,320</u>	

Dr. Jagan and Mr. Lall spoke to the motion.

The Minister of Finance then moved the following amendment after signifying the recommendation of the Cabinet in terms of article 80(2) of the Constitution:

"The inclusion of \$1.42 million as follows:-

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Head of Charge</u>	<u>Subhead</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Note</u>
3.	Division V- Office of the Prime Minister	10 - Miscel- laneous Public Works Projects	1,420,000	To provide for the completion of the small civil works projects"

Mr. Ram Karran spoke on the amendment.

The amendment was then put and carried.

Thereafter, the motion as amended was put and carried as follows:-

RESOLVED, That the National Assembly authorises expenditure in respect of services not provided for in 1968 pending the enactment of the Appropriation Act for 1969, totalling \$1,505,320.00, as follows:-

<u>Item No.</u>	<u>Head of Charge</u>	<u>Subhead</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Note</u>
1. 12.	Ministry of External Affairs	1 - Personal Emoluments	10,320	To provide for an additional post of "Head of Post" with effect from 1st January, 1969.
2.	13. Ministry of Economic Development	22 - Consumer Expendi- ture Survey	75,000	To enable an immediate start on the survey on consumer expenditure.
3.	Division V - Office of the Prime Minister	10 - Miscel- laneous Public Works Projects	1,420,000	To provide for the completion of the small civil works projects.
Total			1,505,320	

Item 2 - MOTION TO REFER THE STANDING ORDERS TO
THE STANDING ORDERS COMMITTEE OF THE
NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR REVISION

The following motion, moved by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, was put and carried:-

WHEREAS the Standing Orders as in force in the previous House of Assembly prior to the 26th May, 1966, are still in force as the rules of procedure of the present National Assembly;

AND WHEREAS the aforesaid Standing Orders need revision and/or modification:

BE IT RESOLVED:

That the said Standing Orders be referred to the Standing Orders Committee of the National Assembly for the necessary revision and/or modification.

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 Miscellaneous Enactment (Amendment) Bill and the motion published that day on Notice Paper No. 3.

ADJOURNMENT

At 4.10 p.m. on a motion by the Minister of Trade and Parliamentary Affairs, the Assembly was adjourned to 2.00 p.m. on Friday, 21st February, 1969.

RAHMAN B. GAJRAJ

SPEAKER

PUBLIC BUILDINGS,
Georgetown.

21st February, 1969.